

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Report Thredbo Golf Course



Report Prepared for Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd

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- ❖ Didge Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation
- ❖ Ngarigo/ Djirringanj Elder
- ❖ Jason Davison
- ❖ Timothy Stubbs
- ❖ Woka Aboriginal Corporation
- ❖ Yurwang Gundana
- ❖ Guntawang Aboriginal Resources Inc
- ❖ Corrobboree Aboriginal Corporation
- ❖ Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

ABBREVIATIONS

ACHAR	Cultural Heritage Assessment Report
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
AR	Archaeological Report
DECCW	NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water now NSW Heritage
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
MGA	Map Grid of Australia
OEH	formerly NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
PAD	Potential Archaeological Deposit
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party

Glossary

Aboriginal object - A statutory term, meaning: '... any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises NSW, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains' (s.5 NPW Act).

Archaeological Survey (Field survey) – a method of data collection for assessment involving the survey team walking across the project area in a systematic way, recording information about the landscape and recording any archaeological sites or materials.

Artefact - an object formed by Aboriginal people on stone material.

Declared Aboriginal place - A statutory term, meaning any place declared to be an Aboriginal place (under s.84 of the NPW Act) by the Minister administering the NPW Act, by order published in the NSW Government Gazette, because the Minister is of the opinion that the place is or was of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture. It may or may not contain Aboriginal objects.

Development (impact) area - Area proposed to be impacted as part of a specified activity or development proposal.

Harm - A statutory term meaning '... any act or omission that destroys, defaces, damages an object or place or, in relation to an object – moves the object from the land on which it had been situated' (s.5 NPW Act).

Heritage site – an area containing material traces of Aboriginal use.

Place - An area of cultural value to Aboriginal people in the area (whether or not it is an Aboriginal place declared under s.84 of the Act).

Potential archaeological deposit (PAD) - is an area where sub-surface stone artefacts and/or other cultural materials are likely to occur (DEC 2005: 67)

Proponent - A person proposing an activity that may harm Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places and who may apply for an AHIP under the NPW Act.

Proposed activity - The activity or works being proposed.

Project area - The area that is the subject of archaeological investigation and will be impacted by the subdivision.

Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) – Aboriginal representatives registered for the project.

Subsurface testing – test excavations under the Code of Practice to determine the presence of archaeological deposits.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Past Traces has been engaged by Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposed development of the Thredbo Golf Course in the western section of the Thredbo Village. The project area is located adjacent to the Thredbo River Walking Trail and Thredbo River. The area is highly landscaped and has been heavily disturbed by the construction of the Golf Course. The proposal involves the subdivision of a portion of the Thredbo Golf Course into separate building lots, access road, the redesign of the golf fairways and parking facilities for the Golf Course.

The project area is shown in a regional context in Figure 1 and in detail in Figure 2. The project area is located within the Kosciuszko National Park at Thredbo Village. The project is being undertaken to allow assessment of potential impacts from the development, the significance of the identified site, appropriate management strategies and if required to assist NSW Heritage in determination of an AHIP application.

To determine the impacts of the development a Due Diligence assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the *Due Diligence Code of Practice* (OEH 2010) by Past Traces in 2022 to determine the extent of possible impacts. The 2022 assessment identified one Aboriginal heritage site with an associated area of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) which required subsurface investigation to determine heritage impacts. The surface site and the area of PAD will be impacted by the proposal. As a result of the potential impacts to the site, and to allow subsurface testing to proceed, an Aboriginal Cultural heritage Assessment has been completed to determine the extent and significance of impacts.

Following redesign of the project additional field surveys were undertaken in 2025 assessing areas of fairway construction and fringing tree removals. No additional heritage impacts were identified within the revised design footprint.

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken since project inception, to assist the heritage team in assessing significance of the heritage site and to provide guidance in the development of culturally appropriate management strategies. Consultation was in accordance with the *Consultation Guidelines for Proponents NSW* (DECCW 2010a) with a number of Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) participating in the project.

As a result of the assessment, the area of PAD1 was found to contain no deposits and has been removed as an area of PAD. The surface site (Thredbo Golf Course 1 – TGC1) is in a disturbed context and holds low significance and does not preclude development of the project area on condition that the following heritage recommendations are implemented.

- ❖ One heritage site (TGC1) is present within the project area. An Aboriginal heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) will be required to allow works to proceed. An application for an AHIP should be submitted to NSW Heritage and must be approved prior to any works commencing in the area of the heritage sites. No impacts can occur to the heritage site prior to the approval of an AHIP by NSW Heritage. The area of the AHIP will cover

the entire area of the subdivision area, as construction impacts will be widespread and extensive. The area of the proposed AHIP area is shown in Figure 11.

- ❖ Conditions of the AHIP should include the salvage collection of all surface artefacts within the impacted site location TGC1, in line with the methodology provided in Section 10.
- ❖ The recovered artefacts following analysis should be placed in the care of the LALC under a care and control agreement. The care and control agreement will be applied for following approval of the AHIP for the project.
- ❖ An AHIP Compliance works report submitted to NSW Heritage including the results of the surface collection permit at completion of works.
 - Site Impact card with updated details will be submitted to AHIMS for inclusion into the database at completion of works.
- ❖ It is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal site without an AHIP as all Aboriginal objects are protected under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. Should any Aboriginal objects be encountered during works outside of the AHIP area, then works must cease and a heritage professional contacted to assess the find. Works may not recommence until cleared by NSW Heritage
- ❖ In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during the construction, all work must cease. The police must immediately be notified and their directions followed in the management of the area. Further assessment would be undertaken to determine if the remains are Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal.
- ❖ Continued consultation with the RAPs for the project should be undertaken. RAPs should be informed of any major changes in project design or scope, further investigations or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BRIEF

Past Traces has been engaged by Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposed residential subdivision within the Thredbo Golf Course. The Golf Course is located within the western section of the Thredbo Village within Kosciuszko National Park. The project area is shown in Figure 1.

The current golf course and fairways are highly landscaped and have been disturbed throughout by the construction of the Golf Course. The proposal involves the subdivision of a portion of the Thredbo Golf Course into separate building lots, access road, the redesign of the golf fairways and parking facilities for the Golf Course (Figure 2).

The project is being undertaken to determine the heritage impacts of the project. The ACHAR will assess significance of any identified Aboriginal heritage sites, develop appropriate management strategies and assist NSW Heritage in determination of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required. The project will consist of the following:

- ❖ Background research and current AHIMS Database search
- ❖ Incorporation of results of Due Diligence Survey
- ❖ Field survey of impact areas
- ❖ Subsurface testing of area of PAD
- ❖ Consultation with the Aboriginal community
- ❖ Development of recommendations and mitigation measures.

The proposed works will involve the displacement and removal of soil, fringing vegetation and the importation of materials within the immediate area of the residential development, proposed access road, fairway redevelopment and car parking area. Ground disturbance has the potential to impact on Aboriginal heritage sites and objects which are protected under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

The aim of this assessment is to inform the proponents of their responsibilities in regards to cultural heritage sites that exist within the project area and allow for design to minimise or avoid impacts. This report will provide supporting documentation if an AHIP is required. Reporting will follow the guidelines of NSW Heritage, in particular the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010a).

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken to assist the heritage team in assessing significance of any identified heritage sites and to provide guidance in the development of culturally appropriate management strategies. Consultation was in accordance with the *Consultation Guidelines for Proponents NSW* (DECCW 2010a).

1.2 RESTRICTED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Information in this report is restricted due to cultural sensitivities. Appendix 1 contains site locational information which is confidential and not to be made public.

Any figures within the report which show the location of heritage sites is restricted and not to be made available to the general public. If required to be displayed, this information should be redacted.

1.3 ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The following is a summary of the major objectives of the assessment:

- ❖ Identify and consult with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).
- ❖ Review previous heritage reports to identify patterns in Aboriginal site distribution.
- ❖ Search AHIMS register to identify listed Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the project area.
- ❖ Summarise past Aboriginal occupation within the project area using the archaeological record and develop a predictive site location model.
- ❖ Complete field survey over areas of impact.
- ❖ Conduct subsurface testing of area of Potential identified by previous field survey of the project area to assess the archaeological potential and levels of previous disturbance.
- ❖ Through consultation with the Aboriginal community assess the significance of identified heritage sites.
- ❖ Identify the impacts of the proposed development on heritage sites within the project area.
- ❖ Develop management strategies for the identified heritage sites within the project area

1.4 INVESTIGATORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

1.4.1 *Lyn O'Brien*

This report has been prepared with site survey and subsurface testing undertaken by Lyn O'Brien, Director of Past Traces Pty Ltd who has over 25 years' experience in the heritage profession since completing her BA (Hons) in Archaeology at the Australian National University (ANU) in 1996. Lyn has extensive experience managing major and small scale projects, conducting numerous field surveys and excavations and authoring reports across both Aboriginal and Historical archaeology.

Field assistance was provided by Mr Tom Knight (Senior Archaeologist), members of the Djirringani Elders and Mr Jason Davison.

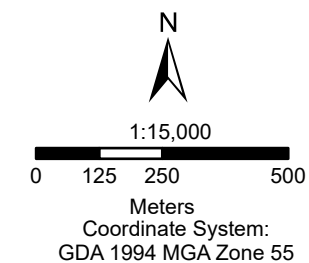
Additional field survey in 2025 was undertaken by Lyn O'Brien and Nat Cracknell (Senior Archaeologist).



Figure 1: Regional Context

Legend

-  Watercourse
-  Study Area
-  Cadastre
-  Major Road



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

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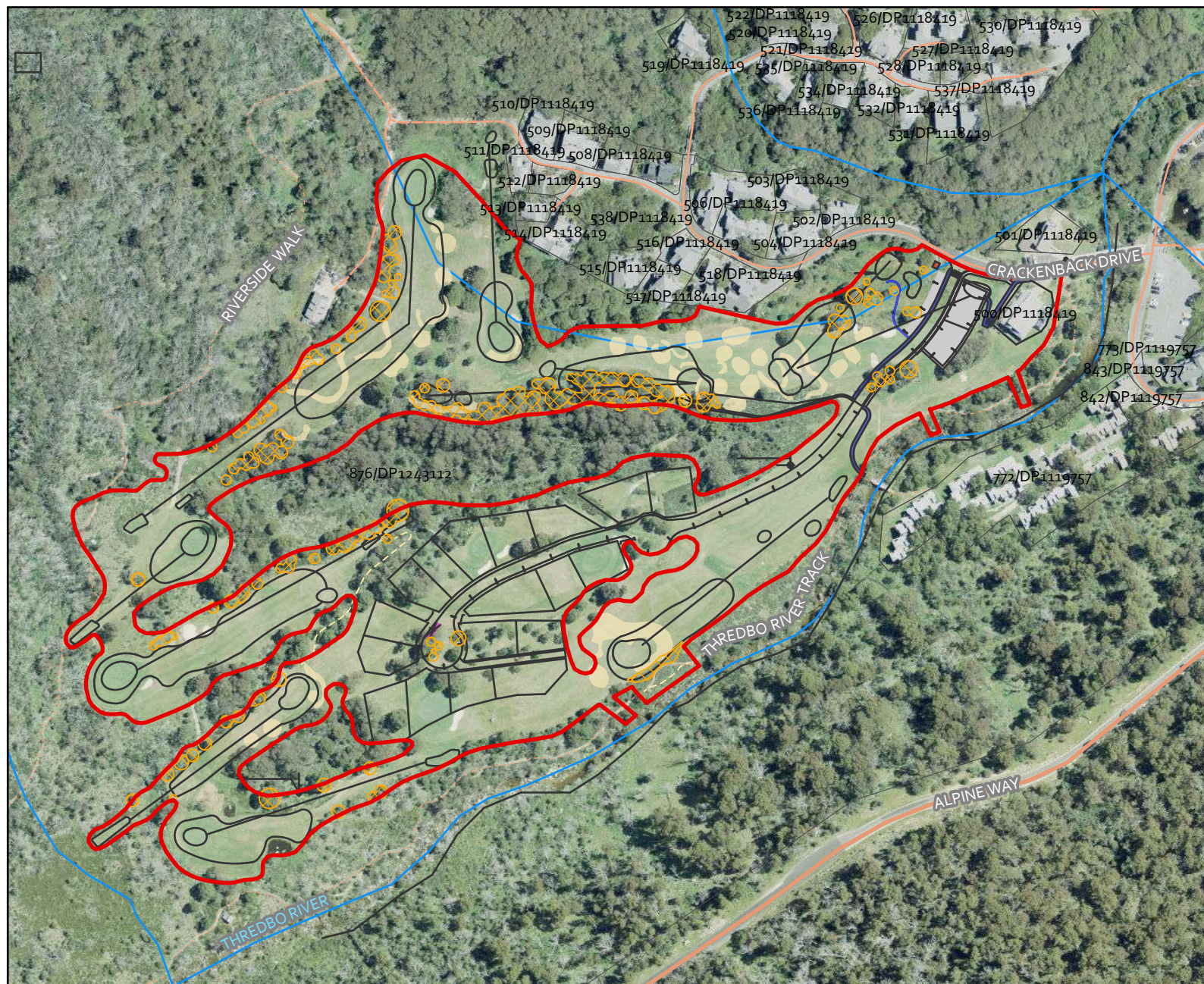
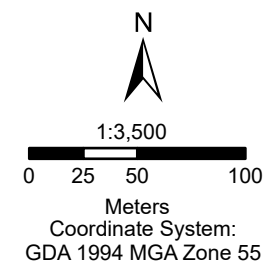


Figure 2: Project Area

Legend

- Contour -2m
- Watercourse
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Track
- Path
- StudyArea
- Cadastre
- Walking Track
- Tree Removal
- Earthworks



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

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2 ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken to assist the heritage team and to provide guidance in the development of culturally appropriate management strategies. Consultation was in accordance with the *Consultation Guidelines for Proponents NSW* (DECCW 2010a). Aboriginal representatives provided input into the management recommendations and significance assessment.

The *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* guideline (DECCW 2010a) outlines the following process to be undertaken:

- ❖ Notification of project proposal to Aboriginal stakeholders and invitation to register interest.
- ❖ Presentation of information about the proposed project and methodology to be followed.
- ❖ Gathering information about cultural significance from registered stakeholders by inviting comments, and input into management recommendations and significance
- ❖ Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report to ensure views are adequately captured and recommendations incorporated into report.

The consultation log for the project detailing the consultation steps completed and a full list of RAPs is provided in Appendix 2. Copies of notification letters and agency responses are also provided in Appendix 2. Copies of email correspondence and comments from RAPs are provided as supporting documentation to this ACHAR.

A summary of actions completed for each of these stages are as follows.

