

= Yarralumla , Australian Capital Territory =

Yarralumla is a large inner south suburb of Canberra , the capital city of Australia . Located approximately 3 @. @ 5 kilometres (2 @. @ 2 mi) south @-@ west of the city , Yarralumla extends along the south @-@ west bank of Lake Burley Griffin . (The lake was created after the Second World War through the blocking , with a dam , of the Molonglo River .)

In 1828 , Henry Donnison , a Sydney merchant , was granted a lease on the western side of Stirling Ridge . Donnison 's land was named Yarralumla in a survey of the area conducted in 1834 , apparently after the indigenous people 's term for the area . It was also spelt Yarrolumla in other documents . In 1881 , the estate was bought by Frederick Campbell , grandson of Robert Campbell who built nearby " Duntroon " . He completed the construction of a large , gabled , brick house on his property in 1891 that now serves as the site of Government House , the official residence of the Governor @-@ General of Australia . Campbell 's house replaced an elegant , Georgian @-@ style homestead , the main portions of which were erected from local stone in the 1830s . Among the old Yarralumla homestead 's most notable occupants were Sir Terence Aubrey Murray , who owned Yarralumla sheep station from 1837 to 1859 , Augustus Onslow Manby Gibbes , who owned the property from 1859 to 1881 , and Augustus ' father Colonel John George Nathaniel Gibbes (1787 ? 1873) . (Augustus " Gussie " Gibbes was Murray 's brother @-@ in @-@ law ; he also advanced money to Frederick Campbell to assist with the construction , in 1890 ? 1891 , of Campbell 's grand new family house at Yarralumla .)

The modern suburb of Yarralumla was gazetted by the government in 1928 and as of 2011 was home to approximately 3 @, @ 000 people and many diplomatic missions . In recent years , it has become one of Canberra 's most desirable and expensive residential suburbs because of its wide leafy streets , attractive lakeside setting and central location .

= = Geography = =

Yarralumla is located in the central Canberra district of South Canberra . It is bordered by Lake Burley Griffin to the north , Commonwealth Avenue and Capital Hill to the east , Adelaide Avenue and the Cotter Road to the south , and Scrivener Dam , Lady Denman Drive and part of the Molonglo River to the west .

Although Yarralumla is one of the largest suburbs in Canberra by area , its population remains quite small because more than half of its area consists of open space or non @-@ residential development , including Weston and Stirling Parks , the Royal Canberra Golf Club , and the grounds of Government House . A relatively high proportion of houses are occupied by diplomatic missions .

The embassy area of Yarralumla is located towards the eastern end of the suburb next to Stirling Park . It is the hilliest area of Yarralumla ; Parliament House and the Parliamentary Triangle are located nearby .

The streets in Yarralumla are named after Australian governors and botanists . Most of the older streets in the suburb are laid out on an approximately rectangular grid with some curved sections , while the more hilly eastern end of the suburb , including the embassy district , is set out with contour @-@ guided roads . Major roads in Yarralumla include Banks Street , Novar Street and Hopetoun Circuit in a north @-@ south direction and Schlich Street , Loftus Street and Weston Street running east @-@ west . Being a dormitory suburb , there are no major through roads . Access to the rest of the city can be made from Adelaide Avenue , Commonwealth Avenue , Lady Denman Drive and Cotter Road , all of which run along the borders of the suburb . From these roads , entry to the suburb can be gained by turning into roads such as Coronation Drive , Hopetoun Circuit and Novar Street .

Yarralumla is located on the Yarralumla Formation which is a mudstone / siltstone formation that was formed around 425 million years ago during the Silurian Period . The formation extends from Red Hill and Woden in the South to Lake Burley Griffin in to the north , passing under the suburb of Yarralumla . The formation is evidence of the last major marine sedimentary period when eastern Australia was still covered by shallow seas . It shows fossil evidence of trilobites , coral and primitive

crinoids . The Yarralumla brickworks quarry and the Deakin anticline are places where the formation is exposed and easily studied .

= = History = =

= = = Settlement = = =

The area now called Yarralumla is part of two original land grants , which were granted to free settlers for the establishment of farms . In 1828 Henry Donnison , a Sydney merchant who had arrived with his wife and family on the brig Ellen on 29 ? 30 July 1828 , was granted an allotment on the western side of Stirling Ridge . A second grant was made to William Klensendorff (a German who had served in the British Navy and arrived free in the Colony in 1818) , who had bought the land from John Stephen , on 7 March 1839 . Donnison 's land was named Yarralumla in a survey of the area conducted in 1834 . Yarralumla was a name for the area used by the local people , apparently meaning " echo " . An area to the west of what is now the suburb was the Yarrolumla parish .

