

Transcript of Interviewee #1 (28/02/25)

Interviewer: My name is Jodie, I'm a Master student at the Uni of Sydney's School of Architectural Design and Planning. I'm the responsible researcher for this study, "Where in the world is 'Western Sydney'. And I will be conducting this interview by myself. Thank you for agreeing to participate.

Interviewee: No problem, thank you.

Interviewer: I want you to note, um that you can withdraw from this interview at any time, even after it's finished and if you withdraw your response will be removed from our study.

So for this interview, I'm going to be asking you some questions about what you think of the boundaries of Western Sydney when shown on a map, and what makes it different from the rest of Sydney. There are no right or wrong answers. Before I ask you the questions, I'm going to provide you with a map called Map 1, you can see in front of you.

On the other side is Map 2, please don't turn over to look at this map until I tell you. This map is for you to look out and think about the key question – where is 'Western Sydney'? You can draw lines, arrows, images, write comments or mark anything on Map 1 to show where you think Western Sydney starts and ends. You can draw on Map 1 at any time before the end of this interview and I'll let you know when we're reaching for the end of the interview. Make as many changes as you like. Okay, I want to start asking the interview questions now.

Interviewee: Yes, all good.

Interviewer: All good and feel free to start doing that. In whatever way you like, tell me a little bit about yourself and where in Sydney you live.

Interviewee: Okay, so at the moment, I live in I live in Eastwood. Um and uh however, I wasn't born in Sydney. I was born in Armidale in uh in northern New South Wales, um and I lived there until three years ago now and uh and I and yeah been in Eastwood since then.

So I suppose uh how this background relates to this is that um my my perspective on Western Sydney might be slightly different to those who were born in Sydney because um because my exposure to Western Sydney is a concept might be somewhat different-

Interviewer: In what way?

Interviewee: - to those who are right in. Well, for example, I like I'd only I'd only heard of Western Sydney in my youth as a concept, for example, in the media. And so media depictions would shape my early my cognition of what Western Sydney was, which I think is both a good and bad thing.

Interviewer: Well, keep that in mind, there's a question that's coming up which asks you exactly what your personal assumptions are associations are.

Interviewee: So we can talk about that then, I suppose.

Interviewer: The second question is, what are the first four words that come to your mind when you hear or read Western Sydney?

Interviewee: Okay. That would be I'll have to think about this for a minute, but I think, well, it is generally built later than the eastern part of Sydney, as a very, very general rule. So I could say modern or more modern in terms of in terms of uh when it was built.

I would also say generally in its design a bit more car centric because a lot of it was built in the later 20th century when cars were dominant in urban planning. Um what else, um, I mean it is known for its cultural diversity, though there are parts of what there are parts of Sydney that aren't in the west that also are culturally diverse. So um I think I guess it could be a it could be a good thing to note, though it doesn't mean that the rest of Sydney isn't culturally diverse necessarily and a fourth word, hmm well, I suppose given that a lot of it is on the Cumberland Plain, it might have potentially more flat topography, though that also depends on that all depends on whether you include the Blue Mountains or not or or anything like that. So I suppose, yeah, for my four words, there could be newer, car centric, culturally diverse and flat. I guess could be my four words.

Interviewer: What do you think makes Western Sydney a distinct part of Sydney?

Interviewee: Hmm, so I think I think my answer to this comes from, because since I studied a fair bit of history in my time, I uh I like to consider cultural reasons um to be behind, to be behind a lot of uh a lot of things that are in the case today. And I also see a lot of, you can say, more physical concepts to be shaped by cultural developments. So, for example, um I think one thing that makes Western Sydney, I guess, distinct is that is from the people themselves who call themselves part of Western Sydney. And you can see that, you know, in in businesses and sports teams and schools and things where they where they put Western Sydney in their names or use Western Sydney as part of their identities.

Interviewer: Where have you seen this?

Interviewee: Well, just just all over the um well, in the media, for example, even even before I moved and even, you know, in buildings and meeting people as well, like, you know, there are people who um culturally identify themselves as living in Western Sydney.

