

BUILDINGS 1991

urf Title 1961

50  
off  
Bea  
1936  
Lic  
Sun  
1966

H  
P

**PUBLIC ART  
IN MANLY**

# Map



## 1. Frameworks (site A)

Market Lane

## 2. Frameworks (site B)

Manly Art Gallery & Museum forecourt

## 3. Oceanides

Helen Leete  
Fairy Bower Pool, Marine Parade

## 4. Manly Visions

Warren Langley  
Manly Library, Market Lane

## 5. Bend the truth

Michael Snape  
Manly Library, Market Lane

## 6. Market Lane Mural

Ruth Downes  
Market Lane

## 7. Crawl

Loui Fraser  
Manly Surf Pavilion, South Steyne

## 8. Curl Curl

Christopher Hodges  
West Esplanade Reserve

## 9. Tide

Merilyn Fairskye  
Rialto Square, via Wentworth Street and  
The Corso

## 10. Barton and Parkes Monument

Stephen Glassborow  
Federation Point, Commonwealth Parade

## 11. Shell

Urban Art Projects  
Manly Wharf Forecourt

## 12. Lagoon Park Sculpture Walk\*

Ishi Buki Sandstone Sculptors  
Quota Park Playground Manly Lagoon  
foreshore

## 13. Ecotourism Walk

Tim Johnman  
Shelly Beach at Cabbage Tree Bay

## 14. Sandstone Sea themed boulder

Ishi Buki Sandstone Sculptors  
Shelly Beach, Cabbage Tree Bay

## 15. Inspiration

Francis Sargant  
Manly Art Gallery & Museum forecourt

## 16. Governor Arthur Phillip

Rayner Hoff  
Grande Esplanade Apartments,  
West Esplanade

## 17. Manly Anzac Memorial

The Corso, (Manly Wharf end)

## 18. Broken Column Fountain

East Esplanade

## 19. Wind and Wave

Lenton Parr  
The Corso, (Ocean Beach end)

## 20. Statue of Greek Woman

Pacific Point Building, Sydney Road

## 21. Gargoyles\*

Sandstone wall, Sydney Road

## 22. Stone Kangaroo Sculpture\*

Kangaroo Park, Kangaroo Street

## 23. Shell and Wave

Cliff Axelsen  
Marine Parade

## 24. Sir Roden Cutler Sculpture

Alan Somerville  
Outside Manly Village Primary School,  
Wentworth Street



wheelchair access to all sites except  
where noted by \* (asterisk)

\* no wheelchair access

public art in manly  
map reference

# 1 & 2

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Manly and to introduce "The Public Art in Manly" project. In our local community, we encourage individualism and creativity, particularly when the result is an artistic expression that can be enjoyed by all.

This project seeks to promote awareness and appreciation of sculpture and other art forms in our public places. This new guide takes you to twenty four sites in Manly where you will have the pleasure of viewing thought provoking pieces of art which are rich in beauty and cultural significance. Several of the sculptures listed in this guide have been loaned to Manly Council by the artists themselves and I thank them for their generosity and display of community spirit.

The artworks featured in this guide celebrate our important cultural heritage and also serve as a symbol of a promising future for public art in Manly. This project reflects the continued commitment of Manly Council to the cultural development of this area and our community.

I hope you enjoy your experience of public art in Manly.

**Dr Peter Macdonald**  
Mayor of Manly

This program celebrates public art and sculpture in Australia, and seeks to stimulate interest and debate in this vital and dynamic art form. Manly Council is committed to promoting public art for the benefit of the Manly community. Manly Council has been active in sourcing and exhibiting sculptures for loan as well as facilitating the commissioning of a number of major public art works over the past decades. Some sculptures you see around Manly and which are shown in this publication have been donated by the artists or purchased by philanthropists then donated to Manly Council for the enjoyment of all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the artists who have kindly shared their sculptures with the Manly community.

