

Orielton Park Homestead Estate

183 The Northern Road, Harrington Park, NSW

Landscape Conservation Management Plan



prepared for
Dandaloo Developments Pty Ltd NSW

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Tropman & Tropman Architects

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Report Register

The following table is a report register tracking the issues of the *Orielton Park Homestead Estate Landscape Conservation Management Plan* prepared by Tropman & Tropman Architects. Tropman & Tropman Architects operate under a quality management system, and this register is in compliance with this system.

Project Ref No.	Issue No.	Description	Prepared by	Checked by	Issued To	Issue Date
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Contents

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Brief	1
1.2	Author Identification	1
1.3	Study Area	4
1.4	Heritage Listings	5
1.5	Methodology	5
1.6	Limitations.....	5
1.7	Previous reports, available information and background material	5
2.0	HISTORICAL EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONTEXT.....	13
2.1	Orielson Park Estate	13
3.0	PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	22
3.1	Landscape Context.....	22
3.2	Landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot	29
3.3	Landscape Periods. Refer Appendix A for a history of the site.....	38
3.4	Archaeology Physical Evidence	49
4.0	ANALYSIS OF THE ORIELSON PARK LANDSCAPE	53
4.1	Analysis of Documentary Evidence	53
4.2	Analysis of Aerial Photographs.....	53
4.3	Analysis of Current Survey of Plantings	64
4.4	Analysis of Built Fabric	64
4.5	Analysis of Spatial Relationships.....	64
4.6	Archaeology.....	66
4.7	Comparative Analysis	76
5.0	ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE	79
5.1	NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria	79
5.2	Statement of Heritage Significance	86
5.3	Items of Significance	88
5.4	Grading of Significance	89
5.5	Curtilage	95
6.0	CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES.....	100
6.1	Physical constraints and requirements arising from the statement of significance	100
6.2	Procedural requirements (conservation methodology).....	100
6.3	Constraints and requirements arising from the physical and documentary evidence	101
6.4	External constraints	101
6.6	Constraints Arising From Current Use and Client Requirements.....	102
6.7	Opportunities for future development	103
6.8	Archaeological Constraints.....	103
6.9	Current subdivision proposal	103
7.0	CONSERVATION POLICY	105
7.1	Conservation procedures at the site.....	105
7.2	Archaeology.....	106
7.3	Interpretation.....	107
7.4	Land Adjoining Narellan Creek.....	108
7.5	New Work, Future Development and Use	108
7.6	Homestead Lot Landscape Management	109
7.7	Views and Vistas	111
7.8	General	111
8.0	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY.....	112
8.1	Strategies for Conservation Management.....	112
8.2	Strategies for Future Works.....	113
8.3	Strategies for Maintenance.....	113

8.4	Strategies for Management of Future Development	113
8.5	Strategies for Interpretation	113

Appendices

Appendix A:	Historical Background
Appendix B:	Excerpt from "Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain"
Appendix C:	Early Photographs
Appendix D:	Current Photographs 2017
Appendix E:	Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design Non Indigenous Archaeology Orielson Homestead, Narellan July 2015 by Casey & Lowe

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief

This Landscape Conservation Management Plan has been prepared for Area 6 Homestead Complex for the site known as Orielson Park Homestead located at Harrington Park near Camden for Dandaloo Developments Pty Ltd. The aim of this Landscape Conservation Management Plan is to assess the heritage significance of the landscape areas and elements within the subject site and use the findings of this assessment to provide conservation management guidelines to enable this significance to be retained in future use and residential subdivision development surrounding the property.

This report follows the current NSW Heritage Division guidelines, the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter and *The Conservation Plan* by J. S. Kerr.

This report should be read in conjunction with the Tropman & Tropman Architects *Orielson Park Homestead Estate Conservation Management Plan* August 2006 and the Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage, July 2015, *Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design Non Indigenous Archaeology Orielson Homestead, Narellan*

This Landscape Conservation Management Plan (LCMP) was a requirement of the Heritage Agreement between the owner and the Minister for Heritage over subdivision and curtilage reduction of Orielson (aka Harrington Grove West). Under Section 4.1.3 of that Agreement, Orielson's owner is responsible for preparing and implementing the LCMP (i.e. staged conservation works to elements it identifies as significant) in conjunction with the implementation of the Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP and the Casey & Lowe 2015 archaeological assessment recommendations.

Note: The focus of this Landscape Conservation Management Plan is Area 6 only. The broader setting and context of the property is discussed however the aim of this report is to investigate, assess and analyse the cultural landscape in the immediate surrounds of the Orielson Park Homestead, Area 6. Elements on the periphery of this boundary fall outside of the purview of this landscape study. Refer to Figures 1a and 1b overpage.

1.2 Author Identification

This report has been prepared by the following Tropman & Tropman Architects team members:

Lester Tropman	Director, Architect, Heritage Conservation Consultant, Landscape Architect
Joanne Rogers	Project Manager (Heritage and Interpretation)

Unless otherwise stated, all images are by the authors and were taken during the course of this study.

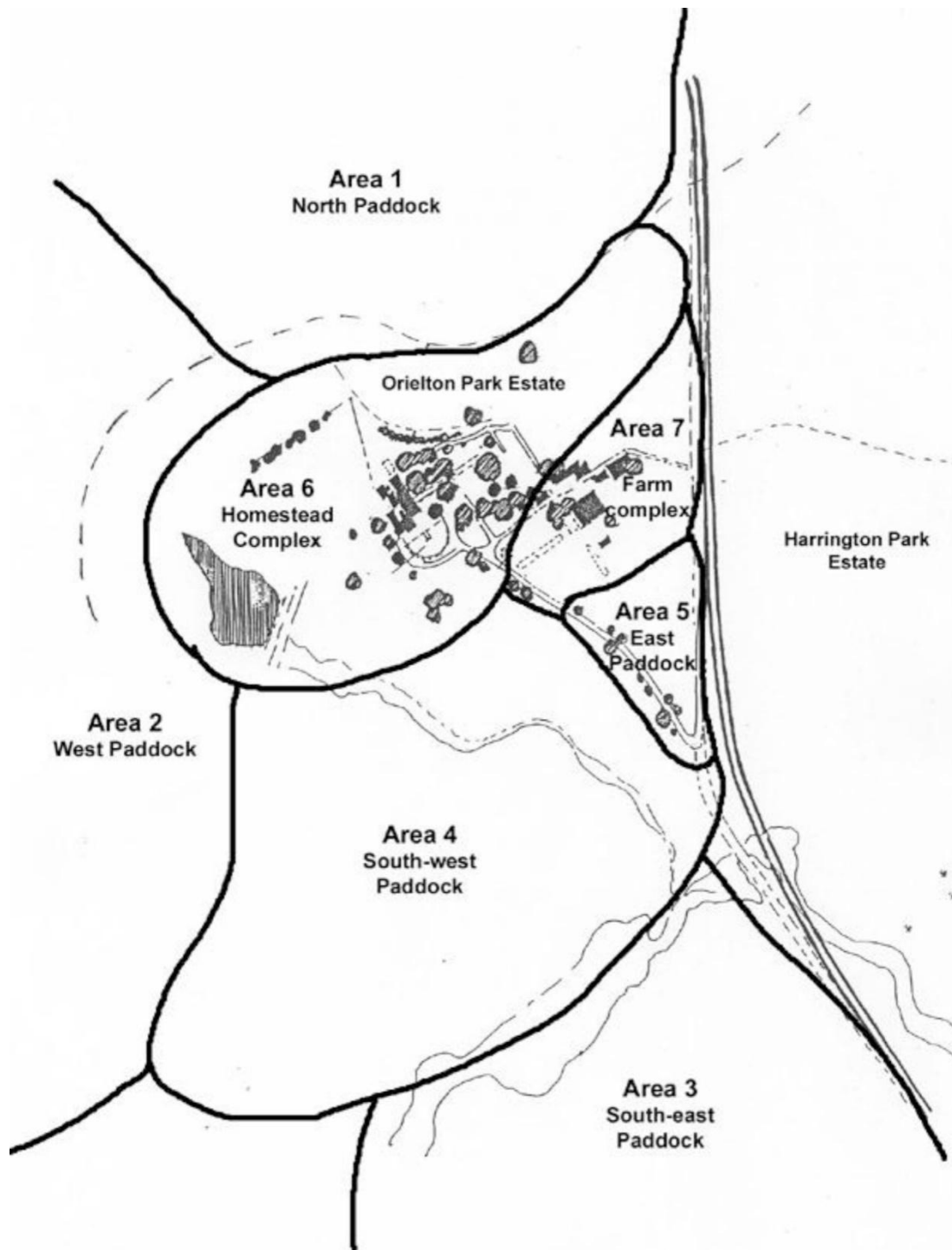
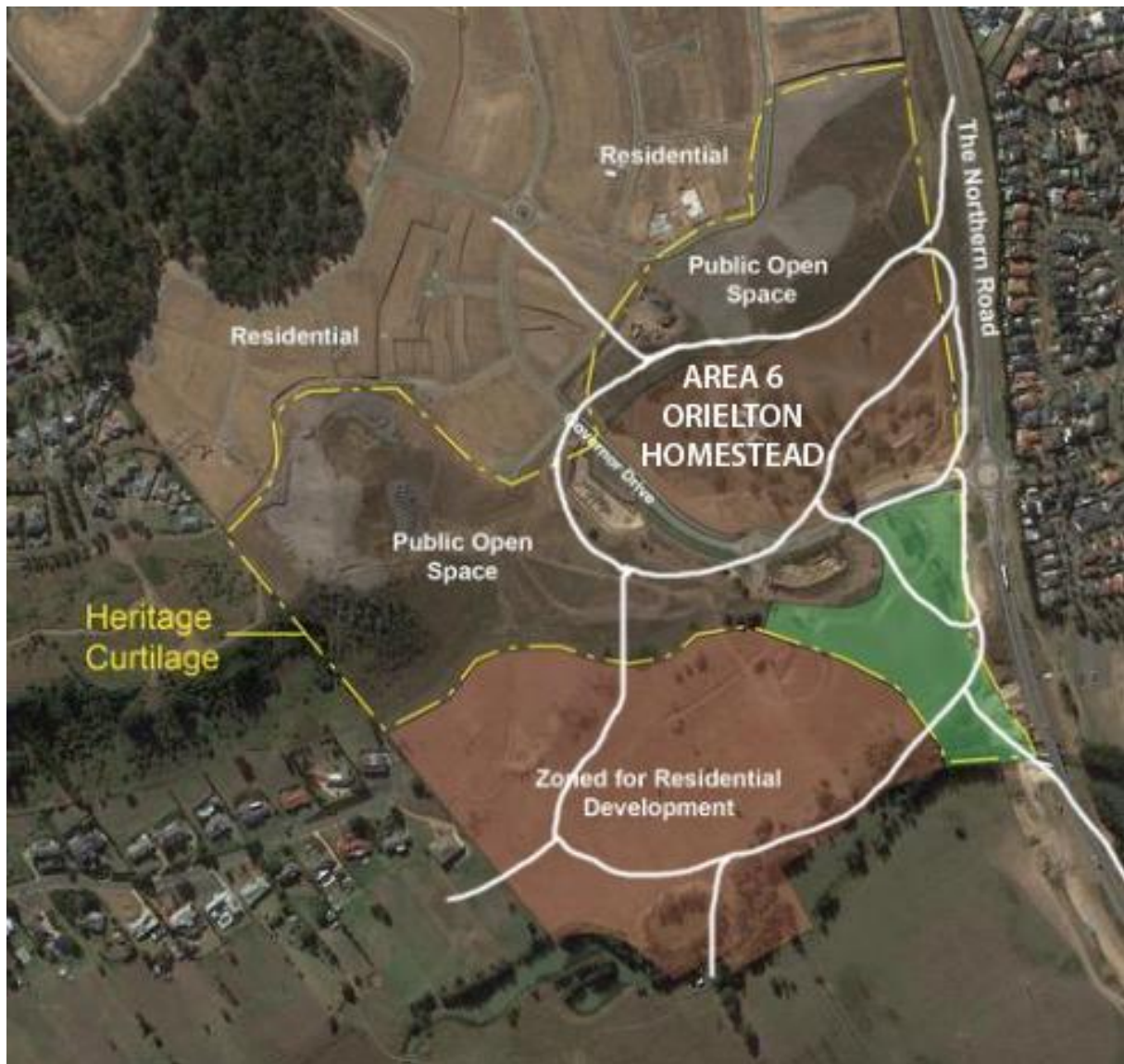


Figure 1a: Focus area of this Orielson Park Landscape Conservation Management Plan: Area 6 Homestead Complex. N↑



N↑

Figure1b: Recent aerial photograph overlaid with the current SHR curtilage and showing location of Area 6.

1.3 Study Area

For the purposes of this report the *place*, as defined in the Burra Charter is to be known as the subject site or study area. For the purposes of this study, the **local** area refers to the council area of Camden. The **state** refers to the state of New South Wales.

1.2.1 Subject Site

The subject site is the Orielson Park Homestead Estate Lot, focusing on Area 6 as shown in Figures 1a and 1b. Refer to the following figures 2, 3, 4 and 5. The subject site is an irregular shaped block and contains the Orielson Park Homestead and a number of outbuildings. The homestead lot is bound to the north, south and west by open paddocks and to the east by The Northern Road. Residential development is proposed for some of the paddocks surrounding the homestead.

1.2.2 Subject Buildings and Site Elements

The subject site consists of the homestead and associated elements and features. The buildings and structures on the site consist of the following (refer Figures No.6 & 7):

1.2.2.1 *Orielson Homestead complex*

The homestead consists of buildings which are clustered to form the homestead complex.

- Original homestead and its period of components

1.2.2.2 *Farm complex*

- Early outbuilding
- Mid-20th Century silos
- Mid-20th Century Concrete bin
- Early milking shed
- Later stalls shed
- Large stables
- Hay Shed
- Remnant sales and stock yards, horse paddocks
- Paddocks – grazing
- Dam remnants
- Orchard and picking garden area, remnant European Olives

1.2.3 Subject Landscape Elements

Plantings Period

- 1822 to 1841 – Dickson family
- 1847 to 1861 – Perry family
- 1864 to 1876 - Neile family
- 1876 to 1912 - Beard family
- 1938 to 1944 – Swan family
- 1944 to 2013 – Fairfax family:
 - 1944 to 1952 – Fairfax and Sons P/L
 - 1952 to 2013 – Fairfax family

Features

- Access from The Northern Road
- Fencing
- Arable land and grazing paddocks
- Formal Entry Driveway and Carriage Loop
- Orielson Homestead
- Designed garden (roses plant remnants)
- Tennis court space east of arrival area

- Moreton Bay Fig
- Hoop pines
- Bunya pines
- Funerary pines
- Peppercorns
- European Olives
- Coral tree
- Remnant orchard trees
- Remnant indigenous Eucalyptus – Forest Red Gum and regrowth
- Dams
- Woody weeds – Box Thorn, African Olive

1.4 Heritage Listings

Orielson Park is listed with the following Statutory and Non-statutory bodies:

Statutory Listings	Non-Statutory Identification/Listings
State Heritage Register as an item of State significance. Item No.01693.	DPI – Macarthur and South Creek Heritage Studies
Camden Council – Camden LEP 2010	

1.5 Methodology

The method follows that set out in the NSW Heritage Manual and *Assessing Heritage Significance* documents provided by the NSW Heritage Office and Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (DIPNR)/Department of Planning and is in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS *Burra Charter* and *The Conservation Plan* by J. S. Kerr.

1.6 Limitations

This study relates to the landscape and landscape features of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot Area 6 only. Please refer to the Orielson Park Conservation Management Plan for information on the Homestead and associated buildings on the site and broader setting.

1.7 Previous reports, available information and background material

This report has been prepared with the use of the following references:

- Tropman & Tropman Architects, August 2006, *Orielson Park Homestead Estate Conservation Management Plan*
- Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage, July 2015, *Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design Non Indigenous Archaeology Orielson Homestead, Narellan*
- Stedinger and Associates, 2011, *Excavation Permit Exemption Application for construction of a Spine Road (Stage 3)*
- Artefact Heritage, 2012, *Non-Aboriginal Heritage Assessment*
- Morris, Colleen and Britton, Geoffrey, August 2000, *Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain and Camden, NSW: A Survey of pre-1860 Cultural Landscapes from Wollondilly to Hawkesbury LGAs*
- Australia ICOMOS 2000, Australia ICOMOS *Charter for the Conservation of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter)* and *Guidelines to the Burra Charter: Cultural Significance, Conservation Policy, and Undertaking Studies and Reports*, Australia ICOMOS, ACT.
- Heritage Office 1996, *Conservation Management Documents*, Heritage Office, Sydney. Revised 2002.

- Heritage Office 2001, *Assessing Heritage Significance*, Heritage Office, Sydney.
- Kerr, James Semple 2000, *The Conservation Plan*, National Trust of Australia (NSW), Sydney.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, all images are by the authors and were taken during the course of this study.

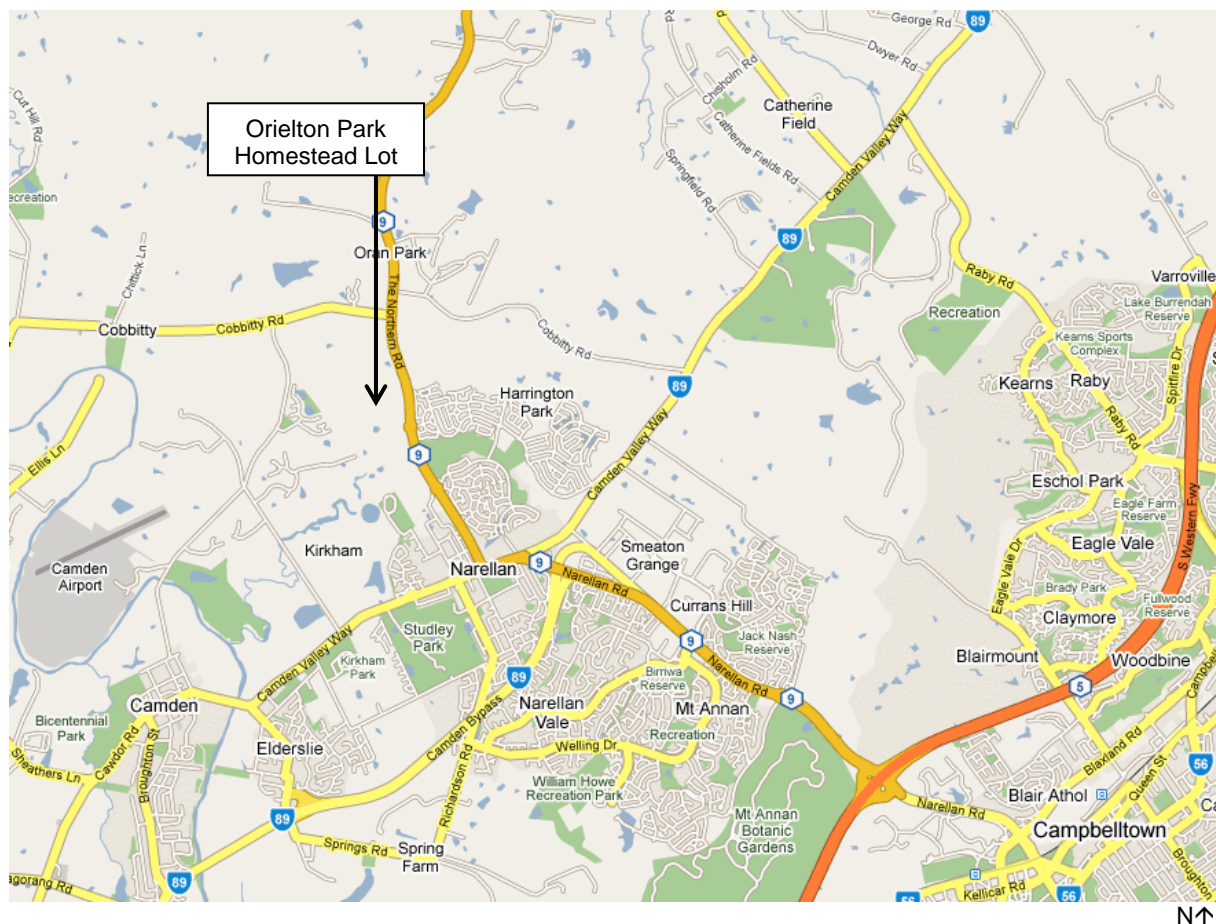


Figure 2: Location Plan. www.maps.google.com.au



N↑

Figure 3: Current aerial image of the subject property with the boundary of the lot shown shaded in yellow.
Source: Land and Property Information.



Figure 4: Detail current aerial image of the subject property buildings and landscape features.
Source: Google earth maps.

N↑



Figure 5: Current aerial image overlaid with area map showing extent of Area 6. Base image
Source: Google earth maps.

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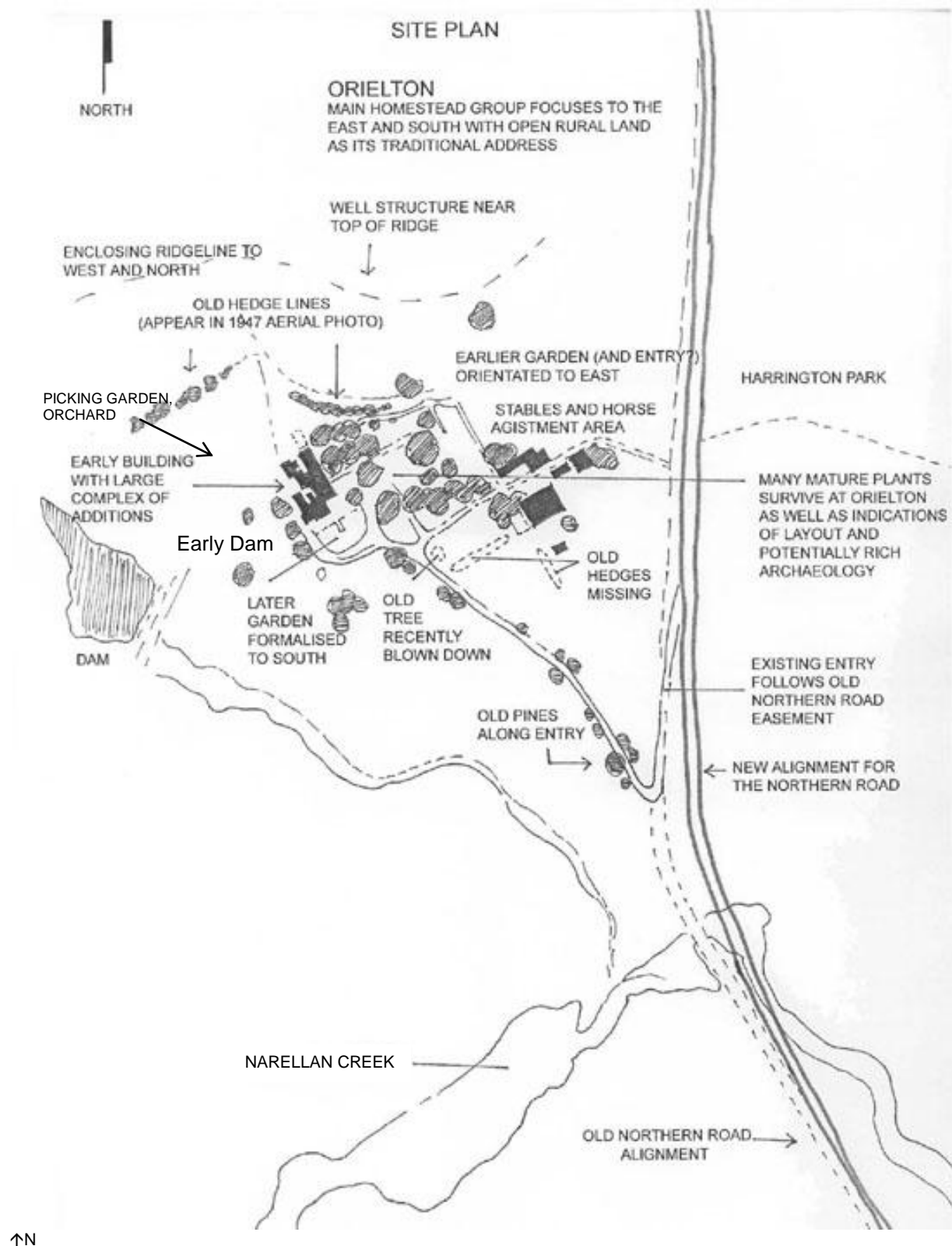


Figure No.6: 2000 site plan of area immediately surrounding Orielton Homestead. Source: Based on 1947 aerial and Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain.

