

## Bidwill - Timeline

Before the settlement of New South Wales by Europeans, the Blacktown district was inhabited by the Darug Aboriginal people, who are the traditional owners and ongoing custodians of the land. We pay our respect to elders past and present, and acknowledge the Aboriginal people for their custodianship of the land.

The suburb was named after John Carne Bidwill (1815-1853), appointed botanist in charge at the Sydney Botanic Gardens in 1847. The design was modelled after the 1928 'garden city' of Radburn, New Jersey. (For history before 1973, please see Mount Druitt timeline)

Pre 1788	Prior to the settlement of New South Wales by Europeans, the Blacktown district was inhabited by the Darug Aboriginal people.
1973	NSW Housing Commission proposed naming of streets associated with John Carne Bidwill. Council disagreed proposing local names instead.
	Housing Commission disagreed with 26 of the 30 street names proposed by Council for Bidwill. Only the names: Luxford, Carlisle, Chestnut and Popondetta accepted.
1975	Bidwill Public School opened Term 1
1976	Population 3,904 (Census)
1977	Bidwill High School opened
1981	Population 6,251 (Census)
1982	First sod for Bidwill Youth Centre turned by Premier Neville Wran in July.
1983	Bidwill Youth Centre officially opened by Premier Neville Wran on 3 September. Bidwill Reserve gazetted on 8 July.
1985	The Yawarra Child Care Centre officially opened on 29 June
1986	Population 6,175 (Census)
1991	Population 5,495 (Census)
1996	Bidwill Neighbourhood Improvement Plan implemented. Population 4,905 (Census)
2000	Bidwill High School becomes part of Chifley College, which contains five high schools from the Mount Druitt area.
2001	Official launch of the Bidwill Community Vegetable garden on 24 August. Charlotte Carne Park was gazetted on 24 August. Charlotte Carne was mother of John Carne Bidwill. Zeldaline Gardens was gazetted on 24 August. Named after Zeldaline Marjorie Smith (31/1/1940 – 2/3/2000), a long-term resident. Population 4,652 (Census)
2005	The Edmund Rice Community Pride Nursery opened on 21 May.
2006	Long Tan Reserve, named after Battle of Long Tan (Vietnam War) gazetted on 30 June. Population 4,412 (Census)
2008	Reopening of shopping centre in May.
2010	A reserve in Wicklow Street, Bidwill, is set to be named after Darug elder Gomebeeree, who, in 1791, was the first Aboriginal leader who offered his friendship to Governor Arthur Phillip
2011	Population 4,592 Census
2016	Population 4,282 Census
2018	Uniting Newpin program – stands for New Parent and Infant Network celebrated 20 years (opened in Bidwill in 1998)

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2019	Population 18,875 (Census – includes Hebersham and Emerton)
2021	Population 4,202 (Census)