



Appendix No. 10

Statement of Heritage Impact

Statement of Heritage Impact

370 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill

for

Lanox Pty Ltd and KSMJ Pty Ltd



View to Subject Site from Carpark, Heritage Park

Prepared by:

Archnex Designs

Wentech Pty Ltd (ABN 310 735 41803) trading as Archnex Designs.

March 2010

**Statement of Heritage Impact
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- (ii) "Old Government Farm Site" Inventory Sheet (SHI 1090050)
- (iii) DP 135804 (1997)
- (iv) DP 400639 (1957)

Nominated Architect: Greg Patch (Reg. No. 4820)
Wentech Pty Ltd (ABN 310 735 41803) trading as Archnex Designs.
Architects, Heritage Building Consultants, Interior Designers

Date: 3rd March 2010

Premises: 370 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill

Property Description: Lot 2, DP 135804

Prepared By: Greg Patch
B Sc Arch, B ARCH (Hons), M Herit Cons (Hons), RAlA
14 Winchcombe Ave,
Haberfield NSW 2045

For: Lanox Pty Ltd and KSMJ Pty Ltd

This statement has been prepared to assess potential heritage impacts of a proposed subdivision in relation to the Castle Hill Heritage Park adjoining.

Castle Hill Heritage Park (former Government Farm No 3) is listed as a heritage item. This has been established through a search of the State Heritage Inventory [SHR S90/07504 S92/01663 H02/00180] and Schedule 1 of Baulkham Hills LEP 2005, where it is listed as a conservation area

This statement is based on SHI data sheets 5051518 & 1090050, and an inspection of the site in late February 2010.

1. Aerial view- Location of 370 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill (Source: www.imagery.maps.nsw.gov.au)

E. CONTEXT

E1. DOCUMENTARY

SHI Data Sheet 5051518

The information provided on this data sheet was updated following a study by Godden Mackay Logan in 2007 (see copy at Appendix B).

A **chronology** is given to summarise the background of the place:

1801 - Work commenced on the Third Government farm, with the soil being described as the 'best and most productive kind'.

1801/2 - The bridges, long hut (100 feet by 20 feet) and watering place were referred to in a surveyors field book.

1802 (Oct) - Francis Peron described Castle Hill as an 'infant town' consisting of 'a dozen houses' with 'cultivated land' and 'several handsome farms'.

1803 - A watercolour indicated that the Government Farm area was substantially cleared with 1718 (?) structures, tracks and associated areas under tillage (see Figure 2.1). Importantly, the image shows the 'long hut' with adjacent store house and mill house.

1803 (June 30) - Governor King reported that he was constructing a stone barrack at Castle Hill of two storeys and 100 feet by 24 feet.

1803 (August) - The Barracks was still under construction

1804 (4th March) - Vinegar Hill uprising occurred, with a 'house' set alight on the Government Farm.

1806 (August) - Barracks building was possibly converted into barn.

1807 (August) - Repairs to a number of buildings occurred, as well as the granary and barn reported finished.

1811 (April) - Macquarie, instructed the farm be converted into an asylum and a garden fenced at rear of granary for exercise of inmates, with the building to accommodate 30 persons.

1811 (June) - Conversion reported complete.

1814 - Buildings reported in bad condition by Surgeon Bland.

1817 - Buildings reported in good condition (with a few repairs needed), with mention of a kitchen (separate?) and the need for partitions in the upper storey to create an internal configuration of two wards and a store room.

1819 (March) - Building reported as upstairs female ward and need for partition to separate male inmates upstairs as well, store recommended. Roof and walls unplastered with damp conditions.

1821 - Commissioner Bigge recommended the closure of the asylum.

1826 - Asylum closed and inmates moved to Liverpool Courthouse.

1826 (November) - The former asylum was converted into a church requiring a replacement roof, shingling, ladder and rail, replacement of floors, partitioning, door furniture, window repairs and glazing, clean verandah beams and new posts, whitewashing and plastering of two rooms 60 feet by 18 feet and one 45 feet by 18 feet.

1828 - Former asylum land formally conveyed to Church and Schools Corporation.

1832 (May 2-5) - Former asylum surveyed by Felton Mathew showing school, bridge, former asylum building and ruins (kitchen?).

1832 (September) - Building reported as in dilapidated condition.

1837 (November) - HL Butler resurveyed the land and set aside 40 acres as a glebe.

1839 (September) - Building reported as being converted into a chapel to be called St Simon's.

c1886 - The old asylum building was demolished, with stone reportedly transported to construct the rectory for St Paul's on the corner of Parsonage Road and Old Northern Road.

1895 - First part of the 40 acre glebe sold to orchardist JT Benn.

1900 - The remainder was sold to James Purser.

1930s- Orchardling declined and site was given over to pasturage during later 1930s and 40s.

Between 1947 and 1961- a large mushroom shed was constructed to the northeast of the Barracks site with a vehicular entrance to the east of the site along the right of way.

By 1961- A small fibro cottage with brick piers was constructed on the Barracks site.

1966 - The dwarf wall at the rear of the cottage allotment along the right-of-way was constructed possibly of sandstone stone from the barracks site at the same time and in a similar fashion to the stone wall at the Parsonage. (Godden Mackay Logan 2007)

Statement of Significance

The significance of the place is stated as:

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important in the course or pattern of the state's history for its close connection with the events leading up to the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 (also comprising an important event in the Irish nationalist movements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries). The historical importance of the site is enhanced by its place in the westward expansion of the early colony, using convict labour, when sometimes faltering and often unsuccessful attempts were made at the introduction and development of agriculture in previously unsettled and only recently explored areas. Later uses of the site as the nation's first dedicated mental health facility (the 'Asylum Phase') (1811-1828) enhances the site's historical significance. The site's conversion to use for a church and school (1828-1866) and then adaptation for orcharding (1870-1930) are also important historical 'layers', principally at the local level.

Castle Hill Heritage Park is Exceptionally significant at the state level for its strong associations with the rebels who participated in the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 and, more generally, with the early convict labourers and Irish of the colony. The site's later associations with the first mental health patients of the nation, and with the prominent colonial polymath Rev WB Clarke, are also significant at the state level. Associations between the site and the local community from 1828 into the late twentieth century (when it functioned as the district Church and then orchards) are also significant, although principally at the local level.

Castle Hill Heritage Park recalls in its topography, land forms and remnant structures the original layout and form of the Third Government Farm. As a result, it reflects the nineteenth century cultural landscape and demonstrates, at a state level of significance, the principal characteristics of the rural aesthetic of the period.

The orcharding phase of the site may be of social significance to those members of the community that are descendants of the earlier orchardists of the area. Further, the school and church were for many years focal points for the community after the closure of the barracks [sic] and asylum.