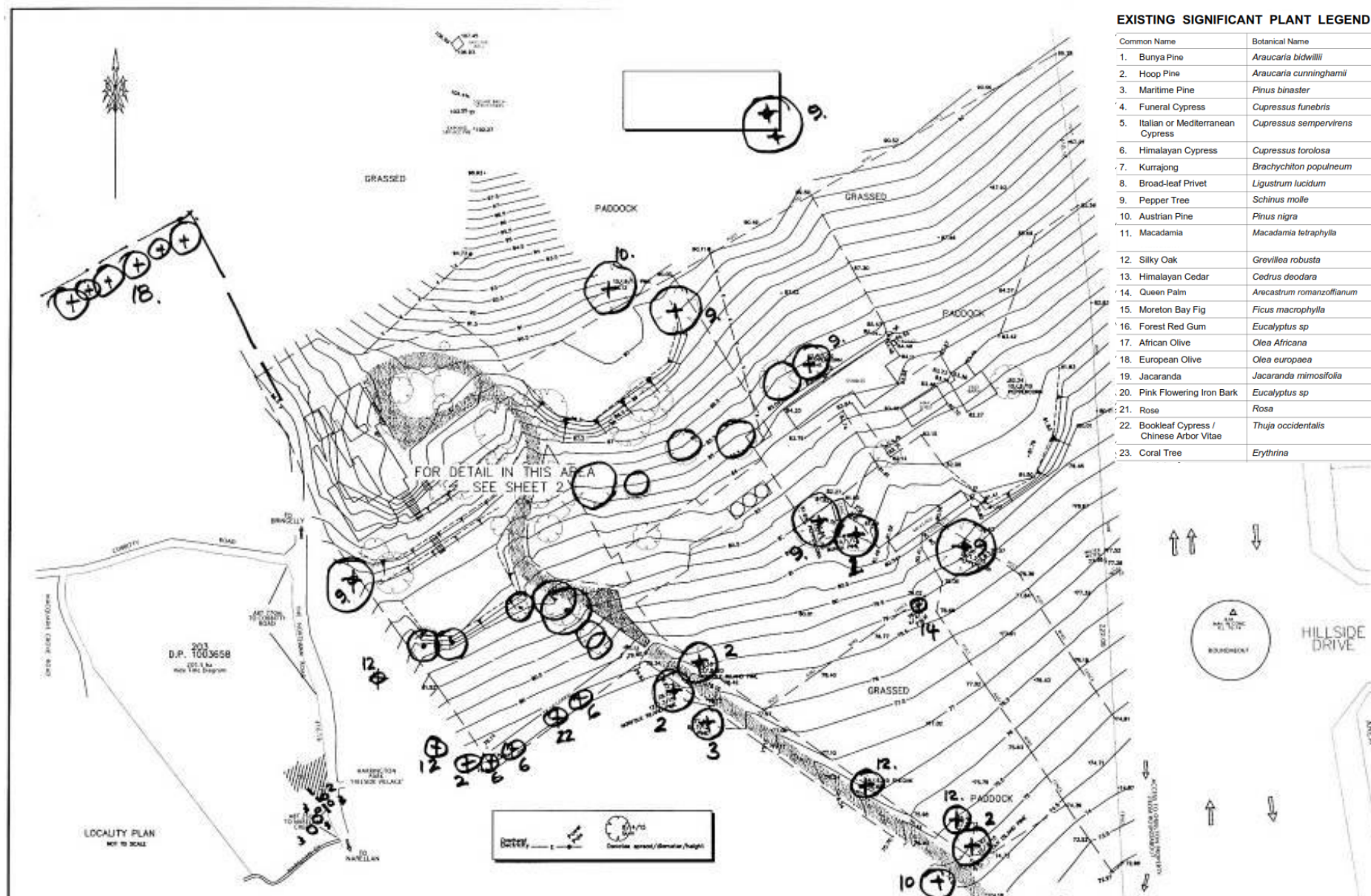


Figure 7: **N↑**
 Survey of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot showing the plantings along the driveway and broader landscape. Refer to Figure 8 for plantings around the homestead and farm complex.
 Base survey: JMD.

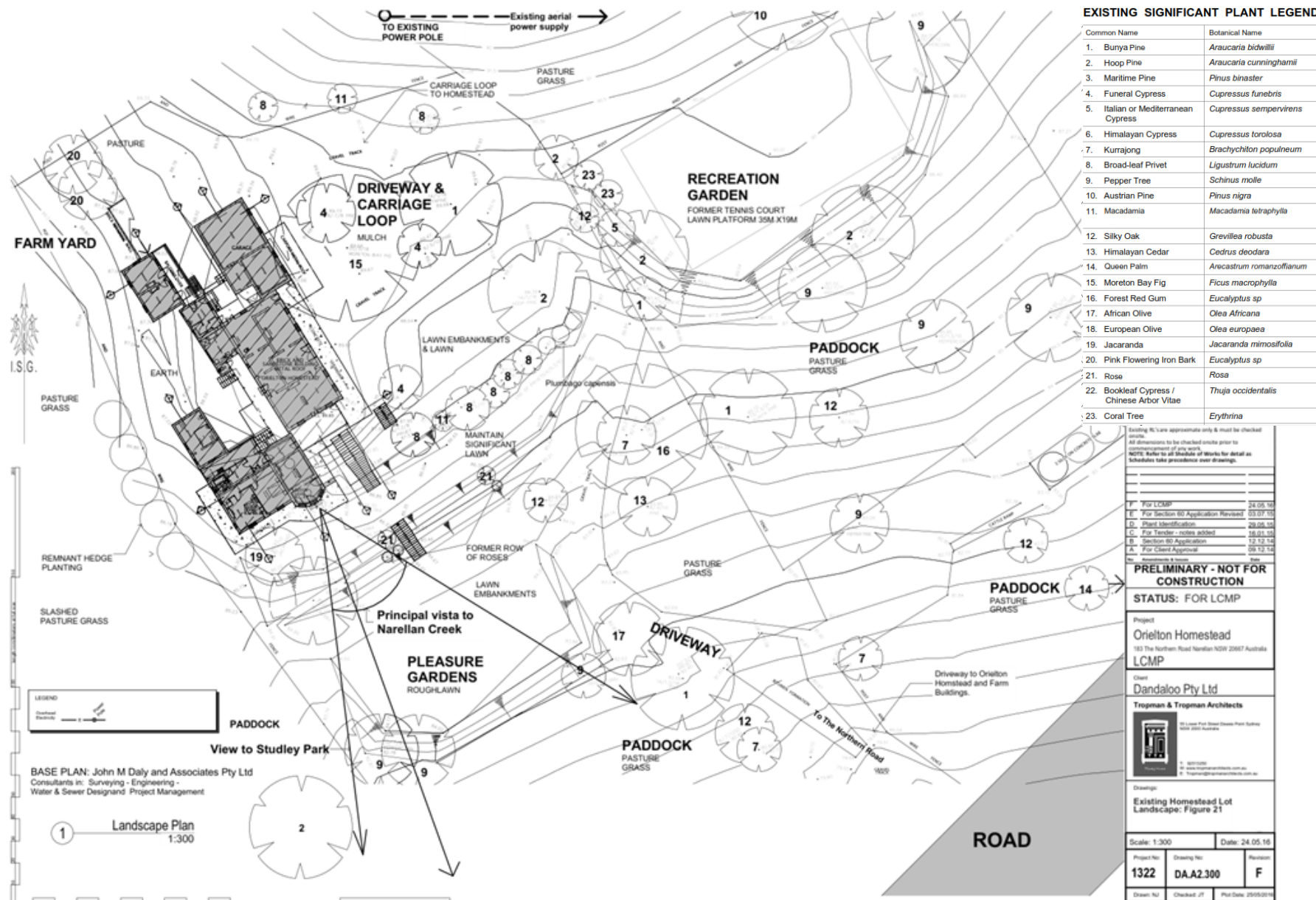


Figure 8: N↑
 Existing Orierton Homestead Lot Landscape, showing the plantings around the homestead and farm complex.
 Base survey: JMD.

2.0 HISTORICAL EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

Refer to Appendix A for a history of the site.

2.1 Orielson Park Estate

2.1.1 Setting

The House was sited to overlook Narellan Creek, the c1817 township and the arable land and paddocks. Orielson Homestead is situated at the side of a knoll and commands sweeping views of Narellan Creek valley. The Homestead was arranged to give the occupant commanding views over the working paddocks and fields and to take account of principles of 18th Century English landscape design. The sublime qualities of the area's landscape were understood by the educated English settlers. Designed in the Arcadian manner, Orielson was laid out to look out over the landscape and to stand out from the landscape to convey the importance of the occupants of the house. (Refer Figures No. 7 & 8)

Orielson was an important cropping land holding/outstation to Nonorrah (Maryland). Wheat, barley and oats were grown for the mill.

Dickson, who was granted Nonorrah of which part of this grant became Maryland, purchased Netherbytes now Oran Park Town and Orielson. Dickson held 7000 acres in the 1830's. Refer Appendix A.

Important views to landmarks were established, appreciated and enhanced. Initially direct visual links to estates such as Harrington Park and later Studley Park. The house is located high enough to be seen on approach and the rising ground behind the site and associated plantings was used to create both visual framing effect and shelter. Pastures were created among areas which could be accessed by horse and cattle. Areas subject to flooding (particularly towards Narellan creek) were dominated by lush grazing paddocks. The header tank was located high on the northern ridge to provide greater water pressure to the house. From this location, a clear visual relationship with Harrington Park and Badgally Hill to the east, St Johns spire and Studley Park towards the south, and Denbigh Hill to the north became available.

The homestead with its dominant garden was located to be offset from the pasture surrounding it and the hill behind framing it. The Victorian Period plantings of Araucarias now dominate the landscape. As with a number of nearby estates, the homestead's orientation has been changed over time. Originally oriented to face The Northern Road and Crear Hill, it was reoriented with further building works in the late 19th century to face Camden. The original main driveway entrance to the site appears to have been from The Northern Road, heading west to the homestead. There was a track through the Harrington Park property linking the Orielson and Harrington Park Homesteads. When the driveway entrance changed, a track again joined up with it through the Harrington Park property linking the homesteads.

The Orielson property has been amalgamated with and subdivided from a number of early properties adjacent including Wivenhoe and Harrington Park. The current allotment east of Northern Road was purchased by Abraham Davy of Harrington Park in 1863 and it has been associated with Harrington Park since this time.

2.1.2 Estate Management

Land use patterns of the estate appear to have been determined by the soils (geology), climate (especially microclimates), and slope. Water availability (creek, rainfall and springs) would have determined stocking and cropping regimes and livestock management.

Water supply and water storage were important components in the survival and liveability of this Cowpasture Estate. In the early development of the estate, Narellan Creek, dams and the well were important water supply and storage components in the estate's management, especially

because of the steam mill requiring water for the boilers to make steam.

The area to the east of the homestead has always been used for farm management, containing the:

- Silos c1950
- Former Millers Cottage/Office, c1850, adapted c1950
- Large stables c1930, adapted c1950, 1990
- Hay shed c1930, adapted c1950
- Early milking shed, c1880
- Stalls shed c1950-c1990
- Concrete bin, c1950, c1990
- Stock yards, c1950
- Mill building (no longer extant) c1830-c1950

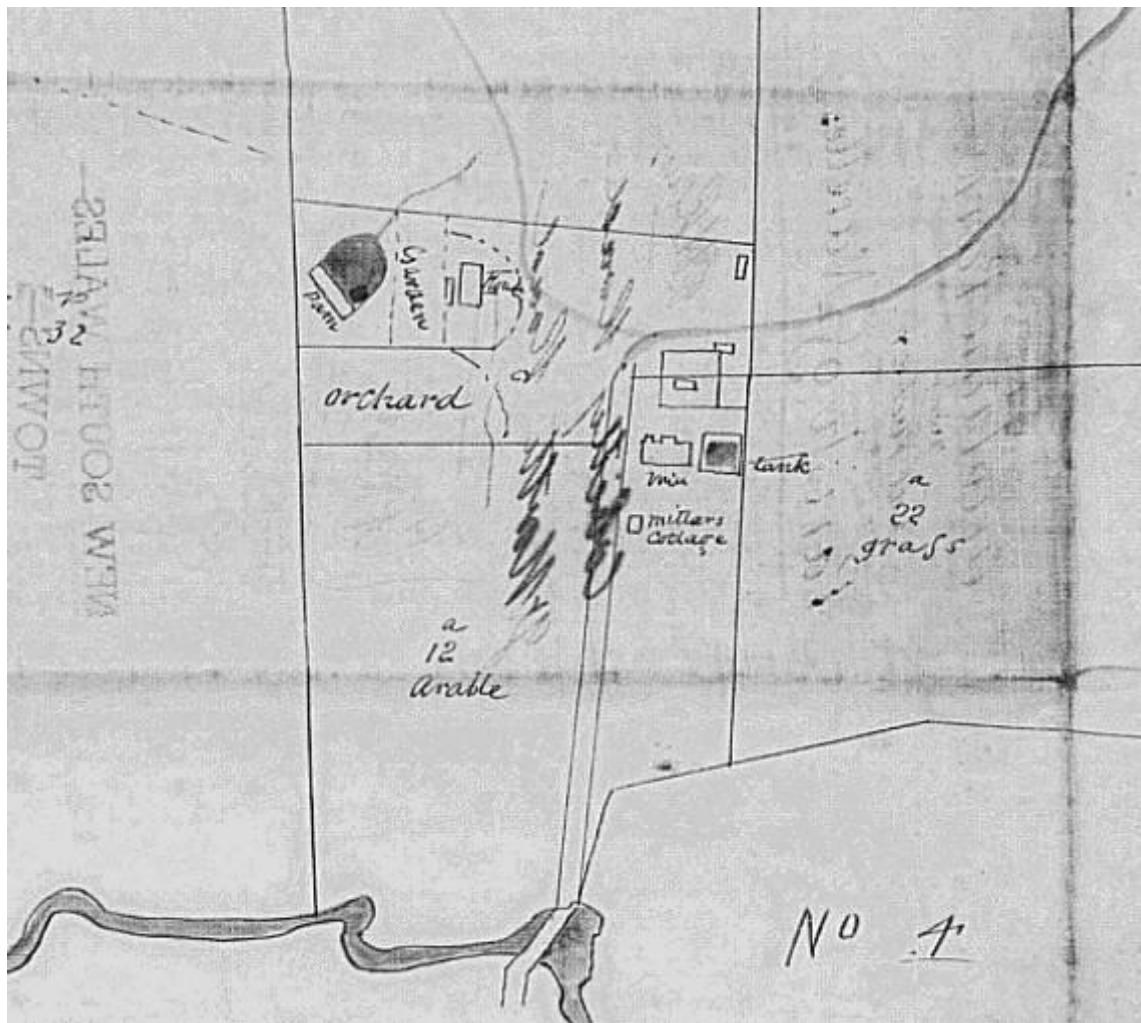
The home paddock surrounding the homestead was separated from the surrounding farm management complex and arable land and pasture by fencing. The garden appears to express Harriet Beard's occupation of the site and the Victorian period design styles.

Orielson has a relationship to its surrounding rural landscape. Early photographs and plans, and aerial photographs show that the homestead operated as a whole precinct of functional spaces and buildings. Despite minor changes to garden settings and access ways, the estate was divided into the following general areas:

- The main house, presentation garden and recreation areas tennis court, riding
- Picking gardens/orchards
- Farm management complex and working areas (the former mill, silos etc)
- Grazing pastures
- Narellan Creek and arable land

Within the precinct there are important functional relationships between: the main house pleasure gardens and entry, the picking garden, farm management complex and workers buildings and homestead, working areas (including mills, silos) and access roads (The Northern Road), stables and grazing pastures.

The change in entry was a result of the change in ownership and subsequent design style and period. It is suggested the Victorian Italianate style was influenced by the Picturesque movement. Homes were set in their extensive gardens and entry to these landed gentries resulted in a formal procession to the house. The change in driveway access does not suggest a negative impact on the original functional relationship of the precinct.



N

Figure 9: Excerpt from the c1847-1860 sketch plan showing the cluster of buildings at Orielson and site features. Source: Mitchell Library, Reference – Camden TP: C1/9.

- Note: 1. Garden (productive) to west of house.
2. Orchard to South West paddock adjacent to house.

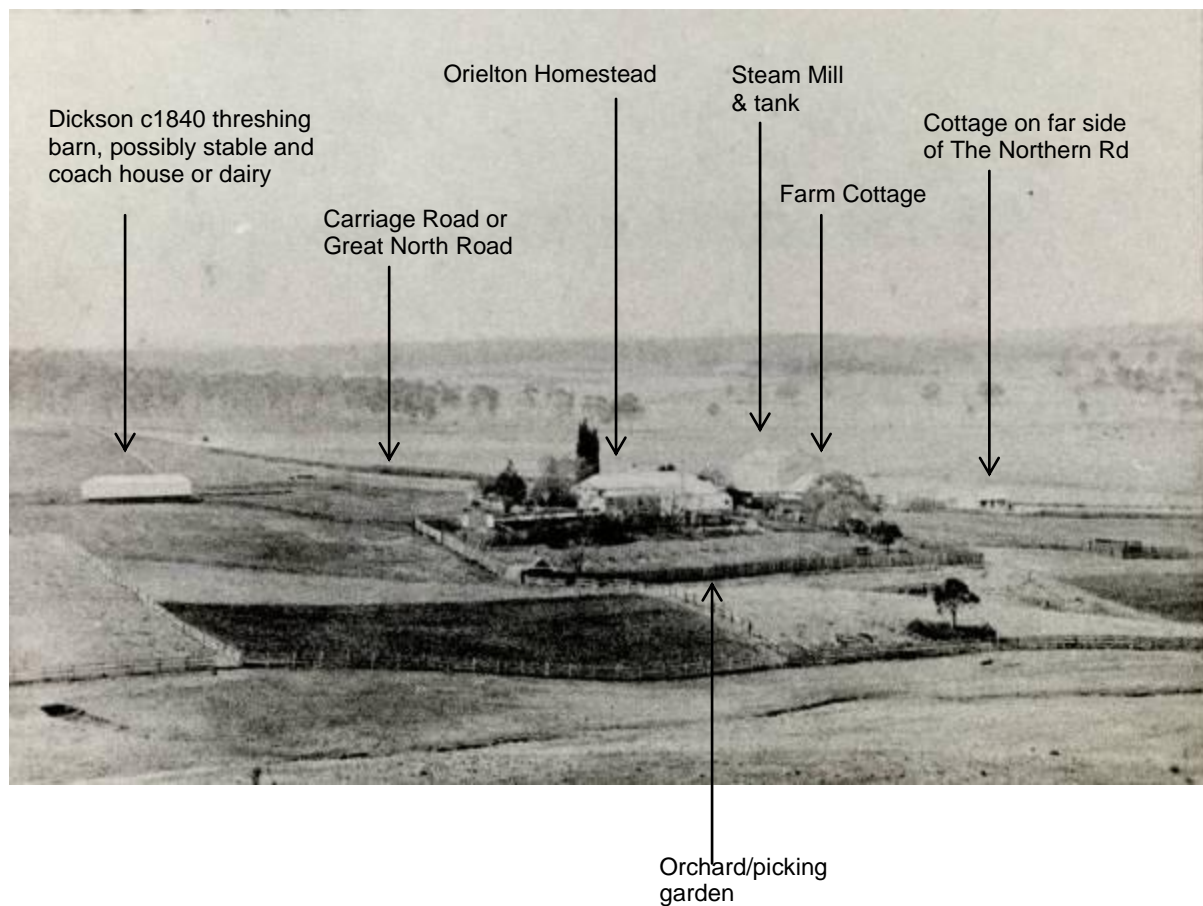


Figure 10: Photograph of Orielson estate c1865 titled 'My grandfather Peisley's country home' by H.J Lock. It is difficult to determine distance and perspective from this photograph however it appears to have been taken from the hill west of the homestead. Source: Mitchell Library, SPF/Camden, NSW, 1864-1898 in TTA: CMP: pg.19, figure 9.

Early photographs of the site during the Cross occupation (1912-1927) provide insight into the use of the site and landscape features.



Figure 11: Orchard
Source: Sandra Cook



Figure 12: Eileen Cross (seated), Sarah Cross and Ikey Cross showing the Victorian cast iron verandah. Source: Sandra Cook.



Figure 13: Victorian cast iron verandah. Source: Sandra Cook.



Figure 14: Marking out tennis court – Lance Cross, OS Golding, Maurice Cross. Source: Sandra Cook.



Figure 15: The homestead showing the unidentified brick feature. Source: Sandra Cook



Figure 16: Orielson Dairy. Source: Sandra Cook.

The 1952 mapping by Sir Warwick Fairfax (refer to Figure No.17) shows the uses of both the Harrington Park and Orielson Homestead Estates for management of his Poll Hereford Stud.

The paddock naming appears to be the names of his stud Herefords or location names.



Figure 17
1952 mapping of Harrington Park and
Orielson Park Estates by Sir Warwick
Fairfax.

N↑

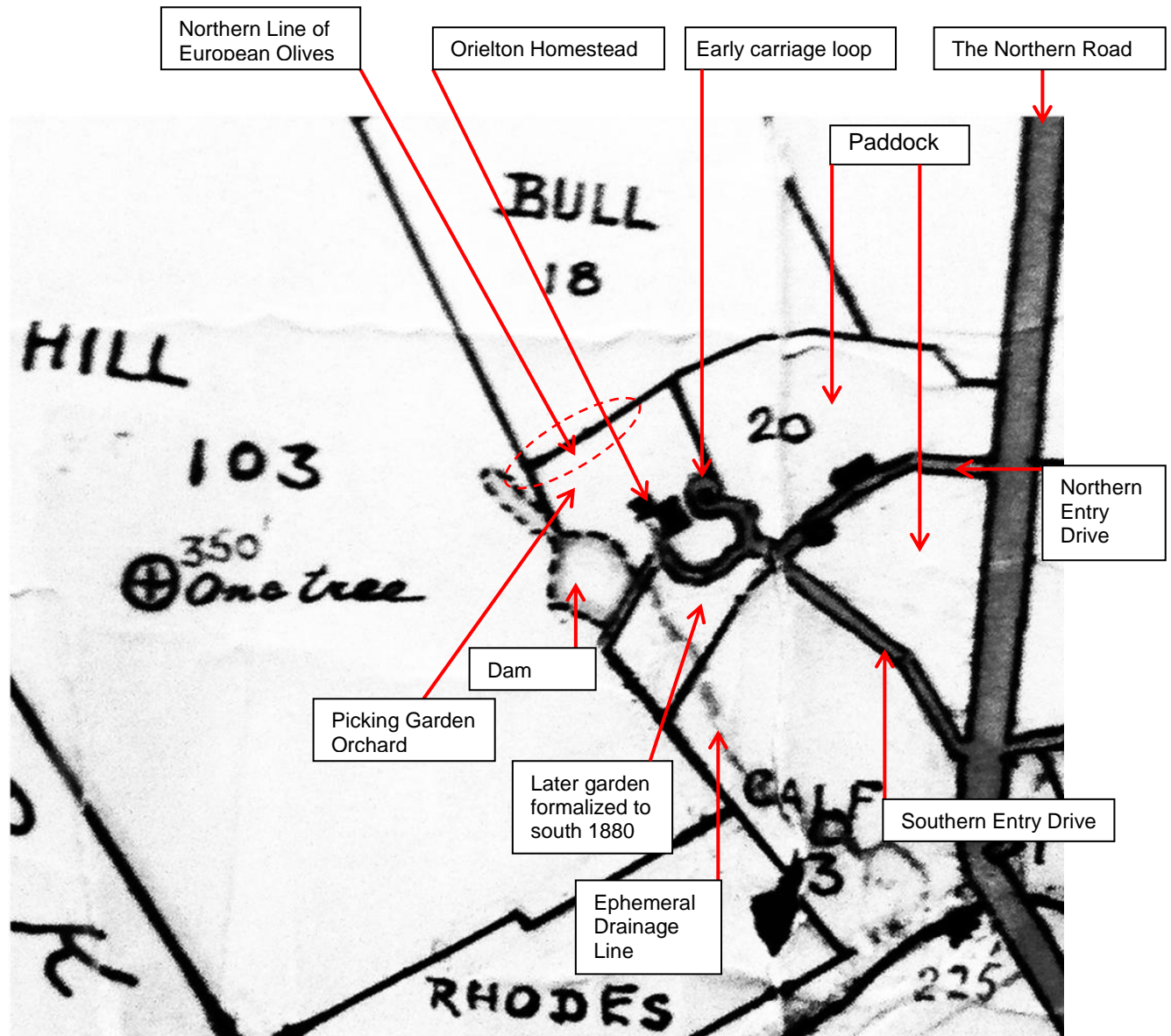


Figure 18
1952 mapping of Harrington Park and Orielson Park Estates by Sir Warwick Fairfax.

N↑

3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

The physical evidence of the subject site was investigated through non-intrusive observation of the fabric.

3.1 Landscape Context

3.1.1 General

The subject site is located within the Central Hills of Camden. The area is characterised by subdivision, development and extensive grass hills and forest. The Orielson Park Homestead Lot is currently bound on the north, south and west by open paddocks that are undergoing residential development and to the east by The Northern Road. Recent residential developments have begun to the south-west of the homestead complex and these will continue.

The homestead complex, including the homestead, farm buildings and outbuildings, are framed by the rising land behind it (the northern ridgeline) on which the farm well is located. There are important visual links between the Orielson Homestead and the following:

- Orielson House is located so that management has a full view of grazing pastures in front of the homestead
- Studley Park for contact
- The Northern Road which linked to Sydney for contact
- From the well there are 360 degree views including that of Harrington Park and Badgally Hill to the east, Narellan and Camden to the south and west, and Denbigh and pastures to the north.
- From the hill on the western boundary of the site there are 360 degree views as above.
- St Johns Church.



Figure 19: Looking over the front terrace to the south elevation of the house c2013.