Step 1. Letters outlining the project were sent to the Snowy Monaro Council LGA, the Kosciuszko Aboriginal Stakeholders Working Group and statutory authorities including NSW Heritage, on the 19/8/2022 as identified under the consultation guidelines (DECCW 2010). Notification letters were then sent on the 19/8/2022 to the stakeholders identified by the NSW Heritage.

A public notice was placed in the local newspaper the Monaro Post (17/8/2022) seeking registrations of interest from Aboriginal stakeholders. The advertisement is provided in Appendix 2.

As a result of this process, eight (8) groups contacted the consultant to register their interest in the proposal. The Registered Aboriginal Groups (RAPs) who registered interest were:

- ❖ Didge Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation (19/8/2022)
- ❖ Ngarigo/ Djirringanj Elder (19/8/2022)
- ❖ Jason Davison
- ❖ Timothy Stubbs (19/8/2022)
- ❖ Woka Aboriginal Corporation (20/8/2022)
- ❖ Yurwang Gundana (23/8/2022)
- ❖ Guntawang Aboriginal Resources Inc (24/8/2022)
- ❖ Corrobboree Aboriginal Corporation (22/8/2022)
- ❖ Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (27/8/2022)

Step 2. A Project Pack document was sent to the RAPs (07/09/2022) providing details of the project with the registration letter. This project pack is attached at Appendix 2 of the ACHAR.

Step 3. A Methodology Pack with the proposed heritage assessment methodology for the proposal was sent to all RAPs (8/9/2022). The document invited comments regarding the proposed methodology and requested any information regarding known Aboriginal heritage sites or values within the project area.

Step 4 – Subsurface testing was undertaken on 2/12/2022 with participation of selected RAPs.

Step 5. A draft version of this *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report* for the project (this document) was forwarded to the RAPs following the revision of the design with a timeframe of 28 days to allow for responses to the document.

2.1 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Aboriginal consultation has been ongoing through the project with feedback requested during the design of methodology and the cultural assessment. No information in respect of the project area holding specific cultural values or known heritage sites being located within the project area boundaries has been provided.

The importance of the Thredbo Valley and Alpine Regions was raised by both participants with the acknowledgement that the disturbance during the construction of the golf course had impacted those values. The protection of the Thredbo River to the south of the development and the need for the Thredbo development to be constrained and not expand in the future into undeveloped regions are important to the community.

Onsite discussions were held with representatives during subsurface testing, who agreed with the high degree of landform modification due to the construction of the golf course and the subsequent allocation of low significance of the displaced surface artefacts recorded.

A draft of this report has been forwarded on its completion to the RAPs and any responses received have been included in the final ACHAR recommendations.

3 LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

3.1 GEOLOGY

The geology of the project area consists of the Mowambah Granodiorite and Plaeozoic intrusive rocks formation (Geoscience Australia 2012). Boulders formed by weathering of the Mowambah Granodiorite are present as outcrops. Quartz is present as veins in these rocks and quartz pebbles are also present within creek margins and the Thredbo River. As a result, rock sources suitable for lithic manufacture were present within the project area or in the close vicinity. As a result, a focus on quartz for artefact production would reflect the local resources. The Geology of the project area is shown on Figure 3.

3.2 SOILS

Soils throughout the project area consist of the Alpine Humus soil landscape. All soils are shallow and highly erodible with no deep deposits over clay layers. This distribution of soils is shown on Figure 4 and the soil composition is described as follows:

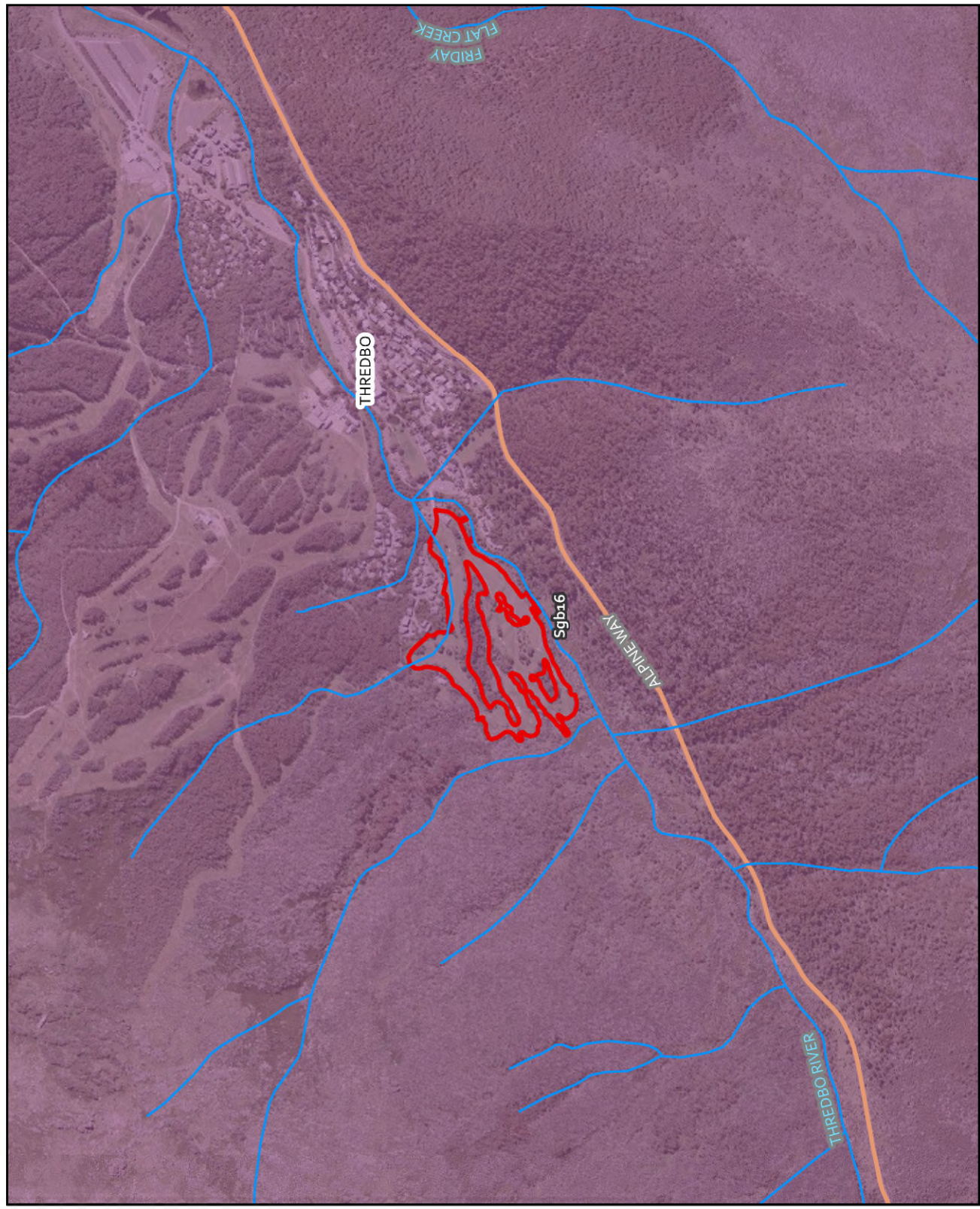
- Alpine Humus soils are present on lower slopes and river flats and are associated with grassland or snow gum communities.
- Soils are well drained, porous and friable. They are acidic and consists of weathered bedrock with high activity in the upper layers. (eSPADE, 2022).
- The lower slope soils are active with erosion and these soils are not high for archaeological preservation. Also as a disturbed formed landscape the original soils have been displaced and soils imported for stabilisation.

3.3 FLORA AND FAUNA

The natural vegetation across the project area has been cleared and is now considered as a modified environment. The golf course constructed consisted of total removal of all vegetation within the course boundaries. The landforms were then all modified to provide gradients and differing degrees of difficulties across the fairways. Following construction, tree breaks were planted on the middle of fairways to provide wind protection and increase amenity. These plantings were undertaken in the period 1996-2000. The fairways consist of well maintained lawn, with underground irrigation pipelines.

The remaining major vegetation community outside of the golf course on the lower slopes to the north, consists of *Eucalyptus pauciflora* woodlands (Snow Gum Tableland Woodlands), characterised as snow gums with an understorey of shrubs about 1.5 m tall including *Bossiaea*, *Tasmania xerophila*, *Helichrysum* and *Oleria phlogopappa* with a ground layer of *Poa* sp and Kangaroo Grass (Margules et al. 1993).

Figure 3: Geology



Legend

- Watercourse
- Study Area
- Primary Road
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Track
- Path

Geology

- Mowambah Granodiorite



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

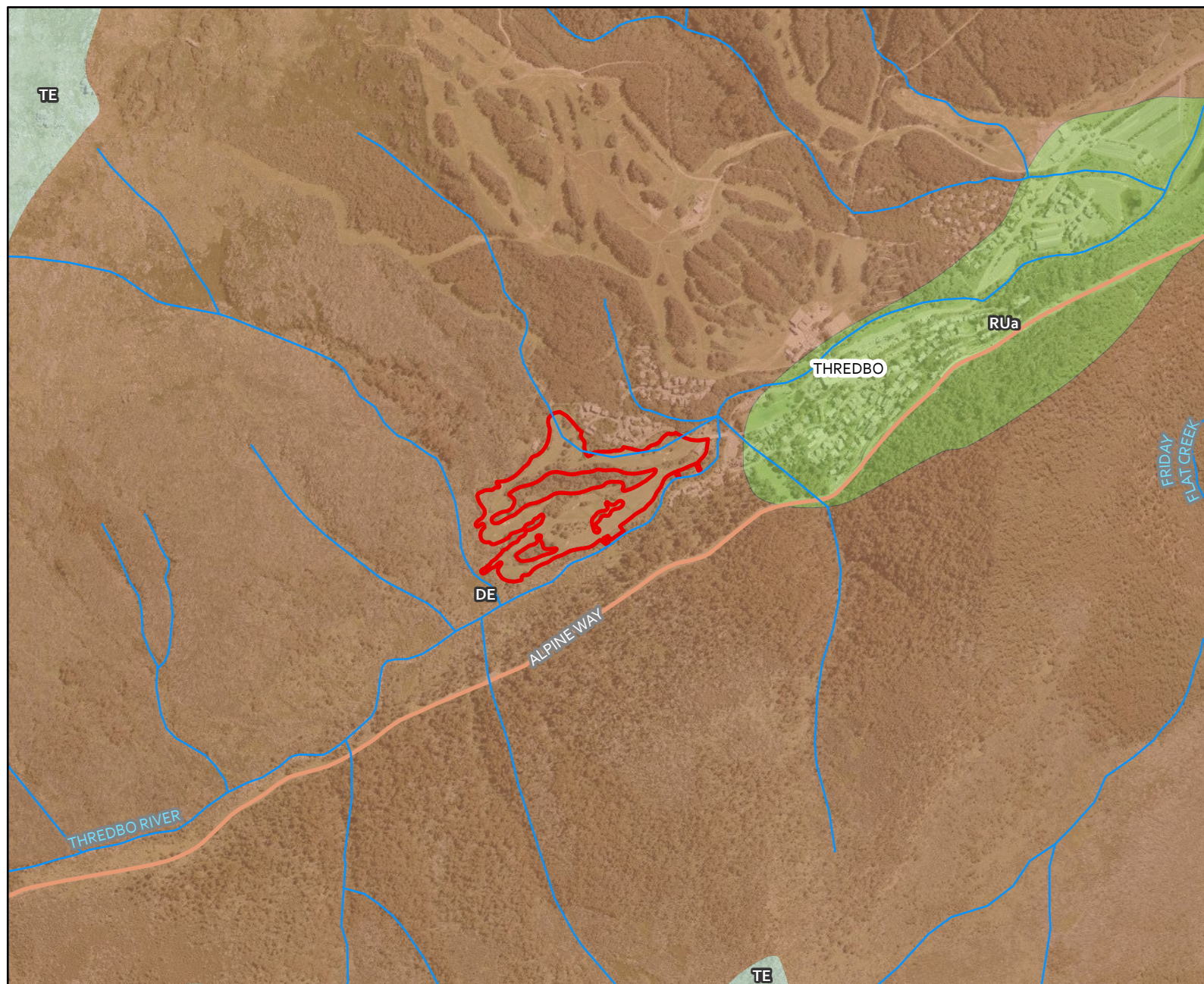


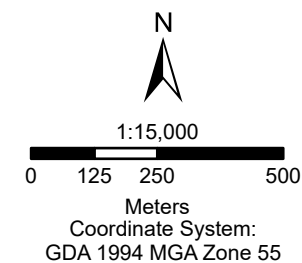
Figure 4: Soil Landscapes

Legend

-  Watercourse
-  Study Area
-  Primary Road
-  Major Road
-  Minor Road
-  Track
-  Path

Dominant Great Soil Group

-  Brown Earths
-  Alluvial Soils - light sandy textured
-  Alpine Humus Soils



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

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Prior to the Golf Course development, the Snow Gum woodlands, the grassy flats and creek line environment supported a wide range of edible plant and fauna species. Fauna present would range from fish, turtles, frogs, small marsupials (i.e. possums), to avian species and macropods. A range of lizards also inhabit this environment that would have been utilised by Aboriginal groups. Grass seeds and rushes from the flood zones may have been gathered for use in fibre production and ground into food supplies (Percival and Stewart 1997).

3.4 LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

The landscape elements within the project area affect the findings of archaeological potential, based on the conditions for use and occupation of the landscape and the availability of resources present in the region. The presence or absence of landscape features, degree of slope and exposure to wind or cold drainage all affect the assessment of potential and influence predictive modelling for the presence of Aboriginal sites. In this instance, the project area consists of a gentle gradient in the transitional zone between the lower slopes and valley interface of the Kosciuszko Mountain Range which descend into the riparian corridor of the Thredbo River. However, all of this area has been subject to the high impacts from the construction of the Golf Course and all soils will be displaced from their original context or may be imported fill. The impacts from the Golf Course are discussed in Section 9.

Review of previous sites located in the vicinity indicates a site location model based on level areas in proximity to water resources such as small creek lines or level areas along spur lines and ridge crests (NOHC 2000, Ironbark 2013). The location of the Project Area is positioned on a gently sloping to level area adjacent to the Thredbo River, considered to hold moderate potential for Aboriginal site locations.

The area has been highly disturbed by the construction of the current golf course, with extensive impacts including areas of plantings, bunkers and fairways. The golfing greens have been land formed, planted with grasses and trees and maintained with the underlying land form highly modified to attain optimal gradients and course design. The high degree of construction has reduced the finding of landform potential from moderate to low.

4 ABORIGINAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

A desktop assessment has been undertaken to review existing archaeological studies for the Project Area, and the immediate area of the Thredbo Valley. This information has been used to identify previously recorded sites and to develop an Aboriginal site prediction model for the project area.