Interviewer: At work or in your everyday life?

Interviewee: Yeah, just just everywhere, generally.

Interviewer: And do they ever say, what suburb or they just say I'm from?

Interviewee: I think they a lot of them do often talk about their suburbs as well, so I think it's a case of just like a lot of regional based identities. It's the multi-layer thing where um you could say, you're you're an Australian and you live in Queensland. Um you can you can say the same as, you know, you're you're a you're a quote unquote 'Westie' and you live in Kingswood or something like that. So I think that it can work in both of those ways equally well because uh a lot of a lot of identities are based on multi-layer concepts like that.

Interviewer: So you would you say that intangible things like a sense of identity is what makes Western Sydney distinct or are there other things?

Interviewee: There are definitely other things as well. And I think, well, I think that self identity was possibly shaped by other things and sort of made it its own. But the self identity would also, I think it's a coexisting relationship with with other people outside of Western Sydney classifying them as people in Western Sydney.

Interviewer: So when you say other things...

Interviewee: Yeah, people in the east going, oh, there's Westies and stuff like that.

Interviewer: So what is the east and then what is west?

Interviewee: Yeah, exactly. So um I think I guess my main my main explanation for what is east and what is west is if you have a fair amount of people in a given area saying that that they are part of Western Sydney, then I would I personally would classify it as part of Western Sydney. And if they don't, then, and if they also see people of Western Sydney as an other that is not then, then perhaps they aren't part of Western Sydney.

Interviewer: What do you think that people, in your opinion, use as other, like what are people using to distinguish west and non-west?

Interviewee: Well, I do know I do know at least from meeting people that, well, for example, um one of my sisters, uh one of my sisters, um, his husband, her husband, sorry, um he had a very privileged upbringing in the North Shore. And so talking to people like him and yeah, he has many friends who have also met um from similar backgrounds and things like that.

And I've also I also know other people from a from who primarily lived in, you can say, the eastern part of Sydney. and uh I think what I think what distinguishes what what they distinguishes different from people in the West is that well, they they hardly ever visit it from one thing. So a lot of those people I've met haven't even set foot in a lot of the Western suburbs, even if they might drive past it on the M4 or something.

Interviewer: Do you know any of the examples?

Interviewee: Well, okay, so my well, my my brother-in-law's mother, she she said that she's never set foot in Penrith at all. And she's also, for example, like when I when I mention Penrith once. And I often go to Penrith because my partner lives there but I've I've mentioned Penrith once in her response was like, "oh, why would you want to go there?" kind of thing. So I wonder if some and it's it's probably not good to generalise everyone in the eastern part of Sydney sees at that way, but maybe some people of a more privileged background, who might live in very gentrified areas, might see the West as might see the West as undesirable to live, regardless of what the reality is because it's a more complex reality than it seems, as would be the case with a lot of things.

Interviewer: What do you think people see as undesirable? Like what is undesirability?

Interviewee: I think it's say from from what I've observed anyway, I think it's a.. it could be a mix of both you could say what the area looks like visually and that can include the weather. And uh you have a are there any thing [wrong] with the recording all good?

Interviewer: We're all good.

Interviewee: I think it can yeah, it can be based on what the area looks like, because of course, a lot of a lot of privileged people with money like to buy in traditionally pretty areas like in the beach, in the mountains, and things like that.

Interviewer: So aesthetics?

Interviewee: Aesthetics is one and also also similarity with the community there. So if you've lived like, say if you're predominantly white and have lived mainly around other white people, even if even if you don't consider yourself as racially prejudiced or anything like that, um or even or even prejudiced against lower class white people, those biases can still sometimes come out unintentionally.

So so, for example, yeah, if my if my brother-in-law's mum just like shows a bit of like, "oh", like when I talk about Western Sydney, you know, maybe she would find, you know, the um the people to be, you know, not quite of the not quite the same type of community as what what she represents. And, you know, maybe or maybe and slash or maybe she thinks of the Penrith area as ugly. um And so uh and I think um a lot of people I know as well, tend to have a bit of they have a bit of a stereotype of Western Sydney based on what it was what a lot of the suburbs are like, seeing, 30 years ago where, you know, a lot has changed since then.