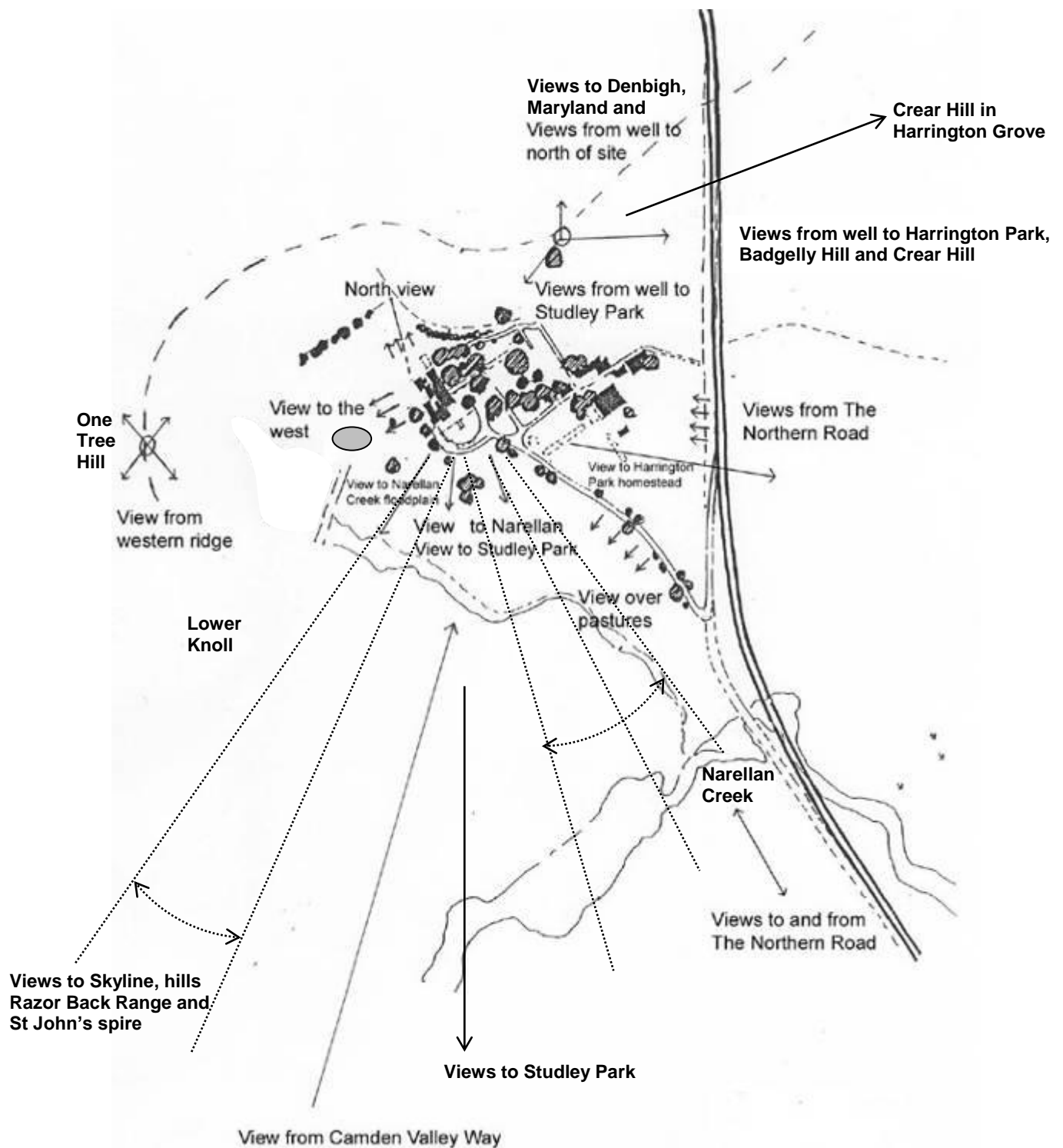
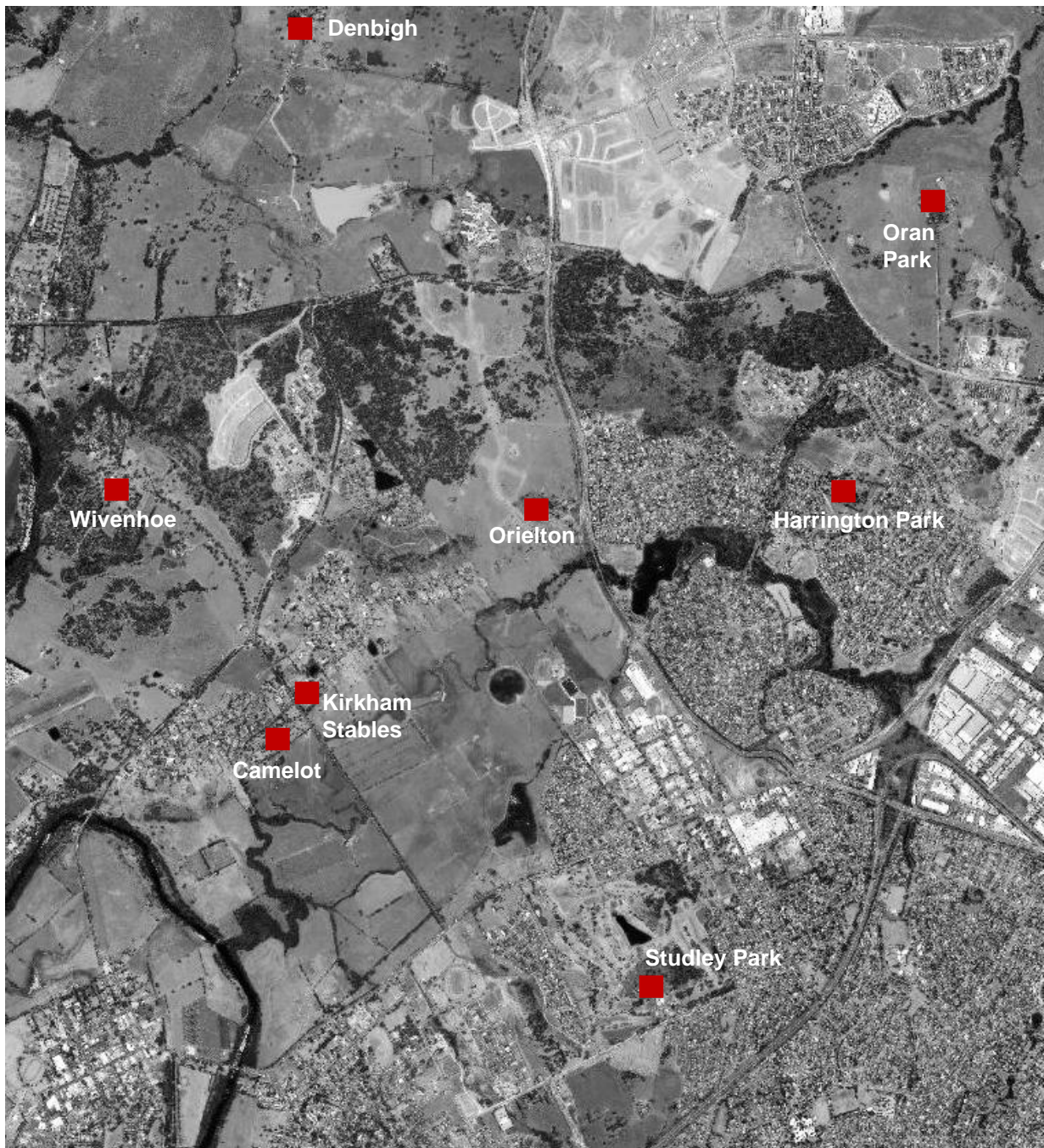


Figure 20: Immediate Views and vistas to and from Orielton.



N↑

Figure 21: Locations of other Homesteads in relation to Orielson Homestead. Source: Six maps.

3.1.2 Context

Excerpt from Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pg.37

The subject site is located within the Municipality of Camden. The area is characterised by cleared rural pastures subject to recent subdivision and development. To the east the site is bound by The Northern Road which historically linked Sydney's western regions. The homestead and stockyards are located near The Northern Road with open vistas towards Harrington Park and recent residential development. Distant glimpses are characterised by rural pastures and beyond, a glimpse of the prominent Badgally Hill.



Figure No.22:
View of Orielson looking north from Narellan
on The Northern Road.



Figure No.23:
View of Harrington Park and Badgally Hill
looking east.

The Northern Road corridor leads south to the township of Narellan. This area is subject to increased development of both a commercial and residential nature. Among this distinct setting rests Studley Park House which can be seen from Orielson Homestead. The undulating rural pastures to the west present evidence of increased subdivision/development. Beyond, the township of Camden is well established. The Northern Road continues north and beyond Cobbitty Road which forms the rear boundary of the site. The area is largely composed of rural properties with associated open pastures and regenerating open forest.



Figure No.24:
View of Narellan from Orielson's watertank hill
looking south.



Figure No.25:
View of Studley Park from Orielson House
Looking south-west.

3.1.3 Subject Site – General description

Excerpt from Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pp.38-39

The subject site is known as Orielson Park Homestead Estate and is located at 179 The Northern Road, Narellan in the Municipality of Camden. The site is rural in character, with varying topography. To the north the site has revegetated woodland with concentrated pockets in the north-west corner. The southern part of the site is subject to flooding by Narellan Creek which extends across the property and flows to the Nepean River. The buildings that constitute the homestead are located on the south side of a knoll in close proximity to The Northern Road. The site is approximately 205 hectares in size. A curved access road lined with pine trees leads from The Northern Road to a carriage loop in front of what was the original entry to the homestead. Remnants of gardens appear at the redirected southern entry as well as at the original eastern entry. A secondary road extends from the main driveway and moves towards the east of the property to the working area of the homestead. Utility/outbuildings on the site include stables, silo, milking sheds and stockyards. To the west of the house lay remnants of the picking garden and orchard with a row of European olive trees suggesting its northern boundary. Close to this, a dam rests in the saddle of the ridge. A large dam is also located to the west in a gully adjacent to the picking garden.

Early photographs and aerials suggest buildings and road networks no longer evident. The east of the site had a substantial two storey barn associated with John Dickson. An early photograph shows evidence of a shed north of the homestead area (refer to Figure No.10, pg.19 2006 CMP). The well (header tank) that rests on the northern ridge still remains largely intact. A 1947 aerial photograph (refer to Figure No. 24, pg.40 2006 CMP) depicts strong road alignments to the northern extents of the site bound by Cobbitty Road. This is evidence of the military occupation. These areas are subject to further investigation.

The homestead consists of a number of buildings that are clustered together with the two primary residential buildings forming an L-shape which overlook the valley. The homestead consists of a layering of styles ranging from the original homestead of the late 1820s through to the later Italianate additions from the Victorian period. The building retains its basic form since its Victorian additions but little remains of the fabric and detailing.

Georgian elements are found to the rear of the house. The front single storey structure has a grand scale, rectangular footprint and associated symmetrical façade. The medium pitch hipped roof and associated chimneys are typical of the mid-Victorian style. The original verandah that wrapped around to the south of the building has been removed. Historical photographs suggest typical slender posts were later replaced with metal posts and associated balustrades ornately detailed (refer to appendix B 2006 CMP).

The Italianate addition is focused to the south of the property and is characterised by a three faceted bay window. The asymmetrical façade is two storeys and has a low pyramidal roof and larger chimney tops. A 1940s fibro addition to the south connects the original building to the east with the Italianate addition to the south.



Figure No.26:
View of pastures
looking north.



Figure No.27: View of paddocks and western ridge from orchards.



Figure No.28: View of north-west paddock from orchards.



Figure No.29: View of south paddock and Narellan Creek from western ridge looking to Badgally Hill.



Figure No.30: View of homestead and picking garden looking east from west paddocks.



Figure No.31: Well on the northern ridge looking west.



Figure No.32: Victorian addition and mid-Victorian design connected with fibro corridor. c2013.

3.1.4 Functional relationship within the precinct

Excerpt from Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pg.40

Orielson has a functional relationship to its surrounding rural landscape. Old photographs and aerials show that the homestead operated as a whole precinct of functional spaces and buildings. Despite minor changes to garden settings and access ways, the estate was divided into 5 areas including:

- The main house
- Workers building
- Picking gardens/orchards
- Working areas
- Grazing pastures

Within the precinct there are important functional relationships between: the main house pleasure gardens and entry, the picking garden, workers building and homestead, working areas (including mills, silos) and access roads (The Northern Road), stables and grazing pastures.

The change in entry was a result of the change in ownership and subsequent design style and period. It is suggested the Victorian Italianate style was influenced by the Picturesque movement. Homes were set in their extensive gardens and entry to these landed gentries resulted in a formal procession to the house. The change in driveway access does not suggest a negative impact on the original functional relationship of the precinct.

3.1.5 Landscape Characteristics

Orielson Park is located within the Central Hills complex of the Scenic Hills of the Camden Valley and is part of the Cumberland Plain Cowpasture region.

The property has been developed around Narellan Creek which drains the eastern and northern hills of this valley to the Nepean River, which passes through Camden and then into the Hawkesbury River.

Soils are predominantly clays derived from the underlying Wianamatta shale which is over sandstone.

Vegetation systems are related to soils and hydrology. Narellan Creek has a significant surviving tree and grass ecology. The river flats have remnant trees and express the past land uses of agricultural cropping, livestock, pasture improvement and recreational pursuits. The hills and slopes have remnant trees and shrubs associated with this environment.

Rainfall is approximately 750mm per year.

3.1.6 Geology

"The geology of the Camden LGA is composed of soils derived from the Wianamatta group of shales and soft sandstones.¹ Bringelly Shales dominate the area. The more fertile alluvial soils deposited in the flood plains of the Nepean River to south of the LGA resulted in the concentration of agricultural pursuits on the large estates established in this area, historically known as the 'Horn of Plenty'. This was also the case in the floodplains of the South Creek system. The hills to the north had poorer soils sustaining grasslands, which were found to be suitable only for grazing. Mineral deposits in the area were not widespread, with minor deposits of coal present in some small pockets." (Tropman & Tropman Architects for Camden Council: Camden Heritage Study Review: 2002: pp13-14).

¹ Benson D & Howell J (1990) *Taken for granted: The bushland of Sydney and its suburbs*

3.1.7 Topography

"The topography of the Camden LGA is characteristic of the Cumberland Plain, being that of low undulating hills, with steeper hillier sections to the north of Cobbitty and along the southern boundary to Wollondilly Shire. The tallest hills, located in the Cut Hill area, are only 188 metres above the general level of the surrounding land.² It is interspersed by extensive alluvial plains located along the Nepean River and its tributaries, with narrower flats along the upper tributaries of South Creek." (Tropman & Tropman Architects for Camden Council: Camden Heritage Study Review: 2002: pg14).

3.1.8 Hydrology

"The Camden LGA is traversed by the Nepean River, and several tributaries and creeks associated with the Hawkesbury - Nepean River catchment, which have all played a major role in shaping the landscape in the area.

Narellan Creek, Cobbitty Creek, Bringelly Creek, Sickles Creek and Matahil Creek flow directly into the Nepean River, and drain the western half of the LGA. South Creek, and its tributaries such as Lowe's Creek, Riley's Creek and Kemp's Creek, drain northwards into the Cumberland Lowlands to join the Hawkesbury River.³

The Nepean River in its course through the southern parts of the LGA, gave rise to two distinct sets of flood plain. The river floodplain is discrete and directly associated with the course of the Nepean River itself, while the creek flood plains are more spreading due to the complexity of the creek systems through the area. As expected there is a degree of cross over between the two sets of flood plains, however their respective tendencies to be prone to flooding has been altered in the last century due to human intervention.

The Nepean River is now largely controlled by a system of weirs established from about 1908. These weirs originally established to regulate the flow of water through the Nepean for the purposes of water catchment, irrigation and transport, also served the dual purpose of controlling much of the frequent flooding to which the area around the river was prone.

The water courses formed various areas of swamp and lagoons, notable of which are the Aboriginal named 'Manangle' (later Menangle), Barragal and Belgenny (from which Belgenny Farm derived its name). The resulting floodplains are also a feature of the area. Development of the flood-prone land has been limited with land mainly used for agriculture and grazing livestock." (Tropman & Tropman Architects for Camden Council: Camden Heritage Study Review: 2002: pp14-15).

3.2 **Landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot**

The principal value of the Orielson Park Homestead garden is its dominance in the greater landscape setting as a collection of tall, generally dark green, trees and shrubs against the skyline and undulating topography. This gives the place landmark qualities as the cluster of tall trees can be seen from a great distance. These styles of plantings usually relate to the location of a homestead. Tree plantings appear to date from Harriet Beard c.1880.

To the east of the homestead the gardens are composed of a carriage loop with densely planted species including Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*) and a Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*). The area is delineated by collapsing timber post and wire strand fencing that leads into paddocks. The original northern entry originated from the north east of this area as the road linked to Maryland further up the Northern Road and physical evidence shows how it linked to the current carriage loop. The levelled portion of land directly east of the carriage loop was the tennis court. This area was expanded recently, filled by spoil from RTA roadworks on the Northern Road. This area is currently used for horse agistment.

² Lambcon Assocs (1998), p15

³ *ibid.*, p15

Evidence of formal gardens appears in the 1947 aerial photograph with remnant hedges forming the line of formal gardens. Presently there is little found evidence of the original gardens apart from terracing steps and trees and a couple of rose bushes.

The southern entry relating to Narellan, Campbelltown and Camden resulted in the formal garden being relocated. Like the early garden, little remains. The current entry drive passes the formal gardens and links to the early carriage loop. The drive is lined with the prominent Pines (*Araucaria sp.*). The 1947 aerial photograph reveals semi circular gardens in front of the Italianate portion of the homestead with associated planting and arrangements (refer to Figures No.21 pg.28 & No.27 pg.33). The ashlar steps leading up to the 'front' of the garden are still intact however little garden arrangement and vegetation remain. Scattered plantings including Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Peppercorn (*Schinus ariera*), Cedrus, Bunya (*Araucaria*), Kurrajong and Privet (*Ligustrum*) trees remain. Two roses are growing on the terraced landscape/

The west of the homestead was the working area and included the picking garden and orchard and a modest dam. While structures within this area have been lost, the northern line of European Olive trees and 1946 aerial photographs reveal the boundaries of the area. Eileen Cummings (daughter of owner William Pilling) reveals that the orchard was still in use during their 1930 occupation and included fruits and nuts. The space is currently used for grazing.

The large dam built by Warwick Fairfax in c1958 was constructed across the western boundary of the former picking garden and orchard. The dam has recently been removed in preparation for the residential subdivision and new spine road.



Figure 33: Driveway entry to Orielson homestead and farm complex showing the loop up to The Northern Road.



Figure 34: Looking north along the driveway to the silos and stables.



Figure 35: First divergence of the driveway leads to the stables and formerly also led to the mill. Looking to the House at the next carriage loop.



Figure 36: Looking to the House at the central carriage loop c2013.



Figure 37: Header tank (well) to the hill behind the House.



Figure 38 View from the front verandah looking south over the front tiered garden and beyond to Narellan Creek.

EXISTING SIGNIFICANT PLANT LEGEND	
Common Name	Botanical Name
1. Bunya Pine	<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>
2. Hoop Pine	<i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i>
3. Maritime Pine	<i>Pinus binaster</i>
4. Funeral Cypress	<i>Cupressus funebris</i>
5. Italian or Mediterranean Cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>
6. Himalayan Cypress	<i>Cupressus torolosa</i>
7. Kurrajong	<i>Brachychiton populneum</i>
8. Broad-leaf Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
9. Pepper Tree	<i>Schinus molle</i>
10. Austrian Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>
11. Macadamia	<i>Proteaceae</i>
12. Silky Oak	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>
13. Himalayan Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>
14. Queen Palm	<i>Arecastrum romanzoffiana</i>
15. Moreton Bay Fig	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>
16. Forest Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus sp</i>
17. African Olive	<i>Olea Africana</i>
18. European Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>
19. Jacaranda	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>
20. Pink Flowering Iron Bark	<i>Eucalyptus sp</i>
21. Rose	<i>Rosa</i>
22. Bookleaf Cypress / Chinese Arbor Vitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
23. Coral Tree	<i>Erythrina</i>

LEGEND		
(A) ARCHAEOLOGICAL ITEMS	(B) BUILDING ITEMS	(L) LANDSCAPE ITEMS
A1 Orielson Homestead	B1 Orielson Homestead	L1 Homestead setting in landscape
A2 Septic system	B2 Silos	L2 Early & current driveway & avenue plantings
A3 Unidentified brick feature	B3 Managers Office	L3 Carriage loop and trees
A4 Well/ Spring	B4 Early Stables	L4 Presentation Gardens
A5 Early Managers Building	B5 Hay Shed	L5 Recreation Gardens
A6 Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	B6 Early Milking Shed	L6 Former Orchard
A7 Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	B7 Stud Cattle Stalls	L7 Former Garden picking/ kitchen
A8 Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	B8 Concrete Bin	L8 Early Dam
A9 Large barn/ flour mill/ distillery		L9 European Olives
A10 Tank/ dam for flour mill		L10 Eucalyptus tereticornis, forest red gum
		L11 Former Tennis Court

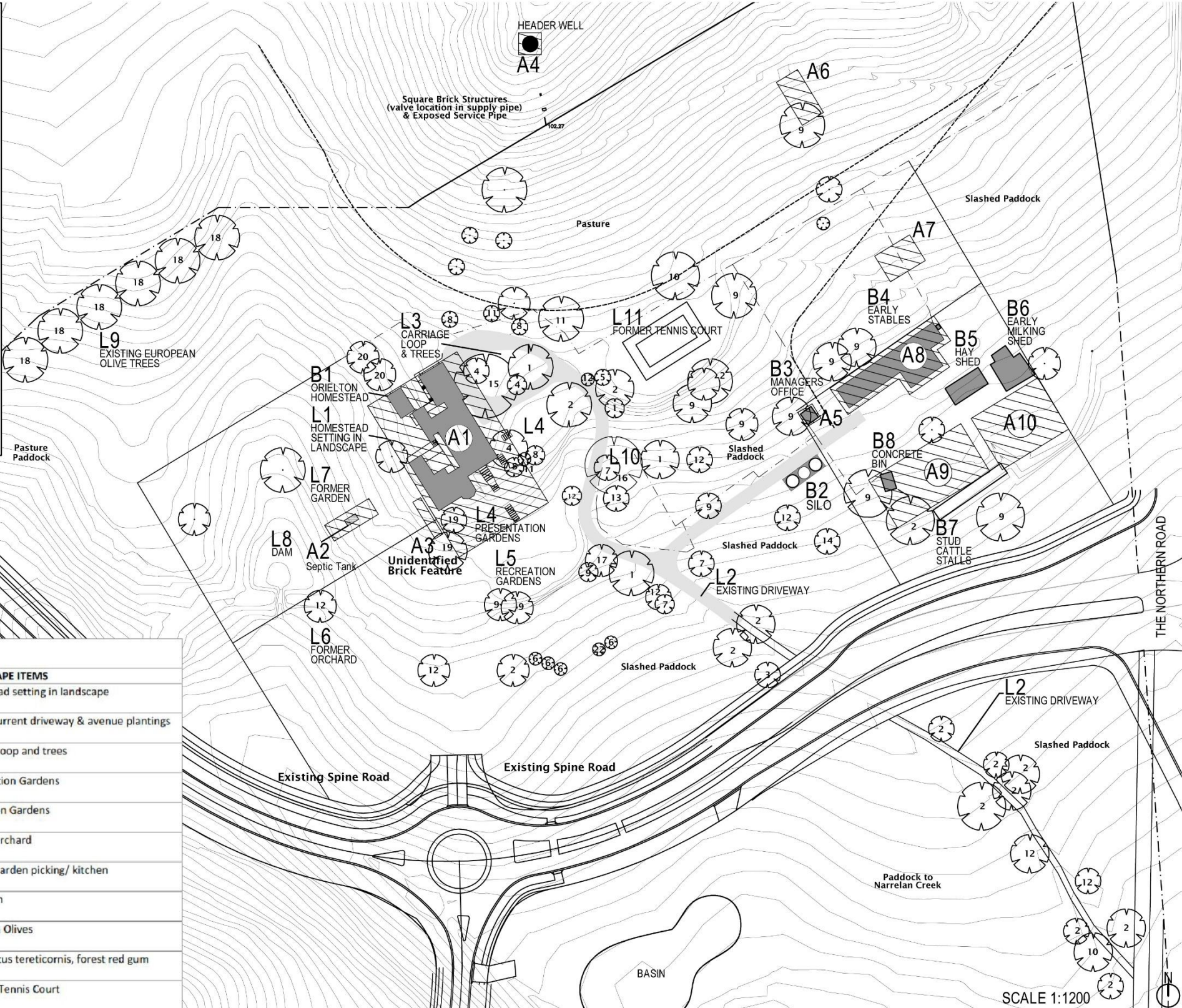


Figure 39: Subject site: Building elements, Landscape items and Archaeological items.

The ensemble of shrubs, trees, garden structures and elements date from various periods including the 1820s, 1860s, 1880s, 1890s. Much of the early garden elements and areas have been lost due to later works (such as the dam to the west of the homestead) and change in use or lack of use of the homestead.

