

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

9 February 2017

### **PROPOSAL TO ASSIGN A RESERVE NAME**

The Geographical Names Board is calling for public comment on a proposal by Willoughby Council to name a reserve in Artarmon.

Chair of the Geographical Names Board, Narelle Underwood, said feedback is being sought on the proposal to name the site at Robert Street as Elsie Wearn Park.

Elsie Okey (nee Wearn) (1904-1955), was Artarmon's first female dentist. Elsie was a pioneer for women in dentistry, opening her practice in Hampden Road in 1945 and later moving to Wilkes Avenue until her retirement in 1974.

She was also the first honorary dental surgeon at the Rachel Forster Hospital for Women and Children for 22 years, and also provided dental services to the Burnside Children's Homes.

Mrs Underwood said it is important that names reflect the character and history of the local area and community.

"The board is encouraging community comment before it considers the proposal."

"We want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to provide their feedback on the proposed name, she said."

Details of the proposal can be viewed and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board's website at [www.gnb.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au).

Alternatively written submissions may be lodged with the Secretary, Geographical Names Board, 346 Panorama Ave, Bathurst, NSW, 2795.

The closing date for submissions is 10 March 2017.

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