**Councillor Brad Pedersen**  
Chair, Public Art Committee  
Manly Council



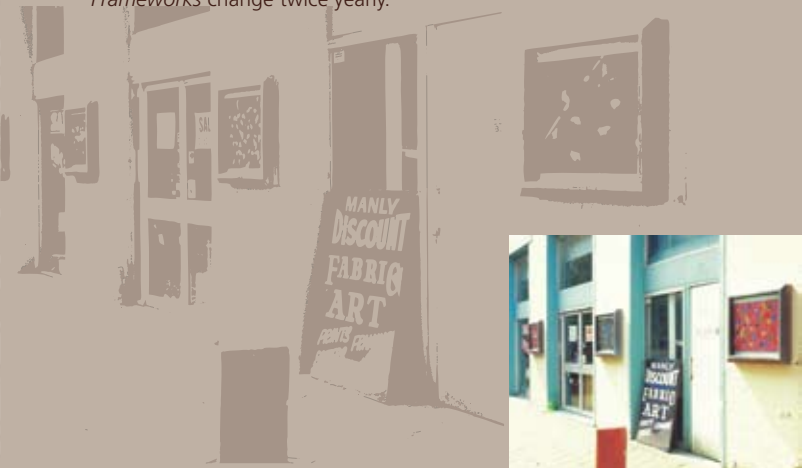
various artists

*Frameworks* (sites A and B)

Market Lane and forecourt of Manly Art Gallery & Museum

*Frameworks* is a series of eight permanent outdoor frames which create an 'outdoor gallery' for the temporary display of artworks by local artists and enable the community to enjoy them all hours of the day and night. *Frameworks* aims to show works that are human and intimate in scale, and not rigid and permanent.

Artists present unique works that provide access to all people by extending art out of the gallery space and into the community. *Frameworks* change twice yearly.





**Helen Leete**  
*Oceanides, 1997*

high fired stoneware reinforced with steel rods and concrete  
Donated to Manly Council by Rosemary Eather, 2004  
*Marine Parade*

*Oceanides* refers to the sea nymphs of Greek mythology which were often part human and part sea-creature. They reflect the exuberant energy and playfulness that the Greek philosophers called 'the laughter of the gods'. The two figures represent joyful bathers in the sun and sea, luxuriating in the beauty of Manly and the relationship between humankind and other creatures.

*Helen Leete also has sculptures in The Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, Macquarie University Sculpture Park, Kuringai Art Centre and Gallery 460 Sculpture Park, Gosford.*



**Warren Langley**  
*Manly Visions, 1995*  
glass mural  
*Manly Library, ground floor*

*Manly Visions* features a large, centrally located spiral image symbolising life, evolution and progress. To the right of this spiral is a series of images of Manly prepared by local children and to the left, is a jumble of letters alluding to the mural's Library setting. From this emerges a single sentence from the early records of Governor Arthur Phillip, describing his first visit to Manly and the naming of the area.

*Warren Langley is an artist who often uses glass as a principle material. He has held solo and group exhibitions of his work in Australia and overseas and has also completed public art commissions in Australia and overseas.*



**Michael Snape**  
*Bend the truth*, 1996  
welded steel  
Purchased by Manly Council, 2002  
*Manly Library, Market Lane*

*Bend the truth* plays with the idea that words can change and bend their meaning depending on how they are used. This sculpture also bends the truth of its artistic purpose by assuming the functional qualities of a tree guard and bike rack. Locating *Bend the truth* outside a library provokes ideas about knowledge and truth.

*Michael Snape has public sculptures in The Rocks, Taylor Square, Darling Harbour, University of Technology Sydney, Sydney Park and Kings Cross. He exhibits with Mori Gallery, Sydney.*



**Ruth Downes**  
*Market Lane Mural*, 2005  
acrylic paint on brick  
*Market Lane*

With panels of rich, vibrant colour reinforced by strong, black vertical and horizontal bars, the mural reminds us of events and issues in the community over the past 70 years featuring headlines from *The Manly Daily*.

