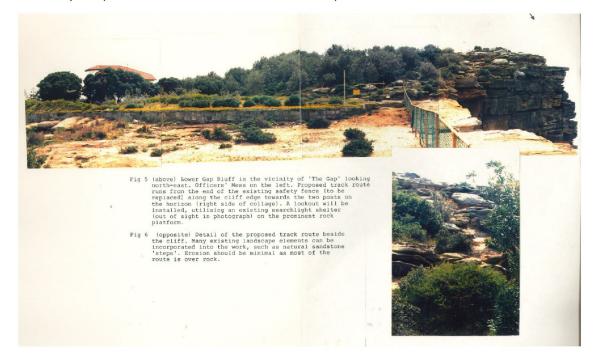
## **Gap Fence timeline - NPWS managed lands**

1982 – Area north of the Woollahra Council managed area and south of HMAS Watson was gazetted as National Park (map below). The area had been previously managed by Defence and when transfer to NPWS it included buildings, gardens, paths, roads, structures, and fences etc.



Photo below showing existing fencing when the land was transferred to NPWS. This is the fence type that is most likely to have been in place in January 1990.

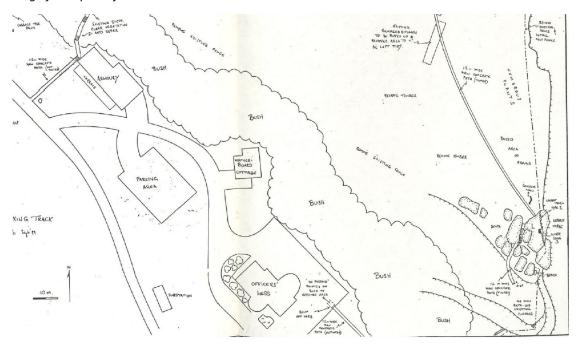
Photo shows a pipe and rail fence with mesh infill along lower section of the Gap. There appears to be no fencing in place through the rocky scrub section of the Gap area. It is difficult to see, from the photo below if there is a fence above the rocky scrub section. Photo taken from NPWS Gap Bluff Track Proposal (this document has no date recorded on it)



Note that in the REF titled "Walking Track Proposal Gap Bluff" from April 1989, under section 2.7 it notes that for the walking track installation "The most visually obtrusive aspect of the work will be the safety fence along the length of the Gap Bluff cliffline. The safety fence will also be visible from the ocean, continuing a line of such fences from HMAS WAtson south along the Coastal Walkway. The obtrusion created by such barriers has to be balanced against the need to ensure public safety in heavily populated Metropolitan areas and can be justified on that basis." The mention of the proposed fencing installation being aesthetically obtrusive might suggest a lack of pre-existing fencing in sections along the cliff line.

Hand drawn map below taken from NPWS Tender document for the Gap Bluff Walking Track construction project, signed 19/3/1990. The map indicates the location of the existing "remains" of a fence line (before new fencing and lookouts were installed by NPWS after March 1990) along the lower and upper Gap Bluff areas. The map indicates the fence may have been damaged and incomplete in sections. There appears to be no fence through the rocky scrub section of the Gap Bluff. Consistent with the photo above. This is the likely alignment of any fence that was in place at the Gap in January 1990.

Noting, in NPWS Gap Bluff Track Proposal on page 1 it points out that "Public access to Gap Bluff has not been permitted, mainly because of lack of safety fencing and to allow regeneration of native plants." Also, "It is now planned to open the area to the public as soon as possible. However, safety fencing, walking tracks, lookouts and explanatory signs are needed before visitors can enjoy this magnificent part of the National Park."



2010 – NPWS Conservation Management Plan images show the upgraded fence and lookouts installed by NPWS after March 1990. Photos below taken March-April 2008.

SOUTH HEAD SHNP Conservation Management Plan - Volume 2A and 2B

## ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS (STAGE 2) Source. OCP March - April 2008



View of the fencing and lookouts at the Gap, looking to the southwest from the cliff edge along the track.



View of the fencing line around lookout track, looking towards south from grassed garden mid way walking from access road.



View of a lookout area, with cement path and grass, and fence on cliff edge, from the north side of the Gap, looking to the south. Note interpretative sign and the Council managed area at the Gap in the distance.



People leave flowers and objects in memory of suicide victims at the Gap, offering are placed outside femicing line near the cliff edge.



View of the fence across steep cliff, looking east from the track at the Gap. Fencing is intrusive and ugly.



View of lookout area, looking east. Noted remains of vandalised interpretative sign.

Located in the NPWS share drives were additional photos and plans from 2008, shown below:

