

The Chinese Tribute Gardens have been developed "In recognition of the contribution of the Chinese community to the settlement of Young in the 1860's and to the ongoing contributions of the Chinese people to Australia as a Nation".

In 1992 the Young Rotary Club undertook a project to improve and increase the facilities of the area and to establish a Tribute Garden at the site. Many local and regional businesses assisted with goods and services.

On 11th December 1996 the project was officially handed over to the then Young Shire Council at a ceremony attended by Cr Henry Tsang, Deputy Lord Mayor of Sydney.

The tribute gardens are the perfect place for a variety of occasions including picnics, barbeques or even just a leisurely stroll with friends and family.

The garden is also pet friendly but all animals must be on a leash.



The Bronze Galloping Horse



Known as the 'Matafeiyan' or 'galloping horse stepping on a flying swallow'. The original is preserved at the Gansu Province Museum. It was first discovered in 1969 in the Eastern Han Dynasty tomb in Gansu Province and is over 1800 years old. The statue assumes an appearance of a galloping horse with its head up, balancing on the flying swallow. To express the soaring momentum, the unknown artist inventively made the whole weight of the horse supported only by its right rear hoof with the other three hoofs rising into the air. This masterpiece possesses highly artistic and aesthetic values and thoroughly reflects the essence of Chinese culture

THE GOLD RUSH

After the discovery of gold at Lambing Flat (Young) in 1860, the area was swamped with miners arriving here from all points of the globe to seek their fortune.

Among those miners were two German brothers, Hermann and Johann Tiedemann. The Tiedemann brothers and others built the dam and water channels to carry water from the dams to the diggings to sluice their gold.

The dam is located in an area known as Pitstone on Sawpit Gully, which ultimately flows into Burrangong Creek, the major creek flowing through Young.

At some time in the 1870's, the Tiedemann brothers sold the area, including the dam, to a group of Chinese miners who worked the site however the sale was never documented and records show that the area has always been Crown Land. The area was known as a local swimming and picnic area many years.



THE RAILWAY

The Railway line between Demondrille (Harden) and Young was opened in 1885, and the Railway Commissioner decided to utilise the dam to obtain water for the operation of steam locomotives and constructed a pump house with a 20,000 gallon tank with an attached jib.

The water from the dam had other uses for the town and from 1888, the municipal authority of Young paid for railway water to be used for the town's steam powered lighting plant.

Ultimately, the Department of Railways discontinued using water from the dam in 1936 due to inadequate supply in prolonged dry periods. The Railway Commissioner relinquished the land in 1962 and in 1963 the Department of Lands reserved 14.5 hectares of land including the dam and appointed Burrangong Shire Council as trustees.

There has been many additions to the tribute area including a pagoda and water wheel. Access paths and upgraded amenities.