*Ruth Downes was the inaugural 'People's Choice' award-winner in the National Sculpture Prize & Exhibition in 2001. She taught design in the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Sydney for seven years and runs her own design consultancy in public art, exhibition and graphic design.*



**Loui Fraser**  
*Crawl, 1997*

welded steel armature, high strength plaster, bronze polymer finish  
Donated by the artist, 2000  
*Manly Surf Pavilion, South Steyne*

Inspired by the artist's fond childhood memories of swimming at Manly, the sculpture celebrates the 'Australian Crawl', contemporary surf club culture and the vital role of surf life saving in Australia.

The surface treatment of the work reflects the colour of sea rocks and the corroded appearance of a relic from the ocean. Through this sculpture, nature, movement and the corrosiveness of time fuse together.

*Loui Fraser has worked with City of Sydney Council and Kuringai Council on public sculpture projects and with Rookwood Independent Cemetery.*



**Christopher Hodges**  
*Cur Curl, 1998*

rolled mild steel, painted  
On loan to Manly Council  
*West Esplanade Reserve, outside the Manly Art Gallery & Museum*

The title of the work, *Cur Curl* came to the artist partly as a comment on the curl of the waves, and the Indigenous naming of the place Curl Curl beach near Manly.

The motifs of the work derive directly from the sea and the repetitive action of the swell. The totemic construction with its supporting spine bears many similarities to the art of Oceania.

*Christopher Hodges's paintings and sculptures are represented in many collections around Australia. He has been involved in several public art commissions and is the Director of Utopia Art Gallery in Sydney.*



**Merilyn Fairskye**  
*Tide*, 2001

polished stainless steel cylindrical columns  
*Rialto Square, between Wentworth Street  
and The Corso*

Commissioned by Manly Council, *Tide* consists of six polished stainless steel cylindrical columns with varying heights between 1.2m and 1.86m.

Each column emits lights of varying colour through acrylic strips on either side and a soft soundscape at predetermined times.

The column heights represent the high tide levels on six dates in history, from 4000BC to 28 May 2000. Each date is on the column is inscribed with tidal information.

On each day, at the time of the lowest tide for that date, the recurrent chiming of a given note can be heard in each of the columns. At noon, the sounds combine to play an interpretation of a transcription of an Aboriginal song from the Sydney region.

*Merilyn Fairskye is a Sydney artist teaching in the Media Arts Studio of Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney. Her works range from public artwork to video installations, films and photo-based works and she exhibits broadly in Australia and overseas.*

Photo courtesy of Merilyn Fairskye



**Stephen Glassborow**  
*Barton and Parkes Commemorative Sculptures*, 2002  
bronze sculpture and sandstone  
Commissioned by Manly Council, 2001  
*Federation Point, Commonwealth Parade*

This impressive public artwork by sculptor Stephen Glassborow, commemorates the careers of Sir Edmund Barton (Australia's first Prime Minister) and Sir Henry Parkes (the architect of Australian Federation).

Both Sir Edmund Barton and Sir Henry Parkes had strong links to the Manly Area. The choice of location took into account Manly Council's 1901 development of a road from West Esplanade towards North Harbour, named Commonwealth Parade to commemorate the then recent inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia on January 1st, 1901.

The stairway leading to Commonwealth Parade was seen as a logical site for the Barton and Parkes commemorative sculpture, bringing together the dedication in 1901 of Commonwealth Parade and the naming of the Federation Point in 2001.