So, for example, a lot of I've still met a lot of people who, you know, call Penrith a quote unquote shithole, but um having actually been there, it's, you know, it's definitely not. like I've never I've never felt that unsafe in Penrith, to be honest, uh, though I do have privilege myself being white and male and tall, but um, you know, I've definitely felt more unsafe in a lot of other places, including in Manly of all places.

Interviewer: That's interesting.

Interviewee: So, yeah, I guess that that is just one example how I think people in the east might categorise the west and therefore present it as an other, and then from that, then the people in that area then use that use that being cast upon then to identify themselves as, as part of the west. And that's I guess that's how I could frame it.

Interviewer: All good, I mean, what are your perceptions or associations of Western Sydney?

Interviewee: Now, that is, of course, changed a lot over time.

Interviewer: It's very good, because but the third question is how has your view changed time?

Interviewee: Okay, well, I'll talk about I talk about how I see it now, but I see it now as I call it very diverse, not just in the cultural sense in, you know, the ethnicity of people living there, but that it really differs from from place to place and person to person as well.

So, um, you know, I've you know, being in Penrith having seen it around, you know, there's a lot of different types of people in there, um just like, I mean, yeah, just like in any place there are some people who've who could trace their family back quite a number of generations because of course Penrith was its own town for a very long time before it got absorbed into the Sydney metropolis. Um and you have people who who might be first or second generation migrants who live there or people who might have, you know, lived someplace else and moved there a few years ago, just like I did at Eastwood. So it's got that collective, it's got that collective diversity about it like a lot of places, but um and then even even from place to place it can just be very different.

And that can even be that can even change based on, you know, the way it's designed in terms of its roads and and transport infrastructure and buildings and things like that. It's hard to, for example, especially with Parramatta now that it's, you know, sort of being built as this second CBD. Um, you have a lot of people who don't live in Parramatta spending parts of their lives in Parramatta for beer for work or recreation. So you can't really categorise Parramatta very much, just like how it's sort of hard to categorise the Sydney CBD as what kind of entity it presents.

But uh but yes, I think my assessment of Western Sydney as a whole that I can generalise, other than the diversity between places is that um it's rapidly changing because because the reality of it is very different to what I've heard it was 20 years ago. Um which makes sense given the I I suppose given how like how much development there is out there and how I guess it's getting a bit more attention from from the governments and stuff like that. It's rapidly changing and, yeah, it's just really hard to place it into uh into a single entity, other than that it's different to the east, I suppose, in its cultural perceptions

Interviewer. I mean you mentioned at the beginning that you a lot of your perceptions were shaped by media depictions. So where you are you from Sydney, like Metro Sydney originally, and you did you live in metro Sydney and receive these or did you move somewhere else?

Interviewee: Yes. So until I was 26 I lived in Armidale. So that's so for if you don't know, that's about 500 kilometres north of Sydney, um about halfway on the inland route of Brisbane, actually. So, yeah, because of that, um and I don't I don't have any family to live in Western Sydney. So as a result, yeah, a lot of it was shaped by just what people would tell me –

Interviewer: And what would they tell you?

Interviewee: Um well, yeah, often from outdated experiences and also from what um from what I would see on TV and things like that.

Interviewer: What would you see on TV?

Interviewee: So Well, on TV, a lot of a lot of perceptions in Western Sydney were quite negative at the time, um because –

Interviewer: When was this roughly?

Interviewee: It really this was probably early 2000s up until 2010s. A lot of it was depicted, you could say negatively because um well, for example, there you might have heard of the show Housos, that, you know, that was quite popular and airing and there were there were some actual real life documentaries as well, like Struggle Street. um and you might you might also have heard or remembered that it was really weird, but when Struggle Street was airing, it got so much controversy against SBS who aired it that that they decided to just air the remaining episodes in one night to get it over and done with.

