

**A proposal to update and upgrade Duke Kahanamoku's Statute and Memorial Park (Lot 7108/DP 1074767) in Freshwater, NSW to include Australia's Men and Women World Surfing Champions from January 1994 to the Present Time, to include significant contributors to Australia's Surfing Heritage and also install a plaque of Duke Kahanamoku's Aloha Creed and a sandstone and artworks walkway.**



This Park located in NSW Crown Land overlooking Freshwater Beach and the South Pacific Ocean was opened on Australia Day, Wednesday, 26th January 1994 by Duke's widow, Mrs Nadine Kahanamoku.

Duke Kahanamoku Park on the Northern Headland of Freshwater Beach became part of the Manly-Freshwater World Surfing Reserve on Saturday, 10 March 2012.

When this Statute and Park were dedicated in January 1994, it was the culmination of a long process which began in 1972. It was a collaboration of efforts between Freshwater SLSC, Warringah Council and the Harbord Diggers Club. The raison d'etre of Duke Kahanamoku Park was inter alia to promote and honour Australian Surfing's Heritage and competitive achievements.

This Park's concept was created by the late John Douglas, with the design of the Mosaics and Bronze Statute by the late artist Barry Donohoo as one of his last artistic works before his death. The creation of the one and a half-life sized (3 Metres high), 1.5 tonnes statute of Duke Kahanamoku and this Headland Park named after him has been extensively researched in a Doctoral thesis completed in 2006.

The history and processes of creating this Park is detailed in:

[The 'Freshy Duke': Social memory and the Duke Paoa Kahanamoku statute at Freshwater.](#) [Chapter 6 (pp. 269 – 309)],

Of an unpublished Doctoral Thesis titled:

"Nimble Savages: Myth, Race, Social Memory and Australian Aquatic Sport"

Dr Frederick Gary Osmond, School of Human Movement Studies,  
The University of Queensland. 2006.

A copy of Dr Gary Osmond's PhD (Dewey Decimal Number of 796.53) is held in Manly Council's Local Studies Library, Manly. NSW. 2095. Ph. 9976-1741.



Figure 1 – 1964 World Champion Midget Farrelly's Surfing Mosaic in Duke K.'s Park.

There is ground space to install further Australian Surfers' Mosaics in:

- 1) The sandstone slabs around the existing small and large Mosaics underneath the white Australian flag pole in the Northern end of the Park, and also
  - 2) The sandstone slabs around the small and large Mosaics facing the Statute in the Southern end of the park. Please see my photographs below. (Figures 2 and 3).
- For consistency of appearance, the proposed new Surfers' Mosaics should be the same size as the existing Surfers' Mosaics.



Figure 2 – The large Duke K. mosaic and mostly unused sandstone area under the white Australian flag pole in Duke K.'s Park. Currently there are 2 small and 1 large mosaics there.



Figure 3 – The large Islander Man mosaic and mostly unused sandstone area facing the Statute in Duke K.'s Park. Currently there are 6 small and 1 large mosaics located there.

**Australian Surfers' Mosaics in Duke Kahanamoku Park, Freshwater. NSW.**

Currently there are 24 Australian Surfers' Mosaics located in this Park – 16 Men's and 8 Women's Surfers' Mosaics.

<u><b>MEN'S CHAMPIONS</b></u>	<u><b>WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS</b></u>
Midget Farrelly (World)	Phyllis O'Donnell (Amateur)
Mark Scott (Amateur)	Jenny Gill (Amateur)
Mark Richards (World)	Connie Nixon (Amateur)
Wayne Bartholomew (World)	Pam Burridge (World)
Mark Sainsbury (Amateur)	Lynette Mackenzie (Amateur)
Peter Townend (World)	Kathy Newman (Amateur)
Robert "Nat" Young (World)	Pauline Menczer (World)
Chad Edser (Junior)	Wendy Botha (World)
Grant Frost (Amateur)	
Martin McMillan (World)	
Shane Bevan (Junior)	
Damien Hardman (World)	
Stuart Entwistle (World)	
Barton Lynch (World)	
Tom Carroll (World)	
Bryce Ellis (Junior)	
It is now over 20 years since this Park's opening in January 1994 and no further Surfers' Mosaics have been added since. It is proposed to update the Park to reflect more of Australia's Surfing Pioneers and to record Australia's World Surfing champions since Jan. 1994 and make factual corrections to information.	
<u><b>PROPOSED HERITAGE ADDITIONS – AUSTRALIAN MEN SURFERS</b></u>	<u><b>PROPOSED HERITAGE ADDITIONS – AUSTRALIAN WOMEN SURFERS</b></u>
<b>Tommy Walker,</b> <b>C.J. "Snowy" McAllister</b> <b>Dave Jackman</b> (For Australian Surfing Heritage contributions)	<b>Isma Amor</b> <b>Isabel Letham</b> (For Australian Surfing Heritage contributions)
Missing Australian ASP World Surfing Champions.	Australian ASP World Surfing Champions since January 1994.
<b>Ian Cairns '73 Men's World Champion</b>	<b>Layne Beachley</b>
<b>Mark Occhilupo</b>	<b>Chelsea Georges</b>
<b>Joel Parkinson</b>	<b>Stephanie Gilmour</b>
<b>Mick Fanning</b>	