The archaeological relics identified at Castle Hill, and other relics potentially on the site but not yet exposed, hold considerable potential to contribute to substantive research questions relating to important trends in the state's (and nation's) history, including the treatment of the convicts and mental health patients incarcerated at the site, the circumstances precipitating the Battle of Vinegar Hill, early attempts at agriculture west of Sydney, and (at the local level) the settlement and later development of the area around Castle Hill.

The site represents an uncommon aspect of the state's (and nation's) history, in that it is one of only two places in the country where armed rebellion was planned and commenced. Similarly, it was the first Lunatic Asylum in the colony, and rare to that extent, although later examples also existed. The cultural landscape at the site also comprises an uncommon example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site.

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important at the State level as a representative example of a relatively unchanged [sic] (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site. Its remnant cultural landscape is a good example of the nineteenth century convict farm settlement. (Castle Hill Heritage Park Conservation Management Plan Godden Mackay Logan July 2007) Date Significance Updated: 27 Oct 08

The land identified as forming the Castle Hill Heritage Park is:

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
LOT	5		DP	231945
LOT	B		DP	347907
LOT	D		DP	393287
LOT	Y		DP	393287

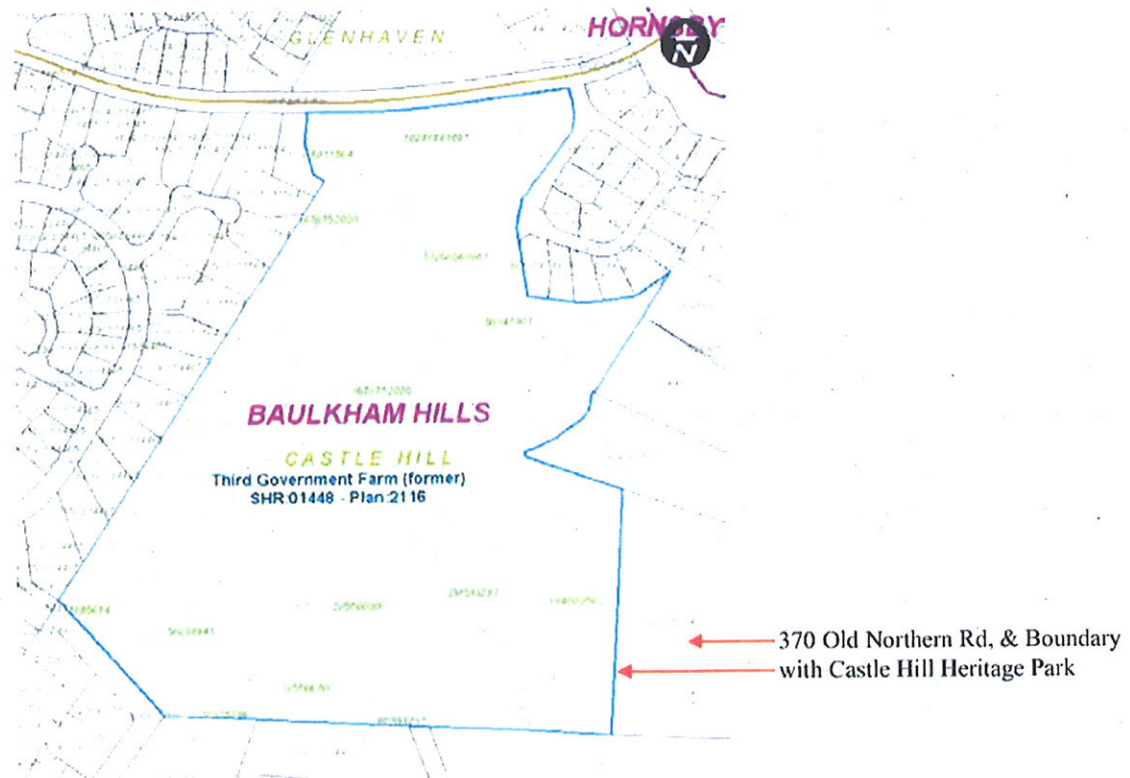
LOT	1	-	DP	556680
LOT	2	-	DP	556680
PART LOT	167	-	DP	752020
LOT	1	-	DP	85614
LOT	1021	-	DP	861081
LOT	1026	-	DP	861081

The subject property has a boundary contiguous with that of Lot Y DP 400056, according to the Lands Department cadastre:



2. Cadastre- Castle Hill Heritage Park and subject land (Source: www.imagery.maps.nsw.gov.au).

The SHR curtilage is mapped as:



3. SHR Curtilage- Castle Hill Heritage Park (Source: SHI Data 5051518).

A 1943 flying aerial of the area is available from the NSW Land Department Spatial Information Exchange [SIX] website- The NSW RTA "From the Skies" series:



4. 1943 Aerial detail. (Source: www.imagery.maps.nsw.gov.au)

Deposited Plans

Further detailed land titles research is required to shed further light on the sequence of subdivision and ownership, though is not considered necessary, given the essentially visual impact nature of assessment.

E2. PHYSICAL

The property is largely open grassed land, with apparent planted trees to the western boundary and associated with a seemingly post WWII cottage to the eastern portion:



5. Recent aerial -detail. Trees to boundary, cottage, remnant vegetation (Source: www.imagery.maps.nsw.gov.au)

A photographic survey of the subject site, and views towards Castle Hill Heritage Park, and views from the Park towards the subject property was undertaken:



6. Planted native trees to west boundary



7. Expanse of grass and perimeter trees beyond.



8. Exotic trees to south of western boundary.



9. Exotic tree to south of western boundary.

It appears that a line of trees of native species was planted along the western boundary with the Park sometime following WWII, with the southern end of the line of trees featuring some exotic specimens.



10. Bunya pine near cottage.



11. Bunya pine from north.



12. Line of trees- east/west.

There is also a line of trees running east west to the north of the cottage and extending to the eastern boundary of the Park. This includes a juvenile Bunya pine, and eucalypts/ native species such as tallowwood.



13. Cottage from the north-west.



14. Cottage and Bunya from the west.



15. Access track to cottage / remnant trees.



16. Concrete road to Old Northern Road entry.

The cottage is in face dry-pressed brick cavity wall construction, with glazed terracotta Marseilles tile roof, and has a skillion roofed garage to the south east.

It does not appear on the 1943 aerial and the form of construction, the detailing and type of tiles and face brick all point to its having been constructed in the post WWII period, in a relatively simple vernacular-based form. It also appears that it was not fully completed- see verandah.