Significant elements of the Orielson Park Homestead setting and landscape include:

- Driveway
- Carriage Loop
- Remnant orchard trees – European Olives
- Remnant indigenous Eucalyptus – Forest Red Gums and regrowth
- Nature of grass:
 - Clipped
 - Mown
 - Pasture, slashed, grazed

Planting periods

- 1814 to 1822 – Lord
- 1822 to 1841 – Dickson family
- 1847 to 1861 – Perry family
- 1864 to 1876 – Neile family
- 1876 to 1912 – Beard family
- 1938 to 1944 – Swan family
- 1944 to 2013 – Fairfax family:
 - 1944 to 1952 – Fairfax and Sons P/L
 - 1952 to 2013 – Fairfax family

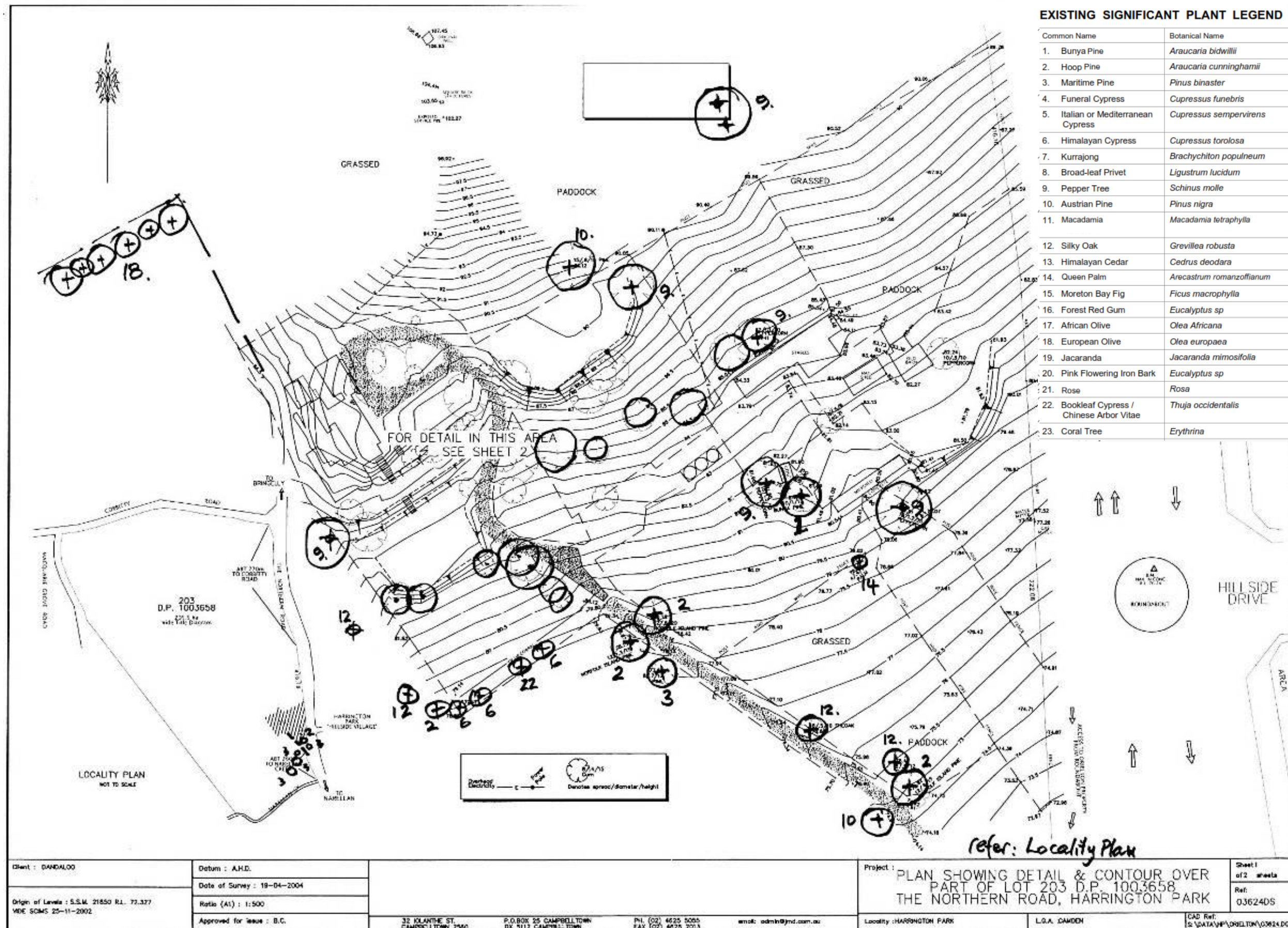


Figure 40: N↑
Orielson Park Homestead Lot plantings of significance broad scale.
Base survey: JMD.

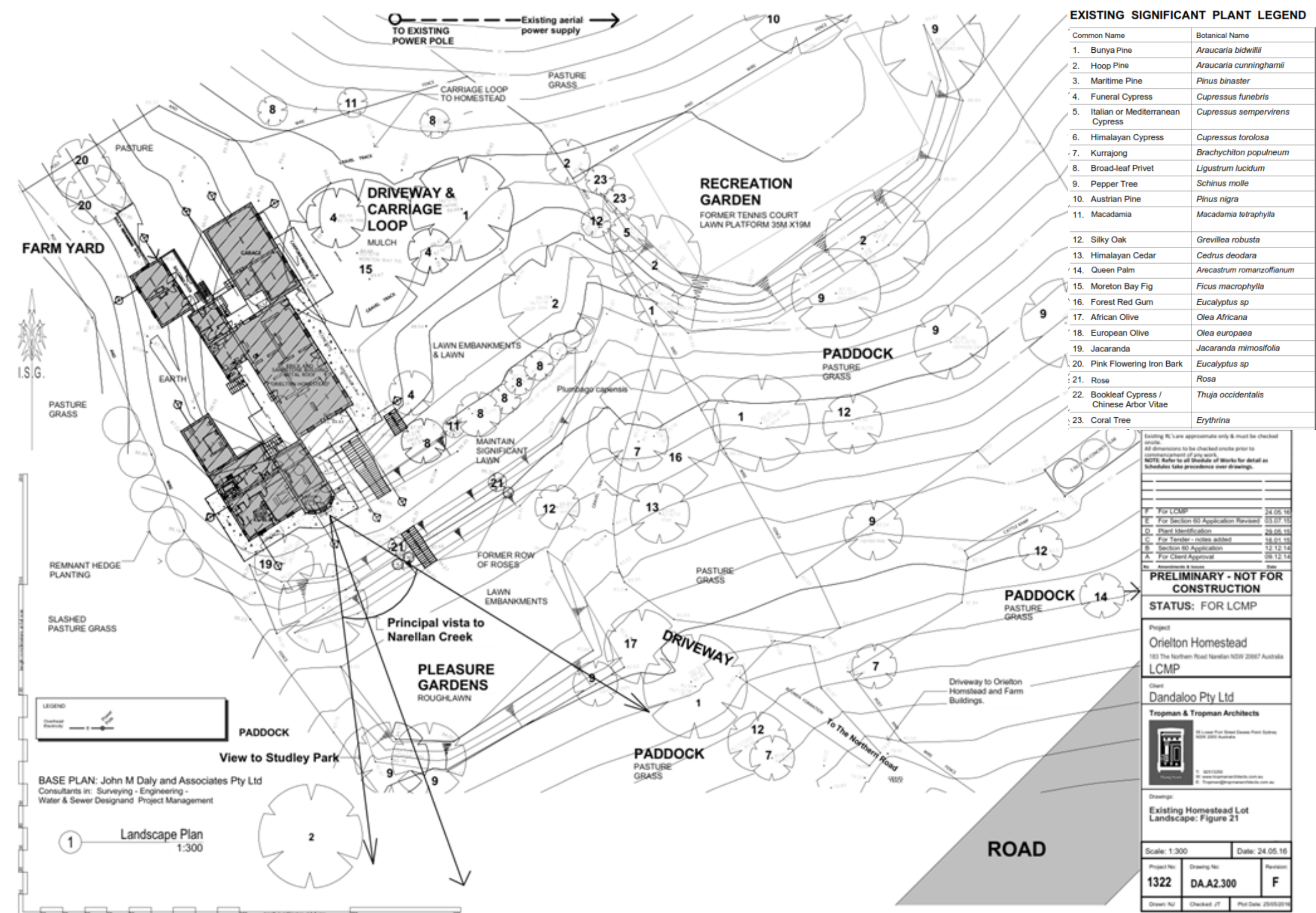


Figure 41: N↑
Orielson Park Homestead Lot plantings of significance around homestead.
Base survey: JMD.

3.3 Landscape Periods. Refer Appendix A for a history of the site.

3.3.1 1814 to 1822 – Lord

Edward Lord established a Tasmanian property and this Camden (Cowpastures) property from 1814. His principle residence was in Tasmania where he constructed a fine Georgian Villa. The initial occupation at Camden/Narellan probably included siting a shelter to take in the sublime prospect afforded by the current location of the house. Land use was generally for livestock grazing. Timber getting for fuel and fencing and clearing land for cropping were establishment processes.

The initial landscape was probably open forest with grass understorey. This grant included extensive alluvial flats along Narellan Creek and these were probably soon put to cultivation for cereal and hay production.

3.3.2 1822 to 1841 – Dickson and later trustees (Thomas Barker)

Orielson was used as an outstation by John Dickson. James Dickson (John's brother) lived at Nonorrah, (Maryland) and managed the properties. Agricultural use of the property from 1828 Census showed cattle and sheep were stocked on Dickson's properties and he cultivated the land for cropping. He was growing cereal for milling in his mills.

When using the place as an outstation, Dickson would have sited (probably confirmed house site) the main residence (manager's house) to provide an outlook and surveillance over the estate. Dickson was using Orielson for cereal production and dairy cheese making and built barns and operated threshing and winnowing machinery. The Australian Auction Company described Orielson estate as having a *substantial built brick cottage, commodious stabling, an excellent built barn with two floors, containing therein an 8 horse-power threshing and winnowing machine.*⁴ This was probably built c1830. In 1834, fifty men were working on the farm at Orielson – there would have been extensive quarters.

Surviving landscape elements include the alluvial flood plain, Central Hills backdrop to the homestead, location of farm shedding, southern entry drive over Narellan Creek, the Forest Red Gum between the house and farm shedding, and the location of the home productive picking garden immediately adjacent to the west side of the Quarters.

The steam flour mill was constructed in this period, possibly by Dickson, but most likely by the trustees (Thomas Barker).

3.3.2 1847 to 1861 – Perry family

Camden miller John Perry had been using the mill and occupying Orielson before purchase. Perry was growing cereals and milling it for flour. Agriculture continued with cereal crops and livestock grazing. Landscape features were maintained.

3.3.3 1861 to 1876 – Peisley and Neile

Peisley, a carcass butcher, maintained the property as a going concern.

The photograph in Figure 8 shows the layout of the homestead, paddocks, farm management complex and mill. The landscape features included:

- Extensive cleared and fenced paddocks
- Paling fenced orchard and picking garden adjacent to west side of house
- Extensive building/quarters set on a knoll above the alluvial flats and below the ridge line

⁴ Cable, *Notes of the History of Orielson*, pg.5.

- Extensive landscape elements – trees and shrubs – to the east front entry. Those are dark and are probably Cypress, Bunya/Hoop pines and other broad canopy trees
- Three-storey mill
- Livestock shelters and paddocks
- Ploughed paddocks
- Cottage fronting The Northern Road east side farm

The auction notice in 1864 describes the extensive development of the place. Niele bought a major homestead with infrastructure.

Peisley and his family remained at Orielton until 1876. A photograph dated c1860 (probably 1865), taken from the summit of the hill to the west, shows a well kept farm complex in an ordered estate (refer to Figure No.8). The Peisley family came to be regarded as local gentry and some of the members remained prominent in the district after they left Orielton. People came to Orielton from Sydney, using the train to Campbelltown to shoot over the land and to attend the Harrington race track.⁵

Landscape elements surviving from this period are the extensive cleared cultivated land surrounding the house, possibly the entry drives and the Forest Red Gum between the quarters and farm buildings.

It is noted that the Peisley family would have known the Davy family who occupied Harrington Park 1852-1870.

3.3.4 1876 to 1912 – Beard family

Mrs Harriet Beard occupied Orielton when the Rudds occupied Harrington Park and both are responsible for developing the properties in the Victorian period building design and garden/landscaping.

Harriet Beard appears to have made the place a large residential villa. Plantings during her period of occupation include:

- Bunya Pines
- Hoop Pines
- Funerary Cypress
- Moreton Bay Fig
- Maritime Pine
- Austran Pine
- Privet
- Photinia
- European Olives to the orchard's northern boundary.

Most of these landscape elements are over 100 years old. The extensive Araucaria, Pine and Cypress plantings are probably to reflect the Victorian period symbolic values relating to Harriet Beard's loss of a husband, and some may relate to her death in 1910.

The principal relationship of the house to the garden is the arrival sequence from the farm buildings, the carriage loop and the benching and terraces extending from the front entry and two-storey Italianate Style Victorian Period southern façade.

Today, the existing landscape is the result of Mrs Harriet Beard's tree plantings maturing. Later 20th century plantings are generally infill and opportunistic plants.

⁵ Cable, op cit, pg.7.



Figure 42: The house in 1931. The design of the house and gardens shown here was carried out by Harriet Beard. Source: Camden Historical Society CHS2397.

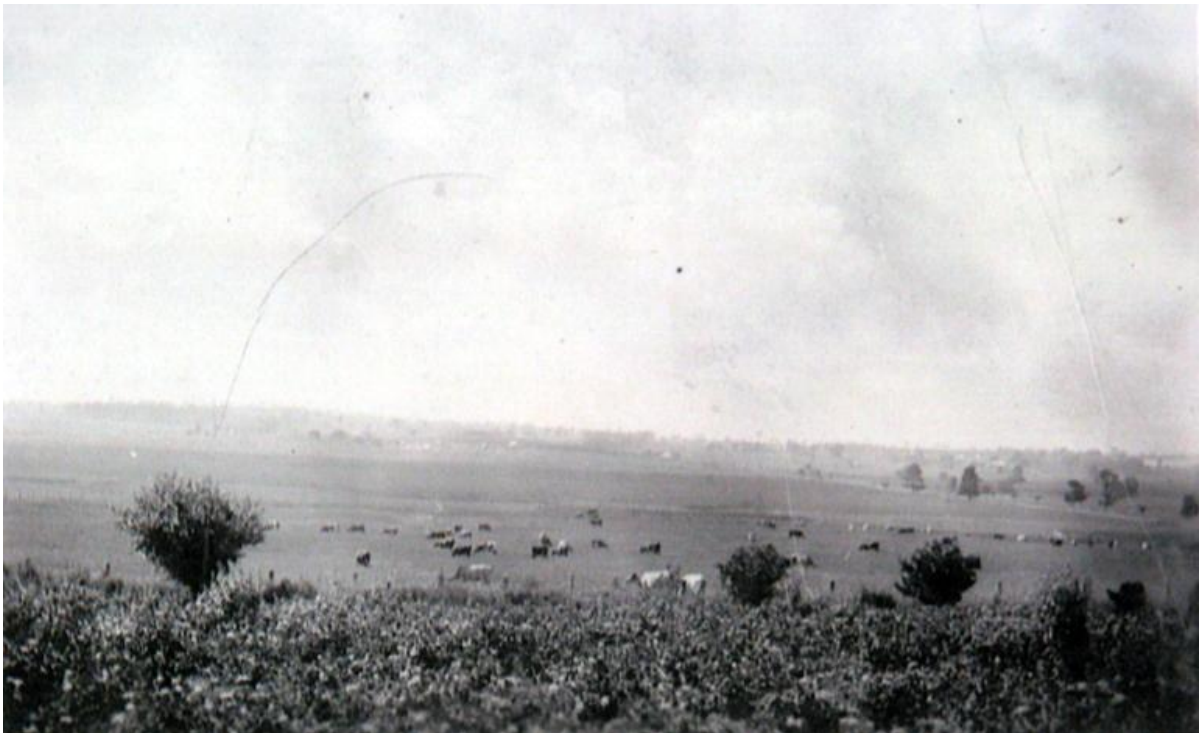


Figure 43: The fields in 1931. Source: Camden Historical Society CHS2398.



Figure 44: The fields in 1931. Source: Camden Historical Society CHS2399.



Figure 45: The fields in 1931. Source: Camden Historical Society CHS2400.



Figure 46: The Homestead showing the unidentified brick feature.



Figure 47: The Homestead showing the Victorian cast iron verandah.



Figure 48: The Homestead entry showing the Victorian cast iron verandah.

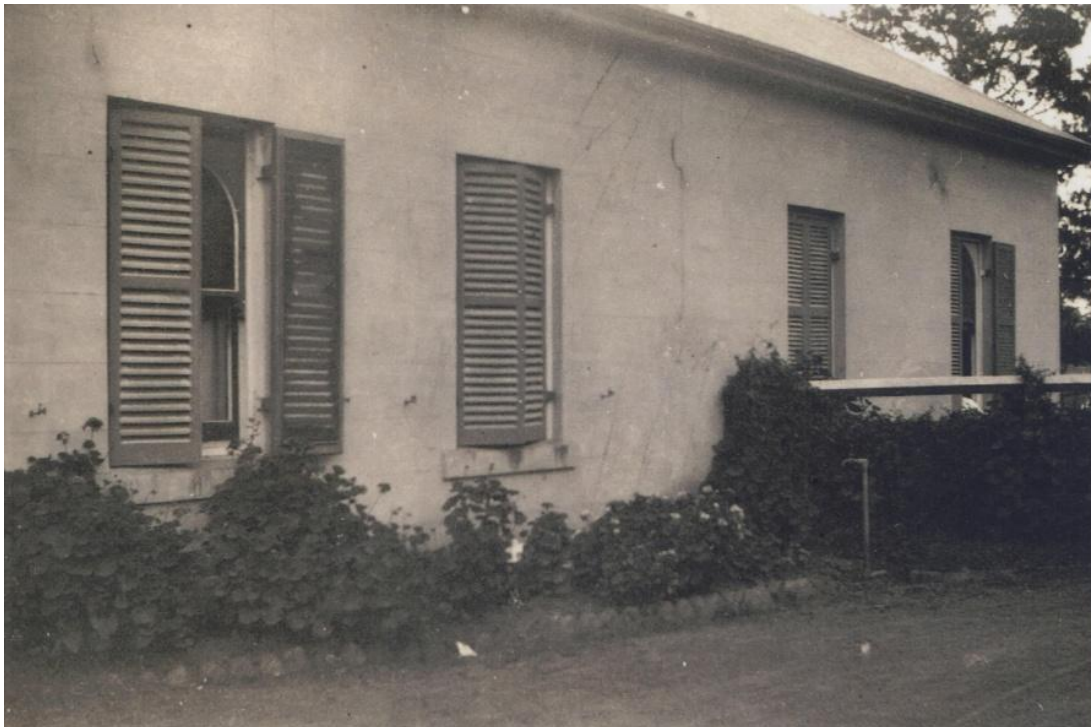


Figure 49: The Homestead shutters and window arches.

3.3.5 1912 to 1930 – Estate Managers Cross

The place continued to provide income for tenants with the “Extensive stabling and carriage room, milking shed, barns, vegetable gardens etc, etc. Brick barn (100’ x 40’) of 3 floors, engine house, saw bench, pumping plant, windmill, workshop, two cottages...”⁶.

The landscape continued to mature during this period. Refer to Figures 11-16.

3.3.6 1930 to 1938 – Pilling ownership

The property was run by estate managers with the homestead being maintained as a country residence for the family to visit.

Eileen Cummings, daughter of William Pilling, would go to Orielson during school holidays. Eileen provides an excellent description of the place. She remembers the large homestead to have had an ornately detailed iron verandah with bullnose galvanised iron roof that carried around the sides of the house. French doors opened onto the verandah providing vistas to the town of Narellan. The long drive leading up to the house was lined with trees and at the entry to the house a carriage loop circled close to the garden. Within the carriage loop a large aviary was located with its centre filled with a variety of colourful birds.

Towards the front of the house a tennis court was located (the aerial photographs reveal the location of a tennis court to the east of the front carriage loop) and the stone steps leading up to the Italianate façade included splendid gardens. She remembers the orchard to the west of the homestead filled with fruit and nuts including walnuts and almonds and would often spend time picking them off the trees.

The house was entered from the east into the foyer. To the left the living rooms were located. The furniture was grand and ornately detailed with splendid colours, the laundry and kitchen to the back of the house and a separate lavatory at the rear. Later a bathroom was built within the house footprint. Stables were also located to the back of the house as was the septic tank. The location of the house on the side of a knoll meant that the ballroom was located underneath the house. Mrs Cummings spent hours at the property as a child but the beginning of the Great Depression meant that the family property had to be sold.

3.3.7 1938 to 1944 – Swan family

Swan, who owned Harrington Park at the time he purchased Orielson, upgraded the sections of the farm building and then allowed the Defence Department to make the homestead liveable for their occupation of the site from 1942 to 1943.

3.3.8 1944 to present – Fairfax family

Orielson was important in Sir Warwick Fairfax’s pursuit of breeding Stud Hereford cattle. The yarding, sheds and paddocks were modified to cater for the extensive breeding program Sir Warwick undertook. The steam mill appears to have been pulled down during this initial period of occupation. During this period, the property was an outstation with tenants occupying the house.

Plantings probably included the use of African Olives and Pepper trees for shade. Following Fairfax’s nursery venture at Harrington Park, the plantings included Kurrajong, Silky Oaks, Cypresses and a Deodora Cedar. From c1980, the homestead were used by the community for equestrian activities.

⁶ Camden News, 06/06/1912 (Source: Orielson file, Camden Historical Society).



Figure 50: This c1950 photograph shows some of Fairfax's Stud Hereford Cattle and the farm building complex.



Figure 51: This c1959 photograph shows some of Fairfax's Stud Hereford Cattle, fencing and the ridge behind the homestead.



Figure 52: This c1959 photograph shows one of Fairfax's Stud Hereford Cattle and the hayshed.



Figure 53: This c1959 photograph shows some of Fairfax's Stud Hereford Cattle and the hayshed.



Figure 54: This c1959 photograph shows some of Fairfax's Stud Hereford Cattle and signage.



Figure 55: The Homestead in 1997. Source: Camden Historical Society CLS0031.



Figure 56: The Homestead with paddocks in 1998. Source: Camden Historical Society CLS0027.

3.4 Archaeology Physical Evidence

Refer to Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage, July 2015, *Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design Non Indigenous Archaeology Orielton Homestead, Narellan* for discussion.

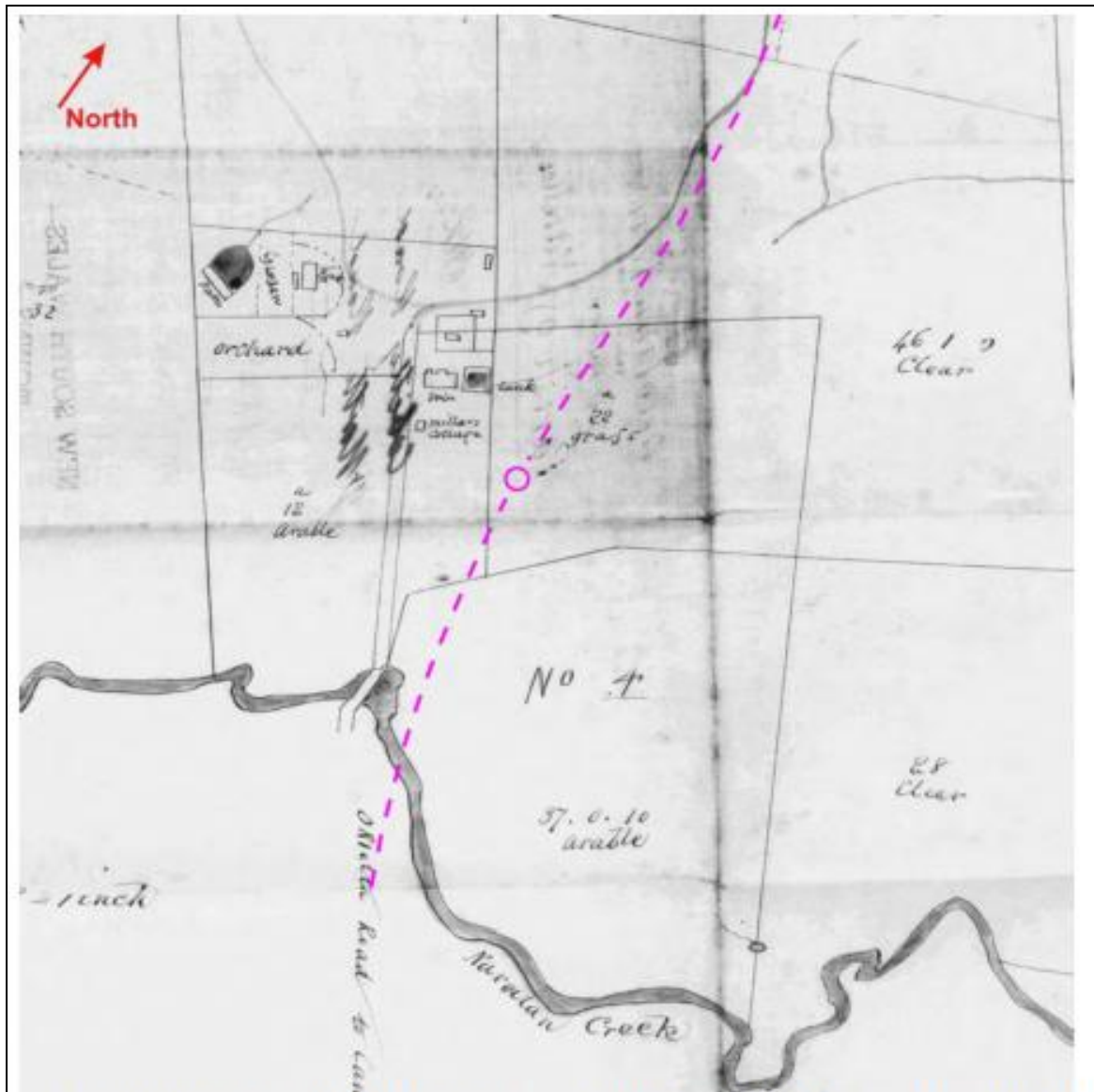


Figure 2.3: Detail of 'Plan of Orielton Park near Camden, the property of John Perry Esqre., Parish of Narellan'. Surveyor: Jackson. Undated, but perhaps dating to 1861, when a plan was mentioned in the sale advertisement.⁵⁷ Note the labelled structures and landscape features. The current alignment of the Northern Road has been overlaid in magenta. SLNSW Z/TP/C1 /9.