Accordingly, there is a proposal for 12 (Twelve) new Australian Heritage and World Champion Surfers' to be created and installed in this Park.

**A suitable Contractor for this work should be researched.**

## The Aloha Walkway - A Vision.

At present the walkway through Duke K's Park is an unpaved dirt track which as well as being visually unattractive - is also slippery in parts, becomes muddy and water logged etc. after rain and is not Disabled Access friendly.



Figure 4 – The existing dirt path in Duke K's Park.

It is proposed to pave this current dirt and small gravel track as a sandstone walkway - to compliment the existing sandstone paving in parts of the Park, as well as improving the visual amenity, safety and functionality of this Park's public walkway.

I have raised the concept of an Ocean themed art walkway in Duke K's Park with Warringah Council staff in 2013. Further works of Art as part of a paved walkway to replace the current dirt track through this Park would greatly improve its functionality and visual amenity and allow Disabled Access to it.

As an example of such a walkway, view the walkway leading to Shelley Beach, Manly and its Ocean themed pieces of Art which looks great. The proposed Aloha Walkway should include recognition that this Park is:

- (1) Part of the Manly Freshwater World Surfing Reserve;
- (2) That the Park is being re-dedicated for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the visit of Duke K. to Freshwater Beach, and
- (3) Recognising Australia's Pioneer Surf board/craft makers and Surf Musicians.

A Commission for a creative collaborative effort from a small group of Northern Beach's skilled Artists - would I believe lead to the best possible artistic outcomes for the proposed upgrades to this Iconic Park. Creative input from a Landscape Architect and Sculptor should also be obtained.

Ocean themed art works should be installed in the proposed Aloha Walkway.



Figure 5 – Proposed Aloha Walkway entry artwork.

**Duke Kahanamoku's Aloha Creed**

“In Hawai'i we greet friends, loved ones and strangers with Aloha - which means with love.

Aloha is the key word to the universal spirit of real hospitality, which makes Hawai'i renowned as the world's centre of understanding and fellowship.

Try meeting or leaving people with Aloha. You'll be surprised by their reactions.

I believe it and it is my creed. Aloha to you.”

**Duke Paoa Kahanamoku, Ambassador of Aloha.**

**(24 August, 1890 – 22 January, 1968)**

A bronze plaque with this Aloha Creed is proposed to be made for and installed in this Park – similar to the Aloha Plaque (Appendix 1) which I created and donated to Freshwater SLSC in 2014, which is now on display with Duke Kahanamoku's 1914 Freshwater made Hawaiian surfboard.

**Suggested Patron of Duke K's Park's update and upgrade – [Midget Farrelly](#).**

Figure 6 – Bernard “Midget” Farrelly and Duke Kahanamoku's 1914 Freshwater Board.

Midget Farrelly as well as being Australia's first World Surfing Champion (1964), is considered by many to be the Father of Australia's Modern Surfing era. Midget was also involved during 1993 in the creation of Duke Kahanamoku Park and was present at its opening ceremony in January 1994. Midget's inclusion as the Patron of this Park's re-dedication ceremony - would affirm this Park's connection with and the continuity of awareness of Australia's Surfing Heritage. He is now 70 years of age and was the Male Patron of the Duke Kahanamoku Centenary Celebrations.