Interviewer: Oh, I didn't know that.

Interviewee: Which is is uh which was quite odd because it was just showing the real lives of many people in some of the poorest suburbs in Western Sydney. but it was additionally like it was additionally yeah, it was it was very real, whereas, you know, Housos is just a just a comedy show. It's satirizing life in Western Sydney, but it's not the real thing, and yet people are fine with that for some reason.

So it's um I think a lot of Australians were they didn't like to see the reality of what, again, only some parts of Western Sydney workers you can't generalize it as all being like Struggle Street. um But yeah, I would get a lot of, you know, things like that you would often see, I guess the worst sides of that part of Sydney. And also on the news, like, I'd often just hear, you know, a lot of gang fights between gangs in Western Sydney or people getting arrested. Um so a lot of it was that and so and, you know, my dad would

also tell me stories of like of things in the 70s from when he briefly went through Western Sydney, and so those so some of those very outdated things just naturally formed in my mind. And I didn't really, I wasn't very aware of it as as you really wouldn't be if you've never been there or been exposed to it.

Interviewer: So how have your views changed over time?

Interviewee: Well, I think me, well, A, me, um me well getting older and more mature and then studying things like history, got me in a better mindset to not take things at face value. And in addition, also moving the Sydney really helped because then I would I actually met people from Western Sydney.

Interviewer: That's interesting, tell me more about this, because sometimes when, like people call Sydney a city of villages. And so sometimes when you live in a particular space in Sydney, sometimes west, sometimes not, that's all you know. So how did you personally meet people from different parts of Sydney?

Interviewee: Yeah, that's true. Well, a lot of it was but you're right. You're definitely right in that it definitely is. You could describe it as a collection of villages because to my understanding that was how Western Sydney developed, where it was a lot of towns and then and then they just sort of all grew into each other and as also Sydney grew and a lot of the lands separating those towns was developed.

But yeah, um I mean, I just met a lot of them because, you know, luckily since Eastwood and even though Eastwood, I guess, you wouldn't people wouldn't typically call it as part of Western Sydney these days. They um I would just naturally come across people who lived in suburbs that you would classify, well a lot of people would classify as Western Sydney.

Interviewer: Such as?

Interviewee: Well, so there was you. There's um one of my uh and also one of my best friends who I've known in Armidale since primary school, he moved to uh he moved to the Parramatta area, which, um, uh quite a few years before I moved in, which, you know, may or may not be described as Western Sydney by certain people, but he lived there and then he befriended a few friends from further out as well. And he has a good he has two friends who live in Campbelltown.

My partner, of course, lives in Penrith and she grew up in Merrylands. So there is there is that part as well. Um a few uh colleagues in my volunteering work and a few people in my uh in my TAFE classes as well when I was staying and sending library and information services. So um it's it's a lot to count, but yeah, I guess, you know, naturally just running into them as a lot of people would. Um and and they could they could just naturally talk a bit about um their lives in Western Sydney or or even if they don't, like even if they just even if I find out where they live, but not much else, I think the big

diversity of people who I did meet, um who who prescribe themselves from those areas really gave me the idea that, oh, Sydney is not just a poor place where bogans live. It's like it's uh it's um, you know, it's got it's a it's a very multifaceted place, so it sort of helped me shape my uh, I guess the views I have now and that but will continue to be shaped as well because things views always change they don't they don't stay static, at least to at least to or at least hopefully, I think in into a lot of people it is. So, yeah, it might sound like a uh might sound like a convoluted answer, but I suppose that's -

Interviewer: Oh no, it's a good, we're looking for a whole range of views and that stuff, the whole point of the study and it's really really interesting that, you know, you're from Armidale and then you had these uh associations because of the media, and then you moved to metro Sydney and then you'll views changed also over time..

Yeah, before I start with the question the ending question, please feel free to doodle on your map.

Interviewee: I probably, yeah, probably start on that.

