

CITY OF NEDLANDS TIMELINE

(Based on secondary sources and compiled by R. Taylor, April 2012, modified since by A. Harris and A.Price)

Pre-Colonial Settlement

The Noongar people's relationship with Nedlands and the surrounding area stretches back 40,000 years. The area was used as hunting grounds by Mooro Noongars who were headed by Yellagonga until his death in 1835. Several springs used to be near what are now Archdeacon and Edward Streets. The Aboriginal name for Pelican Point is Bootanup or Booriarup meaning place of the Xanthorrhoea (balga or blackboy tree leaves) was favoured for crabbing and prawning. The southern side of Pelican Point is known as Goordandalup meaning the meeting place of the married or betrothed persons. Pelican Point is also known as Katamburdup meaning 'high rise near where paperbark and zamia palms grow'. It is also a swamp area recorded near Gallop House called Gooliliup and Beenyup and that Armstrong spit along the southern side of Dalkeith is known as Nanulgurup. Oral history records that Noongar wells tapped a freshwater supply in the vicinity of the present Nedlands/Dalkeith foreshore.

1800s- Early 1900s

- 1831 Adam Armstrong granted Swan Location 86. Names his farm Dalkeith (after Scottish town near Edinburgh. Establishes successful market garden and orchard.
- 1847 James Gallop buys Dalkeith farm. Expands market garden and orchard. [Gallop House built c.1877]
- 1850 Arrival of convicts. Construction of Perth-Fremantle road - completed in 1858.
- 1860s Colonel John Bruce (staff officer for the Pensioner Guards) buys Location 85 to the north of Armstrong and Gallop, approx 320 acres, as investment for his son Edward (Ned) – Ned's land.
- 1881 Fremantle to Guildford railway opens.
- 1890s Gold boom – rapid increase in population.
- 1893 Claremont Road Board established – main role to maintain the Perth-Fremantle road. Claremont had jurisdiction over land that is now the City of Nedlands.
- 1895-7 Irwin Barracks. WA Defence Force property on north side of railway at Karrakatta.
- 1899 First tram from Perth to Subiaco.
Karrakatta Cemetery opening - first burial 24 April.
- 1903-09 Claremont Hospital for the Insane built.

- 1904-06 Old Men's Home established. Later renamed Sunset Hospital.
- 1907 Subdivision of Nedlands Tramway Estate. Foreshore kept for public access.
Assistance from Subiaco to build Broadway – land east of Broadway comes under Subiaco's jurisdiction.
- 1908-9 Completion of Nedlands Tramway, Jetty and Swimming Baths. Opening of Nedlands Park Hotel.
Subdivision of land owned by Sir George Shenton north of Perth-Fremantle Road.
- 1911 Subdivision of Dalkeith. Surveyor Percy Hope responsible for design of Circe Circle and road names taken from yachts during 1912-13 racing season.

World War 1 1914 – 1919 and Post-War

- 1920s Nedlands and Dalkeith grow with Perth-wide building boom.
Ex-servicemen and their brides settle in Nedlands - 'the bridal suburb'.
Road Board by-law prevents construction in any material other than brick.
Housing styles - from 'Federation' to Californian Bungalow. Old English styles and Tudor are popular.
Late 1920s - 1930s Spanish Mission and Mediterranean styles become popular, influence of Hollywood movies and University of WA's new buildings (1929-1932).
Area called West Subiaco named Hollywood, but not officially recognised as a Ward until 1956.
- 1925 Floreat Park garden suburb established.
- 1926 Lemnos Hospital for returned soldiers opens.
- 1929 World Depression. 'Tent cities' on foreshore. Foreshore reclamation provides sustenance work.
- 1930s Melvista Park developed with sporting groups being formed and located there.
Along Stirling Highway: new buildings include Windsor Theatre, Captain Stirling Hotel, and an increasing number of 'modern' flats.
- 1932 Claremont Road Board becomes Nedlands Road Board.
- 1936 Campbell Barracks established at military defence site in Swanbourne.

- 1937 Nedlands Road Board moves into new offices, corner of Stirling Hwy and Smyth Road.
- 1938 Introduction of the electrically powered trolley bus along Perth-Fremantle road.
- 1938 Opening of Dalkeith Primary School

World War 2: 1939 – 1945 and Post War

- 1940 Nedlands War Memorial, junction Waratah and Birdwood Parade.
- 1942 Perth War Cemetery: Commonwealth War Graves, Karrakatta established. Dutch War Cemetery added in 1950, and Garden of Remembrance in 1966.
110 Military Hospital built in Monash Avenue. Becomes the Repatriation General Hospital Hollywood (1947) and later Hollywood Private Hospital (1994).
- 1950 22 October. Dedication of the Peace Memorial Rose Garden.
- 1950s Graylands Migrant Hostel established.
- 1956 1 March 1956 – Municipality of Nedlands constituted.
- 1958 Perth Chest Hospital opens. Later enlarged and renamed Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in 1963.
- 1959 City of Nedlands proclaimed by Governor Sir Charles Gairdner, on 1 July 1959.
To mark new status parcels of land are granted and added to City boundaries.
- 1965 Nedlands Library opens.
- 1968 Nedlands Secondary Teachers College, later WACE, cnr Stirling Highway and Hampton Road. In 1990s, site acquired by University of WA for its Nedlands Campus
- 1972 Chelsea Village Shopping Centre opens.
Claremont Hospital for the Insane divided. Becomes Swanbourne and Graylands Mental Health Hospitals. Swanbourne Hospital closes in 1987.
- 1975 Nedlands Swimming Baths closes. Jetty and baths redeveloped as a marina and restaurant.
- 1975 Dalkeith Gunners Memorial dedicated on 27 September 1975.
Late 1970s Complex including Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, renamed Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre.
- 1987 Mt Claremont. Superdrome (now called Challenge Stadium) opens.

- 1994 Sunset Hospital to close with all services ceasing in 1995.
- 1996 Servetus Street widened (West Coast Highway) with relocation of writers' centre 'Tom Collins House' to Allen Park and formation of Allen Park Heritage Precinct.
- 1998 Underground power begins to be installed in the City of Nedlands.

21st century

- 2004 Mt Claremont Community Centre, including upgrade to Library opens 18 December.
- 2011 The final stage of the Point Resolution Foreshore Stabilisation and Restoration Project completed.
- 2011-12 Major works at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Complex.