A photographic survey was also conducted from within Castle Hill Heritage Park:



17. From near carpark- roof of cottage.



18. Walking path- view to eastern boundary of Park.



19. Exotic plantings- see images 8 & 9, page 6.



20. Tank adjacent boundary to subject property.



21. Informal interconnection-Park to subject land.



22. Dry-stone wall to adjacent tank/ boundary.

The existing line of trees along the western boundary of the subject land provide considerable screening as they are- the understorey vegetation also assists in this regard, but appears to include invasive weed species.



23. View from near boundary to carpark.



24. Development under construction to south-east.

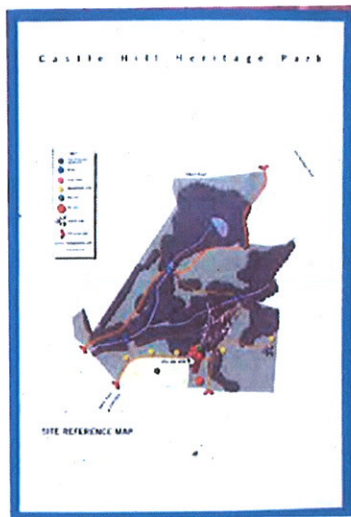


25. House visible to the north west (Doune Court?)



26. Houses to the south west (St Simon Place?)

There are various installations within the Park that allow public interpretation, including a reference map and reproduction of an early watercolour of the site:



27. Site reference map



28. Early (1803) watercolour-Interpretative panel near carpark

As the statement of significance explains, the Park demonstrates the topography of the area:

The cultural landscape at the site also comprises an uncommon example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site.

F. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I have examined a Subdivision Concept Plan N°. 2008117/DD01A prepared by Jackson Teece, dated 30.03.2010 (Amendment date).

It depicts a proposed 15 lot subdivision of the land, each with an "indicative building envelope" of 15 x 10m. An area along the southern boundary and extending to the north is nominated as "Reserve Area" of 7,300 m², there is a road reserve of 5,455 m², and a fire trail to provide access to the boundaries to the northern portion of the site.

The configuration of the proposed lots is around a loop cul-de-sac with a landscaped area to the centre of the loop. The lots with a common boundary to the Park include the reserve to the south and Lots 3,4,5,6,7 & 8. Lots 4,5,6,7 & 8 have their "building envelope" closest to the boundary with the Park, at some 10 metres setback. This will allow for sufficient area to build a house, have adequate outdoor space, maintain the existing trees planted along the boundary and provide supplemental under-storey vegetation.

Visual intrusion of future development of the allotments is a matter of the nature of the houses built there and aspects of the house designs, such as the overall size, external materials, finishes and colours will,

given the extent of available screening, be a factor in their visibility, though there is some latitude when compared to development to the south, south east and north west, where minimal screening is available.

G. HERITAGE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Listing

Baulkham Hills Local Environmental Plan 2005

Schedule 1 Heritage items

Part 3 Heritage conservation areas

Old Government Farm Site (Heritage Park), Banks Road, Castle Hill (State)

The State significance is claimed and supported by the fact that it is a State Heritage Register [SHR] Item File: S90/07504 S92/01663 H02/00180

The relevant provisions of the Baulkham Hills Local Environmental Plan 2005 in relation to the proposed development would appear to be:

Division 4 Heritage conservation

39 Development in vicinity of a heritage item or heritage conservation area

- (1) Before granting consent to development in the vicinity of a heritage item or a heritage conservation area, the consent authority must assess the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item or the heritage conservation area.*

Comment: as discussed above, the proposed development is in the vicinity of the heritage item "Old Government Farm Site..." listed as a Conservation Area under Schedule 1 Part 3 of Baulkham Hills LEP 2005.

- (2) This clause extends to development:*

- (a) that may have an impact on the setting of a heritage item or heritage conservation area, for example, by affecting a significant view to or from the item or conservation area, or by overshadowing, or*

Comment: while there is some potential for future structures on the subject land to be visible from the conservation area, the existing vegetation along the boundaries of the two sites and the physical separation distance is such that the potential impacts are minimal.

- (b) that may undermine or otherwise cause physical damage to a heritage item or heritage conservation area, or*

Comment: there would appear to be no potential for the proposed subdivision and associated works, and the future construction of dwelling houses to the site, to give rise to physical damage to the conservation area by virtue of the physical separation of the location of works.

- (c) that will otherwise have any adverse impact on the heritage significance of a heritage item or heritage conservation area.*

Comment: there would appear to be no other potential for adverse impacts.

- (3) The consent authority may refuse to grant any such consent unless it has considered a heritage impact statement that will help it assess the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance, visual curtilage and setting of the heritage item or heritage conservation area.*

Comment: this document has been prepared having general regard to the NSW Heritage Branch guideline document "Statements of Heritage Impact" to the extent the potential impacts warrant.

- (4) *The heritage impact statement should include details of the size, shape and scale of, setbacks for, and the materials to be used in, any proposed buildings or works and details of any modification that would reduce the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item or heritage conservation area.*

Comment: this document has been prepared in relation to the proposed subdivision of the land. The nearest setback envisaged is 10 metres from the eastern boundary of the conservation area. It is intended to maintain the existing line of trees along this boundary on the subject property (i.e. to the east of the boundary itself), remove invasive plant species and provide supplementary understorey planting to provide further screening.

No buildings as such are proposed at this stage, but in a generic sense, they should not be excessively bulky and the external materials finishes and colours should be in dark, earthy, recessive tones. A Draft site specific Development Control Plan including provisions in relation to the potential visual impacts has been prepared.

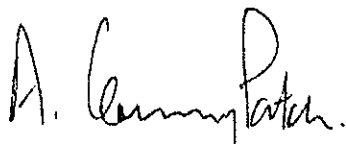
II. CONCLUSION

The above inspection, research and assessment has shown that the subject property at 370 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill is ideally suited for residential subdivision as proposed due to existing features, such as the mature boundary planting, the slope and position of the land in terms of the topography and visitor circulation paths of and through the Castle Hill Heritage Park.

Future buildings on the site will presumably be the subject of further application and assessment where seen to be "in the vicinity of" the Park/ conservation area, and further details as to the *size, shape and scale of, setbacks for, and the materials to be used in*, such buildings will necessarily be required to be provided at the time.

Notionally, given the supplementation of the screening, and the appropriate design of the future buildings, there will be no appreciable impacts on the setting of Castle Hill Heritage Park arising from the proposed development.

