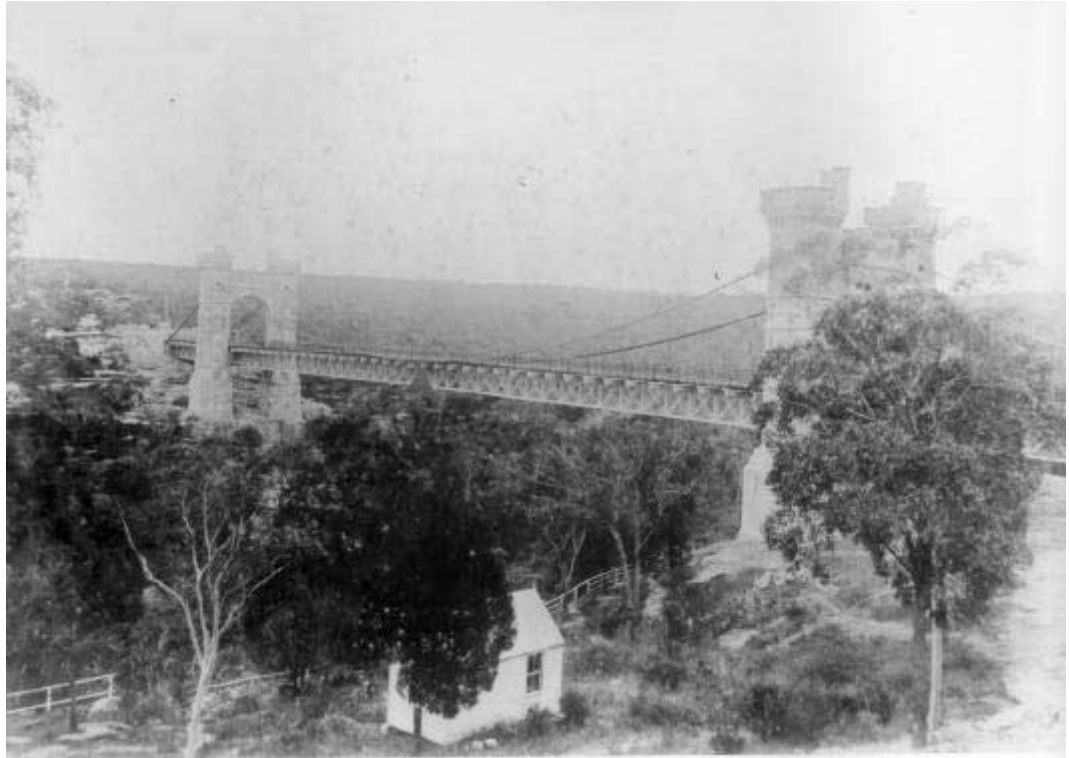


Cammeray



This picturesque bridge has had many name references to it over the last 100 years including:

The Suspension Bridge, Northbridge

The Suspension Bridge, Cammeray

Cammeray Bridge

The North Sydney Suspension Bridge

Suspension Bridge, North Sydney

However confusing is its name, the Suspension Bridge is certainly a well-known and loved North Shore landmark.

In October 17, 1992 this affection was shown when Centenary celebrations got under way at Tunks Park. The celebration honouring the Bridge's 100 years was an initiative of the Rotary Club of Northbridge.

A brief look at its history:

1880s

North Sydney Tramway and Development Company formed to sell land and develop area north of Flat Rock Creek.

1889/90

Construction underway.

The Bridge's designers, W H Warren and J E F Coyle*, chose an ornate suspension structure which was the largest of its type in Australia at the time and the fourth largest in the world.

1890s

The Company goes into liquidation and the Bridge was completed by the liquidators, the North Sydney Investment and Tramway Company Ltd.

1892

The Suspension Bridge opened with much acclaim becoming an instant tourist attraction featured on postcards and in many glossy publications of the day. Initially the Bridge operated as a foot bridge only with a toll charge of threepence return for adults and one penny for children.

1909

Tramway line constructed to the Bridge opened in May 1909. This line assisted the development of the area which

commonly became known as "Suspension Bridge".

1912

The New South Wales Government took over ownership of the Bridge following the collapse of the Tramway Company.

1914

Tramway extended over the Bridge and opened to tramway traffic in February 1914.

1935/36

Department of Main Roads took control of the Bridge and discovers serious faults in the steel-work and cables. Bridge is closed to all vehicle traffic at this time. Major repair work commences replacing the suspension structure with a reinforced concrete arch. Although the name of "Cammeray Bridge" was attached to the newly restored Bridge, the popular name of "Suspension Bridge" survives to the present day. Cammeray became the name of the area surrounding the Bridge during the 1920s. The name is in honour of the "Cammeraygal" Aboriginal tribe, the former inhabitants of this area of North Sydney.

1939

The new Bridge officially reopened in September, 1939. Tram services ceased at this time.

1941

Tram services to Vale Street Cammeray restored due to wartime rationing.

1948

Last tram from Wynyard Station.

1982

Department of Main Roads and Willoughby Council installed new high pressure sodium lamps to light up the Bridge.

1988

The Bridge is honoured with a commemorative plaque along with 50 other historic bridges in New South Wales as part of the Bicentennial celebrations.

1992

Rotary Club of Northbridge celebrates the Bridge's Centenary in October, 1992.