Figure 2.4: Newspaper advertisement for Four Lakes Dry Gin, thought to have been distilled at the Four Lakes Distillery, Narellan. *Evening News*, 1 October 1920, p 4e-f.

⁵⁷ *Empire* 21 October 1861, p 7e. The plan also must post-date December 1859, based on the named surveyor, 'Jackson'. Samuel Jackson was the only survey named 'Jackson' registered in 19th-century NSW. He was registered in NSW in December 1859 and active into the 1870s. He appears to have been based in and around Penrith (Pathfinders database, 2007).

3.6 Areas of archaeological potential

Within the Orielson Homestead heritage curtilage, ten items of archaeological potential have been identified in relation to the Homestead, the large barn / flour mill and other farm outbuildings (Table 3.4, Figure 3.52). The likelihood of finding archaeological remains associated with these items varies from high to low.

When interpreting this analysis, the distinction between archaeological potential and archaeological significance needs to be remembered. Areas of high archaeological potential may only be of local heritage significance, while archaeological remains which are found in areas of low potential may still be of State heritage significance. Archaeological significance will be assessed later in this report (section 4).

Table 3.4: Identified areas of archaeological potential within the Orielson Homestead SHR heritage curtilage. Item locations shown in Figure 3.52.

Item ID	Name	Date constructed	Archaeological Potential
1	Orielson Homestead	from 1820s/1830s+	Various (see Figure 3.54)
2	Possible early septic system	early 20th century	High
3	Unidentified brick feature	mid 19th to early 20th century	Unknown
4	Cistern / tank	uncertain, possibly early 20th century	High
5	Early Managers Building	mid 19th century	Low to Moderate
6	Farm outbuilding/hut (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Moderate to High
7	Farm outbuilding/hut (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Low
8	Farm outbuilding/hut (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Low
9	Large barn/flour mill/distillery	1830s	High
10	Tank/dam for flour mill	mid 19th century	Low to Moderate

Figure No. 58: Reference from Casey & Lowe Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research design Orielson Homestead. Pg. 56

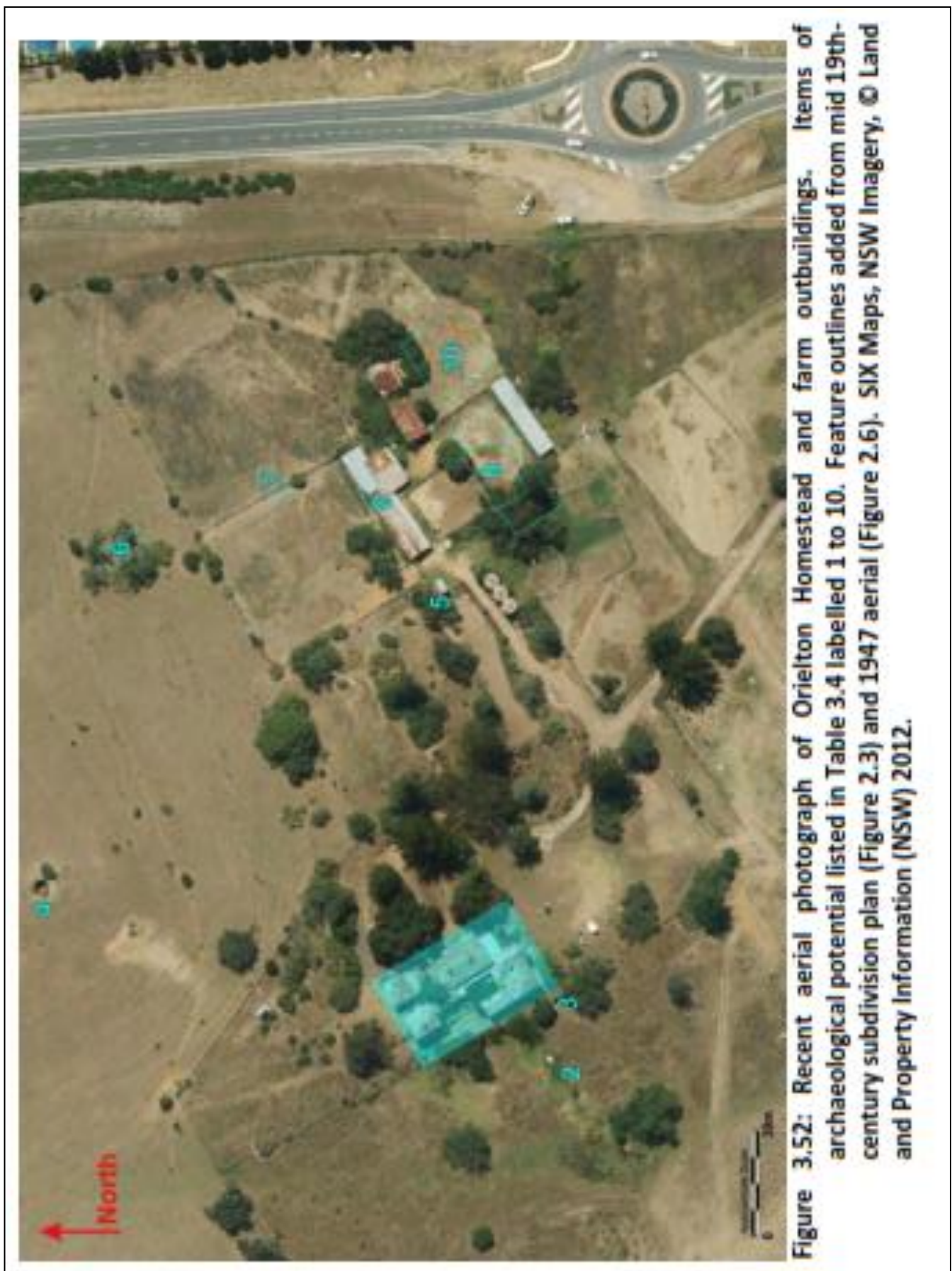


Figure No. 59: Reference from Casey & Lowe Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research design Orielson Homestead. Pg. 56



Figure 3.55: Detail of c.1861 subdivision plan onto modern aerial. SLNSW Z/TP/C1, plan 9 and SIX Maps, NSW Imagery, © Land and Property Information (NSW) 2012.

Figure No. 60: Reference from Casey & Lowe Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research design Orielson Homestead pg.65

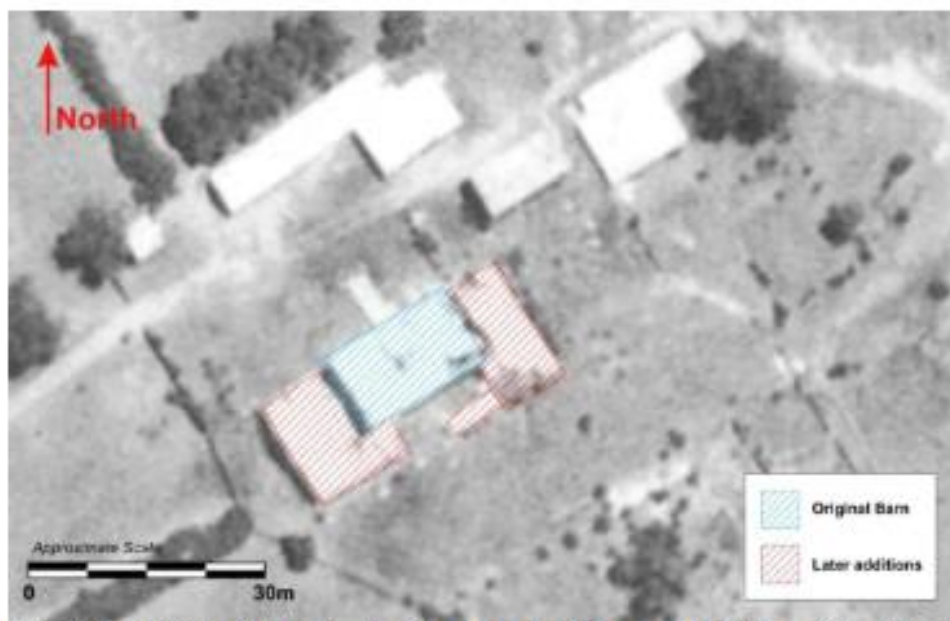


Figure 3.56: Detail of 1947 aerial photo showing large barn/flour mill/distillery with original and later phases shaded. The photo has been scaled using a modern aerial photo from SIX Maps, NSW LPI.

Figure No. 61: Reference from Casey & Lowe Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research design Orielson Homestead pg.66

4.0 ANALYSIS OF THE ORIELTON PARK LANDSCAPE

4.1 Analysis of Documentary Evidence

Documentary evidence suggests early gardens however there is little physical evidence to suggest early garden arrangements. A rectangular clearing close to where the original eastern entry was located has recently been extended with 1980's fill. The current garden layout dates back to the Victorian period including shrubs, trees, level lawn areas and garden steps and elements.

The physical evidence suggests the early layout of the garden and the Victorian terrace garden remains. Pine trees line the current driveway that lead to the carriage loop in front of the homestead. The Bunya, Hoop and Maritime Pines that can be clearly seen on approach to the homestead indicate the entrance into the homestead. While there are no plantings apart from two remnant roses or garden beds remaining in front of the Italianate façade, stepped terrace, stone steps and planter pots leading up to the entrance and the progressively cleared levels suggest formal garden arrangements dating back to the Victorian and Federation periods.

Rendered masonry steps lead from the front balcony level area down to stepped grass terraces. Two remnant roses, probably from the 1930s, remain on the middle terrace.

Fairfax's use of Orielson was mainly to do with the estate's good grazing paddocks. Fairfax set Orielson up as his holding and breeding centre for Harrington Park Poll Hereford Stud. Fencing, paddocks and shelters were established to raise and manage the stud livestock.

4.2 Analysis of Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs from 1947 to 2012 show the evolving landscape of the Orielson Park Estate throughout the Fairfax period of ownership. These aerial photographs give a clear indication of what was happening on and around the Orielson Park Homestead Estate.

The following series of photographs have been focused on the Orielson Park Homestead Lot. The features and changes to the landscaping of the site have been annotated to show the uses of the landscape immediately surrounding the Orielson Park Homestead, and the changes in the use of these areas as well as the change in the building fabric of the estate over time.

From the analysis of the aerial photographs 1947-present it is evident that the trees (landscaping) at Orielson Homestead are planted in a series. There is also evidence of an early picking garden orchard as well as the prominent northern entry driveway and southern entry driveway.

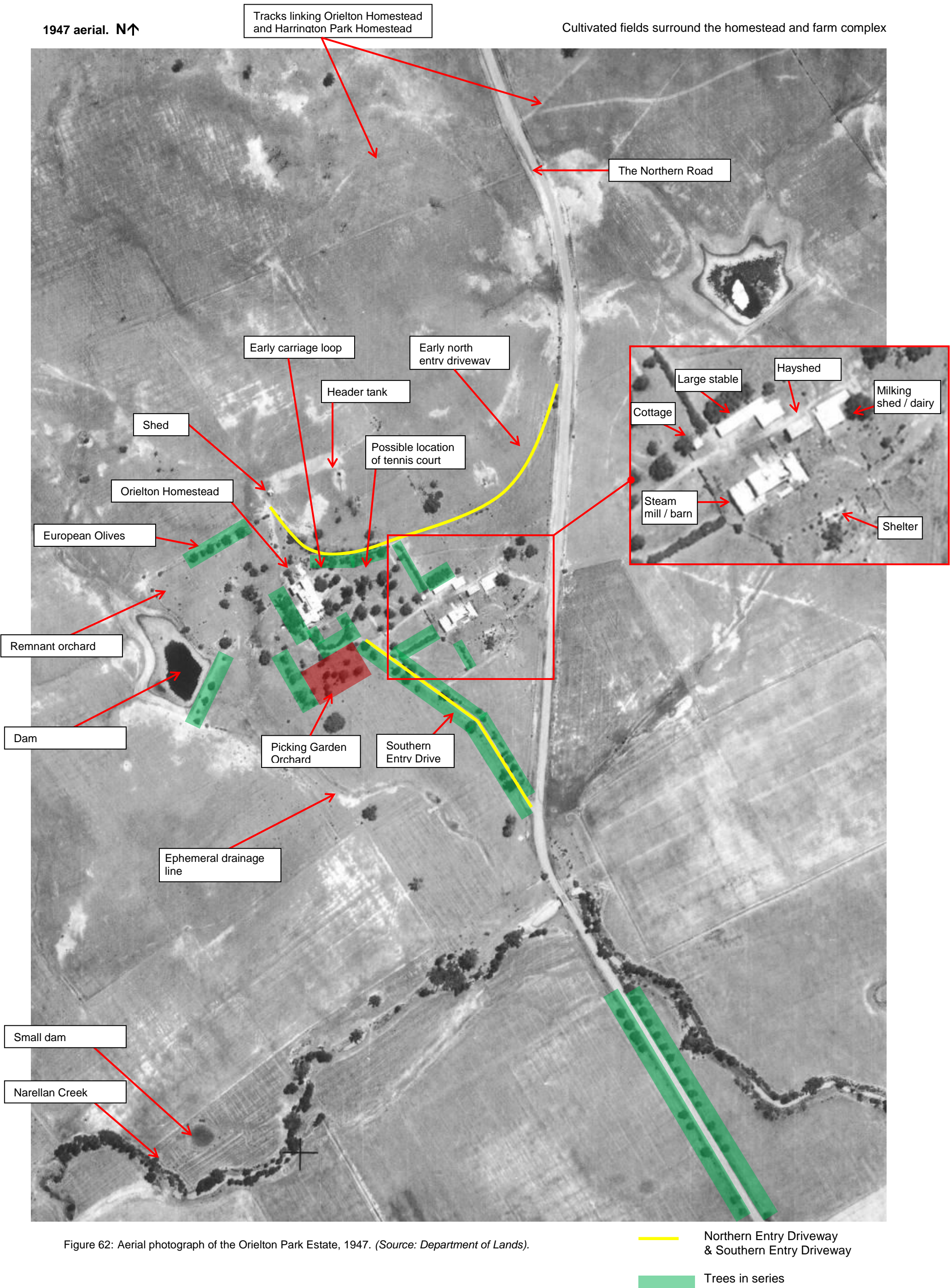


Figure 62: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1947. (Source: Department of Lands).

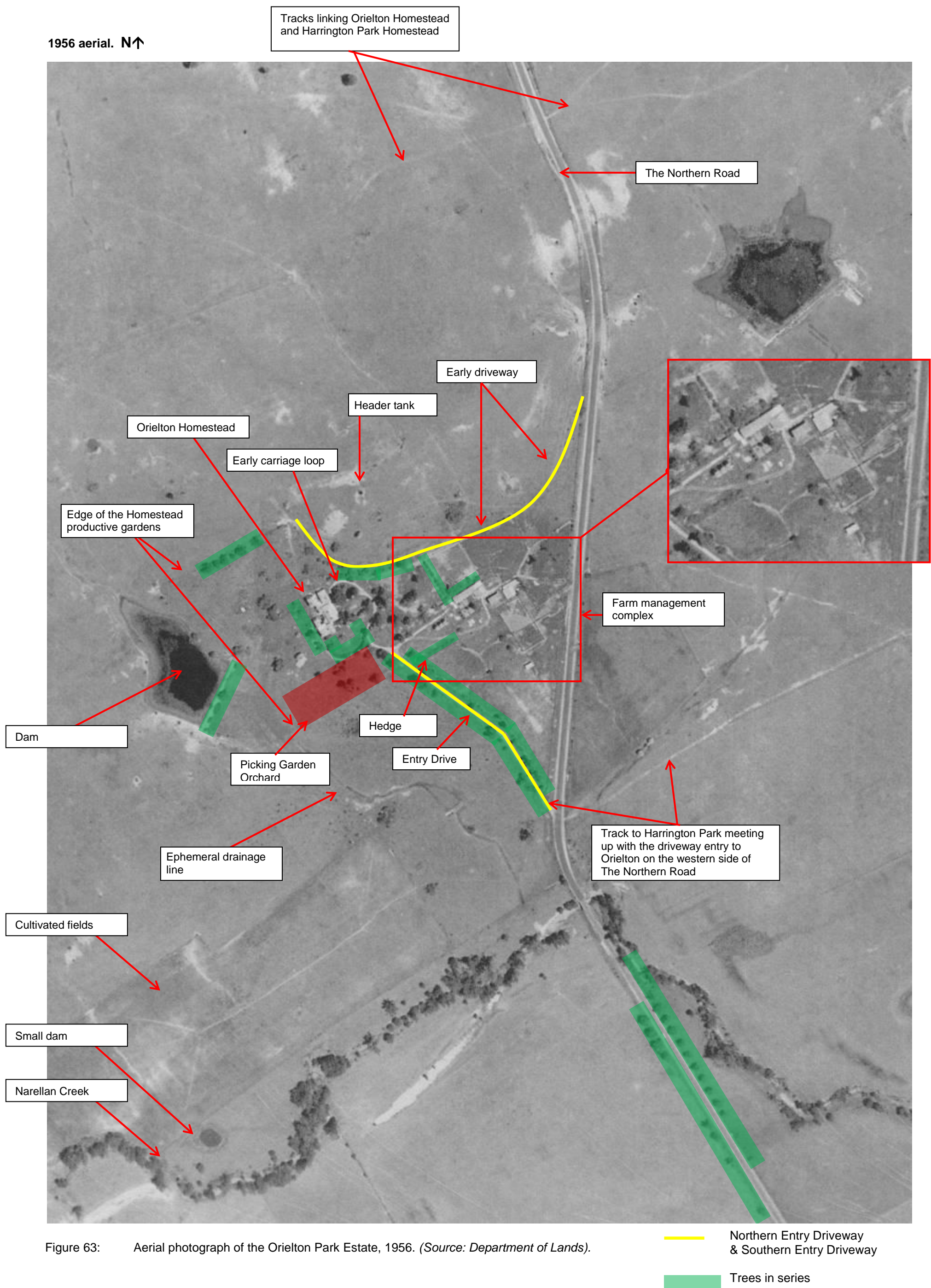


Figure 63: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1956. (Source: Department of Lands).

1961 aerial. N↑

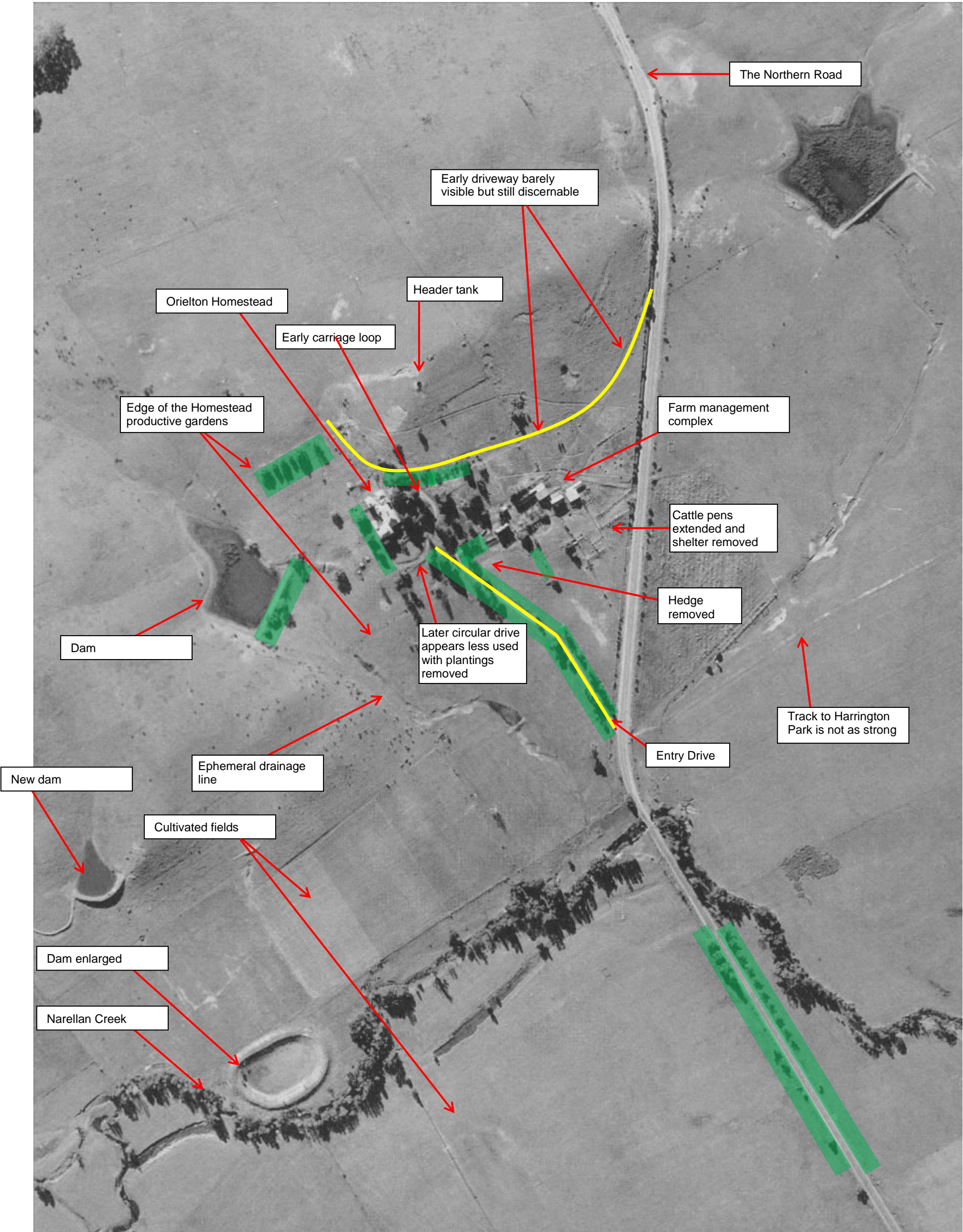


Figure 64: Aerial photograph of the Orielton Park Estate, 1961. (Source: Department of Lands).

— Northern Entry Driveway & Southern Entry Driveway
■ Trees in series

1965 aerial. N↑

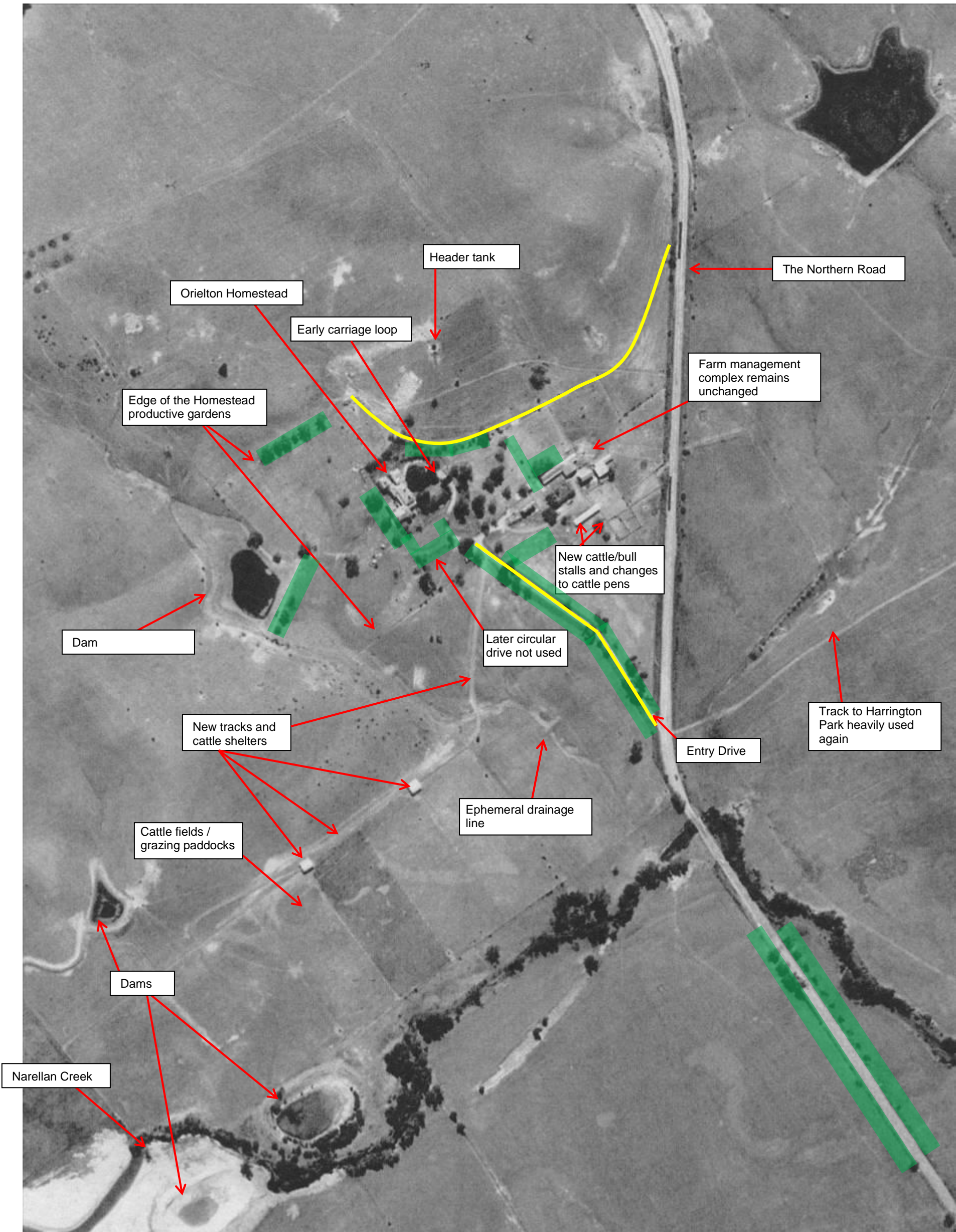


Figure 65: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1965. (Source: Department of Lands).