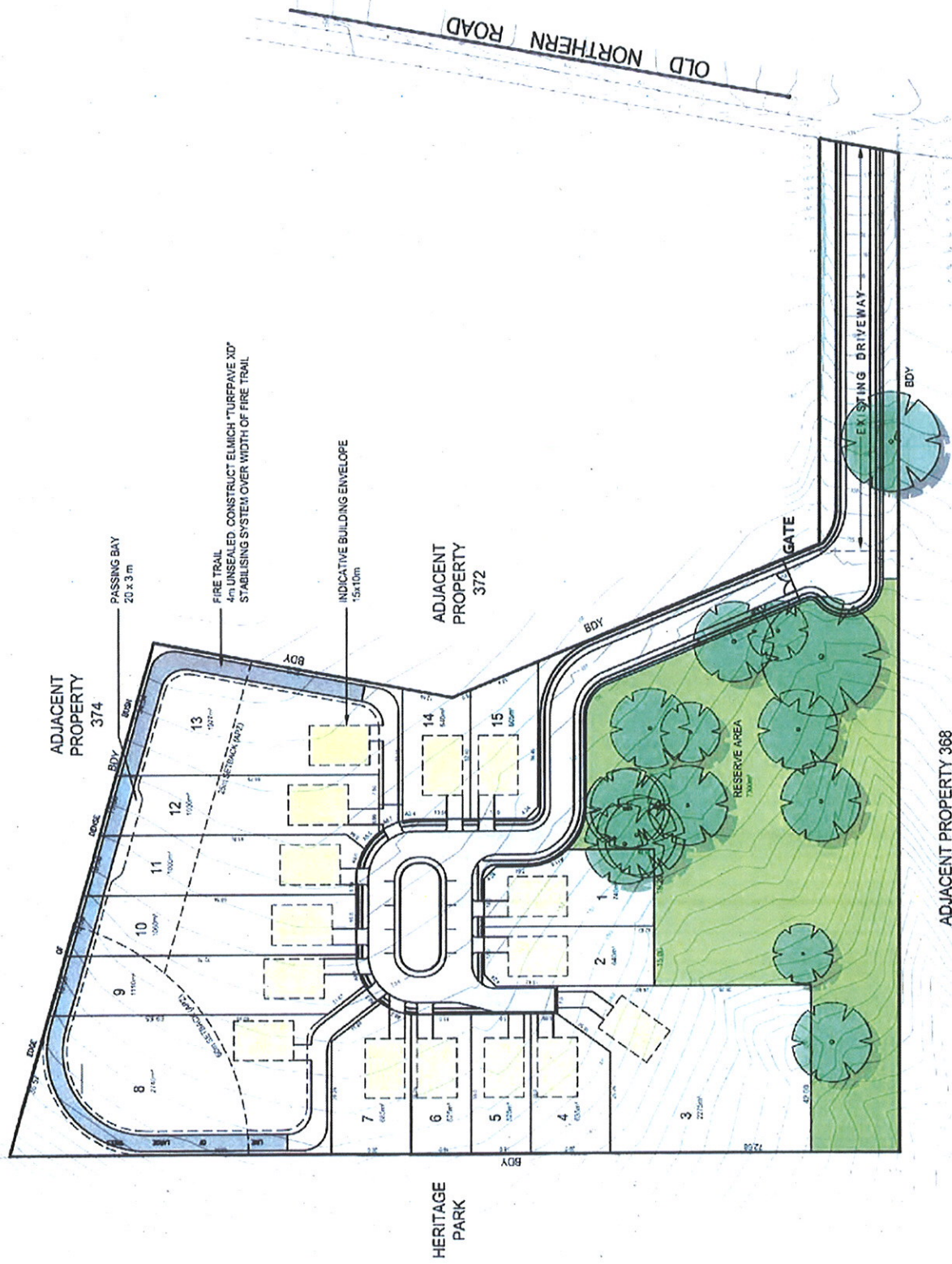
Prepared by



Greg Patch
Architect/Heritage Consultant

Appendix A: Fabric Matters

MGA



AREA SCHEDULE

LOT 1	740 m ²
LOT 2	640 m ²
LOT 3	2275 m ²
LOT 4	635 m ²
LOT 5	525 m ²
LOT 6	525 m ²
LOT 7	885 m ²
LOT 8	2740 m ²
LOT 9	1110 m ²
LOT 10	1080 m ²
LOT 11	1000 m ²
LOT 12	1030 m ²
LOT 13	1977 m ²
LOT 14	540 m ²
LOT 15	605 m ²
ROADWAY	5423 m ²
RESERVE AREA	7300 m ²
TOTAL	22815 m ²
SITE AREA	22815 m ²

CONSULTANTS

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NO	DESCRIPTION	DATE
1	ISSUE FOR INFORMATION	NOV 2010

CLIENT
LANOX PTY LTD AND KMSJ PTY LTD

PROJECT
370 OLD NORTHERN ROAD
LOT 2, DP135804

DATE	SCALE & AJ	DRAWN
8 Feb 2010	1:1000	MA
PROJECT NUMBER	DRAWING NUMBER	ISSUE
2008117	DD01	A

JACKSON TEECE

Jackson Teece
Architecture

Level 13 101 Sussex Street
Sydney New South Wales 2000 Australia
Phone 02 9251 1100
Fax 02 9251 1102
Email info@jacksonteece.com
www.jacksonteece.com

Appendix B: Documents

Third Government Farm (former)

Item

Name of Item: Third Government Farm (former)
Other Name/s: Castle Hill Heritage Park; Castle Hill Settlement Site; Old Government Farm Site
Type of Item: Complex / Group
Group/Collection: Farming and Grazing
Category: Farm
Location: Lat: 151.01306346 Long: -33.71772648
Primary Address: Gilbert Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154
Local Govt. Area: Baulkham Hills

Property Description:

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
LOT	5	-	DP	231945
LOT	B	-	DP	347907
LOT	D	-	DP	393287
LOT	Y	-	DP	393287
LOT	1	-	DP	556680
LOT	2	-	DP	556680
PART LOT	167	-	DP	752020
LOT	1	-	DP	85614
LOT	1021	-	DP	861081
LOT	1026	-	DP	861081

All Addresses

Street Address	Suburb/Town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
Gilbert Road	Castle Hill	Baulkham Hills	Castle Hill	Cumberland	Primary
Banks Road	Castle Hill	Baulkham Hills	Castle Hill	Cumberland	Alternate

Owner/s

Organisation Name	Owner Category	Date Ownership Updated
Baulkham Hills Shire Council	Local Government	

Statement of Significance

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important in the course or pattern of the state's history for its close connection with the events leading up to the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 (also comprising an important event in the Irish nationalist movements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries). The historical importance of the site is enhanced by its place in the westward expansion of the early colony, using convict labour, when sometimes faltering and often unsuccessful attempts were made at the introduction and development of agriculture in previously unsettled and only recently explored areas. Later uses of the site as the nation's first dedicated mental health facility (the 'Asylum Phase') (1811-1828) enhances the site's historical significance. The site's conversion to use for a church and school (1828-1866) and then adaptation for orcharding (1870-1930) are also important historical 'layers', principally at the local level.