*Stephen Glassborow is a sculptor who lives on the Northern Beaches region of Sydney and has exhibited widely in Australia and overseas*



#### Urban Art Projects

##### *Shell, 2000*

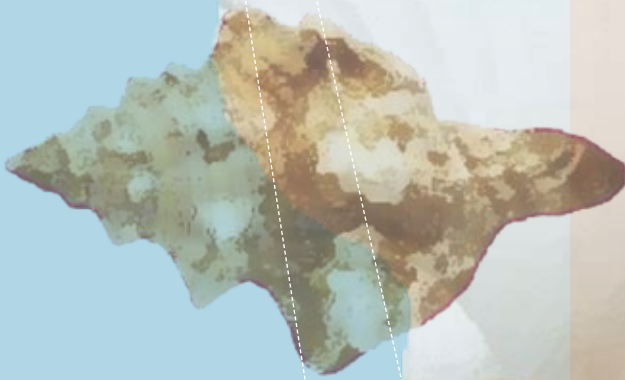
cast aluminium, fibre optics, water features  
*Manly Wharf Forecourt*

*Shell* is a mist sculpture reflecting Manly's relationship with our environment, the harbour and marine life.

This highly interactive sculpture features a seven metre diameter nautilus shell incorporating 32 misting nozzles that create clouds of cooling water to a timed sequence.

At night, the mist is effectively illuminated from the nozzles by fibre optics and the shell floats in a ring of concealed blue neon.

*Urban Art Projects* is a Queensland based art consultancy that specialises in large scale architectural design projects for urban, streetscape and public areas.



#### Ishi Buki Sandstone Sculptors and Renée Monique *Queenscliff Lagoon Park Sculpture Walk*

*Quota Park Playground and Manly Lagoon foreshore at Queenscliff*

Eight sandstone sculptures, associated signs and murals focus on raising community environmental awareness of Manly Lagoon catchment's native terrestrial and aquatic fauna, through the 'Hop in and Help Manly Lagoon' environment education programme, initiated by Manly Environment Centre (MEC).

Animal mascots were designed by community artist Renée Monique, and reflect a sample of Manly Lagoon catchment's native wildlife. The sandstone sculptures were created by northern beaches based Ishi Buki sculptors, with associated signs and environmental messages based on artwork submitted by local schoolchildren. Murals by Renée within the playground convey human impacts within the lagoon catchment, while the building mural depicts past recollections of lagoon activity by older residents.

*Ishi Buki* is a Northern Beaches based stone sculpture company. Working predominately in sandstone they have completed projects for gardens playgrounds and other environments. Their work can also be seen at Taronga Zoo in Sydney.

*Renée Monique* is a local mural artist who has worked on a number of public art projects on the Northern Beaches.





Tim Johnman

*Cabbage Tree Bay Eco-Sculpture Walk, 2002*

stainless steel

*Shelly Beach, Cabbage Tree Bay*

The *Cabbage Tree Bay Eco-Sculpture Walk* is designed to raise visitor awareness of some of this Bay's special features and attractions, including marine species protected by the Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve. The walk's nine stainless steel Eco-Sculptures are accompanied by plaques, suitable for use by the visually impaired.

*Tim Johnman has worked with Lithgow Pottery and on many public art commissions.*



Ishi Buki Sandstone Sculptors

*Sandstone Sea themed boulder, 2002*

sandstone

*Shelly Beach, Cabbage Tree Bay*

This sandstone sculpture is inspired by the marine life found in the Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve and features the endangered Gloomy Octopus (*Octopus tetricus*).

*Ishi Buki is a Northern Beaches based stone sculpture company. Working predominately in sandstone they have completed projects for gardens, playgrounds and other environments. Their work can also be seen at Taronga Zoo in Sydney.*



# 15

public art in manly  
map reference



**Francis William Sargant**  
*Inspiration*, c.1940

sandstone

*Manly Art Gallery & Museum forecourt*

This sandstone bas relief depicts a mythological scene where one of the nine goddesses of learning and the arts endows a man with the genius of inspiration.