— Northern Entry Driveway
& Southern Entry Driveway
■ Trees in series

1970 aerial. N↑

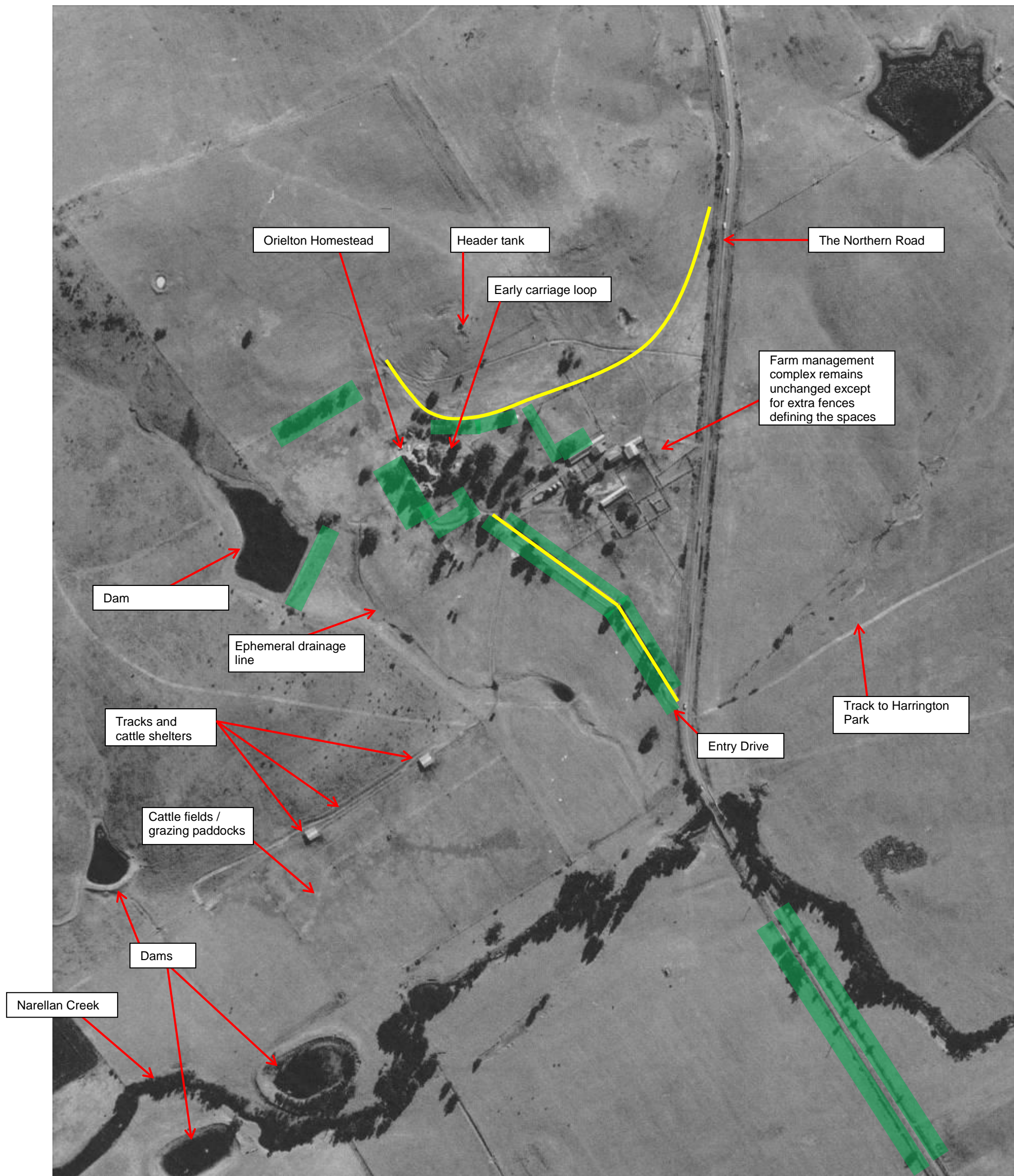


Figure 66: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1970. (Source: Department of Lands).

— Northern Entry Driveway
& Southern Entry Driveway
— Trees in series

1978 aerial. N↑

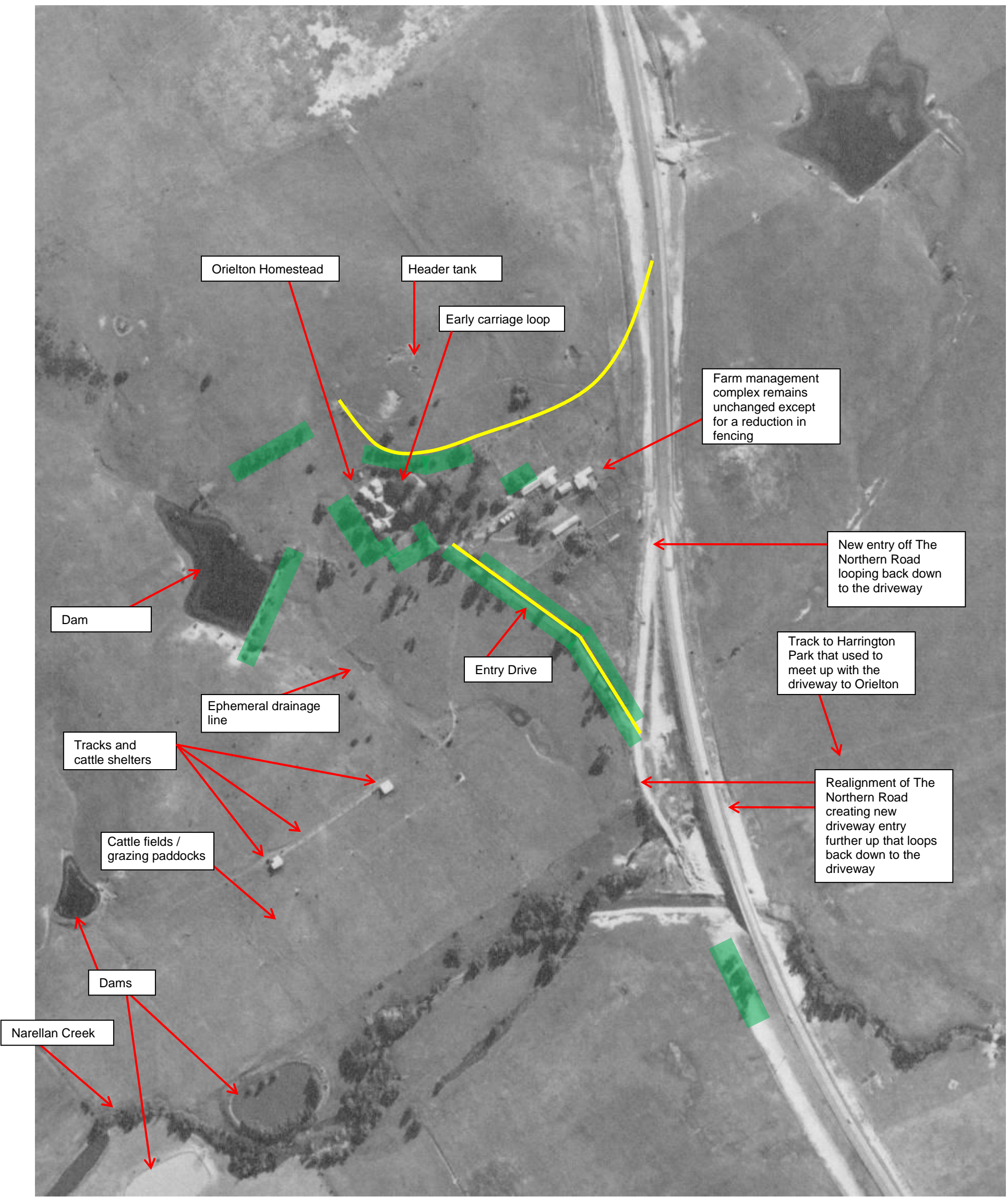


Figure 67: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1978. (Source: Department of Lands).

— Northern Entry Driveway
& Southern Entry Driveway
■ Trees in series

1984 aerial. N↑



Figure 68: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1984. (Source: Department of Lands).

- Northern Entry Driveway & Southern Entry Driveway
- Trees in series

1990 aerial. N↑



Figure 69: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 1990. (Source: Department of Lands).

- Northern Entry Driveway & Southern Entry Driveway
- Trees in series

2005 aerial. N↑

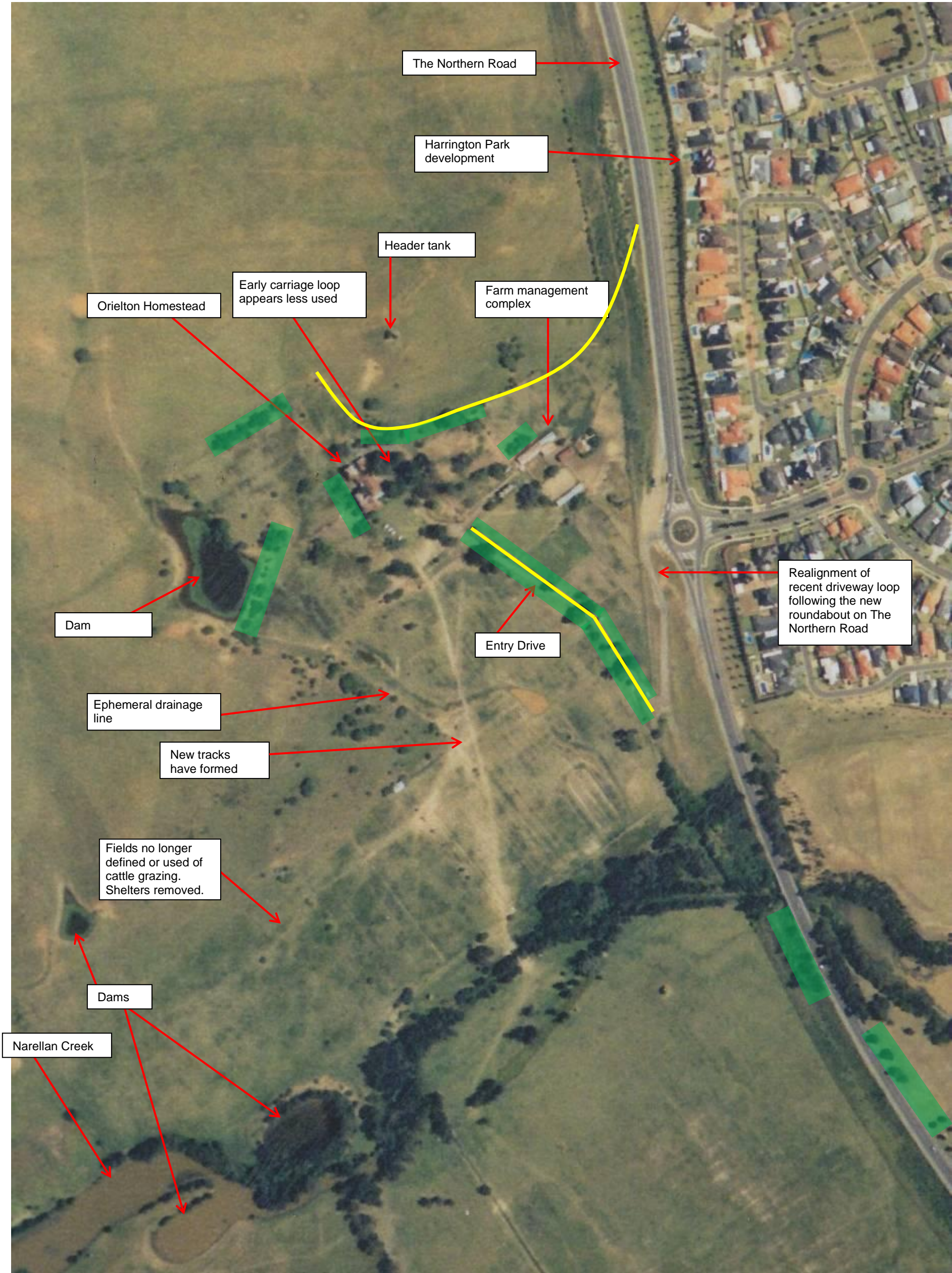


Figure 70: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 2005. (Source: Land and Property Information).

— Northern Entry Driveway
& Southern Entry Driveway
■ Trees in series

2013 aerial. N↑



Figure 71: Aerial photograph of the Orielson Park Estate, 2013. (Source: NearMap).

4.3 Analysis of Current Survey of Plantings

Analysis of the recent survey of the plantings of the Homestead Lot reveal insights into the planting periods and landscape ideals of the site. The survey reveals throughout the various periods of planting, many specimens were located to frame views and vistas from the homestead, to frame the homestead when viewed upon arrival, or to shield the homestead from view. The existing mature trees have taken 100 years to be landmarks in the current cultural landscape.

The landscape expresses generally the Victorian and Federation Periods of landscaping and symbolism associated with those periods. Harriet Beard's ownership and development of the place into a significant house and setting in the Camden area reinforced the gentrification associated with her status in the community.

Refer to Figures 39 to 41 (pg.33, pp35-36) for a survey of significant plantings surrounding the homestead and farm complex.

4.4 Analysis of Built Fabric

The built fabric consists of the following components around the homestead:

- Gravel and hardcore driveway (partly eroded), part asphalt at farm complex turn-off
- Evidence of 3 brick wide dish drain edge to driveway from farm complex corner
- Level area east of carriage loop for tennis court
- Carriage loop at front door encircling Moreton Bay Fig, Bunya Pine and Funeral Cypress. Carriage loop drive original surface appears buried by recent hardcore topping
- Presentation Gardens (refer fig 41 p35, fig 42 p38) are a well defined arrangement of benched/terraced landscape and level areas of lawn enclosed by hedging. The Homestead is connected to these spaces by rendered masonry stair flights and stone paving. To the east of the Homestead is a broad leaf privet hedge and to the southern lawn (c1990 recently extended) is a Pepper Tree hedge which has lost some plants.
- A Bunya Pine (east side) and Hoop Pine (west side) frame the vista from the Homestead over the lawn and pasture to Narellan Creek extensive riparian vegetation (refer fig.38 p31).
- Immediately west of the Homestead is the remnants of the picking garden, orchard area, remnants of an early dam and remnant European Olive trees along the northern boundary (refer figures 11). Currently the area is pasture and the on site sewerage system is located down slope from the Homestead. The early dam appears to be capable of reconstruction as a supply of water for the garden once the sewerage system is made defunct.

4.5 Analysis of Spatial Relationships

The design and layout of the Orielson Park Estate is based on the Loudon model. Named after John Claudius Loudon – a Victorian Scottish writer, publisher and influencer in garden and estate management - this is where the homestead is located below the brow of a hill. The placement of the homestead on the side of the hill rather than the brow of the hill means that the homestead is only visible or prominent in the greater landscape from certain directions/vistas and the design and placement of the landscaping and plantings to the site reinforce, frame and accentuate important views and vistas to and from the homestead. The design of the arrival sequence also shields and then reveals the homestead at key vantage points. The form of the land behind the homestead remains an important and dominant feature of the landscape.

In performing an analysis of the spatial relationships within the site, it is apparent that the Homestead is the central component of the Farm Estate. The drive is the link between the Farm Complex and the Homestead. To the west is the picking garden and this relates to the Kitchen and Laundry areas. The southern gardens adjacent to the house are presentation gardens with extensive outlook to the alluvial flats and Narellan Creek. The east arrival area has the carriage loop with a level area suggested to be the tennis court.

Refer to the 2001 Heritage Council Study by Morris C, & Britton G. "Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain & Camden – a survey of selected pre-1860 cultural landscapes from Wollondilly to Hawkesbury LGAs".

The 1947 aerial shows the Estate landscape in its most intact state before loss of important fabric. The aerials from 1960 to 1990 show the extensive use of the paddocks for Fairfax's Hereford stud management.

4.6 Archaeology

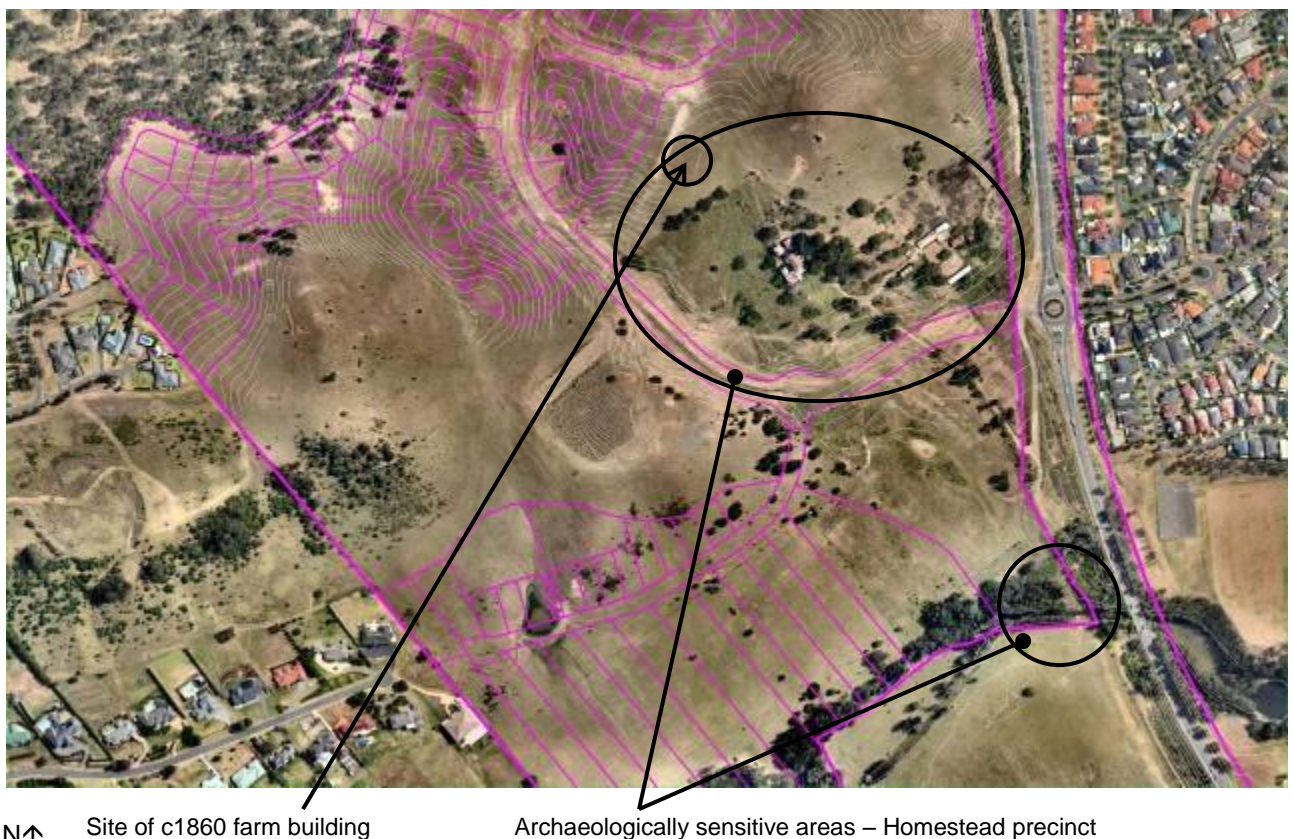
This section of the report provides a summary on the archaeological findings and the archaeological potential of the Orielson Estate. For detailed information, please refer to *Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage, July 2015, Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design Non Indigenous Archaeology Orielson Homestead, Narellan* for discussion.

The archaeology at Orielson consists of various types of features within the Homestead environs. These include:

- possible cistern/well capped off under extension of west verandah
- earlier brick footings 1820's or 1830's
- remnant walls of cellar
- west courtyard – brick footings
- underfloor space – brick feature
- dumped building materials – broken etched window glass
- brick paving in ground floor spaces
- brick paving and concrete steps
- underfloor spaces to various timber floors

Beyond the immediate footprint of Orielson Homestead a further nine items of archaeological potential have been identified. These include:

- septic tanks system west of house
- remnant brick footing adjacent to west side of house
- header well on top of knoll north of house
- early manager's building – stable, maybe occupation related floor deposits
- 3 structures to the north of existing stables
- large barn remnant masonry footings may exist near the existing large hay barn
- remnants of 'Tank' / water reservoir east of hay barn may exist below ground level



N↑ Site of c1860 farm building

Archaeologically sensitive areas – Homestead precinct

Figure 72: Orielson Park areas of archaeological potential. Base aerial source: Nearmap.

The archaeological remnants located on the Orielton site have been assessed by Casey & Lowe as having Local significance with some potentially having State significance. They are found at various locations around the site but are generally focused around the Orielton homestead and the outbuildings. The following plans and images discuss the archaeological potential and archaeological significance of the site. For ease of reference between reports, the summaries of archaeological potential from the Casey & Lowe report have been correlated below.

Note: Detailed discussions of the significance of the homestead deposits have not been included due to the amount of information. Please refer to Casey & Lowe (in particular Table 4.2 (pp.78-80) and Figures 4.2 and 4.3 (pp.81-82) for detailed information on the Archaeological potential, significance and rationale for assessment of significance directly relating to each room of the Orielton Homestead.

Table 3.2: Summary of observations of underfloor spaces in the Orielton Homestead.		
Room	Floor to ground distance	Types of artefacts visible
VG1	not measured	Building materials, late 20th-century artefacts.
VG2	not measured	Building materials (bricks, plaster).
VG3	not measured	Building materials (plaster, timber offcuts); dumped soil.
VG4	550-600mm	Building materials, late 20th-century artefacts (shoes, clothes, kitchen equipment, a beer can).
VG5	500-600mm	Late 20th-century artefacts.
VG6	not measured	Late 20th-century artefacts (newspapers, clothes, glass bottles), timber offcuts.
VG8	not measured	Brick footings possibly from earlier phase.
VG9	450-550mm	Building materials, possibly animal bone.
VG15	not measured	Building materials (bricks, plaster); a metal bottle top.
MLG1	400-450mm	Animal bone; building materials (bricks, plaster); occasional plastic items.
MLG2 (south end)	400mm	Building materials (20th-century carpet underlay, MDF board, timber offcuts); newspaper; metal items.
MLG2 (north end)	300mm	Occasional loose brick fragments; brick footings.

Figure 73: Table “Summary of observations of underfloor spaces in the Orielton Homestead” from Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.26.

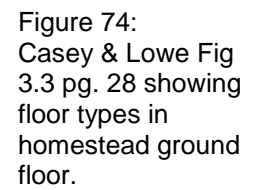


Figure 3.3: Existing flooring types observed during site visits on ground floor. Base plan supplied by Tropman & Tropman Architects, overlay by Casey & Lowe.



Figure 75:
 Casey & Lowe Fig
 3.4 pg. 29 showing
 floor types in
 homestead lower
 ground floor.

Figure 3.4: Existing flooring types observed during site visits on lower ground floor. Base plan supplied by Tropman & Tropman Architects, overlay by Casey & Lowe.



Figure 76:
 Casey & Lowe Fig
 3.53 pg. 61 showing
 archaeological
 potential in
 homestead lower
 ground floor.

Figure 3.53: Plan of existing lower ground floor of Orielton Homestead showing levels of archaeological potential. Base plans supplied by Tropman & Tropman Architects, project 1322, drawing DA.A2.EX.01, revision A, issued 8/12/2014. Overlay of archaeological potential by Casey & Lowe.



Figure 3.54: Plan of existing ground floor of Orielton Homestead showing levels of archaeological potential. Base plans supplied by Tropman & Tropman Architects, project 1322, drawing DA.A2.EX.02, revision A, issued 8/12/2014. Overlay of archaeological potential by Casey & Lowe.

As mentioned previously, beyond the footprint of the Orielson Homestead, a further 9 items of archaeological potential have been identified on the site. These are located around the Orielson Homestead, within/adjacent to the house environs, or within/adjacent to the outbuildings associated with the site.