4.1.1 *Aboriginal Groups within the Project Areas*

The earliest dated archaeological site in the vicinity of Thredbo is Birrigai rock shelter in the northern foothills of the Australian Alps, approximately 125 km north east of the study area. Radiocarbon dates obtained from charcoal in occupation deposits at this site have established that intermittent Aboriginal occupation of the Alp's is likely to span at least 21,000 years (Flood 1996). Pleistocene occupation sites have also been identified to the south of the study area in Victoria, in New Guinea Il Cave on the Snowy River (21,000, Ossa et al. 1995) and Cloggs Cave on the Buchan River (17,720, Flood 1980). The climate during the Last Glacial Maximum (around 21,000 years ago) was cooler and drier than the present day, and average temperatures are estimated to have been between 6 and 9 degrees Celsius lower (Flood 1980).

The Wolgalu, Ngunnawal, and Monaro Ngarigo people were among the Aboriginal groups that travelled to the Australian Alps to hunt Bogong moths (*Agrotis infusa*) in summer. Bogong moths migrate to the Kosciusko region, the Bogong Mountains, and Tumut, where they aestivate at high altitudes in large numbers. According to ethnohistorical records from the nineteenth century, Aboriginal groups gathered in the high ranges, and over the course of a couple of months feasted on moths roasted over hot ashes. There are accounts of moth feasts taking place into the 1850s; however, the practice of moth hunting had ceased by 1878 (Flood, 1980; Helms 1890).

Robert Vyner visited the Bogong Mountains in 1865 and observed Aboriginal people collecting and preparing the moths for food. According to Vyner, moth pestles were part of Aboriginal toolkit used to process the moths: sometimes they are ground into a paste by the use of a smooth stone and hollow piece of bark, and made into cakes (Scott, 1867). River pebbles have been found in the alpine zone above the tree line in the Mt Kosciuszko area (above c. 1850m asl), at places such as Carruthers Spur, the Ramshead Range and Perisher Gap. The pebbles vary in size and shape, but are generally smooth and round. Traces of an organic substance which fluoresced under ultra-violet light was detected on the edges of the pebbles, which has been interpreted as oil residue from the abdomens of Bogong moths (Flood 1980).

4.2 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

A number of heritage studies have been undertaken in the immediate area of the Thredbo Valley. These have been mainly small scale and development focused. Studies covering a larger area and generating models of occupation have been undertaken in the Perisher Valley (NOHC 2000) and Thredbo (Ironbark 2013, AMBS 2013). A review of this large body of work has been undertaken to provide context and site location modelling for the project area. The most relevant reports for the current project are summarised below.

Geering (1983) undertook field survey and assessment of the Bullocks Flat area for the Skitube development. The assessment recorded twelve isolated artefacts and three artefact scatters. Paton (1984) completed a further assessment including excavation of test pits in areas of high potential and in areas based on modelling considered to hold low potential, such as steeper slopes. None of the test pits revealed any artefacts and Paton concluded that the modelling based on areas of level ground near creek lines (Flood 1980) was correct in this location.

Paton (1985) completed a survey along the Thredbo River valley between the Ranger Station and Dead Horse Gap for the Alpine Way upgrade. This survey covered a range of differing landforms located on site on area of level ground amongst spur line.

Walkington (1988) completed a survey for a proposed 33kV powerline from Bullocks Flat to Thredbo identifying 11 artefact scatters and two isolated finds. Almost all of the sites found were situated on gently sloping ground such as spurs elevated above the river.

Paton (1988) surveyed the Thredbo Valley for a fibre optic cable route again crossing differing topographies in the area. Paton located a further two site during this assessment which supported his earlier location model.

Fuller (1988) completed a survey of the proposed development areas in Thredbo Village recording seven archaeological sites all consisting of isolated finds or small artefact scatters. The sites were located on level areas on basal and midslopes. Fuller concludes that all of the sites are typical of high-altitude sites in being low-density artefact scatters (1988:7).

Navin and Officer completed two surveys of the Thredbo valley, one for the Alpine Way in 1992 and the other for the Thredbo Alpine Village in 1994. A number of small sites were located, conforming to the site models being isolated finds or small artefact scatters located on level areas or gradual slopes within basal contexts.

Dearling (1997) surveyed a 2 hectare area, for a proposed ski run at Thredbo. He located one site (#61-6-103), which consisted of five artefacts. It was situated on a cleared service road on the crest of a spur in a minor saddle with Merritt's Creek to the south and an unnamed creek to the north. The level location and proximity to creek lines again conform to the modelling for the region. This site is the closest to the current project area but well outside of any area of impact.

NOHC in 2000 completed a large scale and extensive field surveys and subsurface testing of landforms for the Perisher Blue Ski Resort. This study resulted in the development of a site location model which is equally applicable to the Thredbo region as similar topography and landscape features are present. Navin Officer Heritage Consultants concluded that the strongest site determinants were:

- Relatively level, well drained ground

- Shelter from prevailing weather patterns (mainly from the west and northwest)
- Avoidance of cold air drainage contexts
- Preference for terrain which facilitates pedestrian access and through travel
- Proximity to exploitable resources such as open woodland, grassland and herb fields and Bogong moth aestivation sites (2000:41).
- Majority of sites would be small artefact scatters of less than 15 artefacts, found throughout landscape
- Larger sites (minority) would be located on crests of ridges and major spur lines or more commonly on basal valley slopes. The larger sites decreased in artefact density the higher the location from the basal slopes (NOHC 2000:41).

Dibden (2003) completed a survey of proposed upgrade works for Antons and Sponnars T-bars at Thredbo. No sites were found, due to previous disturbance from clearing, land modification for grooming of ski slopes and the fact that the study corridor was located on steep, mid to upper slopes with low archaeological potential (2003:1).

Aecom (Formerly HLA) throughout 2004 and 2005 completed a series of survey and excavations for a proposed works depot at Friday Flat, located on level basal slopes and within a recorded site location (NOHC 1992). The excavations were placed in six differing locations and recovered 99 artefacts.

Grinsbergs (2008) completed a survey for the proposed multi-use trail from Bullocks Flat to Thredbo which identified 21 sites, comprising 11 artefact scatters, nine isolated artefacts and a grinding groove as well as two areas of potential archaeological deposit. Based on the site locations Grinbergs concludes that general model of site location for the valley was applicable and reflective of the archaeological situation.

AMBS in 2013 completed an Aboriginal Heritage Masterplan for the Thredbo Village. AMBS recorded 61 sites in the Thredbo valley, mainly consisting of small artefact scatters, predominantly quartz on lower spur lines and level crest features. They noted that sites are unlikely to occur in frost hollows, along the lower river frontage. This is directly applicable to the current project area. They concluded that due to the high level of previous disturbance, heritage sites were unlikely to remain within the proposed development areas.

Ironbark Heritage (2013) completed a due diligence assessment for the Thredbo Mountain Bike Trails which included the development of a GIS Slope analysis model. This assessment showed slopes of more than 10 degrees as not being conducive to Aboriginal usage and holding low potential for sites and subsurface deposits.

NGH (2017) completed an Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment for the Thredbo Mountain Bike Trails covering three new trail locations. The terrain features within the project area were mostly steep slopes, with few potential areas of sensitive landforms. No sites or areas of potential were identified, and the study concluded that the potential for the presence of Aboriginal sites is low due to the level of disturbance associated with previous ski slope work and the general steepness of the terrain.

OzArk (2021) completed the regional assessment of the Snowy Mountains Special Activation Precinct (SAP). The assessment area covered 72,211ha of which 330 were surveyed. One of these areas at Thredbo (Area A) corresponded to the current Thredbo Golf Course project area. No heritage sites were identified by field survey with a general ranking of low potential with an area of moderate potential in the area of remnant trees in the centre of the block. The SAP also assessed the current project area to consist of disturbed land with a small area of low potential in the central area of the remnant trees. Review of aerial photos of golf course construction shows these areas to be regrowth and plantings following fairway construction and not to represent remnant vegetation. Occasional older trees may be present. As a result of the high level of disturbance, the finding of low potential for the central area, is further reduced to a totally disturbed area located on low potential landforms.

Past Traces in 2023 conducted an assessment for the proposed upgrade to the Snowgums Chairlift to provide increased capacity and quality infrastructure. The project area was located predominately within the existing impacted Snowgums Chairlift corridor, at Thredbo, NSW on steep slopes. Based on the models of site location the areas were classified as low potential and this assessment did not identify any new heritage sites or areas of PAD.

In 2024, Past Traces undertook a cultural heritage assessment for the proposed rehabilitation of the Thredbo Sewer Trunk Main, located within the Thredbo Village. The field survey covered the pipeline alignment, with particular focus on the trees listed for removal and the degree of previous disturbance. Despite high ground surface visibility at the time, the field survey identified no Aboriginal heritage sites or areas of potential due to the steepness of the landforms.

4.3 AHIMS SEARCH AND SITE ANALYSIS

A search of the NSW Heritage AHIMS database was undertaken covering the area of (GDA94 Latitude, Longitude) -36.5161, 148.2833 to -36.4989, 148.3142 centred on the project area. The extensive search revealed no previously recorded heritage sites within the project area with eight sites within the wider search area. An updated search was undertaken in June 2025 on revision of the design and updating of the ACHAR.

The sites located in this area are provided in Table 1 and consist of isolated finds or low-density scatters of stone artefacts and conform to the wider site predictive model for the Thredbo Valley/Kosciusko area (NOHC 2000, Grinsbergs 2008, Ironbark 2013, AMBS 2013). This model predicts a site location model of small sites located on level ground in proximity to water sources, or on level areas of spur lines and ridge crests amongst mountainous areas. This predictive model is discussed in more detail in Section 2.2.

The location of previously recorded sites is shown in Figure 5.

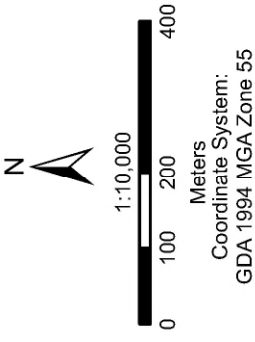
Table 1. AHIMS Sites in vicinity of Project Area in GDA94 MGA55

Site ID	Site name	Easting	Northing	Site features	Recorders
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Figure 5: Previously
Recorded Heritage Sites

Legend

- Watercourse
- Previously Recorded Site
- Study Area
- Primary Road
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Track
- Path



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

4.4 PREDICTIVE MODEL

This site prediction model follows the SAP modelling (OzArk 2021) based on:

- ❖ Site distribution in relation to landscape features within the project area
- ❖ Consideration of site type and densities likely to be present within the project area
- ❖ Potential Aboriginal use of natural resources present or once present within the project area

Table 2. Site Prediction Model

Probability	Site Type	Definition	Landform
Low	Isolated finds and surface scatters of stone artefacts	Stone artefacts ranging from single artefact to high numbers	Creek lines and spur crests - Thredbo River is located adjacent, however the area is highly disturbed
Low	Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADS)	Area considered on landform to hold higher potential for unidentified subsurface deposits	Varies, but most frequent on elevated terraces along creek lines - such features present but highly disturbed
Nil	Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs)	Trees which have been modified by scarring, marking or branch twining	May be present on old remaining trees – All trees removed
Nil	Rock Engravings	Images engraved on flat rock surfaces	Escarpments, rock platforms or rock shelters - not present
Nil	Stone arrangements	Arrangements of stones by human intention, including circles lines or patterns.	Crest lines or large ceremonial areas on creekflats, - not present
Nil	Stone quarries/Ochre sources	Quarry sites where resources have been mined.	Any landform that has not been disturbed – not present
Nil	Axe grinding grooves	Grooves in stone caused by the grinding of stone axes	Usually in creek lines, as water is used as abrasive with sand - not present
Nil	Burials	Burials of Aboriginal persons	Usually requiring deep sandy soils on eastern facing slopes – not present
Nil	Aboriginal places	A place that hold spiritual, traditional or historical significance to Aboriginal people	Any landform, identified through consultation with RAPs and historical sources

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SURVEY

A field survey of the project area was undertaken as part of the Due Diligence Survey on the 27th April 2022 to verify the findings of the desktop review of landforms and disturbance. The aim of the investigation was to identify heritage objects or places of potential archaeological Deposit (PAD). Based upon the background research, known Aboriginal site patterning, and current aerial photography, the entire project area was inspected.

All surveyed areas and items of interest were recorded on a topographic map of the study area (using a GPS and GDA 94 coordinates), along with levels of visibility, erosion, soil conditions, and evidence of land disturbance.

Ground surface visibility (GSV) is the percentage of ground surface that is visible during the field inspection. GSV increases in areas of exposures such as stock impact trails, roads, gates and along areas of erosion such as creek banks and dam walls. As a result, surveys undertaken in areas with high exposure rates result in a more effective survey coverage.

The results of the 2022 survey were described in the 2022 Due Diligence report. Details of the field survey and results are provided in Section 5.3.

Following redesign of the development proposal, additional field surveys were completed over the additional impact areas. The results of the additional field survey are provided in Section 7.

5.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY STRATEGY AND AIMS

To determine the potential of the project area, despite the high levels of disturbance and mapping of low potential (OzArk 2021: 71) a strategy of total survey of all landforms was applied across the project area as a single survey unit. The survey area and position of survey transects are provided in Figure 6. This strategy consisted of pedestrian survey with visual inspection of all landforms within the development footprint as proposed in 2022. The methods employed and results of the field survey are provided in the following sections.

The principle aims of the survey were to:

- ❖ Provide the heritage team an opportunity to view the project area and to identify landforms and levels of previous disturbance.
- ❖ Complete pedestrian survey of the project area focused on areas of construction impacts and visually inspecting areas and landforms.
- ❖ Identify and record any heritage sites visible on the ground surface.
- ❖ Identify and record areas of potential archaeological deposits (PADs).