*Born in England, Francis William Sargant spent most of his early life in Italy as a sculptor. In the lead up to World War II, Sargant was forced to leave Italy for Corfu and then to Athens where he was forced to evacuate from the German invasion. Evacuated to Alexandria, Sargant was suspected as a spy and forced into an internment camp. He was later released and boarded a ship for Sydney, the only possession with him the plasticine model for the sculpture Inspiration- sacrificing his overcoat to bring it to Australia! In Sydney a local stonemason provided Sargant with the tools and facilities to complete the work whereby, as a tribute to the hospitality shown to him here in Sydney, he donated the work to Manly Art Gallery & Museum in 1944.*

public art in manly  
map reference

# 16



**Rayner Hoff (1894-1937)**  
*Governor Arthur Phillip Statue*, 1934

sandstone

*Grande Esplanade Apartments, West Esplanade*

This statue of the first Governor of New South Wales, Captain Arthur Phillip, was sculpted by Rayner Hoff in 1934. It was a feature of the old Hotel Manly, formerly on this site. When the building was demolished in 1992, this statue was restored to occupy a similar position overlooking Manly Cove.

*Rayner Hoff was born in England in 1894 and moved to Sydney to accept the role as teacher at East Sydney Technical College. He was head of the art school from 1931-1937. He created sculptures for the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park, Sydney and the South Australian War Memorial in Adelaide. He also completed busts of Norman Lindsay and Dame Mary Gilmore which are in the Art Gallery of New South Wales collection. He is also represented in many regional gallery collections in Australia.*

# 17

public art in manly  
map reference



Burcham Clamp  
*Manly Anzac Memorial*, 1916  
trachyte  
*The Corso*

Built of trachyte, the *Manly Anzac Memorial* was one of the earliest Anzac Memorials erected in Sydney. Donated by the family of Alan David Mitchell, the first soldier from Manly to die in World War I, the monument was unveiled by Governor General, Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson on 14 October 1916.

public art in manly  
map reference

# 18



artist unknown  
*Broken Column Fountain*, 1903  
white Italian marble  
*East Esplanade*

Built in 1903 of white Italian marble, this former drinking fountain is a memorial for Frederick C. Smalpage who drowned at Manly in 1902. It also commemorates the incorporation of the Municipality of Manly in 1877 and is a Boer War memorial. The broken column symbolises life cut off at its prime.

# 19

public art in manly  
map reference



**Lenton Parr**  
*Wind and Wave, 1988*  
welded steel  
*The Corso*

This sculpture was unveiled in 1988 as an Australian Bicentennial Project. It represents patterns of sunlight, water, clouds and sea-birds in flight. Possessing vitality and rhythmic movement, the sculpture culminates in an inspirational reach for the sky.

*Lenton Parr (1924 - 2003) was the Dean of Arts and Director of the Victoria College of the Arts through the 1970s and 1980s. He began his sculptural career as an assistant to the renowned British sculptor Henry Moore and was one of Australia's most celebrated sculptural artists noted particularly for his works in welded steel.*

public art in manly  
map reference

# 20



**artist unknown**  
*Statue of Greek Woman, 1924*  
*Pacific Point Building, Sydney Road*

This statue was erected in honour of Manly's 1924 Paris Olympic Gold Medallists Andrew 'Boy' Charlton, Dick Eve and Nick Winter.

It depicts a Greek maiden with laurel leaves on her head. This building was once the Britannia cinema which was then renamed the Olympic in their honour.

# 21

public art in manly  
map reference



artist unknown  
*Gargoyles*, c.1882  
carved sandstone wall  
*Sydney Road*

These two gargoyles and sandstone wall are all that remain of the 1882 residence, Marinella, also known as Dalley's Castle, built by William Bede Dalley, lawyer and statesman. Dalley only lived there for about three years. In 1939 the house was demolished and the existing flats, also named Marinella, were built.