The prominent New South Wales parliamentarian Sir Terence Aubrey Murray (1810 ? 1873) purchased Yarralumla in 1837 . He lived there with his wife Mary Murray (née Gibbes , 1817 ? 1858) , the second daughter of the Collector of Customs for NSW , Colonel John George Nathaniel Gibbes (1787 ? 1873) , MLC . In 1859 , Murray sold Yarralumla to his brother @-@ in @-@ law , Augustus Onslow Manby Gibbes (1828 ? 1897) . Later that same year , Augustus ' parents came to live with him at Yarralumla homestead .

Augustus Gibbes improved the estate and acquired additional land by purchase and lease . However , In 1881 , he sold Yarralumla for 40 @,@ 000 pounds to Frederick Campbell , a descendant of Robert Campbell , in order to travel overseas . Frederick Campbell erected a new , three @-@ storey , brick house on the site of the former Yarralumla homestead at the beginning of the 1890s . Campbell 's house would later form the basis of what is now the Governor @-@ General of Australia 's official Canberra residence , known colloquially as " Yarralumla " or " Government House " . Campbell also built a large wooden woolshed nearby in 1904 . It remains standing to this day .

In 1908 , the Limestone Plains area , including Yarralumla , was selected as the site for the capital city of the newly established Commonwealth of Australia . Soon afterwards in 1913 , the Commonwealth Government purchased the property . Tenant farmers were allowed to stay on the land on annual leases , some remaining until 1963 when the Molonglo River was dammed to form Lake Burley Griffin .

= = = Development = = =

With the construction of Australia 's capital city underway , the Yarralumla brickworks were established in 1913 to supply building material . The bricks were used for many of Canberra 's buildings , including the provisional Parliament House . In 1917 , Walter Burley Griffin named the area surrounding the brickworks " Westridge " . A narrow gauge goods railway was constructed for the transportation of bricks to some of the major building sites in central Canberra . This linked the brickworks to places such as Parliament House , and the Kingston Power House .

Construction on the Commonwealth nursery and Westbourne Woods arboretum was started in 1914 , and a temporary camp was built near the brickworks to accommodate the workers . Thomas Charles Weston was Officer @-@ in @-@ Charge (Afforestation Branch) in the years 1913 to 1926 , and later became Director of City Planting and the Superintendent of Parks and Gardens . Weston was responsible for testing and selecting plant species at the arboretum for their suitability to Canberra 's environment ; from 1913 through to 1924 Weston oversaw the propagation of more than two million trees which were then planted in the Canberra area . Most of the original Westbourne Woods arboretum is now leased to the Royal Canberra Golf Club , with the remainder

forming part of Weston Park . The Yarralumla nursery is still active , albeit on a smaller scale and functioning as a retail nursery selling both wholesale and direct to the public .

In 1922 , a workers ' tent camp was erected on the eastern side of Stirling Ridge to house the men working on the main intercepting sewer . The following year saw the start of the construction of 62 small , four @-@ room , unlined timber cottages , to be used as housing for the married tradesmen involved in the construction of the provisional Parliament House . Other camps were established at the eastern end of Stirling Park on the hills opposite modern Lotus Bay . The first of these was contractor John Howie 's settlement (1922 ? 30) , consisting of 25 timber cottages for his married men and timber barracks (Hostel Camp) for his single men . Two other single men 's tent camps were established nearby ? Old Tradesmen 's Camp (1923 ? 27) and No 1 Labourers Camp (1924 ? 27) . The men from Howie 's worked on the Hotel Canberra and the others on the construction of the provisional Parliament House and nearby administrative buildings .

The Stirling Park camps were known as Westlake to their new inhabitants , and previously " Gura Bung Dhaura " (stony ground) to the local Aboriginal people . In 1925 , the population of this temporary suburb was 700 . This represented roughly one @-@ fifth of the total population of the Federal Capital Territory at the time ; in the region , only Molonglo Settlement had a larger population , at 750 . The site was chosen so that it was near to Parliament House but hidden from direct line of sight from anywhere " important " . The small cottages at Westlake were removed starting in the mid @-@ 1950s , with the last one removed in 1965 . Many of the Westlake workers ' cottages were moved to Queanbeyan and are still used as housing today . The Stirling Park near the embassy area of Yarralumla now covers the historic Westlake settlement area .

The Commonwealth Forestry School was established in Westridge near the brickworks and Westbourne Woods in 1926 . It opened with its first intake of students in the following year . Today the heritage @-@ listed Forestry School and the associated principal 's residence Westridge House are located on Banks Street , Yarralumla . The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Forestry and Forestry Products subsumed the school in 1975 . Westridge House , an impressive Tudor @-@ style structure , underwent a A \$ 500 @,@ 000 refurbishment and is used as a residence for the chief officer of the CSIRO .

