

Parks & Playgrounds Movement Inc

www.geocities.com/parksandplaygrounds/

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Ms Pat Hyde
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PO Box 373, HAMILTON NSW 2303

Thursday, 13 January 2005

Janet Dore,
General Manager
Newcastle City Council
Box 489
NEWCASTLE 2300

Dear Janet,

Newcastle Convict Lumber Yard Site – Lot 2/706760 Community Land

The Parks and Playgrounds Movement have written to Council on several occasions drawing the matters concerning the Convict Lumber Yard and of the wrong classification of the council owned Land Lot 2/706760 to Council's attention. We even have written to each Councillor and we have still not yet received a satisfactory explanation of how the land is wrongly classified nor has there been a rectification of the Council Land Register.

These facts were discussed at the last meeting of the Parks and Playgrounds Movement and it was resolved that the President write to the General Manager of the Newcastle City Council asking for good reasons why we should not approach the Office of the NSW Ombudsman regarding Council and Councillor's failure to reply to letters which have raised legal matters concerning the wrongly classified land in the Council's Land Register.

Council seems to have had no legal means of classifying this land Operational Land without triggering the Community Land provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.

Furthermore the wrong classification has been an impediment to the transparent management of the land and has allowed the implementation of lease conditions that are not appropriate for this heritage-listed property.

Parks and Playgrounds Movement has no other recourse than to appeal to the NSW Ombudsman to investigate why Council has not responded to our legitimate inquiry Lot 2/706760.

Yours Sincerely,

Doug Lithgow Freeman of the City of Newcastle
Parks and Playgrounds Movement
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