Castle Hill Heritage Park is Exceptionally significant at the state level for its strong associations with the rebels who participated in the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 and, more generally, with the early convict labourers and Irish of the colony. The site's later associations with the first mental health patients of the nation, and with the prominent colonial polymath Rev WB Clarke, are also significant at the state level. Associations between the site and the local community from 1828 into the late twentieth century (when it functioned as the district Church and then orchards) are also significant, although principally at the local level.

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The orcharding phase of the site may be of social significance to those members of the community that are descendants of the earlier orchardists of the area. Further, the school and church were for many years focal points for the community after the closure of the barracks and asylum.

The archaeological relics identified at Castle Hill, and other relics potentially on the site but not yet exposed, hold considerable potential to contribute to substantive research questions relating to important trends in the state's (and nation's) history, including the treatment of the convicts and mental health patients incarcerated at the site, the circumstances precipitating the Battle of Vinegar Hill, early attempts at agriculture west of Sydney, and (at the local level) the settlement and later development of the area around Castle Hill.

The site represents an uncommon aspect of the state's (and nation's) history, in that it is one of only two places in the country where armed rebellion was planned and commenced. Similarly, it was the first Lunatic Asylum in the colony, and rare to that extent, although later examples also existed. The cultural landscape at the site also comprises an uncommon example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site.

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important at the State level as a representative example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site. Its remnant cultural landscape is a good example of the nineteenth century convict farm settlement. (Castle Hill Heritage Park Conservation

Description

Construction Years:

Physical Description:

1801

Built Heritage / Archaeology

There are no historic buildings on this site. However, the site contains a number of known and potential archaeological sites. Most significant of these is the site of the former barracks and associated kitchen, excavated in 2006, which survive today as sandstone wall footings.

Vegetation

The existing native vegetation on the site is all post-1816 re-growth. The date at which this process began could not be determined with accuracy. Aerial photographs demonstrate that by 1943, native timbers had regenerated along the main gully lines. The area under timber spread from the gullies, primarily in the period after 1961.

There is no evidence to indicate that any of the trees on the site pre-date European settlement. Most are likely to post-date c1900.

The primary element in these areas of re-growth is the Sydney Blue gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*). This appears to be the species designated simply as 'gum' in the surveys of 1803 and 1816. These surveys did, however recognise a number of other species, and these were sufficiently uncommon for them to be used as reference points in the survey. The list includes the following:

- *'Blackbutt' *Eucalyptus pilularis*.
- *'Apple' *Angophora* sp. (probably *A. floribunda*).
- *'Oak' *Allocasuarina torulosa*.
- *'Ironbark' *Eucalyptus fibrosa*.
- *'Bloodwood' *Corymbia eximia*.

Of these species, *Angophora floribunda* has been recognised in the gully immediately north of Banks Road. It is unclear if other species on the list are currently present.

Government Farm Phase

The heavily timbered pre-European landscape was modified during the initial phase of development of the site as a Government farm by a process of clear-felling and burning. The process commenced on the site and radiated from this core area as more land was required for grazing stock and for raising crops.

All trees and scrub on the site, except for a single stand of trees located to the east of the barracks, were removed. The forest was also left intact beyond the line of the ridge to the north and northeast of the site.

The areas thus opened up within the site were used primarily for running stock; however, there were a number of distinct zones.

- *A low ridge located on the southern margin of the site was occupied by the principal buildings.
- *The flat area located immediately north of Banks Road (site of the bell) may have been used as an assembly/ muster point during the normal operation of the site and during the uprising in 1804.
- *A barnyard on the western side of the creek.
- *The superintendent's garden.

Asylum and Church Phases

Two main zones were present during these phases

- *The yard and garden associated with the asylum surgeon's residence / later school yard and
 - *The area occupied by the main asylum buildings/ later church.
- The remaining areas of the site appear to have been unused or given over to stock grazing.

Orcharding Phase

During the later orcharding phase most of the southwest corner of the site was put to use for fruit growing. Most of the landscape modification during the orcharding period was undertaken in the post-1900 period and is related to changes in the agricultural use of the site and subdivision.

The most significant landscape element of the Orcharding Phase that remains clearly visible on the site today is the remains of the quarter-mile long dog racing course on the western boundary of the site. In addition, a domed brick cistern, associated with a mid-twentieth century domestic occupation, remains in the northeast quadrant of the park. The remaining areas of the site were used for grazing with regrowth of native timbers being allowed to take place in the gullies.

Topography and Waterways

The site is characterised by four main topographic zones

- *The upper ridge slopes in the north and east;
- *The lower moderate slopes with a grade of <1:10;
- *The flat adjacent to Banks Road; and
- *The central gully/creek line containing areas of outcropping sandstone.

These have remained largely unchanged since European settlement apart from the sculpting of part of the upper ridge slope south of Gilbert Road for the installation of a dam and the reworking of the western margin of the site for a dog course. The 1960s saw substantial landform modification to level an area for the installation of chicken sheds adjacent to the convict barracks site. This modification removed the northern two-thirds of the barracks remains.

The small flat enclosed by a ridge with moderate foot slopes, and a series of creeks and gullies and reasonably fertile soils, may have contributed to the original selection of this place for a Government Farm, and the small chain of ponds shown in the 1803 watercolour may have been the original water source for the inhabitants of the Farm. These elements in their current configuration are important elements in understanding the reasons for the original establishment of the farm. The enclosing ridge lined with forest

during the early phase of the Government Farm marked the limit of expansion of European settlement as well as providing a psychological barrier confining those sent to work here. The ridge to the north and east that provides such an important backdrop to the site throughout its various phases of development is the 'Castle Hill', from which the wider suburb derives its name. (Castle Hill Heritage Park CMP Godden Mackay Logan 2007)

Physical Condition and/or Archaeological Potential: No buildings remain, foundations may remain below present ground level. (Register of the National Estate Database)

History

Historical Notes:

Castle Hill Heritage Park is significant principally for its association with the participants in the Battle of Vinegar Hill.

The Battle of Vinegar Hill holds a seminal, but only relatively recently recognised, place in Australian ethnic, religious and political history. The Battle of Vinegar Hill is the only recorded armed battle between Europeans in Australia, other than the Eureka Stockade, although there were bigger battles between Europeans and Aborigines up until the 1930s. The Battle of Vinegar Hill involved approximately 300 mainly Irish insurgents, most of whom had been transported for sedition, political activism and uprisings in Ireland, and of whom 15 were shot, nine hanged, nine flogged (200-500 lashes each), and 50 sent in chains to Coal River (later renamed Newcastle) for their part in the uprising. The insurgents battled with the soldiers of the New South Wales Corp and the militia.

