



Berkshire Park – Timeline

Officially gazetted by Penrith City Council in 1971, the rural village of Berkshire Park is named after the original grant of land in the area. Richard Rouse (1774-1852), a free settler with considerable land holdings throughout New South Wales, including grants at North Richmond, Bathurst, Gulgong, Warren and Wellington, obtained this 320 acres in 1838. In 1828, it was estimated that Rouse owned 10,000 acres, ten years before he acquired “Berkshire Park”. He arrived in Australia in 1801, aged 26 with his wife and two small children. On “Berkshire Park”, Rouse built a ten-roomed cottage for his daughter Mary and her husband Jonathon Hassall. “Berkshire Park” was situated on the junction of Richmond Road and South Creek. It is thought that the name came from the county in England of the same name, as Richard and his wife were married in the town of North Hincksey in Berkshire the county adjacent to Oxfordshire in which he lived.

1804	23 April	Martin Mason received land grant of 300 acres which he names Penruddock Farm
1805	18 December	William Deneson received land grant of 100 acres which he named Orange grove
1819	31 August	John Norman received land grant of 40 acres
1819	31 August	James Sherrard received land grant of 50 acres
1819	31 August	Peter McAlpine received land grant of 100 acres
1819	31 August	Daniel Clarke received land grant of 30 acres
1819	31 August	Walter Thompson received land grant of 60 acres
1819	31 August	William Cupitt received land grant of 60 acres
1819	31 August	John Cupitt received land grant of 60 acres
1810		Martin Mason sold his grant to Richard Rouse
1838		Richard Rouse obtained an additional land grant of 320 acres naming it Berkshire Park
1883		Mary Hassall died at “Berkshire Park”
1893		Six residents of Berkshire Park signed a petition to form Castlereagh Municipal Council
1895		Castlereagh Municipal Council formed
1919		Southern section of Berkshire Park dedicated a state forest reserve. It now forms part of the Castlereagh Bicentennial Demonstration Forest
1942		RAAF airstrip was built as a diversionary field for the main base at Richmond
1944		“Berkshire Park” house was destroyed by bushfires

1949		Castlereagh Municipal Council amalgamated with Penrith and St Marys councils
1960		Department of Community Services operated the Daruk Boys Training School for almost forty years until land was sold to Department of Corrective Services
1971		Officially gazetted by Penrith City Council in 1971
1985		Department of Corrective Services purchased land from Department of Community Services to build the John Morony Correctional Centre
1991	December	John Morony Correctional Centre took its first inmates
1999	June	Expansion of the John morony Correction Centre approved