By 1928 , there were over 130 people on the electoral roll for Westridge . The majority of the population consisted of men working at the brickworks and nursery . Westridge was gazetted as a Canberra suburb in 1928 .

= = = After World War II = = =

Westridge was renamed Yarralumla in the 1950s . In 1963 , Lake Burley Griffin was filled and Yarralumla was expanded to include Westlake , which had up until then been part of Acton .

After the Second World War , the suburb began to expand rapidly with the construction of many private homes . Yarralumla 's image as a lower @-@ class suburb would persist into the 1960s and 1970s . This general perception began to alter once Lake Burley Griffin had been created and its surrounds landscaped into parklands ; the area soon gained a reputation for its attractive lakeside location . During the 1980s , house prices began to rise coincident with a rejuvenation of the suburb . Many of the original government @-@ built monocrete , brick , and weatherboard houses have been demolished and replaced by larger dwellings of a variety of more modern styles and materials .

= = Demographics = =

The population of the Westridge area on the 1928 electoral roll numbered over 130 . On Census night 2011 , Yarralumla had a population of 2 @,@ 907 people . Of these 48 @.@ 2 % were male . The suburb had only 1 @.@ 3 % indigenous Australians , substantially below the national average of 2 @.@ 5 % . The percentage of married people in the suburb was six points higher than the national average , and the proportion of residents who had never married was 4 points lower . Despite the higher level of marriage , this did not translate into a higher level of children ; 46 @.@ 5

% of families consisted of a couple without children in the household , compared to the national average of 37 @. @ 8 % . The 2006 Census showed that Yarralumla residents had a median age of 47 , compared to a Canberra average of 34 . The suburb had an older population for a city of young people ; the median national age is 37 and 38 @. @ 2 % of Yarralumla residents were 55 or over , compared to the national figure of 25 @. @ 6 % .

Yarralumla is a comparatively wealthy suburb with a 2011 median weekly income of \$ 1 @, @ 139 ; this compares to an ACT @- @ wide figure of \$ 917 and an Australia @- @ wide figure of \$ 577 . The public service or defence force employed around 20 % of the workforce , somewhat less than the ACT average of 25 @. @ 8 . This compared to 2 @. @ 0 % for Australia as a whole . The higher incomes were derived from the suburb 's white @- @ collar base ; 61 @. @ 6 % of Yarralumla 's workforce was employed as professionals or in managerial posts , compared to 34 % nationally . In contrast , only 3 @. @ 4 % were engaged in blue @- @ collar occupations , compared with 16 @. @ 0 % for the nation as a whole . The proportion of the population working as tradesmen and technicians was almost three times lower than average across Australia .

The median monthly housing loan repayments in Yarralumla in 2011 were \$ 2 @, @ 442 , compared to the ACT @- @ wide figure of \$ 2 @, @ 167 and a federal average of \$ 1 @, @ 800 . At \$ 425 , the weekly rent was more than 50 % higher than the national average . Yarralumla 's median house price was \$ 1m in 2011 versus \$ 530 @, @ 000 for the whole of the ACT in 2013 . The rate of home ownership in the suburb was 46 @. @ 3 % ? much higher than the national average of 32 @. @ 1 % . 26 @. @ 9 % of the households rented . Accommodation was mostly separate houses (74 @. @ 7 %) , although the number of residences in the suburb has been increasing through conversion of blocks to dual occupancy and other medium @- @ density @- @ type developments . Despite this , only 2 @. @ 6 % lived in an apartment or unit , little more than one quarter of the national average .

The population of Yarralumla in 2011 was predominantly Australian @- @ born , with some 72 @. @ 3 % of its residents being born in Australia . The second most prevalent birthplace was England at 6 @. @ 6 % , followed by New Zealand and India with 1 @. @ 7 and 1 @. @ 5 % respectively . The suburb was more oriented towards the Anglo @- @ Celtic majority than the rest of Australia ; English was spoken at home by 84 @. @ 4 % of the population , compared to the national average of 76 @. @ 8 % . Every other language was spoken by less than 2 % of the population . Italian , French , German , Croatian and Hindi were all spoken by at least 0 @. @ 7 % of the population . The most popular religious affiliations in descending order were no religion , Roman Catholic , Anglican , Uniting and Presbyterian and Reformed . The proportion of the population professing to having no religion was 31 @. @ 8 % , higher than the national average of 22 @. @ 3 % .

= = Suburb amenities = =

The Yarralumla local shopping centre is located on the corner of Bentham and Novar Streets . The centre contains a supermarket , bakery , dry @- @ cleaners , video store / post office , chemist , gift shop and newsagent as well as several restaurants and speciality shops .