5.2 FIELD SURVEY METHODS

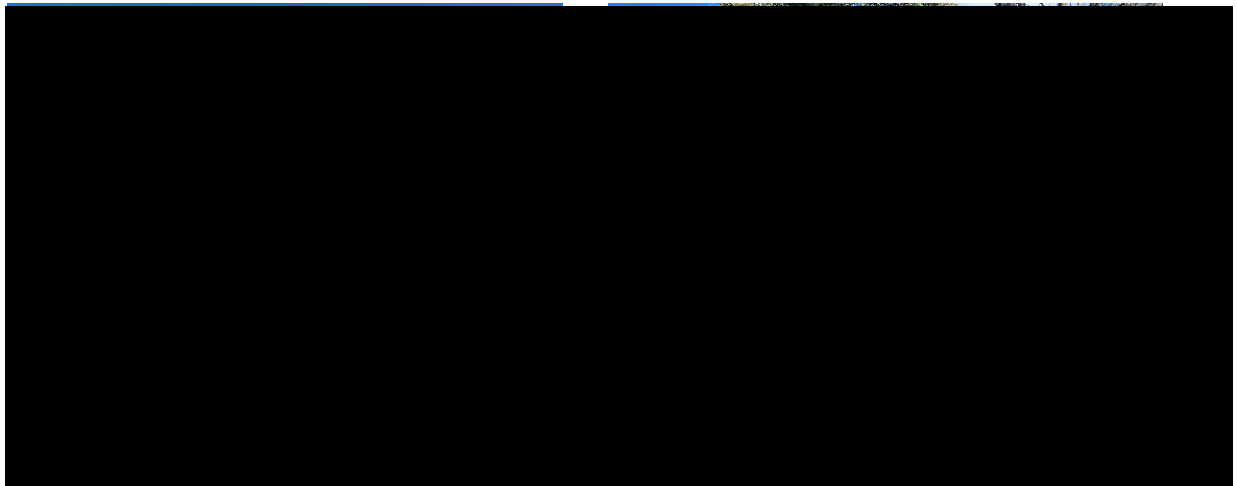
The archaeological survey was conducted on foot and consisted of pedestrian transects across the project area. The survey was conducted in accordance with the archaeological survey requirements of the Code of Practice (DECCW 2010). Information that was recorded during the survey included:

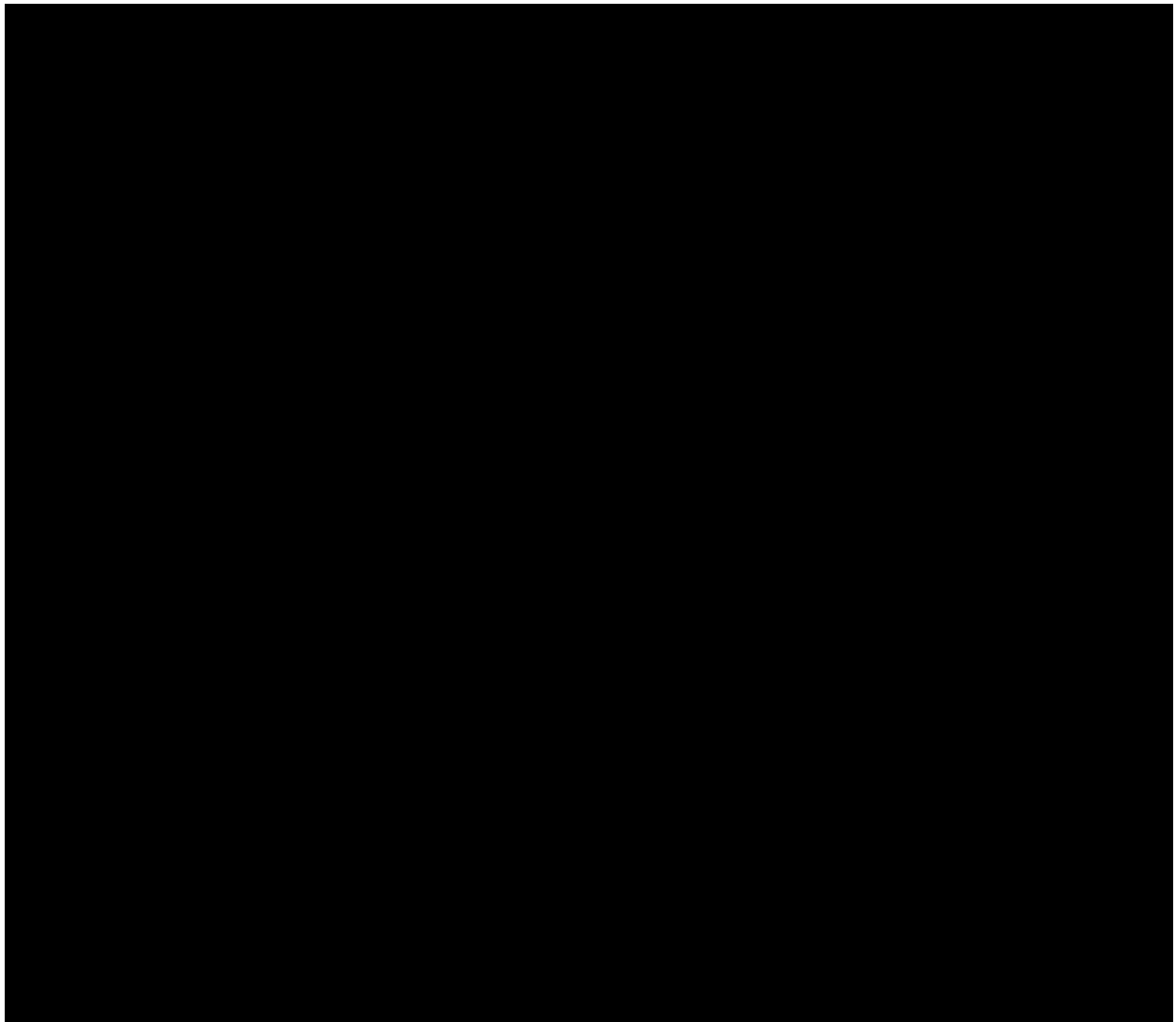
- ❖ Any Aboriginal sites identified during the survey.
- ❖ Natural resources utilised by Aboriginal people.
- ❖ Landforms present
- ❖ Photographs of the project area
- ❖ Ground surface visibility (GSV) and areas of exposure.
- ❖ Levels of disturbance

5.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

Field survey was conducted on the 27th April 2022 with parallel transects at an average spacing of 10m being walked and visually inspected across the project area. The survey was undertaken at a time when surface visibility was high across the project area and grass length was very low and well maintained. Transects were positioned to provide full coverage of all impacted areas across all landforms, within the subdivision area. The locations of the survey transects from the 2022 field survey are shown in Figure 6.

Field survey conditions at the time of survey in 2022 are shown in Plates 1 to 6.





5.3.1 *Ground Surface Visibility (GSV) and Levels of Disturbance*

Ground Surface Visibility (GSV) is the percentage of ground that can be visibly assessed. GSV varies by the degree of grass coverage across the ground surface, presence of leaf litter, branches and the presence of natural gravels. Exposures are areas that provide high levels of GSV and usually result from erosion, stock impacts, clearing, previous construction or vehicle trails. The higher the rate of exposures and the background GSV of a survey unit (SU) the higher the effectiveness of the field survey.

GSV over most of the study area was fair to low due to low grassed vegetation coverage across the manicured golf course. Areas of exposures (bare earth) were rare within the golf course, confined to small areas at bases of trees and access walking trails. Across the project area the average GSV was estimated at 25%.

Stands of native trees are present in the central and fringing areas of golf course. These appear young in age and are landscaped plantings. Ground surface in these locations are kept clear with fallen bark and branches removed and maintained. GSV in these sections was consistent with the fairways with areas of exposures present at tree bases. In these exposures soils were visible consisting of dark silt

loam, appearing imported as fairway base. In the northern and western fringing stands of trees, maintenance is not ongoing with long undergrowth present, with heath, grasses and leaf litter. GSV in these sections was greatly reduced to >10%.

Within the areas of the fairways, sand bunkers and tee areas have been formed. These are the result of high impact localised land forming operations removing natural soil profiles and importing soil base consistent with fairway production. Across the wider golf course the natural contours of the landforms and descending spur lines appears to have been retained, but have been smoothed, cleared of natural vegetation, cultivated into greens and replanted with aesthetic fringing trees for the fairways.

Subsurface irrigation lines have been installed to allow for management and maintenance of the fairway greens, and during the course of the lifespan of the golf course, these have been replaced and repaired as required, resulting in further disturbance.

The GSV, degree of disturbance and rate of exposures for each landform within the project area is provided in Table 3 below.

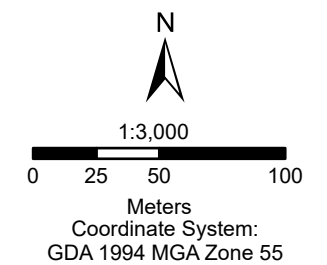
Table 3. - Ground Surface Visibility Rating

Landform	GSV	Degree of Disturbance	Mechanism of disturbance
Lower slopes – fairways	25%	High	Vegetation clearing and golf course construction. Areas of exposures (bare earth) were rare within the golf course, due to the highly maintained nature of the fairways and fringing vegetation areas. Exposures were confined to small areas at bases of trees and access walking trails. Across the project area the average GSV was estimated at 25% with an exposure rate of 5%. GSV within exposures was high at 85%. I
Lower Slopes - Fringing vegetation areas	>10%	High	Mainly consisting of young, single age stands of regrowth, indicating clearance and regrowth. Occasional older trees present but unlikely remnant. Long undergrowth is present, with grasses and leaf litter. GSV in these sections was greatly reduced to >10%. Exposures very rare, representing fauna impacts or walking trails. GSV within exposures high at 90%.

Figure 6: Survey Transects

Legend

-  Contour -2m
-  Watercourse
-  Major Road
-  Minor Road
-  Track
-  Path
-  StudyArea
-  Cadastre
-  Pedestrian Transect



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

5.3.2 Survey Coverage

The factors of GSV, level of disturbance, and the spacing of transects all combine to provide estimates of survey coverage and effectiveness.

A single team member completed the field survey, inspecting an area of 2m on each side during the pedestrian walkover, considered to be the maximum distance of effective coverage (Burke and Smith 2004). Survey transects were completed at approximately 10m distance and covered the total impact area. The golf course is located on undulating lower and middle slopes, with the subdivision area confined to the lower slopes component. To the south of the project area, outside of the area of impact, creekflats to the Thredbo River are present.

The physical area inspected with the GSV and exposure rate for each landform taken into account provides the survey coverage. At the levels recorded for the field survey, the effectiveness of the field survey is considered to be fair, and has acted to confirm the previous field survey results and landform assessment (OzArk 2021:71) of low potential and high levels of previous disturbance. The landforms and survey transects completed in 2022 are shown on Figure 6.

The landform summary and a summary of effective survey coverage for the Project Area is provided in Table 4 and 5. These calculations are based on the formula provided in Requirement 10 of the Code of Practice.

Table 4. Survey Coverage

Landform	SU Area (m2)	GSV %	Exposure %	Effective Coverage Area m2 (SU area x GSV% x Exp%)	Effective coverage (Eff coverage area/SU Area x 100)
Lower Slopes (Greens)	12000	25%	10%	300	3%
Lower Slopes (Tree areas)	4000	10%	35%	140	4%
Total	16000			440	3%

Table 5. Landform Summary

Landform	Area (m2)	effective coverage area (m2)	% of landform surveyed	no of sites	No of PAD
Lowerslopes (Greens)	12000	300	3%	0	0
Lowerslopes (Tree Areas)	4000	140	4%	1	0
Total	16000	440	3%	1	0

5.4 FIELD SURVEY RESULTS

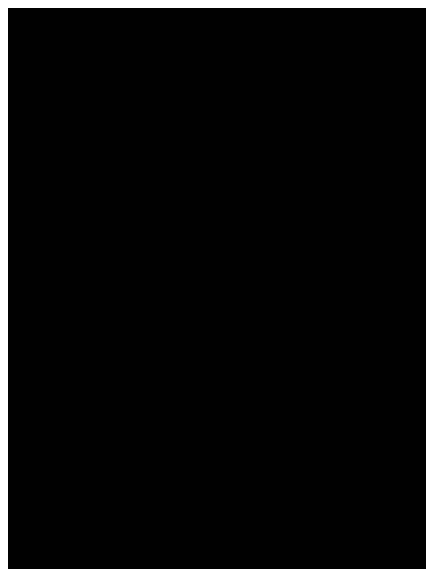
Areas of Aboriginal heritage were identified during the field survey despite vegetation coverage and the previous impacts from the Golf Course Construction. The identification of a surface site within this landscaped environment was not expected and was possible due to the presence of a number of exposures at the base of trees within the central area.

The site Thredbo Golf Course 1 (TGC1 – 61-6-0139) is located within three separate exposures, all within the same landform and being components of the one larger site. The site location is shown in Figure 7. Due to fact that the artefacts were located in exposures, the potential for subsurface artefacts is present, despite the fact that the soils have been repositioned during the golf course construction. These soils may also consist of imported fill during Golf Course construction when the area was totally cleared. The trees which are currently present are young in age and planted following fairway construction.

Across the site eleven (11) artefacts were recorded in the ground exposures at the tree bases. The details of the artefacts with photos of the site locations are provided below.



Plate 8. Artefacts TGC1A



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

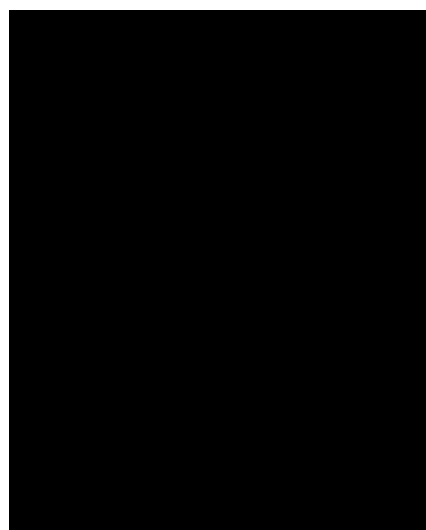
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

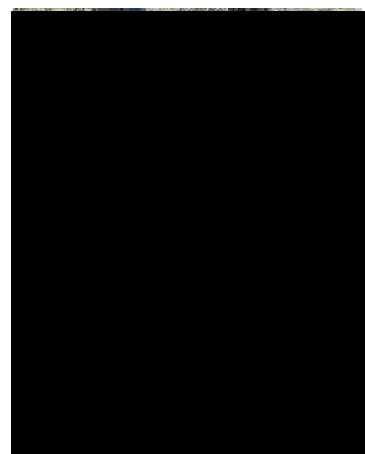


Plate 12. Artefact TGC1C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Following the completion of the Due Diligence Assessment in 2022, further research was undertaken on the construction of the golf course. This additional research has resulted in the information that the entire area of the golf fairways and surrounds were land formed by bulldozer during construction to construct the gradient slopes and golf greens.

Following the completion of these land forming works, the current location of TGC1 was planted with tree stock and sandy soils were imported to these areas of plantings to facilitate growth. As a result, of these construction disturbances, the site is not insitu, may not be local and is probably in a secondary location. If the artefacts are originally from this location, they are currently in a disturbed context due to the high level of soil displacement and importation through the area. These impacts are discussed further in Section 9.