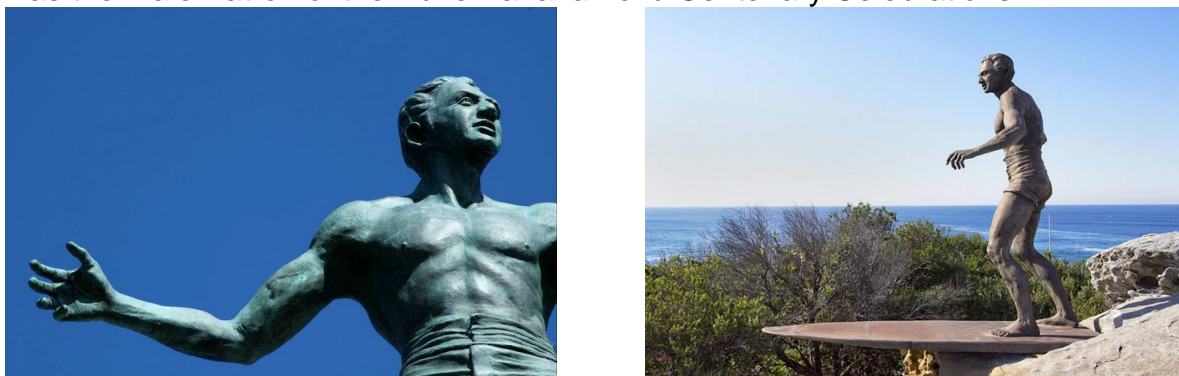


Figure 7 – Duke Kahanamoku's Bronze Statute - Requires annual cleaning up to maintain it.

**PETER WARR,**

**CO-TRUSTEE OF THE MANLY-FRESHWATER WORLD SURFING RESERVE (WSR).**

**20/09/2015**

The Duke Kahanamoku cast bronze statue, the Park's dedication plaques and the 24 existing Surfers' Mosaics need to be cleaned and maintained annually to ensure their best possible condition is maintained. My suggested restoration works contractor for this ongoing annual maintenance is Australian Bronze Pty Ltd (Mr Clive Calder), for full details of this firm's services and skills please see:

<http://www.australianbronze.com/>

**Location:** Australian Bronze Sculpture House, 19 North Fort Road, North Head Reserve, Manly NSW 2095. **Contact Numbers:** (W) **02 9977 0226** and (M) **0404 076 683**. I have previously had Warringah Council engage Mr Clive Calder to successfully clean this statue and conduct a structural integrity/condition assessment of it and produce a report on this issue (Appendix 2).

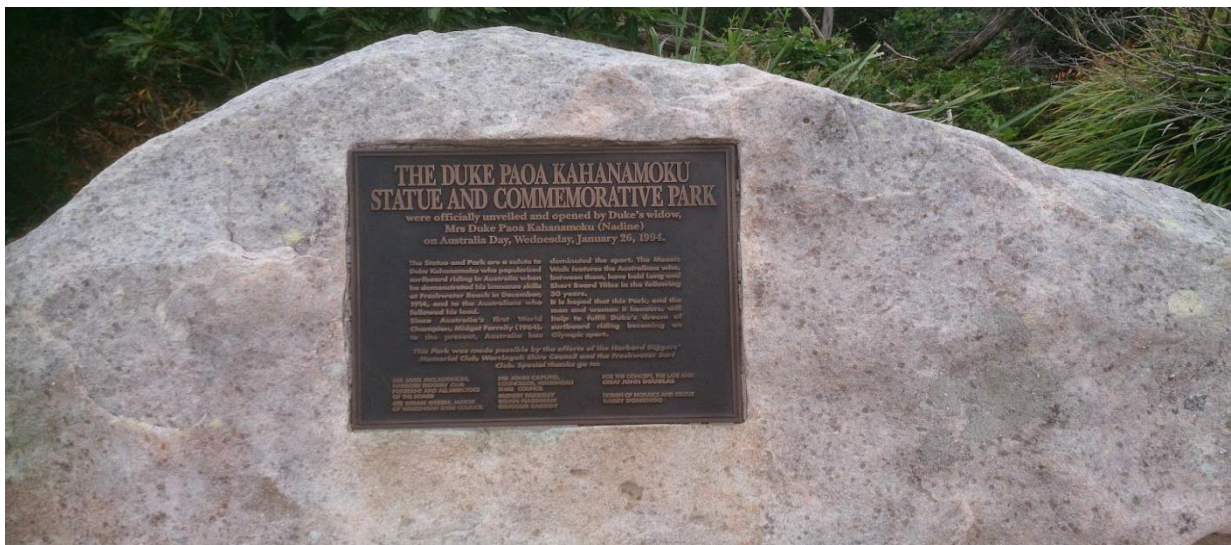


Figure 8 – The Duke Kahanamoku Commemorative Park's dedication plaque requires annual cleaning to maintain it in its best possible condition.