Weston Park is situated on a peninsula near the western end of Lake Burley Griffin . The park includes swimming areas , children 's play equipment and wading pools , and a miniature railway , and is a popular barbecue spot on weekends . Weston Park forms part of a string of parks that line the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin ; other parks include Yarralumla Bay , Lennox Gardens (incorporating a Japanese garden named Canberra Nara Park) and Stirling Park .

Like most of Canberra , Yarralumla 's only scheduled public transport is provided by ACTION buses . On weekdays , route 2 provides a service from Yarralumla to Woden and City Interchanges along Novar Street , Schlich Street and Hopetoun Circuit . Route 2 operates every 30 minutes until 6pm and hourly from 6pm to 11 pm . On weekends and public holidays , route 932 provides an hourly service along the same streets as route 2 .

= = Education = =

Yarralumla 's first school , the Catholic St Peter Chanel 's Primary School , opened in 1956 ; it closed in the 1990s . Yarralumla Primary School , a public school , opened a year after St Peter Chanel 's in 1957 . Half of the original primary school is now used as a behavioural centre catering to problem students . Preschools in Yarralumla include the Montessori preschool on Loftus Street . There is also a day care facility called Little Lodge on Macgillivray Street .

The Canberra Japanese Supplementary School Inc . , a Japanese weekend educational programme , has its school office in the Japanese Embassy Consular Section in Yarralumla , while it holds its classes at Deakin High School in Deakin . It was established on 1 August 1988 .

= = Politics = =

Yarralumla is located within the federal electorate of Canberra , which as of 2014 is represented by Gai Brodtmann in the House of Representatives . Historically both federal electorates in the ACT are safe Labor seats . Polling place statistics are shown to the right for the Yarralumla polling place in the 2013 federal and 2012 ACT elections .

In the ACT Legislative Assembly , Yarralumla is part of the electorate of Molonglo , which elects seven members on the basis of proportional representation , although the number of electorates and members were under review as of February 2014 . The 2012 ACT election saw a swing in Yarralumla of 2 @. @ 1 % away from the Labor Party and 10 @. @ 0 % to the Liberal Party .

The Yarralumla Residents Association (YRA) is a registered organisation formed to represent the views of Yarralumla residents and business . The group stands against government plans for urban consolidation , supporting open space and the conservation of low @-@ density housing . The organisation has been very vocal in opposing government plans for further development of Yarralumla and is also vocal about any plans for the Yarralumla brickworks site .

= = Notable places = =

Yarralumla is notable among Canberra suburbs for its large number of landmarks and places of historical interest . The Governor @-@ General 's residence Government House , which shares the name Yarralumla , is located at the western end of the suburb in 53 hectares (130 acres) of parkland . It sits alongside Lake Burley Griffin , next to the Royal Canberra Golf Club and Scrivener Dam . The house was built in 1891 as the headquarters for the Yarralumla property . Also located alongside Scrivener Dam is the National Zoo & Aquarium . The nearby Yarralumla woolshed is available for event hire , often playing host to parties and bush dances . The land surrounding the woolshed has been developed as an equestrian park , including areas for showjumping , eventing and endurance riding .

The Yarralumla brickworks are notable as the first industrial manufacturing facility in the ACT . The brickworks were closed temporarily several times due to the Great Depression and both World Wars . Proposals to modernise the brickworks were rejected by the National Capital Development Commission in the early 1970s and they closed permanently in 1976 . Presently the site is closed to the public and is in a state of disrepair . The unfenced parkland around the brickworks is a popular recreation area for Yarralumla residents . Residential development is proposed for the 42 @-@ hectare site , initially including 1 @, @ 600 new dwellings , although this is now likely to be significantly reduced . The eastern end of Yarralumla is home to many of the diplomatic missions in Canberra , many of which are built in a traditional style reflecting that of their respective home countries . Examples of regionally styled chanceries include the embassies of Saudi Arabia and Thailand , and the High Commissions of India and Papua New Guinea . The United States embassy was the first embassy built in Canberra , with the foundation stone laid on the Fourth of July , 1942 . The embassy is an impressive compound of buildings built in a Georgian style , inspired by several buildings designed by Christopher Wren for Virginia at the beginning of the 18th century . The French embassy includes the French @-@ Australian War Memorial opened in 1961 , which has a sculpture by André Bizette @-@ Lindet called Winged Victory . Canberra tourist drive six takes tourists on a car @-@ based tour past many of Canberra 's embassies including those located in

Yarralumla . It zig @-@ zags through the eastern side of Yarralumla past many of the missions .
Also located in the eastern end of the suburb are Lennox Gardens , the Yarralumla Yacht Club , the Albert Hall and the Hotel Canberra . The Hotel Canberra opened in 1924 to accommodate politicians when Parliament was in session . The hotel was closed in 1974 and the buildings served as an annexe for Parliament House between 1976 and 1984 . The Hyatt Hotel Group re @-@ opened the hotel in 1987 .