The reasons for the uprising remain unclear. 'Death or Liberty' was the catchphrase used by the insurgents during the Rebellion and the popular view has been that the uprising was a bid for freedom in response to cruel punishments and food shortages. This, however, is perhaps too narrow and simplistic a view given the demographics of the convict population. It is likely that the uprising was a largely political act of organised revolution by the largely Irish National convict population who did not recognise English authority in Ireland, and had been transported for their involvement in political uprisings in the Old Country. The view that to the Irish Defenders and the Society of the United Irishmen, all English authority was illegitimate, unjust and their natural state was to resist it, both at home and in the colonies, is a plausible, wider view of events.

It is still not certain why the uprising took place. There are few official and public records on this point dating to the Rebellion, due to age and circumstance and probably because of the potential embarrassment to Governor King whose policy to concentrate Irish political prisoners in a single remote location could have been seen by London and the Colonial Secretary as naive (which it almost certainly was). Those participants who were not executed as a deterrent were separated and dispersed after the Rebellion to ensure such group action was unlikely ever to again occur. Their story has never been adequately told.

It is fascinating, however, that such an important episode in Colonial history has gone largely unrecognised and un-commemorated for so long. This may relate to political and religious trends in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. (Godden Mackay Logan 2007)

Summary Timeline of Important events on the site

1801 - Work commenced on the Third Government farm, with the soil being described as the 'best and most productive kind'.
 1801/2 - The bridges, long hut (100 feet by 20 feet) and watering place were referred to in a surveyors field book.
 1802 (Oct) - Francis Peron described Castle Hill as an 'infant town' consisting of 'a dozen houses' with 'cultivated land' and 'several handsome farms'.
 1803 - A watercolour indicated that the Government Farm area was substantially cleared with 1718 structures, tracks and associated areas under tillage (see Figure 2.1). Importantly, the image shows the 'long hut' with adjacent store house and mill house.
 1803 (June 30) - Governor King reported that he was constructing a stone barrack at Castle Hill of two storeys and 100 feet by 24 feet.
 1803 (August) - The Barracks was still under construction.
 1804 (4th March) - Vinegar Hill uprising occurred, with a 'house' set alight on the Government Farm.
 1806 (August) - Barracks building was possibly converted into barn.
 1807 (August) - Repairs to a number of buildings occurred, as well as the granary and barn reported finished.
 1811 (April) - Macquarie, instructed the farm be converted into an asylum and a garden fenced at rear of granary for exercise of inmates, with the building to accommodate 30 persons.
 1811 (June) - Conversion reported complete.
 1814 - Buildings reported in bad condition by Surgeon Bland.
 1817 - Buildings reported in good condition (with a few repairs needed), with mention of a kitchen (separate?) and the need for partitions in the upper storey to create an internal configuration of two wards and a store room.
 1819 (March) - Building reported as upstairs female ward and need for partition to separate male inmates upstairs as well, store recommended. Roof and walls unplastered with damp conditions.
 1821 - Commissioner Bigge recommended the closure of the asylum.
 1826 - Asylum closed and inmates moved to Liverpool Courthouse.
 1826 (November) - The former asylum was converted into a church requiring a replacement roof, shingling, ladder and rail, replacement of floors, partitioning, door furniture, window repairs and glazing, clean verandah beams and new posts, whitewashing and plastering of two rooms 60 feet by 18 feet and one 45 feet by 18 feet.
 1828 - Former asylum land formally conveyed to Church and Schools Corporation.
 1832 (May 2-5) - Former asylum surveyed by Felton Mathew showing school, bridge, former asylum building and ruins (kitchen?).
 1832 (September) - Building reported as in dilapidated condition.
 1837 (November) - H.L. Butler resurveyed the land and set aside 40 acres as a glebe.
 1839 (September) - Building reported as being converted into a chapel to be called St Simon's.
 c1886 - The old asylum building was demolished, with stone reportedly transported to construct the rectory for St Paul's on the corner of Parsonage Road and Old Northern Road.
 1895 - First part of the 40 acre glebe sold to orchardist JT Benn.
 1900 - The remainder was sold to James Purser.
 1930s - Orchard declined and site was given over to pasturage during later 1930s and 40s.

Between 1947 and 1961 a large mushroom shed was constructed to the northeast of the Barracks site with a vehicular entrance to the east of the site along the right of way.
 By 1961 a small fibro cottage with brick piers was constructed on the Barracks site.
 1966 - The dwarf wall at the rear of the cottage allotment along the right-of-way was constructed possibly of sandstone stone from the barracks site at the same time and in a similar fashion to the stone wall at the Parsonage. (Goddard Mackay Logan 2007)

Historic Themes

Australian Theme (abbrev)	New South Wales Theme	Local Theme
2. Peopling - Peopling the continent	Convict - Activities relating to incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working during the convict period in NSW (1788-1850) - does not include activities associated with the conviction of persons in NSW that are unrelated to the imperial 'convict system': use the theme of Law & Order for such activities	Housing convicts in communal or shared accommodation
3. Economy - Developing local, regional and national economies	Agriculture - Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture	Clearing land for farming
3. Economy - Developing local, regional and national economies	Pastoralism - Activities associated with the breeding, raising, processing and distribution of livestock for human use	(none)
7. Governing - Governing	Government and Administration - Activities associated with the governance of local areas, regions, the State and the nation, and the administration of public programs - includes both principled and corrupt activities.	Developing roles for government - facilitating agriculture

Assessment of Significance

SHR Criteria a) [Historical Significance]

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important in the course or pattern of the state's history for its close connection with the events leading up to the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 (also comprising an important event in the Irish nationalist movements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries). The historical importance of the site is enhanced by its place in the westward expansion of the early colony, using convict labour, when sometimes faltering and often unsuccessful attempts were made at the introduction and development of agriculture in previously unsettled and only recently explored areas. Later uses of the site as the nation's first dedicated mental health facility (the 'Asylum Phase') (1811-1828) enhances the site's historical significance. The site's conversion to use for a church and school (1828-1866) and then adaptation for orcharding (1870-1930) are also important historical 'layers', principally at the local level.

