

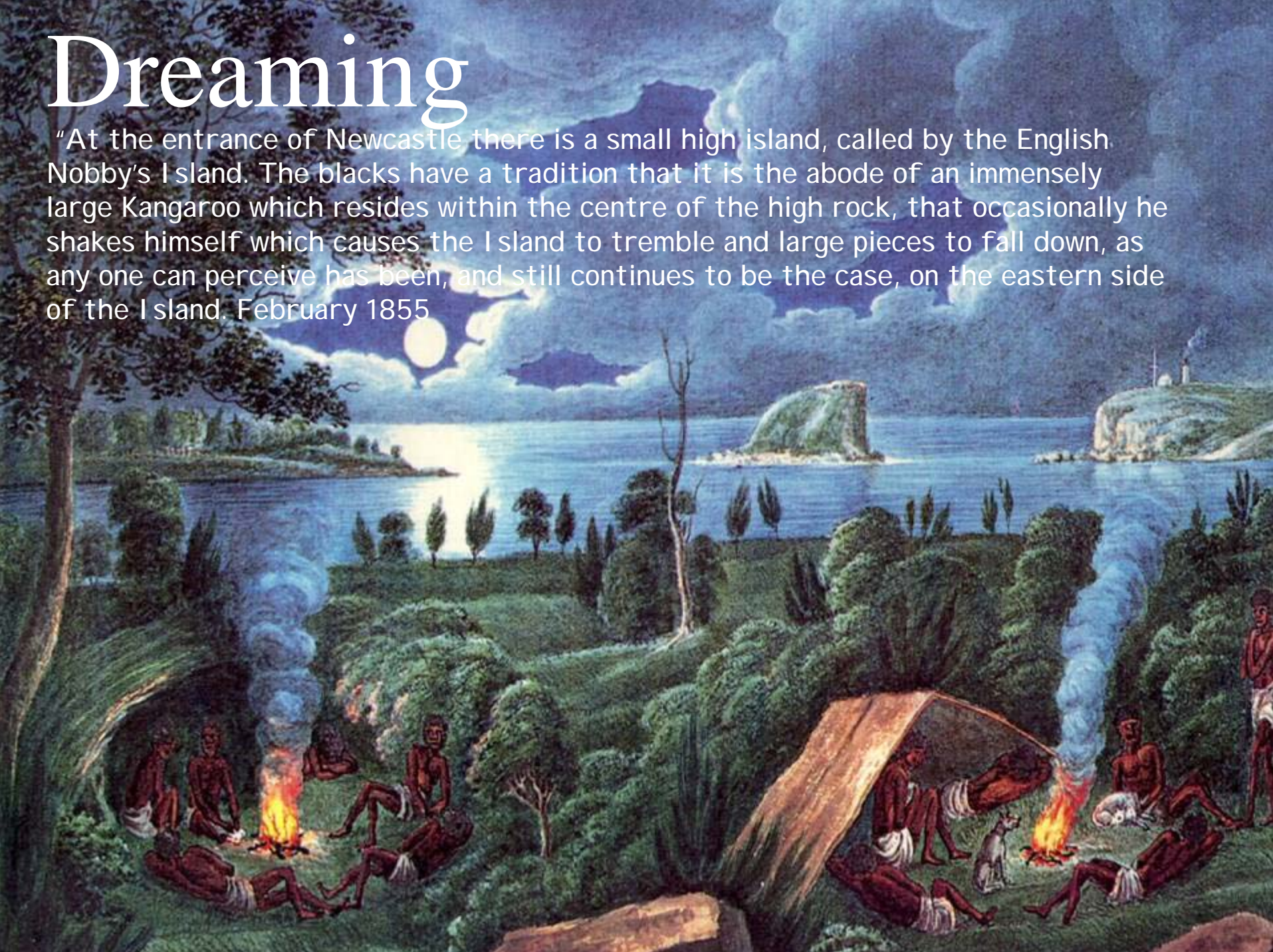
The Nobbys Coal River Historic Precinct

A visionary proposal from the
Parks and Playgrounds Movement Inc.



