



## Wallacia – Timeline

The area known as Wallacia has seen several name changes over the years. Originally the region was called Riverview, but became known locally as Wallace after Robert Wallace who grazed cattle on the 2000 acres he rented from Sir Charles Nicholson. Because of its central location in the area – between the Nepean River and Bringelly Road – his house became the unofficial Post Office from November 1885. It was situated at the rear of what is now the Wallacia Store and Newsagents. By 1897, a school built in the area was known as Wallace School.

When the Post Office became official in November 1905, the G.P.O. named the area Boondah as the name Wallace was already in use elsewhere in NSW. Local people objected however, as they wished to retain the link with Wallace. To overcome the problem, they suggested that the area be called Wallacia. This name was officially approved on 1 June, 1906.

The region was chiefly one of dairying and grazing during the nineteenth century, but in the early twentieth century – because of its rural atmosphere and proximity to Sydney – tourism developed as people opened their homes as guest houses. After the Second World War however, the increase in car ownership and the availability of air travel saw a decline in the local tourist trade. Today Wallacia's tourism is centred on the day-tripper trade with the Wallacia Hotel and the Wallacia Golf Course the chief attractions. Growth in the area in the past few years has mainly occurred with the development of hobby farms by people seeking a retreat from city life.

1801	October	George Caley with 2 convicts explored the Nepean River between Cobbitty and Wallacia
1802	September	Lt Francis Barrallier explored the Nepean River at Wallacia
1804	September	Surveyor George Evans discovered the Warragamba River
1810	November	Governor Macquarie and his party explored the area Evans discovered
1813	30 November	John Blaxland granted 6170 acres, which he named "Luddenham"
1816	8 October	Dennis McDonald granted 30 acres
1831		Blaxland granted a further 777 acres between the Nepean River and the Warragamba River, which included Grove Farm

1851		Sir Charles Nicholson (benefactor to the (University of Sydney) purchased Blaxland's land
1883		Nicholson's land gradually sold and sub-divided
1885	November	Official Post Office opened with the area named Boondah
1896	11 December	Unsuccessful application for a provisional school
1897	19 April	New half-time school building completed
1906	1 June	Riverview, Wallace and Boondah renamed Wallacia
1910	December	Land purchased by the Crown for a School
1912		Wallacia Weir built
1920s		Guesthouses boomed in the Wallacia area
1923		Thistledome Guesthouse built on Greendale Road
1923		Roselea Guesthouse on Greendale Road built by the Downes family
1927	December	Land gazetted as a public school
1937	December	Wallacia Hotel opened
1958	3 October	Corner Water Street and Mulgoa Road dedicated for a War Memoria
1984		Local Environmental Study of Mulgoa and Wallacia (Penrith City Council)
1999	June	Release of the Mulgoa & Wallacia Study and Strategy by Penrith City Council
2019	July	Plans to turn Wallacia Golf and Country Club into an 80,000 plot cemetery are knocked back