Interviewer: Oh no, because like what I could do is ask you the question and you can walk me through your process 'cause it's how would you show where Western Sydney is on Map 1 and talk me through your process.

Interviewee: Okay, so now, of course, though I talked a lot about cultural cultural definitions of what Western Sydney is -

Interviewer: You were also talking about infrastructure as well.

Interviewee: Yeah, there is that is very true. But yes, at least some of my talks about cultural things.

Interviewee 1: I think the um it might be it might be difficult to put like to define an exact line, but I might just put a rough line of where I think it could start an end based on my based on what I talked about.

Interviewer: Go for it.

Interviewee: So I think considering that Castle Hill is - the Hills Shire is often considered a part of Western Sydney. Um but I haven't heard of people saying Hornsby is part of Western Sydney. In the north, you can start with uh with is it Berowra Creek as it called? So if you have this sort of boundary and then go

Interviewer: So you're using the natural features?

Interviewee: Yeah, I think the I think the natural features is a good way to start, but um it it's not the be all one end all towards things. I think I think using natural features can be a uh like they are an example of what they can be they can as as a barrier, there can be an example of what has culturally developed, but they can also influence what has

culturally developed. Like, for example, you know, when like when I was talking about the prejudice of east versus west earlier, you know, they like to move to the more appealing places. And so obviously they would go to the beaches. So, but if, yeah, if say, I set this line and then I think if I went down, if I went down through here, I think for I think for the for the rest of it going down, sorry, that pens just being a little a little funny. I think the as a very general thing, um based on the cultural and also infrastructure factors, um for example, Parramatta, um since it spent a long time as its own town, it has roads, you know, coming out of it in various directions because the roads were designed to go in and out of Parramatta, especially since very early on in the colonial days.

So, for example, when I'm driving from Eastwood to Blacktown, it's a kind of a weird route. So I'd have to almost go into Parramatta to James Ruse Drive and then go up there through Windsor Road for a bit and then go on a go on one of those roads to Blacktown, I think Abbott Road. So I think as a good as a good line of infrastructure after that, you could make it I think even about here. So this, I guess this more generous definition where so Olympic Park is here. um and, you know, people see that as as sort of a part of the as the eastern Sydney, especially since a lot of the old suburbs go up to about here.

My dad, for example, in the late 70s said that when he lived in Sydney, you'd have houses up to about Homebush and then there were actually a lot of paddock going to Parramatta.

Interviewer: Oh ok.

Interviewee: So um I think if you can follow, and there's conveniently a road the A6, which goes down there. So this is a very general thing, not exactly because of course I don't know everything about every suburb, but I could follow that through, go through about here. Um also because, yeah, I know some people from who say live in the Granville, Marylands area, um who are who I guess haven't had much to do with eastern Sydney culturally, um there's sort of their own little. And I think this emphasises your talk on lots of little villages there, where um where a lot of their life is self-contained in that part. So I guess if I follow it just through there, you know, I've met I've heard of I've heard of and met people from Bankstown who definitely don't consider sell themselves culturally as part of eastern Sydney. So if I draw this line through here, then yeah so then yeah Bankstown.

Interviewer: So where is that line? Ah ok yup.

Interviewee: Yeah, still going through there, and that includes Revesby as well, which, of course, which is uh which is where you live or have lived.

Interviewer: Ah, so you'll call me a Westie, haha.

Interviewee: So I guess, yeah, if you below that and then I don't know much about the southern side but see if I do this, because there's, of course, this natural barrier between the Sutherland Shire and the Campbelltown area. But I don't know if see if I did this somewhere -

Interviewer: So you're cutting south through the Royal National Park.

Interviewee: Yeah, I suppose so because there's there's uh well, there's not many people living in that area, so there would have course from that be um different communities on either side that probably don't uh contact each other as much as if they were closer.

Interviewer: So to this map, you are calling like Castle Hill and Baulkham Hills west and you're including blue Mountains.