As a condition of the approval by Warringah Council (Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 1993) for the building of the Duke Kahanamoku Statue and Commemorative Park in Freshwater, Council accepted the Harbord Diggers Club's proposal in writing (dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 1993) to assume full financial responsibility for the insurance and maintenance of this statute, and the maintenance and repairs of the Surfers' Mosaics.

This fact is noted in the Attachment to Item 74 of the Minutes of Warringah Shire Council's Special Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1993 to consider this Statue and Park. Regrettably between 2005 and 2011 this iconic Freshwater, NSW Park and Statute were allowed to deteriorate significantly in both their physical appearance and condition.

In 2011, as a Trustee of the Manly-Freshwater National/World Surfing Reserves (WSR) and a Warringah LGA Resident/Ratepayer - I stepped in and engaged Warringah Council to repair and maintain this Park and Statute in the Public Interest.

**An ongoing Custodian Committee for this Park should be formed between representatives of Freshwater SLSC, Warringah Council, the Harbord Diggers Club and the Manly Freshwater National/World Surfing Reserves - to ensure that Duke Kahanamoku's Statute and Memorial Park is in future properly maintained and cared for in order to honour and respect it as an important part of Australia's Surfing Heritage and of the Warringah LGA Community.**

**Landscaping in and around Duke Kahanamoku Park, Freshwater, NSW.**

A Permissive Occupancy (P.O.) [1966/301 M] was granted by the NSW Crown Lands Office for the Harbord Diggers Club's occupancy in part of McKillop Park, Freshwater as a carpark, with the uninhibited use by the General Public of this area. A further P.O. of Crown Lands in McKillop Park for landscaping purposes was granted in 1988 to the Harbord Diggers Club.

McKillop Park is a part of Reserve 145 for Public Recreation notified in the NSW Government Gazette on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1886. This public carpark land which is the subject of a P.O. has permanently remained part of Crown Reserve 145 and the P.O. was only ever granted with the intention that it would be a temporary tenure - with this land (Lot 7108/DP1074767) being required at some future date, to be part of a Public Coastal Recreation Reserve. The Harbord Diggers Club has since 2012 publicly expressed their intentions regarding their P.O. in McKillop Park, which are to fully remediate their current P.O. Eastern carpark area to its original condition with native plantings and landscaping of this Coastal Recreation Reserve.

In 2013, in consultation with Warringah Council's Parks, Reserves and Foreshore Unit I had some of the overgrown Lomandra bushes and weeds etc. removed from Duke Kahanamoku Park which were continually obscuring many of the Surfers Mosaics and the Park's walkway. In their place a number of indigenous plants and shrubs were planted which are now prospering and have improved the functionality and visual amenity of this Park. More native plantings should be undertaken to further improve the Public Amenity of this Park.



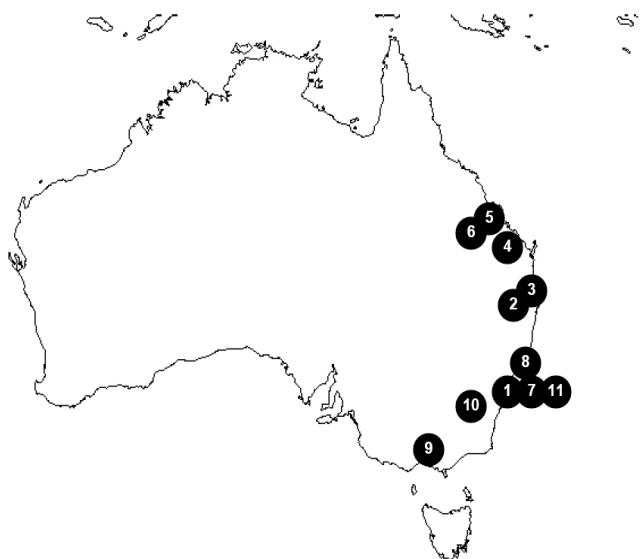
Figure 9 – The Northern Headland of Freshwater Beach - the location of Duke Kahanamoku Park + Statute and the Surfers' Walk Mosaics in the Manly-Freshwater World Surfing Reserve.