The table and figure contained in Section 4.6 of the Casey and Lowe report (Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.77 – reproduced as Figure 78 overpage) shows the summary of these archaeological items identified within the site, their archaeological potential and also the archaeological significance of each item identified on the Orielson Park site.

Tropman & Tropman Architects have produced a Landscape Plan (refer Figure 55 on pg.57 of this report) locating and demarcating the archaeological items, building items and landscape items of the Orielson site all on the one plan for ease of reference. The archaeological item numbers correspond to those used in the Casey & Lowe report (shown in their Figure 3.52, our Figure 78 shown overpage).

Table 4.1: Archaeological Significance of areas of archaeological potential (item locations see Figure 3.52).

Item ID	Name	Date constructed	Archaeological Potential	Archaeological Significance
1	Orielson Homestead	from 1820s/1830s+	Various (see Table 3.5)	State & Local
2	Possible early septic system	early 20th century	High	Local
3	Unidentified brick feature	mid 19th to early 20th century	Unknown	Local/DNMT ¹⁰⁴
4	Well/spring	uncertain	High	Local
5	Early Managers Building	mid 19th century	Low to Moderate	Local (?)
6	Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Low	Local
7	Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Low	Local
8	Farm outbuilding (from historic plan)	mid 19th century	Low	Local
9	Large barn/flour mill/distillery	1830s	High	State
10	Tank/dam for flour mill	mid 19th century	Low to Moderate	State?

¹⁰⁴ DNMT = does not meet threshold (for archaeological heritage significance)



Figure 3.52: Recent aerial photograph of Orielson Homestead and farm outbuildings. Items of archaeological potential listed in Table 3.4 labelled 1 to 10. Feature outlines added from mid 19th-century subdivision plan (Figure 2.3) and 1947 aerial (Figure 2.6). SIX Maps, NSW Imagery, © Land and Property Information (NSW) 2012.

Figure 78: Archaeological items of Orielson Estate. Source: Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.56 & pg.77.

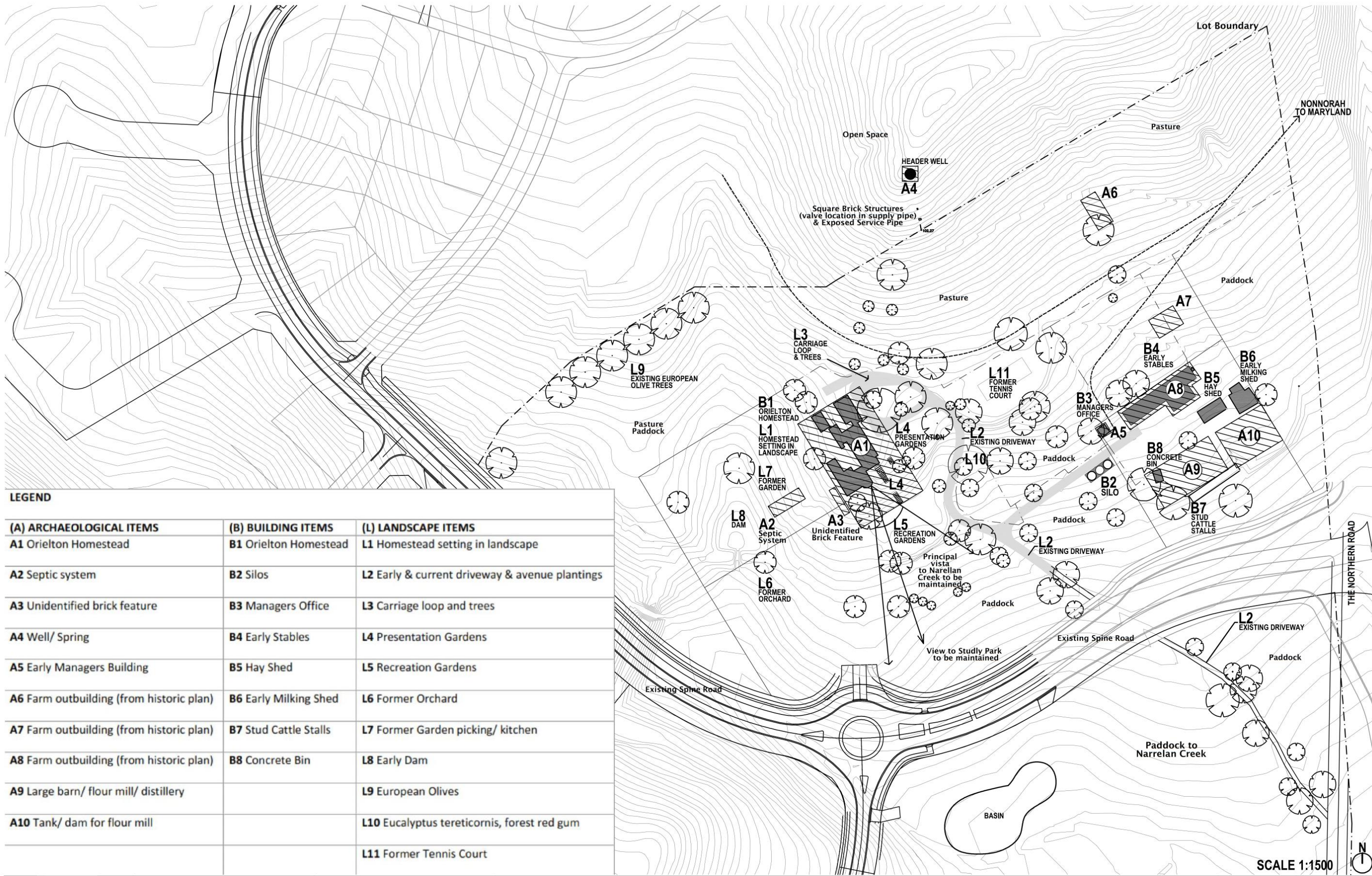


Figure 79: Tropman & Tropman Architects Landscape Plan locating the Archaeological Items (A), Building Items (B) and Landscape Items (L) on the one plan. Note the Archaeological Items (denoted with an “A”) correspond to the numbers and identifying descriptions given by Casey & Lowe described in their Figure 3.52 and Table 4.1 (reproduced on the previous page of this report).

Overlaying the c1861 subdivision plan onto a recent aerial photograph of the site has also helped guide and support the archaeological findings on the site relating to the former Mill and associated structures, namely the former adjacent reservoir (noted by “tank” on the c1861 subdivision plan). (Note the scribbled lines on the c1861 subdivision plan is just bleed through writing from the other side of the plan and does not have any meaning to the plan). The figures below depict the locations of Archaeological Items A9 (large barn/flour mill/distillery) and A10 (tank/dam for flour mill).



Figure No. 80: Overlay of c1861 subdivision plan onto recent aerial photograph showing location of former mill and associated structures. Source: Casey & Lowe: 2015 : pg.65



Figure No. 81: The evolution of the former flour mill. Source: Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.66

4.7 Comparative Analysis

4.7.1 Landed Estates

The year 1815 was a significant one. For Britain, it marked the end of the great French War. Britain could now concentrate on expanding her Empire in the long peace which followed. For the first time since 1793, convict transportation could assume large proportions. From 1815 large numbers of convicts arrived and a regular system soon developed, based on the assignment of orderly prisoners to private landholders. A large labour force was becoming available.

Peace also promoted landed settlement. It helped in the expansion of the Sydney settlement over the Blue Mountains and also, after 1820, into the Hunter Valley. It stimulated local officials and merchants to seek large land grants in new areas. Camden was such an area, ready for estate settlement, from 1815.

From this time, grants of considerable size were made to new colonists on the east side of the Nepean. They were often of the customary 2,000 acres or less. To most grantees, they were additional income earners to the owner's salaries or commercial profits. They never approached the greatness of the Macarthur holdings, but they were important in Camden's growth.

The estates were a conglomerate of gentlemen's country residences and working units. With their fine colonial homesteads, they satisfied their owner's requirements for English gentry status. Their outbuildings promoted production and formed quasi-village structures, again on the English model. In the early days, they made formal villages unnecessary.

The estate has been used as a pastoral station and country house since this time, despite the contraction and expansion of the site. Today, Catherine Park is one of the few remaining homesteads in the Camden Local Government area. Other comparable homestead groups can be found at Gledswood, Orielson, Denbigh, Harrington Park, Maryland, Raby, Belgenny Farm and Studley Park.

4.7.2 *Gledswood, Camden Valley Way, Catherine Field*

The Gledswood estate was an amalgamation of several of the earliest land grants in the Cumberland Basin. The working farm, initially called Buckingham, was started on the land granted to Count Huon de Kerilleau in 1810, with later parcels added by the Chisholms who renamed the estate Gledswood.

Gledswood, whilst a gentleman's estate, was used as a working farm and was one of the largest in the area.

Gledswood was T.C. Barker's wife's family home.



Figure 82: Gledswood Homestead.

4.7.3 *Denbigh, The Northern Road, Cobbitty*

Denbigh was built in 1822 by Charles Hook, a business associate of Robert Campbell and was later purchased by the Reverend Thomas Hassell in 1826 (who also established the first Protestant church services in Kirkham stables that same year). Denbigh can be seen from the north ridge of Orielson. The working farm includes a colonial vernacular homestead and associated farm buildings.



Figure 83: Denbigh Homestead.

4.7.4 *Harrington Homestead, Harrington Park, Narellan*

Harrington Park was one of several of the earliest land grants in the Cumberland Basin. The 2,000 acre parcel of land was granted to Captain William Douglas Campbell in 1815. Campbell named his estate Harrington Park after his brig, the Harrington. This homestead is thus one of the earliest homesteads in the Cumberland Basin.



Figure 84: Harrington Homestead.

4.7.5 *Raby, Camden Valley Way, Leppington*

Raby was granted to Alexander Riley in 1812 and was named after his mother's maiden name. Riley moved to England in 1822 and the property was managed by his brother Edward Riley. Of that land, wheat, barley, maize, oats, peas and potatoes were grown and the property held livestock including horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. After Alexander and Edward gave up their direct management, their sons developed and nurtured the prized Saxon Merino sheep on the land. The property was later purchased by the Moore family in 1866 and later transferred to the Mitchell's where agricultural farming and grazing of livestock continued.



Figure 85: Raby Homestead.

4.7.6 *Belgenny Farm, Camden Park Estate*

Part of the 1810 grant to Macarthur, the Belgenny Farm Group is located to the north of the main drive linking Camden and Camden Park mansion. Its setting is a north south ridge, with an outlook eastwards to the Nepean River and south-westwards to the Ridgeback Range. The stables, community hall, creamery and Belgenny Cottage are grouped around a large courtyard centred on a plane tree and an historical bell. This courtyard and its northern and western buildings formed part of the original 1820s layout. Belgenny Farm Group is thought to be the oldest surviving group of farm buildings in Australia. Belgenny Cottage is a low set weatherboard cottage featuring corrugated iron roof and incorporating some brick hog walls, it was built in several stages, the earliest attributed to Henry Kitchen in 1820. This is the house in which John Macarthur died in 1834.



Figure 86: Belgenny Farm Cottage.

4.7.7 *Studley Park House, Camden Valley Way, Narellan*

General description

Studley Park was built in 1888 for William Charles Payne and designed in the Victorian Italianate style. Payne named the property after a property near where his father-in-law lived in England. It was designed by AL and G McCredie. The site was initially developed as a country estate for W. Payne and has since experienced a number of uses including: private school, defence force, commercial/recreational use (country retreat) and is presently a golf course.



Figure 87: Studley Park House.

School Period

While only a small school operated in the two storey front of Orielson during the Beard occupation, Studley Park was established as a school in 1902. The Campbelltown-Camden Grammar School and Commercial College located at Campbelltown was moved to Narellan. The main building provided dormitory style accommodation and accommodation for the headmaster, a single storey weatherboard room and three smaller rooms were added to the back of the main building to be used as a dining room and toilet/storage facilities. The stables building at Studley Park was converted to classrooms on the ground floor with concert room and staff accommodation on the upper floor. The original building form was unchanged but the arched openings (horse/coach entry) were infilled with double hung windows and weatherboard walls.

Army Occupation

Studley Park was one of the sites used by the Department of Defence and was first leased by the department in 1939 and later purchased in 1940. A camp was constructed in 1941 to accommodate the army personnel that included a number of alterations and additions to the site. The main house was altered to include sleeping accommodation. Weatherboard buildings were erected between 1940 and 1945.

5.0 ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria

This assessment of heritage significance for the landscape of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot, Narellan, has been based on the criteria and guidelines contained in the NSW Heritage Manual Update *Assessing Heritage Significance* produced by the NSW Heritage Office.

State significance means significance to the people of NSW. **Local** significance means significance within the local government area of Camden.

Key

✓	Guideline applicable
—	Not applicable

It is intended that this assessment and Statement of Significance will enhance and replace the existing. The existing statement and assessment of significance on the Orielton property is in excess of 10 years old and does not include detailed study or analysis of the landscape or archaeology of the site. This assessment contained in this report, including the Casey & Lowe statement of significance, replaces the outdated statement.

5.1.1 Criterion (a)

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).

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows evidence of a significant human activity 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is associated with a significant activity or historical phase 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintains or shows the continuity of a historical process or activity 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association

Comment

The landscape of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of historical significance at a state level in consideration of the following:

- Its sublime landscape setting, espousing the Loudon Model of landscape design and building placement in an undulating landscape.
- It is a fine example of a 19th Century Gentleman's Estate with a landscaped homestead garden area surrounded by improved pastures, orchards and picking gardens (evidence remains).
- Significant plant specimens (refer Figures 5-6, 20-12 and Section 5.4.1) espouse the landscape fashions of the time.
- The landscaping conforms to the ideals and symbolism of the Victorian period.
- Orielton exhibits, since 1815, the principles of estate management required for a working farm or outstation, which had been used mainly for grazing and grain (wheat & barley) production. Dickson (of Maryland and Nonorrah) purchased the property in 1822 to be run as an outstation supplying cereal for his milling enterprise. He set up a threshing and winnowing mill at Orielton. The Beards purchased the property in 1876 and used it for grazing, dairy, orchards & horses. During the 20th Century, the estate has been used for dairying, grazing, stud farming and horse agistment and training.
- The 1815, 1825, 1850 and c1880 building campaigns included impacts on the landscape. The siting of the homestead buildings in the sublime landscape setting took advantage of the views

and vistas from the house over the pasture land, grazing and cultivated fields down to Narellan Creek and beyond.

- The segregated nature of the site, ie the separation of the homestead area from the farm building complex area, is representative of social customs and values of the time.
- "Occupation-related artefact deposits, probably in the form of possible underfloor deposits, have the best possibility of yielding material which would relate to day-to-day domestic life. Previous structural features would also provide some evidence on previous patterns of life on the site." (Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.71)
- "The archaeological remains of the large barn / flour mill / distillery are important as an early and long-lasting site of rural industry in the local area. If the eight horse-power threshing mill in the barn by 1840 was steam powered, it may have been one of the earliest steam engines in the local area. The later installation of a 12 horse-power flour mill by 1857 is not the first steam flour mill in the Camden and Campbelltown districts but it still is part of the spread of steam-powered machinery in the local area. The distillery which operated at the site between 1918 and 1921 claimed to be the only one producing fuel-grade alcohol in the State at the time. Although ultimately unsuccessful, it demonstrated an attempt to combine the production of industrial and consumption grade alcohol. It is an example of a local industry that developed in response to larger, international trends at the time which envisaged the use of alcohol as an important part of developing automotive transportation." (Casey & Lowe: 2015: pp.71-72)
- The landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of significance at a state level for its association with the following Cowpasture Homestead Estates:
 - Harrington Park
 - Oran Park
 - Camden Park
 - Wivenhoe
 - Maryland
 - Gledswood
 - Raby
 - Mt Gilead
 - Brownlow Hill
 - Denbigh
 - Kirkham

5.1.2 Criterion (b)

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).

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows evidence of a significant human occupation 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important people or events
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is associated with a significant event, person, or group of persons 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides evidence of people or events that are of dubious historical importance
		—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association

Comment

The landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of historical significance at a state level in consideration of the following:

- The estate as a whole has strong associations with a number of notable families: Lord, Dickson, Perry, Peisley, Beard, Cross and Fairfax families, and, by association through Lord, to the Oxleys of Kirkham. Lord allowed Oxley to use part of Orielson for grazing. It has an association with the WWII defence force who occupied the homestead in 1942-1943.
- Oldest landscaping elements on the site are from c1880 associated with Harriet Beard's building and planting and the Victorian period symbolism.
- Twentieth century elements associated with the Fairfaxes use of the place for Stud Poll Hereford breeding.

5.1.3 Criterion (c)

An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area).

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows or is associated with, creative or technical innovation or achievement 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is not a major work by an important designer or artist
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is the inspiration for a creative or technical innovation or achievement 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has lost its design or technical integrity
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is aesthetically distinctive 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> its positive visual or sensory appeal or landmark and scenic qualities have been more than temporarily degraded
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has landmark qualities 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has only a loose association with a creative or technical achievement
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exemplifies a particular taste, style or technology 		

Comment

The landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of aesthetic significance at a state level in consideration of the following:

- The Orielson homestead, outbuildings and gardens are prominently located on the side of a knoll on the southern side of steeply rising topography of the scenic Central Hills. The homestead complex, with its symbolic plantings of Bunya, Hoop and Maritime pines, has a commanding presence in the landscape and is visible from The Northern Road and sections of Camden Valley Way.
- The cluster of signal plantings – including Bunya pines and Hoop pines – act as a location marker for the homestead giving the homestead a distinctive presence against the undulating topography.
- Orielson Homestead represents the layout of a gentleman's working estate with views and vistas afforded to and from the homestead over the landscape and important access routes.
- The positioning of Orielson in the landscape, especially its homestead and gardens, has been associated with:
 - (1) the social position as a feudal arrangement of "squireocracy" outstation estate management and later gentrification
 - (2) the designed position in the landscape relating to the sublime qualities of the Camden Narellan district and
 - (3) Farm management of productive paddocks and labour (overseeing).
These values are important to understanding and appreciating Orielson's development.
- Orielson homestead's setting takes advantage of a commanding position in the landscape context of the Camden Valley. This selected position of the homestead shows an understanding of 17th and 18th Century Arcadian and Picturesque European landscape ideals. The homestead's siting was skilfully selected – located on the side of a knoll with topographical features of hills, alluvial flats, creek lines and distant views Bringelly and Currans Hills and views to surrounding properties such as Studley Park and Harrington Park. As an outstation to Dickson's large land holdings, it provides commanding views and connections with the Narellan Creek alluvial flats, Narellan, Campbelltown (1830s) and, from 1840, Camden village. Earlier access to the site was from the north-east linking to Nonorrah (Maryland) Estate, Penrith, Liverpool and Windsor.
- The siting and landscape appreciation was sublime.
- The gardens surrounding the homestead retain plant specimens and garden layouts associated with their early arrangement planting scheme c1880. The gardens have been arranged to provide a formal garden setting for the homestead, with its signal plantings of Bunya, Hoop and Maritime pines giving the homestead a distinctive presence against the undulating topography.
- The homestead gardens and approaches, and vistas from the homestead with managed incident elements in the vistas, are representative of Australian Colonial garden philosophies from the early and mid-nineteenth century onwards.

5.1.4 Criterion (d)

An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for a social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is important for its associations with an identifiable group 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is only important to the community for amenity reasons
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is important to a community's sense of place 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is retained only in preference to a proposed alternative

Comment

The landscape of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of significance at a state level for its association with the following Cowpasture Homestead Estates:

- Aboriginal people representing the Cubbitch Barta Title Claimants and the Tharawal LALC have links to ancestors who occupied the area.
- Orielton Homestead and a section of the property are significant for their association with the defence force during World War II. Sections of a number of neighbouring properties were used for this purpose during the war, including Harrington Park, Denbigh and Oran Park, and some homesteads, such as Studley Park, as well as the Camden Airport.
- The Orielton Estate and Orielton Homestead are held in high esteem by community groups who value the historic aesthetic values of the Cowpastures area and those who have interest in the early settlement of New South Wales, especially the Cowpasture frontier, and World War II.
- The Orielton Homestead Complex and Estate is held in high esteem by the local community and groups such as the Camden Historical Society. The place is also held in high esteem by Camden Council. The place has been included in Camden Council heritage studies, especially in its setting (however, its importance has been somewhat overshadowed by Camden Park).
- The site has social significance for the descendants of the familial dynasties that owned the estate, including the Fairfaxes.

5.1.5 Criterion (e)

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).

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the knowledge gained would be irrelevant to research on science, human history or culture
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is an important benchmark or reference site or type 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has little archaeological or research potential
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides evidence of past human cultures that is unavailable elsewhere 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites

Comment

The Orielton Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of technical/research significance at a local and state level in consideration of the following:

- The Orielton Homestead Complex and Estate, in its stages of construction and the arrangement of its buildings and gardens, illustrates the evolution of an upper-class working estate from early colonial times to the 21st Century. The buildings and grounds, in their periods of construction, illustrate the sequence of design elements as the estate and homestead grew since c1820.
- The buildings and layout of the Orielton Homestead Complex and Estate have the ability to demonstrate past development and farming practices, particularly for wheat and flour production. Archaeological remains would provide insights into past occupation and use of the Estate.

- The Casey & Lowe report (2015, pp.73-74) also adds:
The site at Orielson Homestead has the potential to yield archaeological information which would contribute to the understanding of the history of both the building and the people who lived there.

The possible occupation-related artefact deposits could particularly prove a rich source of information regarding the day-to-day lives of those who lived at the site, including the owners, the farm managers and other staff who may have lived on the site. The occupation-related deposits include possible underfloor deposits in some rooms... Potential archaeological remains of previous structural features, particularly earlier phases of the house on the site of the Victorian Building (East Wing) could improve the current understanding of the architectural development of the buildings. They would also help understand the day-to-day living conditions of the occupants...

There have been archaeological investigations at a fairly large number of 19th-century domestic sites from urban areas in Sydney and Parramatta. These sites will have points of similarity to rural domestic sites from the same period, such as Orielson Homestead, but they also will differ in a number of ways, in part shaped by better transport connections.

The excavation of features related to the occupation of Orielson Homestead is likely to enhance the overall archaeological data set of New South Wales. Any occupation-related artefact assemblages would complement what is known from urban domestic sites from the same period. Some assemblages also have possibility of providing information regarding the day-to-day life of the occupants of the house. Structural remains would enhance our knowledge regarding development of the architectural history of the buildings.

The archaeological remains of the large barn / flour mill / distillery have the ability to address questions regarding the development of rural industry in the local area and the State. A comparison of the remains at Orielson with industrial flour mill sites in urban areas, such as Thomas Barker's mill at Darling Harbour, would show have the potential to provide information regarding the implementation of technologies in a rural environment.

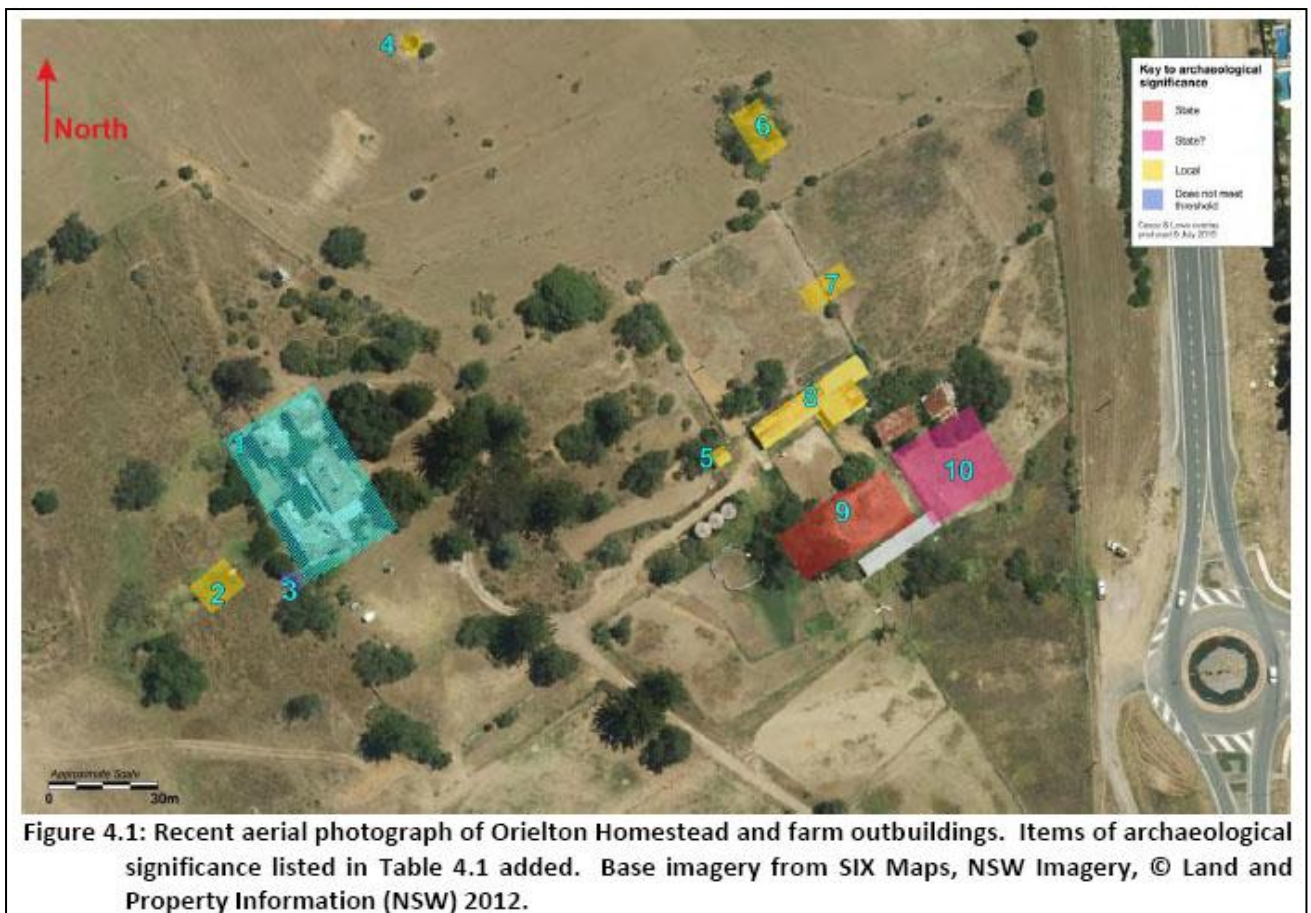


Figure 88: Items of archaeological significance on the Orielson site. Casey & Lowe:2015: pg.78.