SHR Criteria b) [Associative Significance]

Castle Hill Heritage Park is exceptionally significant at the state level for its strong associations with the rebels who participated in the Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1804 and, more generally, with the early convict labourers and Irish of the colony. The site's later associations with the first mental health patients of the nation, and with the prominent colonial polymath Rev WB Clarke, are also significant at the state level. Associations between the site and the local community from 1828 into the late twentieth century (when it functioned as the district Church and then orchards) are also significant, although principally at the local level.

SHR Criteria c) [Aesthetic Significance]

Castle Hill Heritage Park recalls in its topography, land forms and remnant structures the original layout and form of the Third Government Farm. As a result, it reflects the nineteenth century cultural landscape and demonstrates, at a state level of significance, the principal characteristics of the rural aesthetic of the period.

SHR Criteria d) [Social Significance]

The orcharding phase of the site may be of social significance to those members of the community that are descendants of the earlier orchardists of the area. Further, the school and church were for many years focal points for the community after the closure of the barracks and asylum.

SHR Criteria e) [Research Potential]

The archaeological relics identified at Castle Hill, and other relics potentially on the site but not yet exposed, hold considerable potential to contribute to substantive research questions relating to important trends in the state's (and nation's) history, including the treatment of the convicts and mental health patients incarcerated at the site, the circumstances precipitating the Battle of Vinegar Hill, early attempts at agriculture west of Sydney, and (at the local level) the settlement and later development of the area around Castle Hill.

SHR Criteria f) [Rarity]

The site represents an uncommon aspect of the state's (and nation's) history, in that it is one of only two places in the country where armed rebellion was planned and commenced. Similarly, it was the first Lunatic Asylum in the colony, and rare to that extent, although later examples also existed. The cultural landscape at the site also comprises an uncommon example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site.

SHR Criteria g) [Representativeness]

Castle Hill Heritage Park is important at the State level as a representative example of a relatively unchanged (in terms of topography and later development) convict farm site. Its remnant cultural landscape is a good example of the nineteenth century convict farm settlement.

Assessment Criteria

Items are assessed against the  **State Heritage Register (SHR) Criteria** to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.

Procedures / Exemptions

Section of Act	Description	Title	Comments	Action Date
21(1)(b)	Conservation Plan submitted for comment	Conservation Management Plan, July 2007		
57(2)	Exemption to allow work	Standard Exemptions	SCHEDULE OF STANDARD EXEMPTIONS HERITAGE ACT 1977 Notice of Order Under Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act 1977 1, the Minister for Planning, pursuant to subsection 57(2) of the Heritage Act 1977, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of New South	Sep 5 2008

			Wales, do by this Order: 1. revoke the Schedule of Exemptions to subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act made under subsection 57(2) and published in the Government Gazette on 22 February 2008; and 2. grant standard exemptions from subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act 1977, described in the Schedule attached. FRANK SARTOR Minister for Planning Sydney, 11 July 2008 To view the schedule click on the Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval link below.	
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Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - State Heritage Register		01448	22 Dec 00	168	13891
Local Environmental Plan	Old Government Farm Site	Schedule 1	01 Mar 91		
National Trust of Australia register	Castle Hill Historic Site Landscape Conservation A	6958			
Register of the National Estate	Castle Hill Settlement Site	2964	25 Mar 86		

References, Internet links & Images

Type	Author	Year	Title	Internet Links
Written	Godden Mackay Logan in assoc with Archaeological and Heritage Management Solutions	2007	Castle Hill Heritage Park CMP	
Written	Register of the National Estate Database	2002	(not given)	
Written	Mayne-Wilson & Associates	1999	Heritage & Visual Analysis of the environs of Heritage Park Castle Hill	
Written	McDonald McPhee P/L with Thorp, W., & Burton, C. contributions	1991	Heritage Park Plan of Management and Conservation Strategy, Castle Hill	
Written	Anne Bickford	1990	Conservation Study of Heritage Park, Castle Hill	

Note: Internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



(Click on Thumbnail for Full Size Image and Image Details)

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Name: Heritage Branch
Database Number: 5051518
File Number: S90/07504 S92/01663 H02/00180

Third Government Farm (former)



Third Government Farm. View into Barracks Site Curtilage from the north.

Image Type:
Image Year:

Photograph
19 Mar 02

Third Government Farm (former)



Third Government Farm. View into the School Site Curtilage from the north.

Image Type:
Image Year:

Photograph
20 Mar 02

Old Government Farm Site

Item

Name of Item: Old Government Farm Site
Type of Item: Complex / Group
Group/Collection: Farming and Grazing
Category: Farm
Primary Address: Heritage Park Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154
Local Govt. Area: Baulkham Hills

Property Description:

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
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All Addresses

Street Address	Suburb/Town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
Heritage Park Old Northern Road	Castle Hill	Baulkham Hills			Primary

Note: There are incomplete details for a number of items listed in NSW. The Heritage Branch intends to develop or upgrade statements of significance and other information for these items as resources become available.

Assessment Criteria

Items are assessed against the  **State Heritage Register (SHR) Criteria** to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Schedule 1		01 Mar 91		

References, Internet links & Images

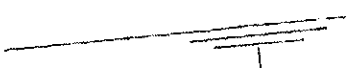
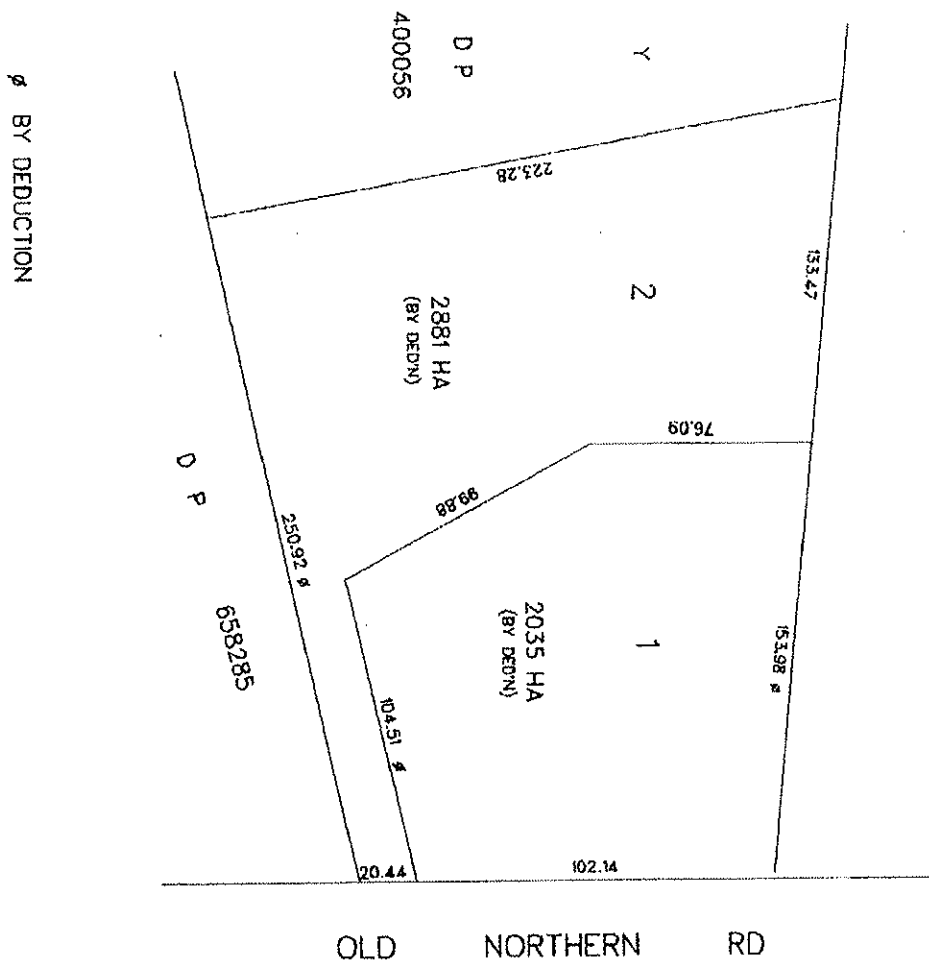
None