This is an area of outstanding natural beauty - which is described by Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott as a "priceless asset" of the Warringah Electorate's Community.

The proposed Aloha Walkway as well as containing Ocean themed artworks could also include a series of plaques with historical photographs of Duke Kahanamoku (see examples below), traditional Hawaiian cultural scenes, the Saltwater Aboriginals as the first inhabitants, European Australian Surfing and Beach culture pioneers etc.

**Duke K's Park as well as its Australian Surfing Heritage significance – is an unfinished work of Art.**

**Duke Kahanamoku's Australian Itinerary (14 Dec. 1914 - 19 Feb. 1915).**



Sydney: 14 Dec - 11 Jan ^ #

1. Allora, Qld 13 January ^
2. Brisbane 14 - 23 January ^
3. Maryborough, Qld 25 January ^
4. Rockhampton, Qld 27- 28 January^
5. Mt. Morgan, Qld 30 Jan - 1 Feb ^
6. Sydney 4 - 8 February ^ #
7. Newcastle 10 - 11 February ^
8. Melbourne 12 - 15 February ^
9. Goulburn, NSW 17 February ^
10. Sydney 18 -19 Feb (no program)

^ swimming events

# surfing display



**Duke Kahanamoku is widely regarded as the most influential Surfer of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and was the World's first Aquatic Super Athlete.**



Figure 10 – Duke Kahanamoku and the Waikiki Beach Boys in traditional Hawaiian dress.



Figure 11 – Duke and Nadine Kahanamoku in the 1960's.



Figure 12 – Duke Kahanamoku the World's fastest swimmer and his immense Surfing skills were without peer. (Photo taken in 1910 at Waikiki, by A. R. Gurrey Jnr and published in the first book solely devoted to Surfing – The Surf Riders of Hawai'i).

Figure 13 – The morning of Sunday 10 January 1915 at Freshwater Beach, NSW.



Duke Kahanamoku (background) is surfing on and Ms Isabel Letham (Foreground – is sitting in the water's edge.). (Photo taken by Don D. McIntyre of Freshwater SLSC).

**APPENDIX 1 – DUKE KAHANAMOKU'S "ALOHA" CREED - PLAQUE.**



***Duke Kahanamoku's  
Aloha Creed***

***"In Hawai'i we greet  
friends, loved ones and  
strangers with Aloha -  
which means with love.***

***Aloha is the key word to  
the universal spirit of real  
hospitality, which makes  
Hawai'i renowned as the  
world's centre of  
understanding and  
fellowship.***



***Try meeting or leaving people with Aloha. You'll be surprised by their reactions.  
I believe it and it is my creed.  
Aloha to you."***

***Duke Paoa Kahanamoku  
(24 August, 1890 – 22 January, 1968)  
Ambassador of Aloha***



**APPENDIX 2 - AUSTRALIAN BRONZE REPORT ON DUKE KAHANAMOKU STATUE****Memo**

Parks, Reserves and Foreshores

**To:** Councillor De Luca

**Cc:** All Councillors

**From:** Malcolm Ryan  
Acting Director Community and Environmental Services

**Date:** 1 July 2011

**Subject:** Correspondence from Peter Warr regarding Duke Kahanamoku Park

**Link:** TRIM 2011/123044 Report from Bronze expert TRIM 2011/121715

In response to your email of 20 June 2011, I provide the following information regarding the issues raised at Duke Kahanamoku Park.

Please find attached the requested report on Duke Kahanamoku statue. The name of the Bronze expert is Cive Calder from Australian Bronze Pty Ltd, and his contact numbers are 02 9981 5996 and 0404 076 683.

The light pole is located in the bush and is a galvanised pole. The pole has been assessed and it is in good condition. The post will be repainted weather permitting by the 20 July.