Interviewee: Yeah. I think I think so, because I mean, a part of me, I can be a bit indecisive on the Blue Mountains, because a part of me can say, well, is Blue Mountains even a part of Sydney in the first place, but again, I think that definition can that definition it has some you can argue either for or against it, but since I since I've based my view on on the views of other people who I've met and also the perceptions on those people's perceptions, the fact that some of them would considerably mountains as part of Sydney and also, you know, Sydney's only going to get more dense as time goes on. And it would and it will therefore become easier to connect the Blue Mountains to Sydney, I suppose you could say, um I could say that, you know, it would be it could be worthwhile to at least consider the Blue Mountains as part of Western Sydney.

But um, that said, I it has its own it just like different suburbs within Western Sydney, it has a cultural identity all on its own, but um it can still?

Interviewer: So would you include it in your own definition?

Interviewee: I might as well, since my since this inclusion, I think I'm I'm guessing is relatively it's a relatively generous and loose thing anyway, might as well include that loose loose part. It would I guess it would just make that thinking consistent. So, yeah, I uh.

Interviewer: Were there any other things that you wanted to draw or to comment?

Interviewee: Now I'm not sure what else I could include. I because I suppose if you also consider those areas like Picton and um and uh where's that where's that other little town that's been there um been there for a long time? Thirlmere, and there was another one. But anyway, it's I guess similar to the Blue Mountains. Maybe I'll maybe I could just put a dotted line there..

Interviewer: Hm ok, what does this dotted line mean and where are you starting?

Interviewee: This is again very rough, but say I I Camden, that's right, but say if I did did that where I I would personally say I would include that as part of Western Sydney, but some people would -

Interviewer: The bits to the west of the dotted line?

Interviewee: Yeah, to the west, yeah. So I'll say I I would include that as Western Sydney, but probably some people would disagree, especially to do a more strict definition.

Interviewer: So are you counting also the communities south to that dotted line like Picton?

Interviewee: I think so given just the fact that it's harder for those places at the moment to get to to reach other parts of Sydney in, kind of similar to the Blue Mountains. And so, and again, they've spent a longer time as their own little towns. So it's just the case of are those places part of Sydney or not?

Interviewer: Ah, ok so more a question like are they metro Sydney or Western Sydney or you saying it's a question of both?

Interviewee: Yeah, kind of. I think it's um well, my thinking at least before was going well, are they a part of Sydney? If so I mean, if so since there since they are west of Western Sydney, you could call them part of the parts of Western Sydney. If not.

But again, yeah, what do you define as Sydney versus what is metro Sydney? So that becomes really complicated and I'm not sure if I have a concrete answer.

Interviewer: No, no, it's all good.

Interviewee: But yeah. I think with um I think, yeah, there are definitely - I would say you could include them and there are definitely arguments for them, but that some people might disagree on that.

Interviewer: So you've got a definitive line to the east of Bankstown and a more dotted line kind of like when you start reaching - where where have you put your dotted line - specifically after Kingswood -

Interviewee: Campbelltown.

Interviewer: So Camden is like a most southern point.

Interviewee: Yeah, I suppose so. And there's um and of course, the back line sort of follows where the Blue Mountains begin. Um yeah, so a bit west of the Nepean River.

Interviewer: No, it's good. Any other commentary before I ask you to turn over?

Interviewee: I think, I think that's all I've got in my head so go ahead with it

Interviewer: All good, no, no, you can change it any time

Interviewee: Yeah I think we're all good. Let's go ahead.

Interviewer: Ok, now turn over to Map 2. This is the same as Map 1, but it's a satellite view of land and patterns of urban settlements.

Interviewee: Yeah, there you go.

Interviewer: So map 2, does this change anything about the way you have shown Western Sydney in Map 1?

Interviewee: Yeah, say that's an interesting thing. So I guess I've kind of partially used geographic features anyway. So there is there is, of course, yeah, this is uh do they call it Berowra Creek or something? That little creek there. They call it a creek, even though it's very wide. Um I think, yeah, definitely when it comes to big geographic features that that are hard to build around, they can therefore create divides and therefore therefore create cultural divides potentially and divides in identity.