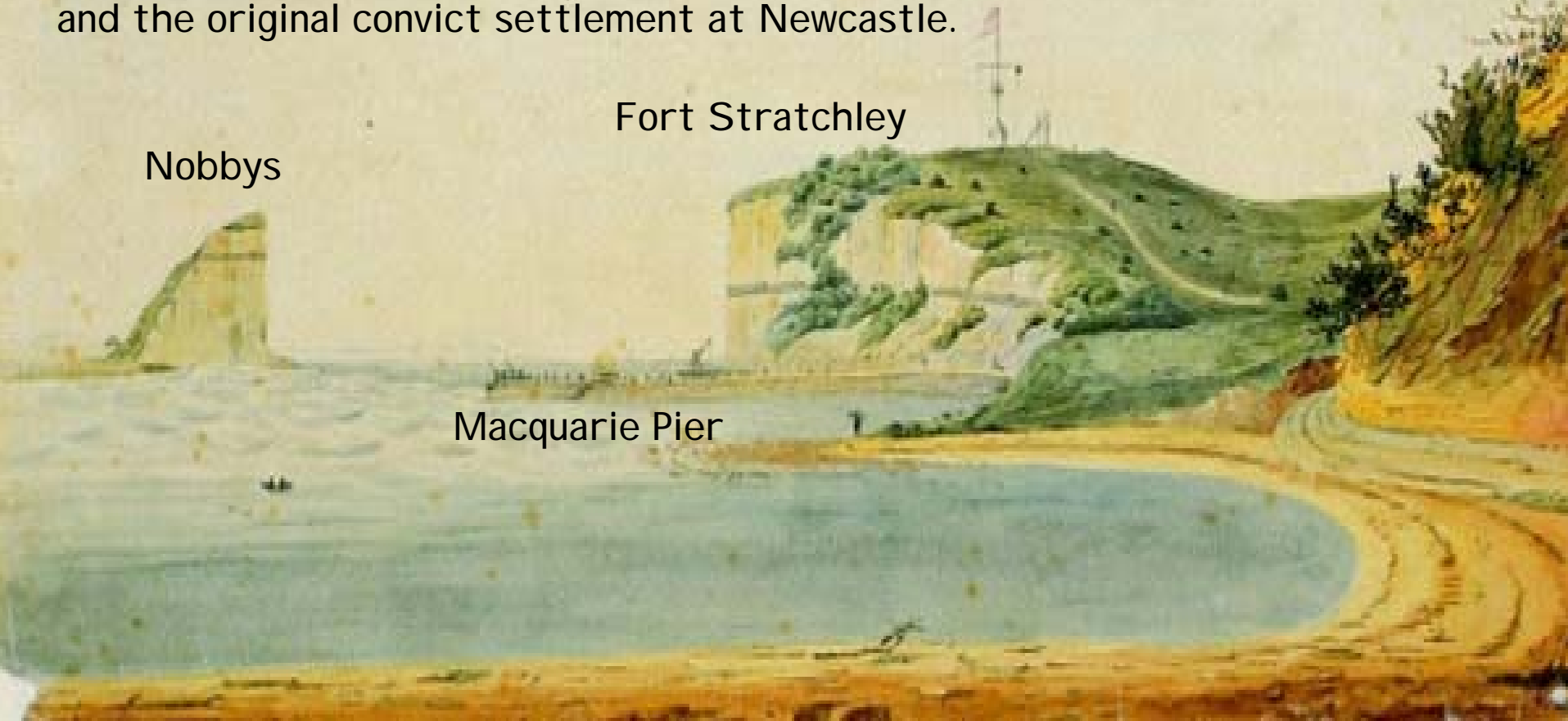
Dreaming

"At the entrance of Newcastle there is a small high island, called by the English Nobby's Island. The blacks have a tradition that it is the abode of an immensely large Kangaroo which resides within the centre of the high rock, that occasionally he shakes himself which causes the Island to tremble and large pieces to fall down, as any one can perceive has been, and still continues to be the case, on the eastern side of the Island. February 1855



The Nobbys Coal River Site

The Site is situated at the mouth of the Hunter River and includes Nobbys Headland, Macquarie Pier (Nobbys Breakwater), the Convict Coal Workings beneath the Fort Scratchley, the Military Fortifications and the Stockade Lumber Yard. These lands are all in public ownership and all intimately connected with the discovery of the Hunter River and of coal and the original convict settlement at Newcastle.



Nobbys

Fort Scratchley

Macquarie Pier

THE VISION

To create an interpretive centre to express Newcastle's unique Aboriginal, convict and industrial heritage and a management plan for the entire site by the 200th anniversary of the permanent settlement at 'Coal River' 2004.



A walk to Nobbys is a must for all visitors to Newcastle. It is a 'spiritual' pilgrimage or old fashioned Italian passeggiata (walk). Just like the 'stations of the cross' a heritage walk could be created to bring people into connection with this city's history.



The 'pilgrimage' to Newcastle's historic heart.



The view of Newcastle from Nobbys

An Interpretive Centre can connect all Newcastle's Historic features
What better place for a tourist and cultural centre,
with great directions to any point in the city.



Vantage points from the breakwater

A transparent lift for mobility access could also be accommodated from this side of Nobbys



Fort Stratchley



The view from the fort



MUCH WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE



HALT! WHO GOES THERE!

Is this the best way to welcome visitors to Newcastle's most famous landmark and symbol?

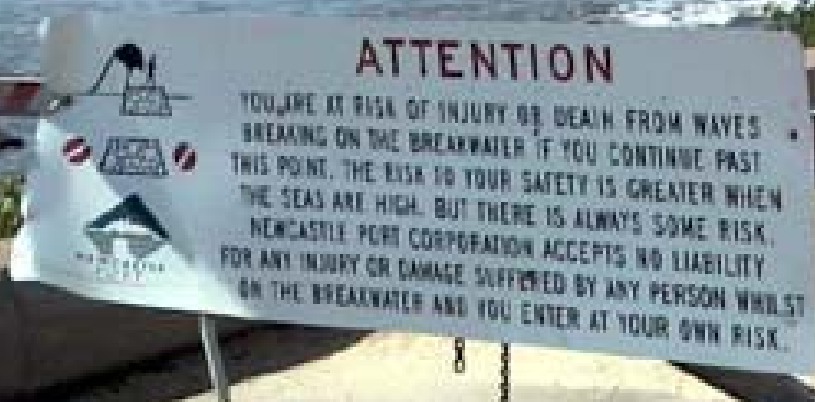


Perhaps a better sign could read:
'Anyone trying to enter these premises
will be SHOT DEAD without compassion.
YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!'

Signage needs to be clean, readable and maintained
'Nobbys is a symbolic landmark of the city of Newcastle'



Any trouble reading this sign?



What's this?



Repairs to original stonework



Concrete can be removed from original stonework



Boatsheds could be moved closer to boats

Can we make this happen for
2004?



The Way Forward

- Acknowledge and promote the identified Nobbys Coal River historic site and support its placement on the NSW State Heritage Register.
- Research, Investigate and Conserve the heritage fabric
- Create a heritage conservation masterplan as an instrument to identify, promote, co-ordinate and conserve the Nobbys Coal River Site.
- Request the NSW State Government to vote \$500,000 for the Master Plan.