Malcolm Ryan  
Acting Director Community Service

Australian Bronze Pty Ltd  
32/176/South Creek Road  
Dee Why 2099

1 June 2011

**Duke Kahanamoku Bronze Statue**

**BACKGROUND**

I was called by Andrew Prentice of Warringah Council over concerns of the structural integrity of the abovementioned sculpture

I have been a consultant in bronze sculpture work over the past fifteen years and am the director of Australian Bronze Pty Ltd, a company specialising in the manufacture of bronze sculpture especially public work. We have been responsible for many public works including the Bali Bombing Memorial at Coogee Beach and the Workers Memorial at Darling Harbour

I also have a Bachelor of Science in Construction Project Management and act as a consultant on sculpture installation and maintenance, relating to structural issues like fixing sculpture to plinths or bases

**Upon inspection of the sculpture on 27/05/2011 I am able to make the following assessment\***

The Sculpture is generally sound and in good condition. The bronze is however thinner than current public work standards, especially the surfboard approximately (3mm instead of 6 to 8mm)

The concealed fixing to the rock plinth does not show any obvious signs of cracking or movement

The markings especially on the underside of the Surfboard are only surface weld discolouration in the patination (colouring caused by oxidation) and do not appear to be structural

That being said since I have no knowledge of the actual internal armature (steel or bronze reinforcing framework) construction and fixing of this bronze

Usually the company responsible originally would be able to give a written report, photographs, engineers certificates on the methods used at the time

Further assessment could be done by non invasive X-rays, invasive drill/coring samples or live load testing to engineering standards

The only way to completely assess and remedy the situation would be to remove the sculpture and replace the fixings and armature with appropriately rated stainless steel if necessary (Bronze sculpture prior to 2000 was often installed using mild or high tensile steel causing possible electrolysis degradation issues down the track) This would be a fairly costly exercise because of the size and weight of the piece and all fixings are concealed so the rock under the bronze would have to be trimmed back and reprepared for the reinstallation

If this exercise were undertaken additional reinforcing would be able to be inserted in the surfboards nose and the fixing pins into the rock could be enlarged to greatly increase the sculptures resistance to live loads (weight of people weather etc)

Approximate current value of the sculpture would be about \$250 000 including sculpting moulding and casting

To remove and reinstate would be in the order of \$20 000 including engineers certification and depending on the internal condition of the Bronze

\*this assessment is intended as an initial opinion only, further investigation is necessary in order to determine accurately the stability of the sculpture. Australian Bronze Pty Ltd takes no responsibility for actions taken by other parties based on these opinions

If you require any further information please contact me

Sincerely

Clive Calder



## Duke Kahanamoku Statue and Memorial Park - Freshwater, NSW -

I65 (WLEP) - 2610132 (Register)

### Statement of Significance:

The statue and park area is a rare and significant cultural site commemorating significant persons and events in Australian surfing history at Freshwater Beach, where surfing was first popularised in Australia in December 1914 by Duke Kahanamoku. The mosaics, statue and park setting are of outstanding creative achievement. The statue and park area were opened on the 26 January 1994 by Duke Kahanamoku's widow, Mrs Nadine Kahanamoku. They are also dedicated under the NSW Crown Lands Act and its Regulations as a part of the Manly-Freshwater National (2010) and World (2012) Surfing Reserves.

### Physical Description:

The Park is located on the northern headland of Freshwater Beach and consists of a walkway and stone paved spaces with figurative mosaics of each of the champion surfers set on sandstone boulders and in the paving, as well as a one and a half life-sized bronze statue of Duke Kahanamoku on the surfboard mounted on a spectacular, honeycomb weathered, sandstone boulder. The concept for the park was developed by the late John Douglas and the design of the mosaics and statue was by the late Barry Donohoo.

### Recommended Management:

Significance is recognised by statutory LEP heritage listing.

Address:

77 Evans Street, Freshwater

Parcels:

LOT 7108 DP 1074767

### Source:

<https://eservices1.warringah.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Public/XC.Track.Heritage/SearchHeritage.aspx?id=2610132>

(Accessed on 28/08/2015).

APPENDIX 4 – Duke Kahanamoku’s “Oceanic Spirit”..