public art in manly  
map reference

# 22



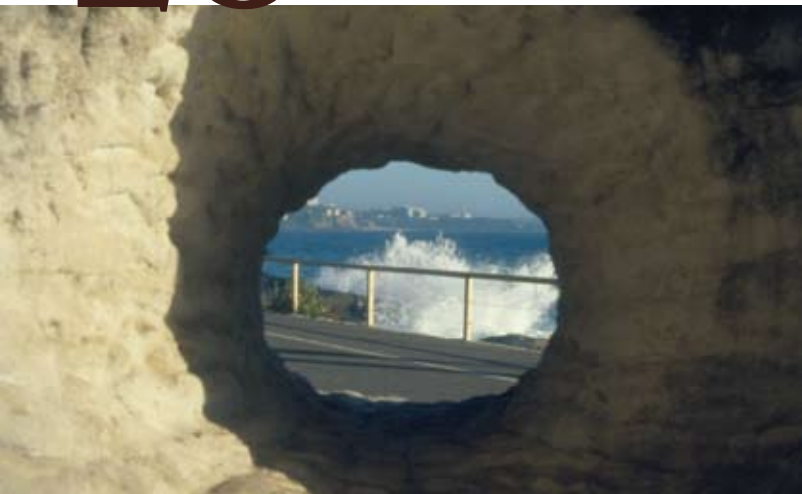
Charles Percy Pickering / Youll  
*Stone Kangaroo*, c.1856  
carved rock  
*Kangaroo Park, Kangaroo Street*

This well known Manly landmark was erected in 1856 as an added visitors' attraction to the area. Commissioned by Henry Gilbert Smith, it is believed the statue was carved from natural rock either by photographer Charles Pickering or by a stonemason named Youll who worked on many of the major building projects at that time, including the Catholic Convent and the Steyne Hotel. In 1879, the land in the vicinity of the kangaroo was transferred to Manly Municipal Council and officially proclaimed as a public park eight years later.

The kangaroo was carved as it appears, without ears.

# 23

public art in manly  
map reference



**Cliff Axelsen**  
*Shell and Wave, 1988*  
carved sandstone rock  
*Marine Parade*

*Shell and Wave* is a tribute to the surf lifesavers from the three Manly branches who carried out 41,000 surf rescues up to 1988.

This sculpture was carved by sculptor Cliff Axelsen with the assistance of the 1988 students of Art & Design, Seaforth College of TAFE, as a Bicentennial Project. The design is organic in form carved out of a rock which fell from the towering cliff above.

*Cliff Axelsen is an Armidale based sculptor who has worked on a number of community sculpture projects and Sculpture by the Sea.*

public art in manly  
map reference

# 24



**Alan Somerville**  
*Sir Roden Cutler Statue, 2006*  
bronze

*Outside Manly Village Primary School, Wentworth Street*

Manly's Public Art Walk has been enhanced by the installation of the larger than life size bronze sculpture of Sir Roden Cutler. Sir Arthur Roden Cutler, was born in Manly and attended Manly Village Public School. As a soldier in the Australian Army during World War II he was awarded the Victoria Cross. After his military service, he served in a number of Australian diplomatic missions and became the longest serving Governor in New South Wales.

The statue was presented to the people of Australia on the 90th anniversary of his birthday, 24 May 2006.

*Alan Somerville is a self taught artist who moved to Sydney to pursue a full time career as an artist and sculptor with his works in national, international, public and private collections. He has created notable public sculpture works including the bronze World War One Digger on Anzac Bridge, Sydney, Bronze of Sir Henry Parkes in Centennial Park Sydney and has sculptures in the collection of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.*

The recent development of this public art program began in 1997 with the signing of the first loan agreements with sculptors who agreed to lease their works for a minimum of two years to Manly Council. Over the past nine years some of the works have been donated to Council, some have been removed to make way for new ones and some have been purchased by the public as well as Manly Council.

Linking in with Manly Council's Cultural Policy, the program seeks to support the creation of new works which express Manly's image as a vital and interesting place to its residents and visitors. It encourages the development of a diverse range of public art works such as murals, seating and water features as well as sculptures. It seeks to support and nurture both established and emerging artists, strive for artistic excellence and ensure that existing artworks are maintained. We will continue to develop and promote the dialogue and appreciation of public art in Manly.

**Therese Kenyon**

Director, Manly Art Gallery & Museum  
Manly Council



This publication was produced by the  
Manly Council Public Art Committee, August 2006  
Design by Viona Fung. Photography by Geoff Hirst.  
Printed on paper containing recycled content