5.5 RESULTS - AREAS OF POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSIT (PAD)

Areas of PAD are defined as landforms that hold higher potential than their surrounds to contain subsurface deposits of past Aboriginal occupation. Based on a review of previous studies completed for the region, areas of PAD would be located in association with waterways (1st or 2nd order streams) on level ground or along spur crest and ridge lines that allow travel through mountainous regions..

The location of the Golf Course on the lower undulating slopes leading to the Thredbo River holds a high level of potential for Aboriginal sites. At the time of the due diligence assessment it was theorised that the natural form of the lower slopes next to the river had not been subject to a high level of construction and areas of PAD may remain. The DD assessment then identified three areas of PAD. The further research completed as part of this ACHAR has overturned this finding with documentation of the construction methods of the golf course showing land forming and importation of soils throughout these areas (See Section 8). As a result the designation of PAD were removed from two of the identified areas with one area remaining at TGC1, due to the identification of surface artefacts through this area.

The PAD area of TGC1 is located in association with the surface sites (TGC1-3) located in the central treed area of the fairway and described in Section 5.4. The location of the area of PAD is shown on Figure 7 and details of the area of PAD are provided in Table 6 below.

Table 6. Descriptions of identified areas of PAD

PAD Name - Grid Location (MGA Zone 55)	Extent
██████████	██ ██ ████████

5.6 SUMMARY OF 2022 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

As a result of the field survey, one Aboriginal heritage site with an associated area of PAD has been identified within the project area. Avoidance of the area, will not be possible under the current proposal. As heritage impacts will occur from the proposal, the extent of any subsurface deposits needs to be determined by progression to subsurface testing (See Section 6).

Review of photographs of construction of the Golf Course (discussed and shown in Section 9) show the area of PAD to have been disturbed, with the trees planted circa 1996-2000. Despite this degree of high disturbance, as surface artefacts are present within this section of the project area, testing is required to determine if larger numbers of artefacts are present subsurface or if the surface artefacts are the extent of the known heritage site.

As a result, a program of subsurface testing is required, as detailed in Section 6 to determine the presence, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits.

Figure 7: Results

Legend

-  Contour -2m
-  Watercourse
-  Major Road
-  Path
-  StudyArea
-  Cadastre
-  
-  



1:2,000

0 25 50 100

Meters

Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

PastTraces
Heritage Consultants

6 SUBSURFACE TESTING

As defined previously in Section 4.4, areas of PAD are landforms with a higher potential to contain subsurface deposits of past Aboriginal occupation than the surrounding landscape. NOHC in 2003 (Bungendore HQ assessments) stated:

"A potential archaeological deposit, or PAD, is defined as any location where the potential for sub-surface archaeological material is considered to be moderate or high, relative to the surrounding study area landscape" (NOHC 2003:7).

A small area within the project area has been identified as holding potential for subsurface Aboriginal cultural deposits based on the presence of surface artefacts. Subsurface testing of this one area of PAD was carried out in December 2022, in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW 2010) and the methodology detailed in Section 6.2 with the participation of representatives of the RAPS.

As set out in Section 3.1 of the Code of Practice (DECCW 2010), subsurface testing is only permissible where "sub-surface objects have a high probability of being present and the area cannot be avoided by the proposed development". The purpose of subsurface testing is "to collect information about the nature and extent of sub-surface deposits based on a sample recovered from the sub-surface investigations". Based on the recovered sample, the archaeologist uses the sample's data to calculate the probability of the site continuing in area. By extrapolating artefact density from the excavated testpits, the probability of further subsurface deposits being present and their significance is assessed.

Requirement 15b of the Code states that the excavation strategy must "describe the differentiation of the PAD to be test-excavated from the surrounding archaeological landscape (i.e. explain why the PAD is anticipated to be of higher significance than the continuous distribution of archaeological material in which it exists)" (DECCW 2010: 25)

Under this requirement, if a large landform with high potential is identified, an area of PAD within that landform must hold an additional feature indicating the need and/ or appropriateness of undertaking test excavations within the broad landform.

Requirement 16a of the Code states that the "test excavation should be sufficiently comprehensive to allow characterisation of the Aboriginal objects present without having a significant impact on the archaeological value of the subject area" (DECCW 2010:27).

Requirement 17 (DECCW 2010:28) provides guidance on when a test excavation is to cease:

"Any test excavation carried out under this Requirement must cease when:

- 1). suspected human remains are encountered (see Section 3.6), or
- 2). enough information has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance."

Enough information is defined in the explanatory notes: "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance" (DECCW 2010: 28). Consequently, test excavation must cease when the archaeologist has recovered sufficient information from the test excavations, irrespective of whether all planned test pits have been completed or the extent of the

entire impact area has been physically investigated. Continuance is only permitted if there is reason to believe that a significant variance may occur within the investigation area.

6.1 AIMS OF THE SUBSURFACE TEST EXCAVATIONS

Subsurface testing was undertaken to determine the presence, significance and extent of any archaeological subsurface deposit which may be present within the identified areas of potential archaeological deposit (PAD). Subsurface testing ceased when enough information had been gathered to fulfil these aims.

The aims of the testing program were to:

- ❖ Investigate whether sub surface deposits are present which may be impacted by the development.
- ❖ If identified, to determine the extent and nature of the deposits.
- ❖ Identify the degree of disturbance within the PAD area by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- ❖ Analyse any Aboriginal material recovered
- ❖ In consultation with RAPs determine the significance of any cultural material.
- ❖ Develop management strategies for any heritage items identified by the subsurface testing program.

6.2 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The following excavation methodology was developed in consultation with RAPs and in accordance with the Code of Practice. As a result of this process a series of test pits measuring 50 x 50cm were excavated across the identified area of PAD, sampling the areas to determine the presence of subsurface deposits and to locate any areas of differing density of artefacts.

The following methodology was followed:

- ❖ Undertake excavation of 50 x 50cm test pits by hand excavation using shovels and trowels to determine the presence of deposits.
 - Hand excavation using shovels and trowels, pits to be a minimum of 50cm x 50cm in area. Removal of initial deposit in 5cm levels or 'spits' with subsequent pits at 10cm unless features found requiring a different strategy.
 - Excavate to a maximum of 40 centimetres or if cultural material is located to culturally sterile layers. Excavation would cease if no material has been discovered at a maximum depth of 40 centimetres as previous research in the area indicates that materials are most likely to occur in the surface layers. Soil types are thin and unlikely to continue past this depth.
 - Placement of excavated deposit in buckets labelled by spit and test square.

- Transfer of buckets to sieve station. Sieving of deposits through 5mm mesh (dry sieving or wet sieving will be undertaken depending on soil conditions).
- Removal of any cultural material from sieves, bag and label for analysis. Proceed with excavation until completed. Photographs of each test pit will be taken and pH measurements for representative soil samples taken.
- ❖ Analysis of any recovered artefacts on site and reburial in test pits in accordance with Code of Practice Requirements or in conformance with a return to country protocol which will be developed for the ACHAR.
- ❖ At completion of excavation, backfill test pits (with sieved material if possible or clean fill if required).

The proposed Test pit spacing is at 10m intervals on transects spaced at 10m (10m grid). This provides coverage over the area of PAD.

To test the PAD boundaries, in the event of revealing of artefacts or deposits within a testpit, it is proposed that the methodology be adaptive with additional test pits placed at 10m intervals to the artefact locations to determine boundaries of the area of PAD. Additional test pits will not be placed between two testpits if both reveal artefacts, but will be confined to the outer edges to determine extent.

6.3 ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL MATERIAL

All lithic items were examined in detail using a low-power hand lens and microscope. A basic analysis of lithic variables such as raw material, size, primary and secondary flaking characteristics (platform and termination type, degree of retouch) was undertaken on recovered lithics from subsurface contexts for the study area as an assemblage.

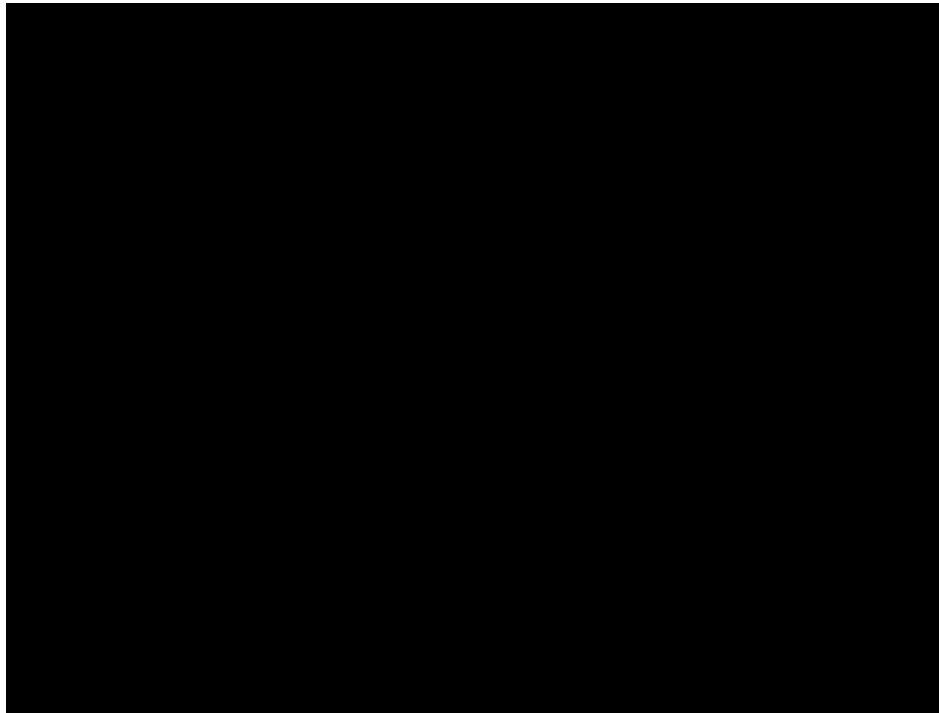
On completion of the lithic analysis the items were stored individually in resealable plastic bags marked with their identification number and provenance. Artefacts are being held in temporary storage at the office of Past Traces following analysis while the AHIP process is undertaken.

Lithic categories are based as follows:

- ❖ Flakes – dorsal and ventral face, platform and termination
- ❖ Retouched flakes – negative scars removed after ventral face creation (flake detachment)
- ❖ Flaked pieces – negative scars on dorsal face but ambiguous ventral face and striking platform
- ❖ Cores – one or more negative scars but no positive scars
- ❖ Angular shatter – indistinct scar faces assumed to be cultural based on association with cultural material

6.4 RESULTS OF SUBSURFACE TESTING PROGRAMME

The subsurface testing program was undertaken on the 2nd December 2022 with the participation of two members of the Aboriginal community. The testing consisted of an initial six testpits placed in two parallel transects amongst the tree line across the area of PAD. The locations of test pits across the area of PAD are shown in Plate 14 and Figure 9.



The testpits locations are shown in Table 7.

Table 7. Test pit Locations (MGA Zone 55)

Testpit	Easting	Northing
I		
I		
I		
I		
I		
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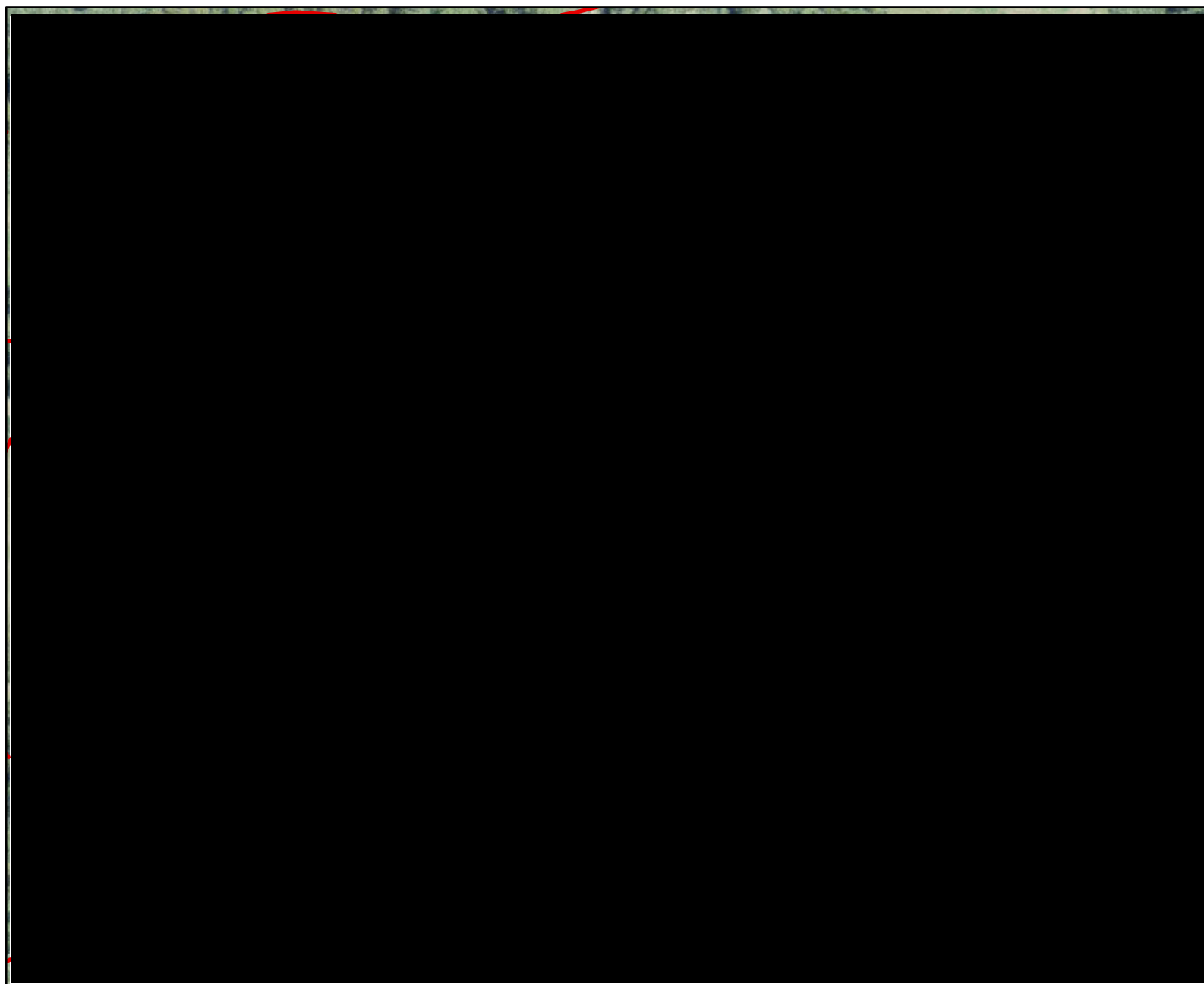
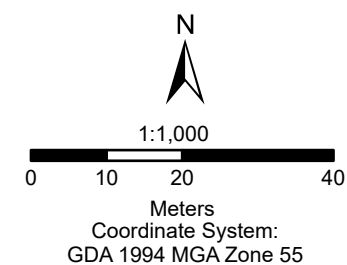


Figure 8: Test Pits

Legend

-  Contour -2m
-  Watercourse
-  Path
-  StudyArea
-  Cadastre
-  



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

The test pits were excavated to the underlying clay strata which were reached from 30-40cm in the test pits. Soil depths consisted of sandy to silty loams overlaying a highly fragmented and disturbed red clay substrate. Redeposited soils were evident with mixing throughout. Test pits were excavated to a depth of 40cm in most test pits. Results for a representative test pit are provided in the following section and results (photos) for each test pit is provided in Appendix 3. No artefacts were recovered from the test excavations.