Note: Internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.

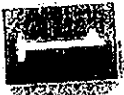
Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Name: Local Government
Database Number: 1090050

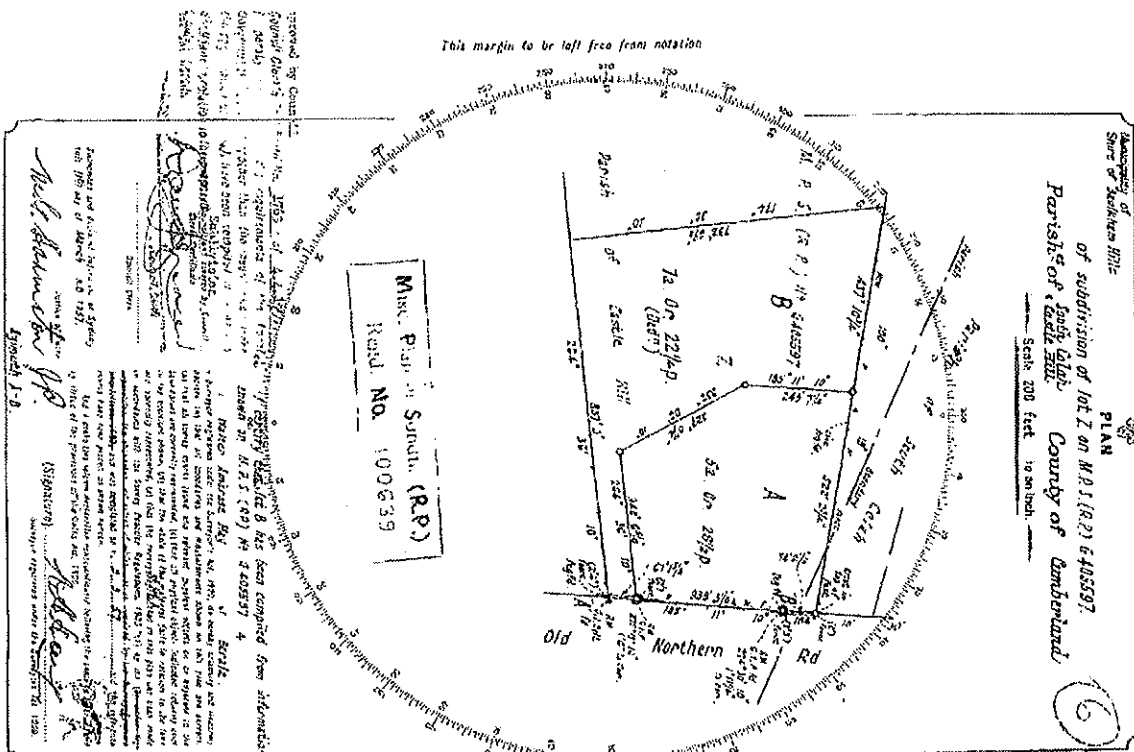


D P 135804	
Registered: 11/2/97	
Title System: TORRENS	
Purpose: DEPARTMENTAL	
Ref. Map: U0060-1#, 11#	
Last Plan: DP400639, DP216620	
PLAN OF LOTS A-B IN DP400639 BEING RESIDUE AFTER ROAD ACTION	
Lengths are in metres. Reduction Ratio 1: NTS	
L.G.A.: BAULKHAM HILLS LOCALITY: CASTLE HILL PARISH: CASTLE HILL COUNTY: CUMBERLAND	



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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FEET INCHES	METRES
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11	0.279
12	0.305
13	0.330
14	0.356
15	0.381
16	0.406
17	0.432
18	0.457
19	0.482
20	0.508
21	0.533
22	0.559
23	0.584
24	0.610
25	0.635
26	0.660
27	0.686
28	0.711
29	0.737
30	0.762
31	0.787
32	0.813
33	0.838
34	0.863
35	0.889
36	0.914
37	0.939
38	0.965
39	0.990
40	1.016
41	1.041
42	1.067
43	1.092
44	1.117
45	1.143
46	1.168
47	1.193
48	1.219
49	1.244
50	1.269
51	1.294
52	1.320
53	1.345
54	1.370
55	1.396
56	1.421
57	1.446
58	1.472
59	1.497
60	1.522
61	1.547
62	1.573
63	1.598
64	1.623
65	1.648
66	1.674
67	1.699
68	1.724
69	1.749
70	1.774
71	1.800
72	1.825
73	1.850
74	1.876
75	1.901
76	1.926
77	1.951
78	1.976
79	2.002
80	2.027
81	2.052
82	2.077
83	2.102
84	2.128
85	2.153
86	2.178
87	2.203
88	2.228
89	2.254
90	2.279
91	2.304
92	2.329
93	2.354
94	2.379
95	2.405
96	2.430
97	2.455
98	2.480
99	2.505
100	2.530



787477 787478
 6707860
 FP400639

41154(L) 1403-92

41154

Approved by Council
 1. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 2. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 3. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 4. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
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 7. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 8. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 9. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.
 10. The plan of subdivision of lot 1 on M.R.1 (R.2) 648597, Parish of Lambeth, County of Cumberland, is hereby approved.

Misc. Plan in South (R.P.)
 Road No. 100639

This is the plan marked "X" referred to in the title block.
 Dated: 15/03/92
 Signed: [Signature]
 [Signature]