

# *OLD FORD ROAD*

End of Georges River Road, Kentlyn

Road linked Eckersley to Campbelltown, built 1889 to 1891



## **HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION:**

Twelve (12) families took up land for orchards and vineyards at Eckersley in the 1890's. Easiest access was from Liverpool via Greenhills Avenue and the Old Illawarra Road, which went to Darkes Forest. Fords across the Georges River provided cross-country routes to Campbelltown and the school at east Minto from the Eckersley district. The three (3) fords were at:

- Freer's Crossing
- The Woolwash crossing, near O'Hares Creek
- National Park Crossing, junction of Peter Meadows Creek and the Georges River (subject item)

Georges River Road was to be extended across the river to join the Old Illawarra Road. The road was surveyed in 1886 and built as an unemployment project between 1889 and 1891, costing over 1, 200 pound.

The Old Ford Road has been popularly mistaken as the "Old Coach Road" which it was not. The Old Coach Road is actually located further south of Freer's crossing.

## **CONDITION AND USE:**

Road is closed to the public, there has been little impact on the original road from traffic, but erosion has destroyed much of the surface. Some old handmade drains and culverts remain.

## **HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:**

- The road has Historical and Aesthetic significance
- It is one of the first roads in the area to be formed.

## **HERITAGE LISTING:**

**LOCAL:** LEP 193