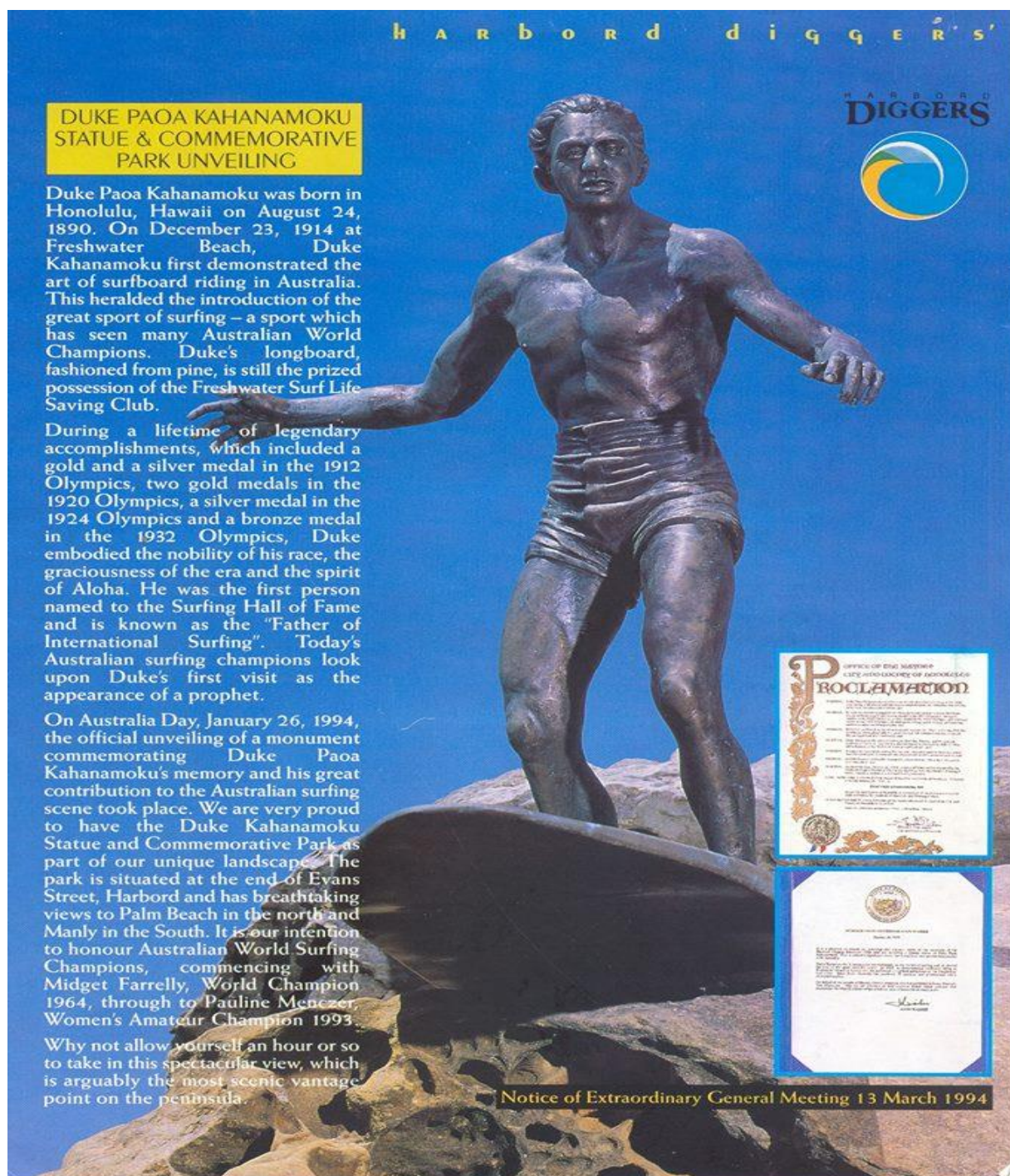


**Duke Kahanamoku – A Tandem Surfing demonstration.**

The Surfboard rider’s balance and skill required to be able to surf this style of Tandem Surfing, with the lady standing un-gripped on the shoulders of the Surfboard rider, who in 1922 had no surf wax – and was riding a very heavy, long and finless wooden surfboard - is simply freakish!!

This photo was taken in 1922 at Laguna Beach, California, USA with Viola Cady Krahn who was a USA Champion Pool Diver and Water Woman.

This photo conveys in a sublime manner the feeling of Surfing– with its visceral enjoyment and its excitement of the senses!



A February 1994 Harbord Diggers Club Magazine article based on the then research of Surf Historian Ms Sandra Kimberely Hall, the Official Biographer of Duke Kahanamoku.

NB – On **24** December 1914 at Freshwater Beach - **NOT** the 23 December 1914, Duke Kahanamoku gave his first Hawaiian style surfing demonstration in Australia.

It was NOT the first time that the art of Surfboard riding had been demonstrated in Australia. For example, Australian Surfer Tommy Walker has demonstrated Hawaiian style surfing on his Hawaii purchased wooden surfboard at Freshwater Beach on the 26 January, 1912.