The representative stratigraphy of PAD 1 is shown in test pit 3. The soil section is provided in Table 8. The soils within the test pit consisted of sandy fine grained light brown loam overlain on a compacted red/orange clay base with mixing throughout. Test pit photos are provided in Appendix 3 for all excavated test pits within PAD1.

Table 8. Testpit 15 Section

Spit	Description	Photo
1a – 0-5cm	Grey Brown sandy loam fine grained topsoil with grass rootlets –friable, loose compaction.	
1b – 5-10cm	As above – sandy loam.	
2 – 10-20cm	As above – mixed soils with no clear layers. Bioturbation evident with worms and ants Tree roots present on northeast corner. Silty loam rather than sandy at this level.	
3 – 20-30cm	Mixed silty loam continues	
4 – 30-40cm	As above reached red clay at 40cm	

6.5 TESTPIT PROGRAMME RESULTS SUMMARY

The test pitting programme has shown that cultural deposits are not present at areas of PAD 1 with no lithic artefacts recovered. The mixing of deposits is consistent with the history of land forming and construction through the golf course fairways.

The few quartz flakes recovered from the surface context at the tree bases consist of common materials and artefact types and are, based on past construction activities, probably from imported fill.

As a result of the test pitting program, the surface site is allocated low significance.

Details of the significance criteria used in the assessment of the site in a scientific and regional context is provided in Section 8.

7 2025 FIELD SURVEY

7.1 ADDITIONAL AREA FOR ASSESSMENT

Following the completion of the subsurface testing program and draft report completion in 2022, redesign of the proposal was undertaken with the addition of fairway redevelopment (resulting in vegetation removal), and additional parking near Crackenback Drive adjacent to the current day care facility. These additions resulted in a larger area requiring survey and assessment as shown on the revised footprint in Figure 2.

To ensure no additional heritage impacts were resulting from the revised footprint, a field survey and visual inspection of the small area of increased impact was undertaken by Lyn O'Brien of Past Traces on the 3 June 2025. Further assessment of areas of new fringing vegetation removals or trimming were surveyed by two members of Past Traces on the 24/7/2025.

The new areas for survey consisted of fringing vegetation areas and areas of fairways where alterations will be minor with new tee construction and obstructions within the highly developed fairways. The survey areas were divided into three survey units reflecting the differing GSV and exposure rates for each.

- ❖ [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

The location of the survey units, completed for the 2025 field surveys are shown on Figure 9. The location of the pedestrian survey transects are shown on Figure 10.

7.2 GROUND SURFACE VISIBILITY AND LEVELS OF DISTURBANCE

Ground surface visibility (GSV) varied across the three survey units due to the differing levels of grass coverage. Within SU1 and SU2, walking trails are present caused by informal impacts along with faunal damage from deer, rabbits and kangaroos.

SU2 consisted of mainly young regrowth with some older remnant trees in the central areas. All of the older trees were examined for cultural modifications with none being recorded. Within these sections of trees GSV was limited by fallen branches, leaf litter and longer natural vegetation.

7.3 SURVEY COVERAGE

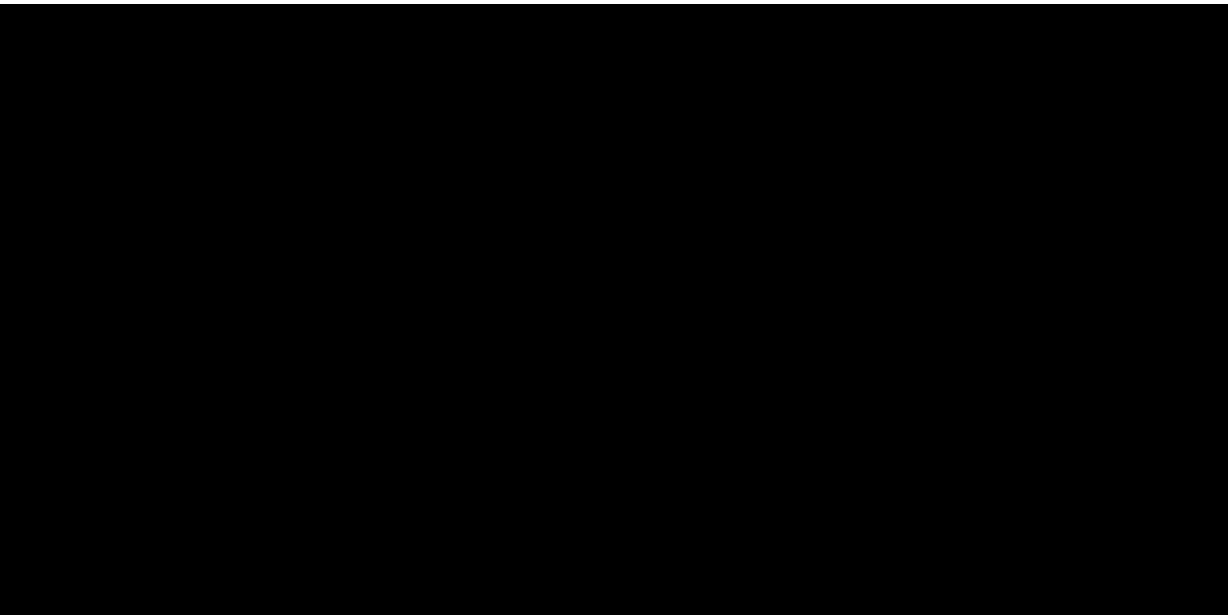
The survey coverage for each of the three survey units are provided in Table 9 in accordance with Requirement 10 of the Code of Practice.

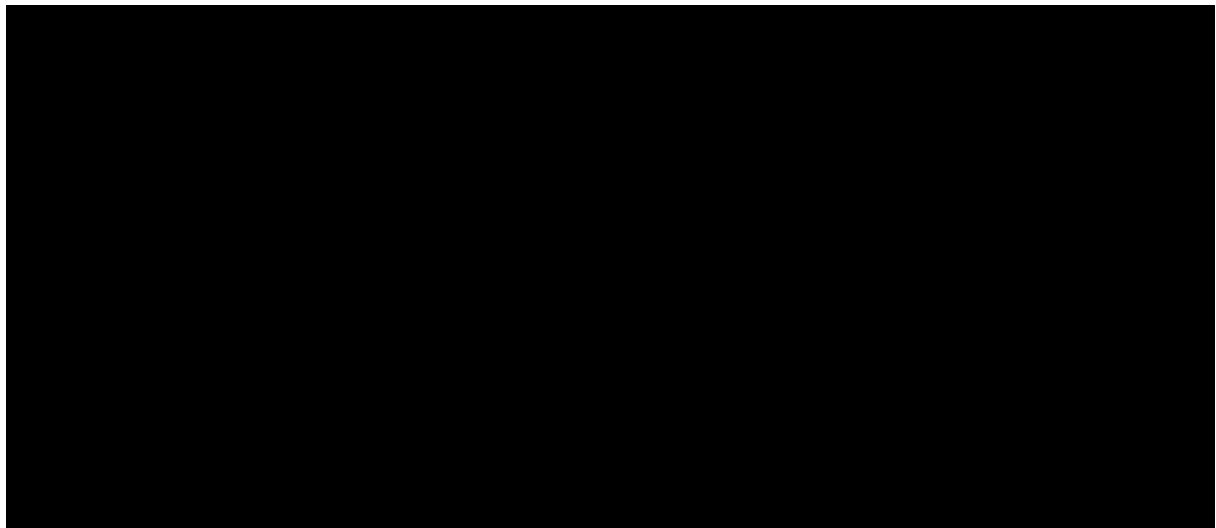
Table 9. Survey Coverage 2025 Survey

Landform	SU Area (m2)	GSV %	Exposure %	Effective Coverage Area m2 (SU area x GSV% x Exp%)	Effective coverage (Eff area/SU Area x 100)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

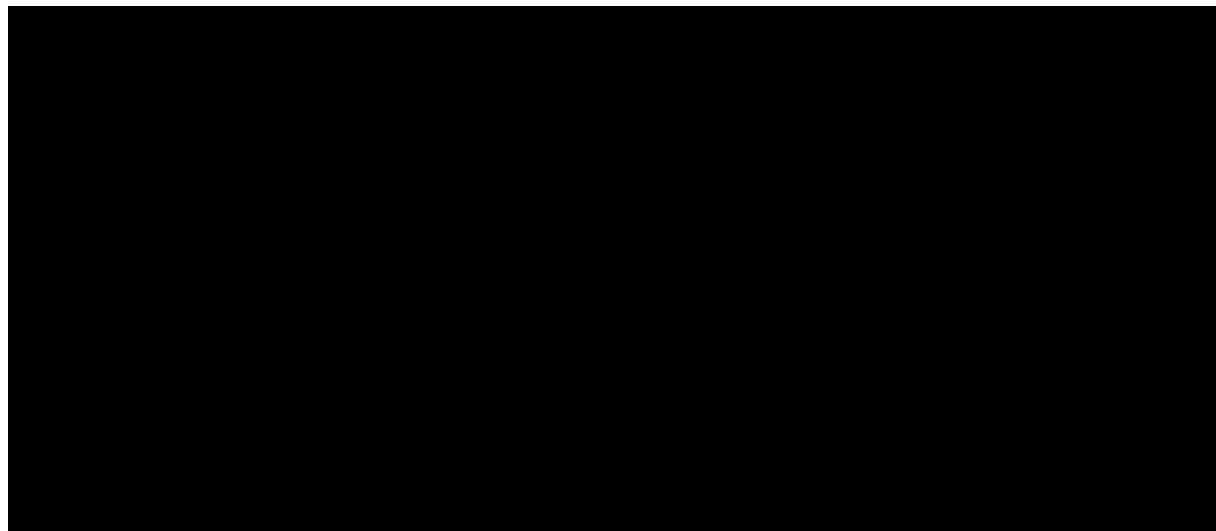
The conditions at the time of the additional surveys are provided in Plates 15 to 22. No additional heritage sites were identified throughout these highly disturbed areas.

Survey Unit 1 covered the regrowth area [REDACTED]. This location is proposed as a new tee to replace the southern area of fairway planned for car parking. Survey Unit 1 is mounded with soils from the road and residential development which have become grassed. Vegetation is regenerating in this area with some plantings of saplings having been undertaken.

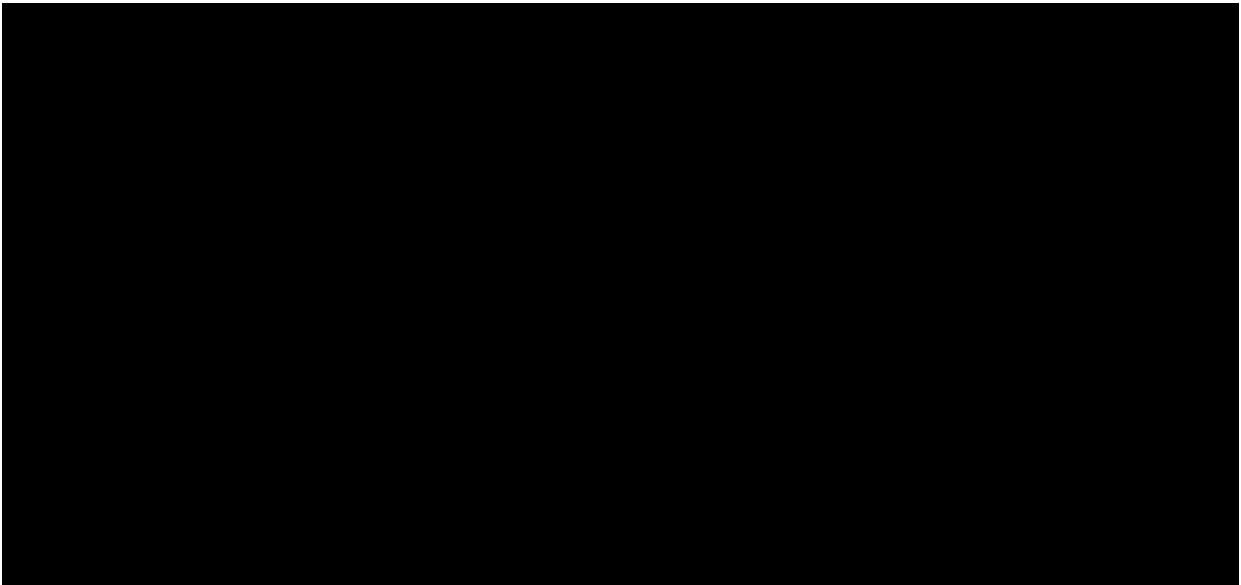




Survey Unit 2 covers the tree verges [REDACTED]. The realignment of holes is required to compensate golfers for the loss of holes removed for the proposed housing subdivision. The trees and heath/grasses on the verge areas where works are proposed (see Figure 2) consisted of young regrowth vegetation. Overall this survey unit held low GSV with a low rate of exposures estimated at less than 10%. These areas of exposure mainly resulted from deer and kangaroo disturbance.



Survey Unit 3 is similar to Survey Unit 2 [REDACTED]. All trees within these verging areas were examined for scarring and assessed for age potential. The remaining areas of constructed fairways are considered to be highly disturbed and hold low to nil potential for sites.

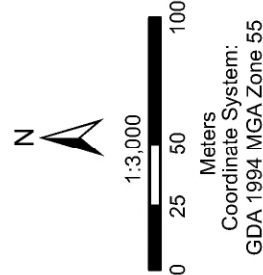


The survey did not identify any areas of potential or heritage sites, with a finding of high disturbance from the previous fairway construction (see Section 9) with young trees, mounded soils and regrowth present.

