
Sydney Harbour Bridge

location Between Dawes Point and Milsons Point, Sydney Harbour, New South Wales.

owner Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales

the plaques

type **National Engineering Landmark**
Awarded in 1988 by The Institution of Engineers, Australia.

location On parapet wall, Pylon Lookout, SE pylon.

type **International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark**
Awarded in 1988 by American Society of Civil Engineers

location On SE pylon adjacent to entrance to Pylon Lookout off the walkway at road level.

The Sydney Harbour Bridge, together with the design and supervision of the City Railway, was the crowning achievement of Dr J J C Bradfield.

The Bridge, a two-hinged arch with a span of 503m, took eight years to build and was opened in March 1932. Its completion satisfied the demands since the early days of the Colony for a permanent link between Sydney and the north side of the harbour. Its opening brought to an end the daily frustration of queuing for the horse ferries and after them the car ferries, which plied between Bennelong Point and Milsons Point, and between Dawes Point and Blues Point.

For 60 years the Bridge has been an inspiration to engineers and the populace alike. It ranks as one of the world's great bridges and is recognised internationally as a symbol of Sydney.



Dr J J C Bradfield (1867–1943)

Bradfield graduated from Sydney University in 1889 as a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons), with the University Gold Medal and the Sulman Prize for Architecture. In 1891 he joined the Department of Public Works, NSW and over the next 20 years gained extensive experience in design: bridges, dams, water supply, railways, tramways, sewerage, storm water systems, locks, weirs and the evaluation of designs for a harbour crossing.

In 1910 he became Principal Designing Engineer and in 1912, Chief Engineer, Sydney Harbour Bridge, City Transit, and Metropolitan Railway Construction.

Bradfield retired in 1933, following completion of the Harbour Bridge and the City Railway.

He then became consulting engineer for the Story Bridge across the Brisbane River, which was completed in October 1939.