The importance of place: meanings of and attachment to home in coastal adaptation

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The PhD

- Comparative case study 2010-2013, framed as interdisciplinary work drawing on the law and the social sciences – using a legal geography framing

- Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens LGAs

- Predominately qualitative work examining the role of law and the role of property in adaptation
LAKE MACQUARIE

- How are the local community adapting to climate change?

“There is this sort of feeling in the community of ‘well, yeah, it’s going to be an issue….”

PORT STEPHENS

- How are the local community adapting to climate change?

“Arhh, they’re not (laughs)…”
Meanings of ‘place’

- Common meanings
- Place, place attachment, place identity
Concerns at the lack of knowledge and awareness of policy impacting home (residents)

Notions of ‘knowing’ the location and its function. Concerns of the greater good of the public space (marina (PS), lake (LM), and access to places that were important for the enjoyment of home.
Places matter – they contextualise adaptive approaches and responses

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