Figure 9: Survey Units

Legend

- Contour -2m
- Watercourse
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Track
- Path
- StudyArea
- Cadastre

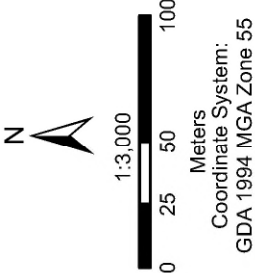


Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

Figure 10: Survey
Transects

Legend

- Contour -2m
- Watercourse
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Track
- Path
- StudyArea
- Cadastre
- 2022 Pedestrian Transect
- 2025 Pedestrian Transect
- 2025 Pedestrian Transect
- 2025 Pedestrian Transect



Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

8 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

8.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The NSW heritage assessment criteria is set out in the NSW Heritage guideline Assessing Heritage Significance (Dept Planning and Environment 2025) and requires assessment against the four values in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter (2013) generally accepted as heritage best practice.

These values are (as defined in DPE 2025):

- ❖ Historic significance - An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).
- ❖ Historical association - An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).
- ❖ Aesthetic/creative/technical achievement - An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/ or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area).
- ❖ Social, cultural, and spiritual - An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural, or spiritual reasons.
- ❖ Research potential - An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).
- ❖ Rare - An item possesses uncommon, rare, or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).
- ❖ Representative - An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments).

For assessing the significance of Aboriginal sites the two main sections that are applicable are cultural values to the Aboriginal community and archaeological (scientific) values (ICOMOS 2013).

There are two criteria generally used in assessing the scientific significance of heritage sites:

- ❖ Research potential – the potential of a site to provide information which is of value in the scientific analysis of research questions.
- ❖ Representativeness – an assessment of whether the artefact or place is a good representative of its type.

Cultural value to the Aboriginal community can only be assessed by discussion with RAPs and feedback provided in response to the site identifications.

8.2 SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

The following archaeological significance assessment is based on Requirement 11 of the *Code of practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW 2010). Using the Burra Charter assessment criteria of representativeness, condition and research potential, a rating of scientific significance was determined for the identified heritage sites. Scientific significance can be summarised as the potential of the site to provide important information on the past use of the area, Aboriginal technology, trade or movement. Table 10 provides the results of the archaeological significance assessment when applied to the identified sites TGC1.

Based on this criteria, the site consists of artefacts common to the region and are low density and considered to be in a displaced (secondary) location. Subsurface testing has shown mixed deposits, with a high sand matrix probably as a result importation of soils as part of the Green and Fairways construction. The site provides no additional information to inform Aboriginal lifeways or past occupation of the area.

Table 10 : Scientific significance assessment of archaeological sites recorded within the project area.

AHIMS	Site name	Research Potential	Representativeness	Condition	Scientific Significance
61-6-0139	TGC1	Low	Common	Poor (disturbed)	Low – Nil

8.3 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

All heritage sites are important to Aboriginal people and all represent the past occupation and use of the region by Aboriginal people. As a reminder of the widespread nature of Aboriginal occupation, sites provide a physical guide to usage, and points for education, discussion and cultural transmission of knowledge.

The sites within the Thredbo region are generally small and common in their nature. The identified site conforms to the known camping sites of past peoples on lower slopes close to water and confirms landscape use. However, the disturbed nature of the Golf Course decreases this aspect, as the site may well be in a displaced location or imported from another area entirely.

As a result the information that the site can provide for the community will further support existing information but will not provide new or innovative research themes.

As a result of onsite discussions with RAPs participating in the field work, a low to negligible level of significance was allocated to the site. This level of significance is due to their role as markers in the landscape of Aboriginal occupation, resulting in a sense of community and pride for traditional owners.

The finding of cultural significance is based on the conversations with RAPs who are the primary determinants of cultural value, which can only be assessed by the Aboriginal community. Comment on the finding of significance is requested from all members of the Aboriginal community who have registered for the project following review of this report.

8.4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Thredbo Golf Course project area contains a single Aboriginal heritage site, consisting of surface artefacts at three tree bases within a mixed matrix, located on small, raised features amidst gently lower slopes in proximity to the northern frontage of the Thredbo River.

The stone artefacts recorded represent common site types found throughout New South Wales and consist of common materials and artefact types for the region. The recorded sites are considered to hold a low to negligible rate level of cultural and scientific values. Recording of these sites will assist in regional studies aimed at assessing Aboriginal usage of the landscape, technology and raw material trade and sourcing, however any usage must refer to the high level of disturbance and displacement of original materials and soils. Due to the nature of the sites they are considered to not warrant conservation, but should be subject to a collection program.

Recovered artefacts should be curated by the Aboriginal community to aid in the continuation of cultural and traditional knowledge, as such a care and control permit will be sought to allow the artefacts to be collected and curated by the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

These values are provided in the following table as defined in Section 2.4 of the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Culture in NSW* (OEH 2011).

Table 11. Table of assessed values

Value	Assessed Level
Social	The sites are assessed to hold low levels of cultural value based on discussions with RAPs due to its role as a marker of past occupation and continuing connection.
Aesthetic	The sites hold no aesthetic significance.
Historical	There are no known historical records or associations which apply to the site or immediate surrounds.
Scientific	The sites hold low to negligible scientific values based on the level of disturbance. The composition of common materials and common artefact types for the region is prevalent, providing no new or significant information.

9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

To determine the degree of impact that may result from the Golf Course Development it is important to place the landscape in its disturbed context, consider the sites significance and whether impacts are avoidable.

9.1 GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT/ PRIOR DISTURBANCE

A brief overview of the Golf Course construction is provided to illustrate the high degree of previous impacts and disturbance that has occurred across the project area. The current Golf Course is shown in Plate 23.



Plate 23. View of Golf Course (photo www.thredbo.com.au/activities/golf)

Construction of the Thredbo Golf Course commenced circa 1968. Review of the NSW NPWS documents and photographs undertaken for the Land Contamination report suggest that the course was constructed by slashing, raking scarifying and over sowing soils found on site. Photos provided of the construction period show the site was cleared to bare earth with slashing and levelling undertaken with earthmoving equipment. Photos of the construction were provided by Kosciusko Thredbo. Discussions were held on site with Golf Course Managers who were present at the time of construction and oversaw the initial installation and ongoing maintenance programs since that time.

This first hand knowledge of the extent of construction impacts allowed for an evaluation of the construction impacts as having removed all archaeological integrity for any recovered artefacts or site information. The construction impacts are shown in Plates 24-26.

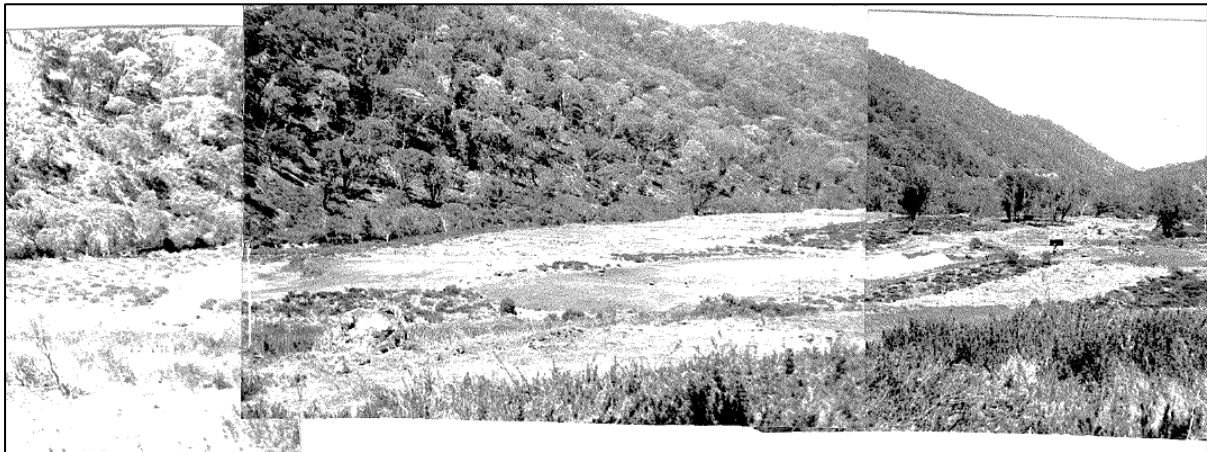


Plate 24. View South east across area of PAD to Thredbo River – Area of PAD completely cleared during construction.

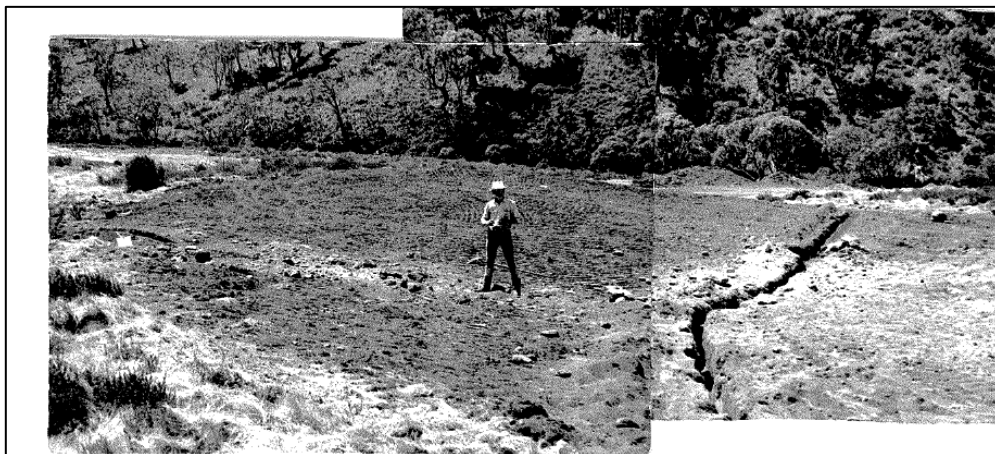


Plate 25. View south to Thredbo River showing disturbance during construction

As part of the land forming process soil was pushed up with a dozer to form fairways and dressed with existing topsoil. Greens were formed with a dozer, pushing up rocks, mix of in situ / imported fill material for base of the greens, then dressed with existing topsoil.

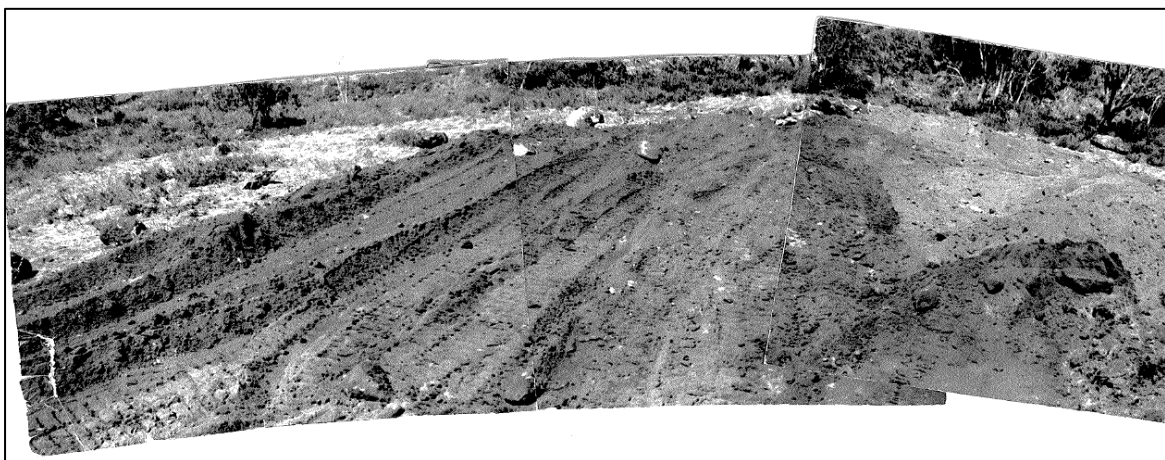


Plate 26. Earth works during construction.

There is evidence that additional imported fill was obtained from undeveloped areas around Thredbo to top dress fairways in years following the initial development. Sand was imported to the site to create bases for Greens and Tees. These surfaces required well draining soils.



Plate 27. Example of Green construction

Graham Bailey (Greens Manager) confirmed some initial planting occurred around 1968 during initial construction in the area of the PAD and subsequently, Black Sallees and Snowgums were planted between 1996-2000s (refer Plate 28 which shows no trees in this location). The current standing trees are a mix of regrowth and these planted trees from 1968.



Plate 28. View north – arrow indicates approximate area of PAD. Photo date circa 1970s following construction.

9.2 DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS

The proposed development requires a high level of disturbance within the project area. The proposed works will cause disturbance in the form of soil excavation, vegetation removal, infrastructure installation, heavy vehicle and plant movement across the area, fairway redevelopment and revegetation following completion of works.

During assessment for the Special Activation Precinct (Ozark 2021) the project area was assessed as highly disturbed and holding low potential for any heritage sites. These findings of high disturbance has been verified by the background review of construction and field survey results. The field survey and subsurface testing identified only one heritage site, probably in a secondary context amidst constructed landforms within the Golf Course.

As required by the Code of Practice, the assessed statement of impact for the Aboriginal archaeological sites in the project area has been summarised in Table 12.

Table 12: Summary of potential archaeological impact

AHIMS	Site name	Type of Harm	Degree of Harm	Impact of Harm
61-6-0139	TGC1	Direct	Total	Removal of values

9.3 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

Australia's *National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (1992)* defines ecologically sustainable development as: 'using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be increased'.

In regards to cultural heritage the main aspects of the ESD principles are intergenerational equity and the assessing of cumulative impacts on the heritage resource.

9.3.1 Intergenerational Equity

The concept of Intergenerational equity can be explained as the concept that resources (such as heritage sites) do not belong to any generation but are to be administered in trust for all future generations.

Within Aboriginal communities intergenerational equity is maintained by the transmission of cultural knowledge, traditions and continued access and visitation to cultural sites. Loss of cultural knowledge, heritage sites or access to highly significant sites is detrimental to the current and future communities.

Destruction of cultural heritage sites may impact on future generations if by the action the cultural record is significantly altered or a continuing traditional link is broken. Assessing these impacts can be addressed by understanding the significance of sites, the range and variety of the site type that is present in the area and the role that the site plays with the Aboriginal community. Sites may play

various roles as teaching sites, ceremonial areas or areas for cultural traditions (birthing trees, scarred trees, rock shelters for example).

As a small site on disturbed land, the site does not play any role in ongoing cultural traditions, transmission of knowledge or learning for the next generation. The impacts to the site will not have a detrimental effect on continuing traditions and the transmission of knowledge to future generations, as it plays no active role in the current and future community.

Within Kosciusko National Park are numerous identified heritage sites and areas of intangible cultural heritage. Many additional sites remain to be identified and recorded which are currently only known to Traditional owners. These numerous sites and areas of significance allow for the ongoing transmission of cultural knowledge, visitation of sites and continuation of ceremony. As a result, the loss of the disturbed site at Thredbo will have a negligible effect and is not an issue of intergenerational equity.