Interviewer: in what way to do you think?

Interviewee: Well, given that because it's harder to go if you if you have a geographical feature in the way, it's harder to go from one side of it to the other. And it's more expensive to build infrastructure and therefore there's generally a bit less infrastructure. and that therefore affects people's lifestyles.

Interviewer: Ok.

Interviewee: So uh and yeah, well, that, for example, is how, you know, the Blue Mountains as an urban area is uh like it's just a little strip because there's so much rugged terrain both north and south and also a lot of national parks and things like that that you can't build in. And of course, it's also shaped around the Blue Mountains railway line, which, well, it's one part of the main Western railway line, which was ultimately built to connect Sydney to the farming lands west of the Blue Mountains, so from Bathurst to along to Dubbo and then eventually to the Darling River at Bourke. So um even that line was built just a way to get through the Blue Mountains not to serve the communities alongside the route, but communities developed there anyway. So -

Interviewer: No, I mean, does it change in any way or like map now that you've seen it?

Interviewee: Yeah, I don't think so because I think, well, some of the lines are drawn anyway were based on we're a bit based on a few geographical things, for example, especially through there and up there. And um and uh, and of course, well, at least this part isn't as inhibited by this.

Interviewer: Which bit specifically?

Interviewee: This centre part, say, like from going from down here to up until um close to Hornsby.

Interviewer: Ok.

Interviewee: I mean, of course, this is it's like there are lots of roads built through there. So I'd imagine that the divide through this area is more of a, well, A, where Sydney had developed at various times and B, um, and B, um, you know, where they maybe maybe in relation to lands that were appealing in the old days and where they where they moved people out west and therefore the cultural divide that came from that.

So, um for example, the old tram lines when Sydney had a tramway system only went about as far as - I don't think they even went to Kingsgrove - um maybe to Burwood? So Sydney in 1945 only really like it was only really dense around this part and then up to about there. It was a much physically smaller city.

Interviewer: So where's the arc? You're saying Sydney, Burwood?

Interviewee: Yeah, even that even the southern path of the eastern suburbs wasn't wasn't really huge, but say if you with if you follow the tram lines really vaguely, it might just use this marker that pen doesn't really want to work.

If you move, there are a couple of tram lines a bit down there. So say if I'm I oh, yeah, there we go. It's getting getting some ink. Can you see it?

Interviewer: Yup.

Interviewee: Okay. If we move to about there, then go around um there only really reached Chatswood as well, the tram lines so and there were also tramlines in the Northern Beaches, but even then the Northern Beaches for many years had its own very isolated community. So people wonder at the time if it was a part of Sydney for those in during those days or if it was its own regional area.

But Sydney was much physically smaller. and relating to my talk about the more car-centric design of Western Sydney, um coming from the fact that post-World War II Sydney liked exploded like that. And um and uh and the new and the new places built at that time had like they had cars considered much more in the design of all the streets and everything like that, except for, of course, the little towns that were dotted around that that were eventually absorbed into each other.

But this is, of course, um uh yeah, I guess that relates to the design and expansion of the city rather than specifically geographics. So it can be a combination of it can be a combination of geographic features and also just general history that can divide things culturally, I would say.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: So I don't so yeah, I I wouldn't say that anything would necessarily change majorly because of because of the more obvious geographical features on the map, though. But yeah, definitely there are definitely some big, I guess, historical and geographical factors that can that can make places very different from one another. But again, considering Western Sydney is as diverse it is it as it is. Other than other than I think people identifying themselves as part of Western Sydney, it's good to use those terms loosely, I would say. Which I think is why I drew my lines the way it was.

Interviewer: That's good. Uh this is the end of the interview.

Interviewee: Mm, excellent.

Interviewer: Thanks to saying and for providing with inputs. You can contact me at any time if you had questions or concerns about the study or your interview.

As previously said, you can request a copy to review before you allow its use in the and you can withdraw it in time or you can you can partially redact bits of your interview. My contact does in the participation information statement that I gave you.