9.3.2 *Cumulative Impacts*

Developments in the Thredbo area are constrained by the placement of Thredbo within Kosciusko National Park. Developments within Thredbo are planned for the future and the cumulative impacts by the continued destruction of sites is of concern to the community. These impacts will be mainly confined to existing areas of impact, with replacement of existing facilities in line with management of the National Park. Concerns should be addressed by continued assessments and focus on preserving sites that are either intact, contain many artefacts, or are significant to the community. The determination of which sites warrant conservation should be undertaken by heritage professionals and the Aboriginal community through a process of consultation and involvement.

The cumulative impact of future developments at Thredbo would appear to be limited, due to the predictive model which indicates that impacts would most likely be confined to already impacted areas and the work by OzArk (2021) resulting in low potential for the main areas of Thredbo. Any future developments will need to be assessed for their heritage impacts during the development assessment process and consultation with the Aboriginal community undertaken to mitigate impacts whenever possible.

By applying this process, heritage sites can be identified prior to construction and a conservation approach can be applied to reduce or remove development impacts through these areas and conserve sites of importance.

Within Kosciusko National Park are numerous identified heritage sites and areas of intangible cultural heritage. Many additional sites remain to be identified and recorded which are currently only known to Traditional owners. The retention of these areas, protected from all harm due to being within the National Park results in the most significant areas being protected from all future impacts.

10 MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Avoidance of impact to archaeological and cultural heritage sites through design of the development is the primary mitigation and management strategy, and should be implemented where practicable. In cases where avoidance and conservation is not practical, the salvage of artefacts, gathering of information through collection (especially where impact cannot be avoided) and interpretation are management options.

For this project, the low significance of the site (TGC1) does not warrant protection from the area of impact in the form of a conservation area. The nature of the site, consisting of common artefact types and materials does not warrant this class of treatment to ensure their preservation. The site is within a disturbed location and may result from importation of materials from another region in Thredbo (Section 8). A mitigation strategy of salvage, analysis and curation under a care and control permit should be undertaken for these sites.

Further details of the proposed measures are provided within section 9.1.

10.1 MITIGATION MEASURES

For the site that is to be impacted under an AHIP (Table 10), mitigation measures should be applied to retain the maximum amount of archaeological and cultural information possible, despite the location being disturbed and likely in a secondary location. The mitigation measures have been discussed with the RAPs whilst on site and provided to each of the RAPs for their comments in the form of the draft report.

RAPS should be provided with an opportunity to participate in each of the below listed mitigation measures which will be undertaken under the guidance of a qualified heritage consultant. An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit will be required for these mitigation measures to be undertaken.

10.1.1 *Surface Collection*

Site TGC1 is located within the impact areas of the development. Surface collection should be undertaken consisting of the following

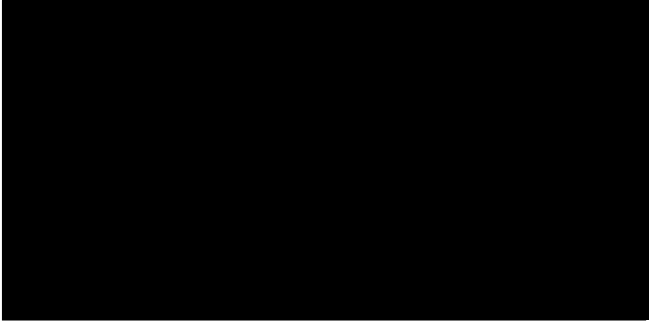
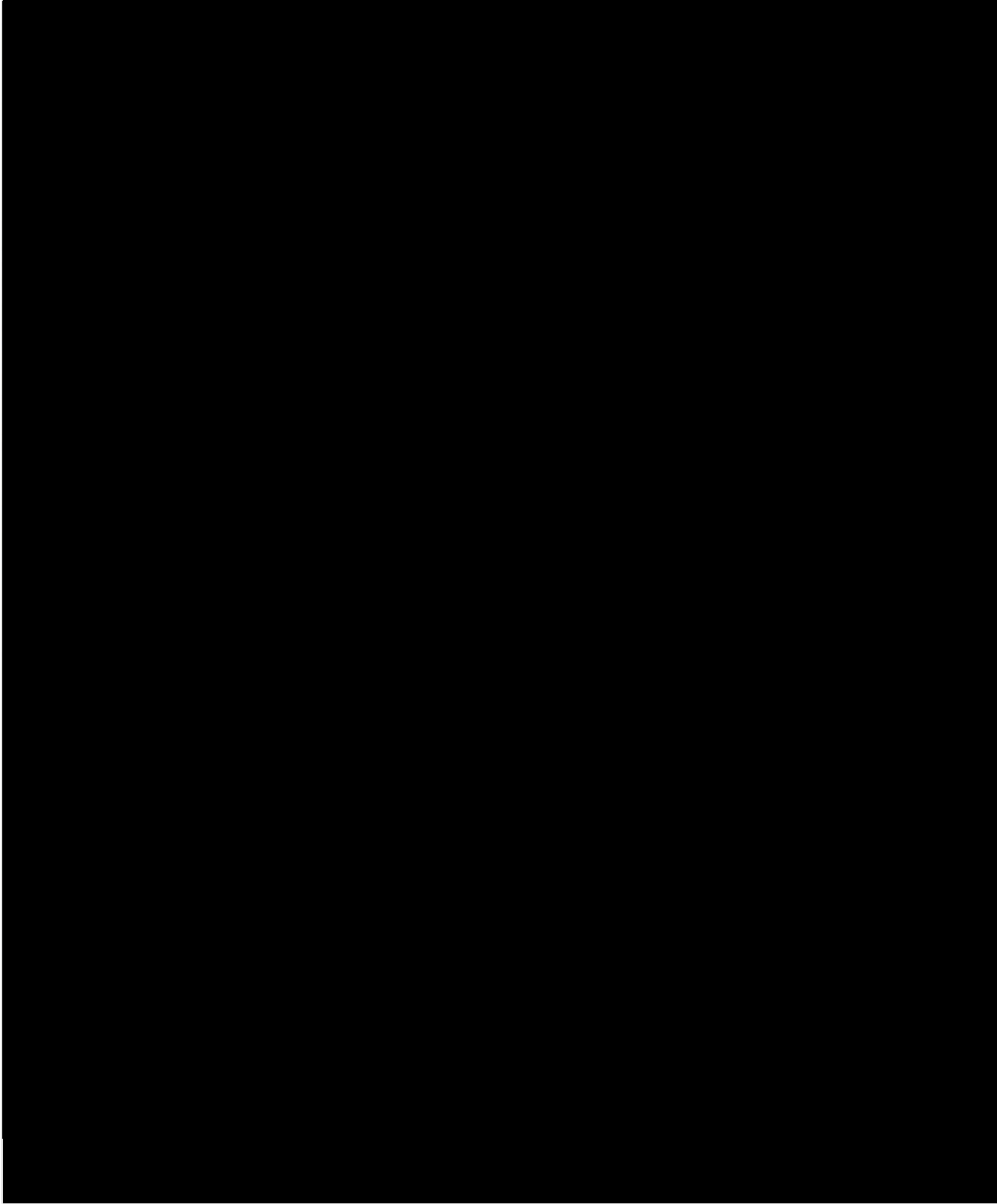
- ❖ the recorded locations of the heritage site will be subject to a thorough visual inspection of the impact areas by the heritage team prior to construction.
- ❖ Any recovered artefacts will be labelled with their location and bagged individually for artefact analysis.
- ❖ Technological attributes such as material, artefact type, platform and termination evidence of usewear or retouch will be recorded.
- ❖ Following analysis and completion of an AHIP Compliance Report the artefacts will be returned to the Aboriginal community under the curation of the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

10.2 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on results of the archaeological program and consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties the following recommendations have been developed in regards to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values and heritage sites located within the project area. Following the implementation of these heritage recommendations development of the area should be able to proceed.

The management recommendations for the project are:

- ❖ One heritage site (TGC1) is present within the project area. An Aboriginal heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) will be required to allow works to proceed. An application for an AHIP should be submitted to NSW Heritage and must be approved prior to any works commencing in the area of the heritage sites. No impacts can occur to the heritage site prior to the approval of an AHIP by NSW Heritage. The area of the AHIP will cover the entire area of the project area, as construction impacts will be widespread and extensive. The area of the proposed AHIP area is shown in Figure 11.
- ❖ Conditions of the AHIP should include the salvage collection of all surface artefacts within the impacted site location TGC1, in line with the methodology provided in Section 10.
- ❖ The recovered artefacts following analysis should be placed in the care of the LALC under a care and control agreement. The care and control agreement will be applied for following approval of the AHIP for the project.
- ❖ An AHIP Compliance works report submitted to NSW Heritage including the results of the surface collection permit at completion of works.
 - Site Impact card with updated details will be submitted to AHIMS for inclusion into the database at completion of works.
- ❖ It is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal site without an AHIP as all Aboriginal objects are protected under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. Should any Aboriginal objects be encountered during works outside of the AHIP area, then works must cease and a heritage professional contacted to assess the find. Works may not recommence until cleared by NSW Heritage
- ❖ In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during the construction, all work must cease. The police must immediately be notified and their directions followed in the management of the area. Further assessment would be undertaken to determine if the remains are Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal.
- ❖ Continued consultation with the RAPs for the project should be undertaken. RAPs should be informed of any major changes in project design or scope, further investigations or finds.



1:3,500
0 25 50 100
Meters

Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Imagery: © NSW Spatial services

PastTraces
Heritage Consultants

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A.1 AHIMS SITE SEARCH

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Thredbo Chairlift

Client Service ID : 723185

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
61-3-0024	Bogong Creek;	AGD	55	614714	5959332	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	816
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0038	Bullocks Flat to Thredbo 10	AGD	55	618700	5960300	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1317,103116,103138
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0100	Ramshead Creek 2;	AGD	55	616290	5959060	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0083	Merritts Park, Site 1;	AGD	55	617150	5959550	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1417
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0062	Alpine Way 7	AGD	55	617909	5959497	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2495,99160,99161,99162,99163,99164,99341,99487,99818,103116
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0081	Golf Course Extention Site 1;	AGD	55	615900	5958520	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1417
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0009	South Rams Head;Kosciusko N.P.;	AGD	55	613600	5958600	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	468
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0121	Merritts Creek 1	AGD	55	616850	5959500	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0039	Bullocks Flat to Thredbo 11	AGD	55	618500	5960150	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1317,103116,103138
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0021	Bogong Creek;No.1;Thredbo;	AGD	55	614500	5958800	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0065	Friday Flat IF-1;?;	AGD	55	617550	5959500	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Isolated Find	103116
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0104	Friday Flat 2	AGD	55	617800	5959710	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Isolated Find	99341
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0138	Thredbo Walking Track 21	AGD	55	618380	5960092	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1		101126,103116,103138
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0063	Alpine Way 8	AGD	55	618350	5960050	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	2495,103116,103138
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0137	Thredbo Walking Track 20	AGD	55	618380	5960092	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 4		101126,103116,103138
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 17/10/2022 for Elisa Scorsini for the following area at Lot : 876, DP:DP1243112, Section : - with a Buffer of 1000 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 22

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Heritage NSW and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Thredbo Chairlift

Client Service ID : 723185

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
61-3-0023	Bogong Creek;No.3;Thredbo;	AGD	55	614000	5957000	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0099	Ramshead Creek 1;	AGD	55	616100	5958960	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0103	EDI 1	AGD	55	616820	5959600	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	4447
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0120	Rams Head	AGD	55	614180	5959030	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 6		
	<u>Contact</u> T Russell	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-3-0049	Crackenback Chairlift 1;	AGD	55	615170	5960500	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1912
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0139	TGC1	GDA	55	616182	5958901	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							
61-6-0082	Merritts Park Nature Trail;Site 1;	AGD	55	616930	5959330	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	1417
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	<u>Permits</u>							

** Site Status

Valid - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

Destroyed - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

Partially Destroyed - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

Not a site - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 17/10/2022 for Elisa Scorsini for the following area at Lot : 876, DP:DP1243112, Section : - with a Buffer of 1000 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 22

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A.2 ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION LOG

Thredbo Golf Course Consultation Log

Date/Time	Type of Consultation	Organisation	Response
17/8/2022	Step 1 – Public Notice	Monaro Post 17/8/2022 end 31/8/2022	
12/8/2022	Step 2 – Notice to Regulators		
		NNTT	
		Kosciusko Working Group	Two members registered
		NTSCorp	
		NSW Heritage	Provided stakeholders
		Local Council	
		Registrar ALR	
		Eden LALC	
19/8/2022	Step 3 – letter/email to identified stakeholders from Above		Number of registrations see below
	Step 4 – List of Registrations		
19/8/2022	John Dixon - Djirringari Elders	Kosciusko Working Group	
19/8/2022	Jason Davidson	Kosciusko Working Group	
	Didge Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation		
	Tim Stubbs		
20/8/2022	Woka Aboriginal Corporation		
22/8/2022	Corroboree		
23/8/2022	Yurwang Gundana		
24/8/2022	Guntawang		
27/8/2022	Gunjeewong		
07/09/2022	Step 5 – Project Pack - emailed to all Registered Parties.		Responses from Yurwang Gundana Didge Ngunawal Jason Davidson
7/9/2022	Step 6 - List of RAPs to NSW Heritage and LALC (by 28 days from Step 4)		
8/9/2022	Step 7 – Methodology pack (end review period 6/10/2022) emailed to all RAPS		
8/9	Didge Ngunawal		Email agrees with methodology
12/9	Tim Stubbs		Agrees
12/9	Guntawang		Agrees
12/9	Corroboree – methodology pack resent to new addresss		
12/9	Gunjeewong – methodology pack resent to new address		
13/9	Yurwang gundana		Agrees
19/9	John Dixon		Agree

Thredbo Golf Course Consultation Log

Date/Time	Type of Consultation	Organisation	Response
24/11/2022	Notification of Field work/ SST		
	John Dixon		Can attend
	Jason Davidson		Can attend
	Eden LALC		Will try to attend
02/12/2022	Field work	Jason Davidson	
		John Dixon	
7/03/2023	Draft Reports		
23/3/2023	Letter	John Dixon	Supports report recommendations
10/08/2023	Email to all RAPS with notification that project still under assessment and any questions to please contact me		
10/11/2023	Email - project status	All RAPS	
08/05/2024	Email - project status		
15/11/2024	Email – project status		
05/05/2025	Email – project status		
05/09/2025	Email – project status		
2/10/2025	Draft Report emailed to all RAPS		
2/10/2025	Email	Didge Ngunwal	No issues with report
8/10/25	Email	Guntawang	Supports recommendations