5.1.6 Criterion (f)

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).

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is not rare
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is numerous but under threat
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows unusually accurate evidence of a significant human activity 		
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is the only example of its type 		
✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates designs or techniques of exceptional interest 		
—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows rare evidence of a significant human activity important to a community 		

Comment

The landscape of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot is considered to meet the criterion of rarity at a state level in consideration of the following:

- The Orielton Homestead Complex has significance as a rare example of one of the earliest outstations (c1820) and later Gentleman's residences in the Cowpasture frontier on the Cumberland Plain. The homestead itself also displays Italianate design rare to the area and to rural properties. The continued adaptive reuse of the residence and the outbuildings is an important part of Orielton's history.
- The Orielton Homestead Complex is a rare surviving relatively intact example of the Arcadian and Picturesque/gardenesque/Loudon model of farm estate homestead siting, landscape manipulation and arrangement on the Cumberland Plain in the early decades of the 19th Century.
- The Estate is visually connected to the remnant and re-growth vegetation associated with Narellan Creek and pasture ecosystems of Sydney's Cumberland Plain.
- Orielton Estate has areas of regenerating Cumberland Plain woodland and scrub to the north-west. This contributes to the wildlife corridor and habitat.
- "Archaeological sites dating from the 1830s are relatively uncommon in NSW, although they are not as rare as sites pre-dating the 1820s. Archaeologically excavated domestic sites from mid to late 19th century are relatively common from urban areas, but far fewer rural sites have been excavated. This increases the value of archaeological features from Orielton Homestead to act as comparative material to other urban sites." (Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.74)
- "Although other steam mills operated in the local area from the 1840s, none are known to have been archaeologically excavated, and some of these sites may have been destroyed by later redevelopment. The archaeological remains associated with the large barn/flour mill/distillery at Orielton are relatively rare as an example of an early rural industrial site in the local area, which was repeatedly used for various industries from the 1830s up to 1920s." (Casey & Lowe: 2015: pg.74)
- The landscape of the Orielton Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of significance at a state level for its association with the following Cowpasture Homestead Estates:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| • Harrington Park | • Maryland | • Brownlow Hill |
| • Oran Park | • Gledswood | • Denbigh |
| • Camden Park | • Raby | • Kirkham |
| • Wivenhoe | • Mt Gilead | |

5.1.7 Criterion (g)

An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's (or the local area's):

- **cultural or natural places; or**
- **cultural or natural environments.**

	Guidelines for inclusion		Guidelines for exclusion
✓	• is a fine example of its type	—	• is a poor example of its type
✓	• has the principal characteristics of an important class or group of items	—	• does not include or has lost the range of characteristics of a type
✓	• has attributes typical of a particular way of life, philosophy, custom, significant process, design, technique or activity	—	• does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type
—	• is a significant variation to a class of items		
✓	• is part of a group which collectively illustrates a representative type		
✓	• is outstanding because of its setting, condition or size		
—	• is outstanding because of its integrity or the esteem in which it is held		

Comment

The landscape of the Orielson Homestead Lot is considered to have representative significance at a state level in consideration of the following:

- The Orielson Homestead Lot is a fine example of a working farm and outstation (c1820s) and later a gentleman's estate and homestead from the 1840s. Though now diminished in size from the former estate, this former use is still clearly discernible and easily interpreted.
- The Orielson Homestead Complex is a representative example of the Arcadian and Picturesque/gardenesque/Loudon model of farm estate homestead siting, landscape manipulation and arrangement on the Cumberland Plain in the early decades of the 19th Century.
- The age and size of the signal plantings enclosing the carriage loop and the homestead are outstanding and form an obvious landmark to the location of the homestead.
- The landscape of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot is considered to be of significance at a state level for its association with the following Cowpasture Homestead Estates:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| • Harrington Park | • Maryland | • Brownlow Hill |
| • Oran Park | • Gledswood | • Denbigh |
| • Camden Park | • Raby | • Kirkham |
| • Wivenhoe | • Mt Gilead | |

5.2 Statement of Heritage Significance

(Prepared by TTA and Casey & Lowe)

The Orielson Homestead Complex has State significance as one of the earliest Cowpasture Homesteads on the Cumberland Plain that was used as an outstation and a Gentleman's residence. The Orielson Complex continues to be a landmark and a focus in the Narellan Creek/Nepean and Camden Valley as part of the cultural landscape of scenic setting, remnant pastureland, residential development and open space.

The Homestead, associated structures, gardens, landscape features, grazing paddocks and contextual setting have historical, social, aesthetic and technical significance to the State of New South Wales.

Orielson Estate has significance for being important to indigenous ancestors, having remnants of Cumberland Plain woodland and being run as an outstation in conjunction with some of the neighbouring large properties including Kirkham, Maryland (Nonorrah) and, from 1938, Harrington Park.

Orielson Homestead, despite its loss of intactness, is an important example of an early two storey country residence which evidences the evolutionary phases of its development to suit the changing needs of its owners from an outstation to a stately gentleman's residence. Its connection with Dickson who developed the place as an outstation to his large land holdings; the Perrys who built the steam flour mill at the place; the Beard family who improved the homestead and returned it to a gentleman's residence; and the Fairfaxs who used the property as an outstation in conjunction with Harrington Park for stud Hereford grazing and breeding, make it a property of great importance.

The subject site is a working estate from the 1800s possessing an idyllic setting often used as a selling point in the past. Orielson exhibits the principles of estate management required for a working estate which has been used for dairy, wheat production and grazing and represents the practices of 18th Century English Landscape School principles through the occupant's appreciation of the sublime setting and the need to have a commanding view over the productive paddocks for labour management. The property has had a continuous history of farming since the early 19th century and has connections with several groups and individuals who have been prominent in the life of the State, including John Dickson who developed the place as an outstation and possibly introduced steam power to the site. Despite loss of intactness, the Orielson Homestead is an important example of an early two-storey country residence with evidence of its development to suit the needs of its owners and occupants.

Potential archaeological remains at the house and outbuildings (such as previous structural features, occupation-related artefact deposits and structural remains) have historic significance in their ability to provide information relating to previous patterns of everyday life at the site, for staff, managers and the property owners. These could date as early as the late 1820s, although most of the material is likely to be later. They also have archaeological research significance through their ability to cast light on the use of material culture by the occupants of these buildings. Analysis of this material could address a number of research questions, including those relating to the domestic and work life in a farm outstation and homestead, and the comparison of domestic life in a rural as opposed to an urban context.

Potential archaeological remains of the large 1830s barn, later used as a flour mill and then a distillery, have historic significance as an early part of the Orielson Estate and as an early example of industry in the local area. They may also possess technical significance as an example of the relatively early adaption of steam power to a rural location. They have archaeological research significance through their ability to answer research questions relating to the use and adaptation of technology to a rural situation.

Potential archaeological remains connected with the early house and mill are assessed as being of State heritage significance.

5.3 Items of Significance

Excerpt from Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pp. 105-106

5.3.1 Individual elements located on the subject site which are considered to be of heritage significance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Areas with links to Aboriginal ancestors, indigenous
- Cumberland Plain woodlands
- Orielson homestead complex
- Orielson farm buildings and yards complex: silos, stables, milking sheds, early outbuilding, stockyards
- Equestrian use of buildings, paddocks and riding trails
- Gardens – arrival and presentation
- Significant plantings including:
 - Bunya Pines (*Araucaria bidwillii*),
 - Hoop Pines (*Araucaria cunninghamii*),
 - Funerary Cypress (*Cupressus funebris*)
 - Maritime Pine (*Pinus pinaster*)
 - Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria excelsa*),
 - She oak (*Casuarina*) – along creeklines,
 - Peppercorn Trees (*Schinus ariera*),
 - Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*),
 - Privet (*Ligustrum*),
 - Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*),
 - Mulberry (*Morus*),
 - Shrubs – Plumbago and roses
- Orchard and picking garden
- Military archaeology
- Arrival/access routes
- Early fence lines – little remains as Fairfax reconstructed most of it in c1955
- Chain of ponds, dams and reservoirs
- North Ridge
- Views and vistas
- Spatial arrangements – the spaces between components or places

Note: No contents or moveable items of significance have been identified during the course of this study.

5.3.2 Individual elements of the subject buildings which are considered to be of heritage significance include, but are not limited to, the following:

5.3.2.1 Orielson Homestead (B1)

- Roof
- Ceilings
- Walls
- Floors
- Doors and door hardware
- Windows
- Fireplaces
- Timber joinery
- Remnant verandah archway (west side)
- Stone flagging to verandah
- Servants bell

5.3.2.2 Silos (B2)

- Structure (especially early section barn footings)
- Timber board floors

5.3.2.3 *Early Outbuilding (B3)*

- Structure
- Doors and door hardware
- Windows
- Internal wall lining

5.3.2.4 *Large Stables (B4)*

- Structure

5.3.2.5 *Small Stables (B5)*

- Structure

5.3.2.6 *Old Barn (B6)*

- Structure

5.3.2.7 *Early Milking Shed (B7)*

- Structure

5.3.2.8 *Concrete Bin (B8)*

- Structure

5.3.2.9 *Yards, work areas and spatial links*

5.3.2.10 *Collections – Apart from photographs in personal albums no collections have been identified.*

5.4 Grading of Significance

Excerpt from Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pp.107-111

Considering the physical and documentary evidence gathered, the Statement of Significance and various constraints, requirements and opportunities, the grading of significance is possible.

This grading of significance has been based on the NSW Heritage Manual provided by the NSW Heritage Office and NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

Exceptional significance (Fulfil criteria for local or State listing)

Rare or outstanding item of local or State significance.

High degree of intactness.

Item can be interpreted relatively easily.

High significance (Fulfil criteria for local or State listing)

High degree of original fabric.

Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance.

Alterations do not detract from significance.

Moderate significance (Fulfil criteria for local or State listing)

Altered or modified elements.

Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.

Little significance (Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing)

Alterations detract from significance.

Difficult to interpret.

Intrusive (Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing)

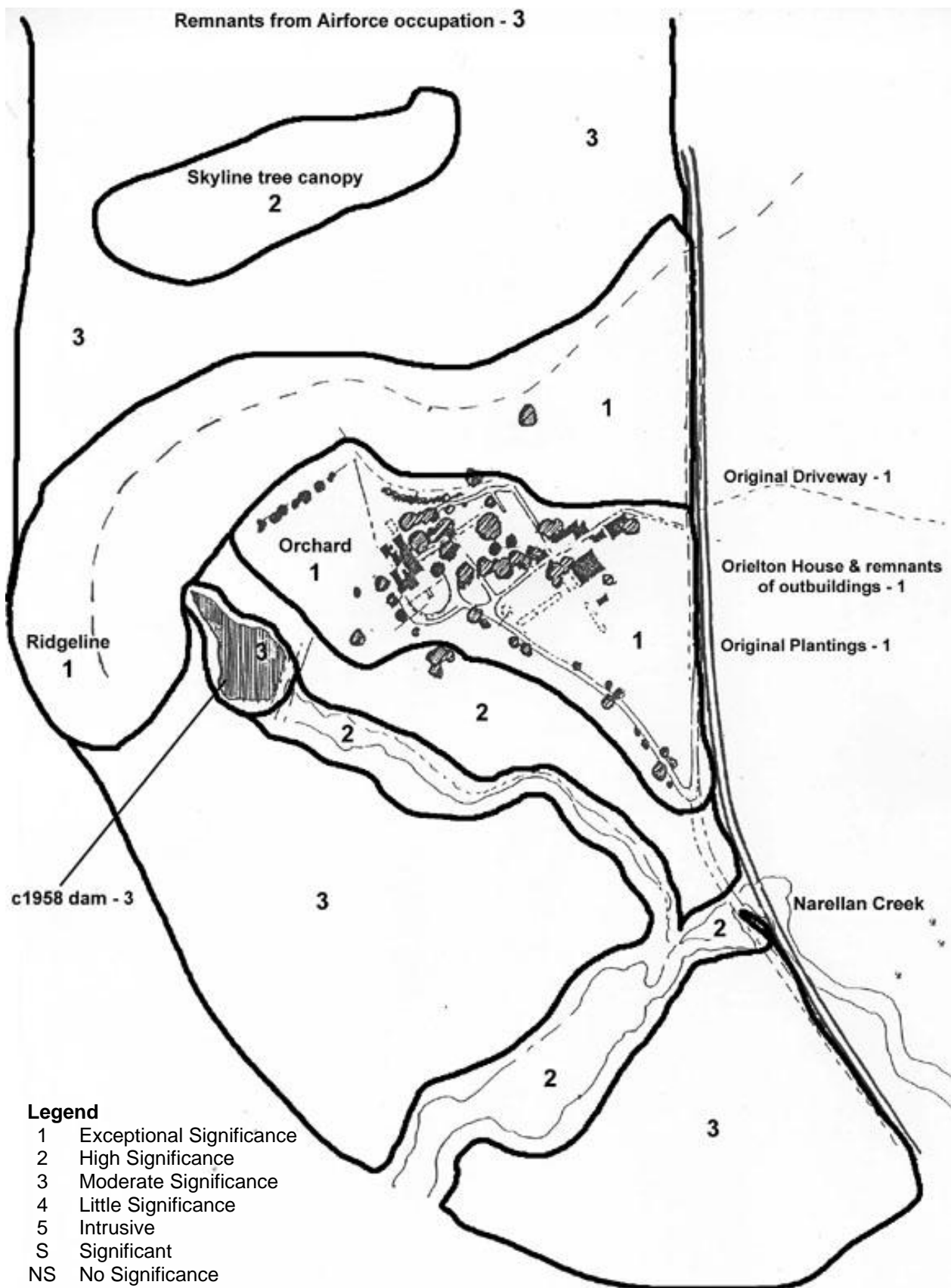
Damaging to the item's heritage significance.

5.4.1 Subject Site

The zones of significance are indicated on the site plan and are rated according to integrity from the highest level, one (1), down to the lowest, five (5).

- Exceptional Significance (Category 1)
- High Significance (Category 2)
- Moderate Significance (Category 3)
- Little Significance (Category 4)
- Intrusive (Category 5)

Refer Figure Nos.139-140, pp.108-109.



N↑

Figure 89: Subject site – Levels of Significance (Source: Fig 139 Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pg.108)

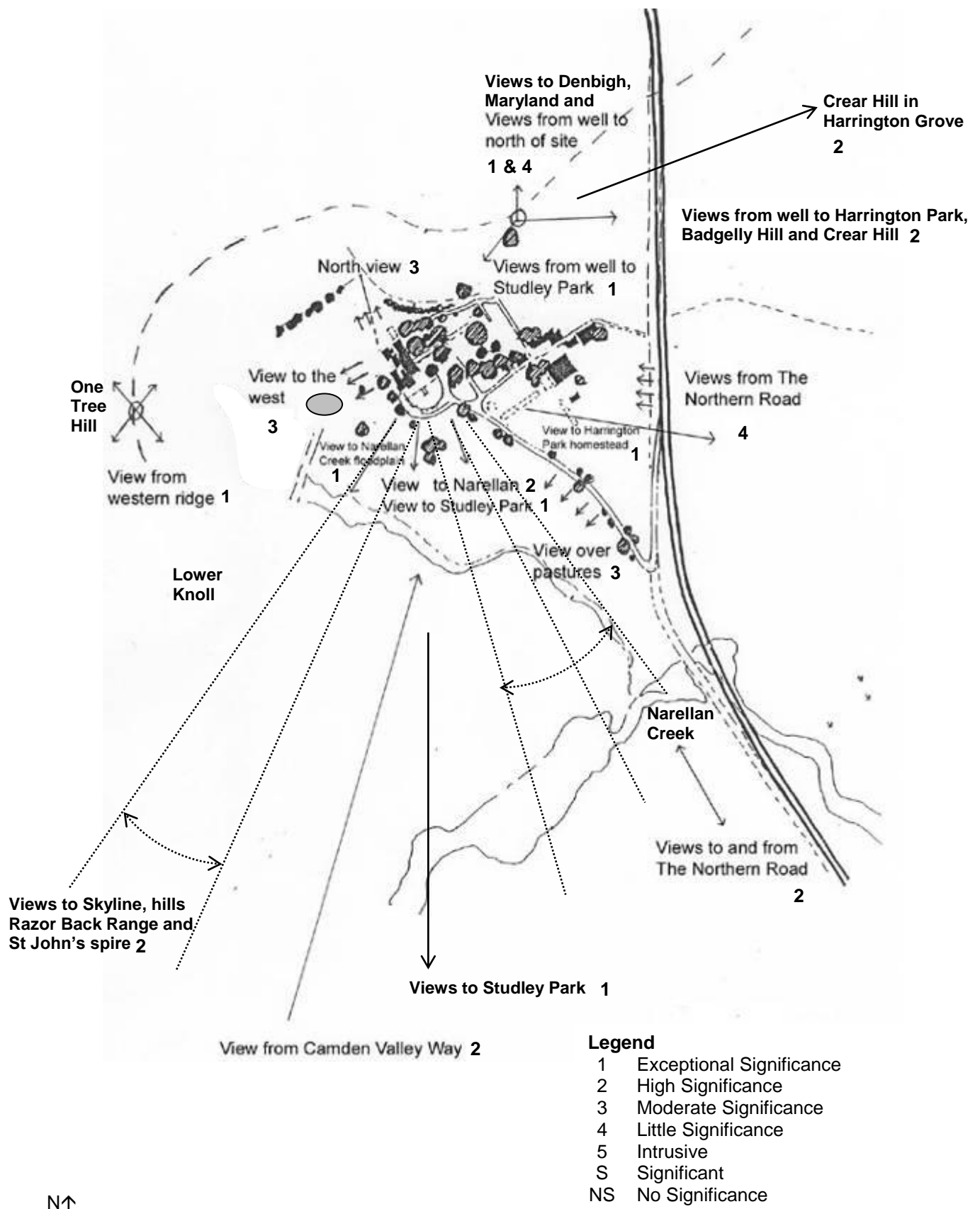


Figure 90: Subject site – significant views (Source: Fig 140 Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pg.109)

5.4.2 Subject Buildings & Landscape Elements

The zones of significance are indicated on the site plan and are rated according to integrity from the highest level, one (1) down to the lowest, five (5).

Because of the limited nature of this assessment, this grading of significance is only an approximate based on the following considerations.

- (i) Period of Construction
 - (ii) Architectural and historical quality
 - (iii) Architectural integrity
-
- Exceptional Significance (Category 1)
 - High Significance (Category 2)
 - Moderate Significance (Category 3)
 - Little Significance (Category 4)
 - Intrusive (Category 5)

Refer Figure No.141, pg.111.

B1: Orielton Homestead
B2: Early Silos
B3: Early Outbuilding (Miller's Cottage)
B4: Large Stables
B5: Small Stables
B6: Early Milking Shed
B7: Milking Shed
B8: Concrete Bin

- L1: Driveway – early and current
- L2: Arrival and Carriage Loop
- L3: Presentation Gardens
- L4: Recreation Gardens
- L5: Productive garden – kitchen picking and orchard

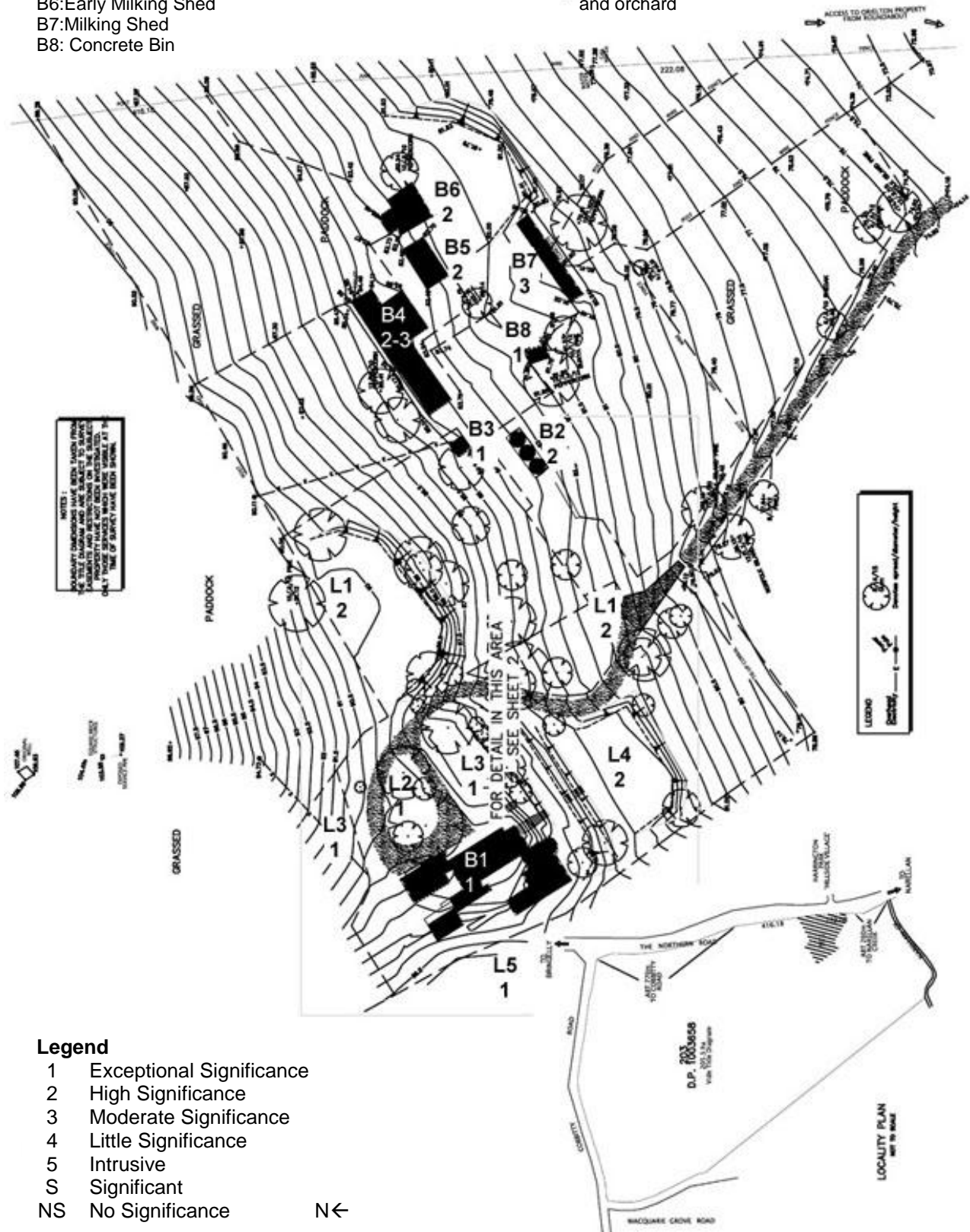


Figure 91: Levels of Significance – Subject buildings & Landscape elements (Source: Fig 141 Tropman & Tropman 2006 CMP pg.110)

5.5 Curtilage

Curtilage for the Orielson Park Estate was established in the 2006 Conservation Management Plan. The investigation works carried out for the 2006 CMP determined the curtilage as depicted on the SHR inventory form would capture all significant features. The following describes the agreed immediate and broad setting (curtilages) of the Orielson Park Homestead Estate as contained within the 2006 CMP. It should be noted that the Agreed SHR listed curtilage encapsulates both the immediate and broad setting (curtilages) described below.

SHR Curtilage

During the 2006 study, the owners and the Heritage Council agreed on an appropriate heritage curtilage for the Orielson Estate which is shown in the SHR listing. This is detailed in Figure No.95, pg.99.

The SHR curtilage encapsulates the immediate setting (curtilage) of the homestead estate as well as the broader setting and visual catchment areas as described below and as such we do not believe any changes are necessary to the current SHR listed curtilage.

Immediate/Minimum Setting (Curtilage)

A minimum curtilage setting and its boundaries are those necessary to retain the cultural significance of Orielson Homestead and its associated setting in the landscape of Narellan.

The immediate curtilage setting of the homestead and farm complex extends from the current boundary along The Northern Road along the driveway avenue, along the former entrance from The Northern Road, and fans out around the homestead and farm complex, and to the prominent ridge lines, encapsulating Area 6 (Homestead Complex), Area 7 (Farm Complex), Area 5 (East Paddock) and part of Area 4 (South-west paddock).

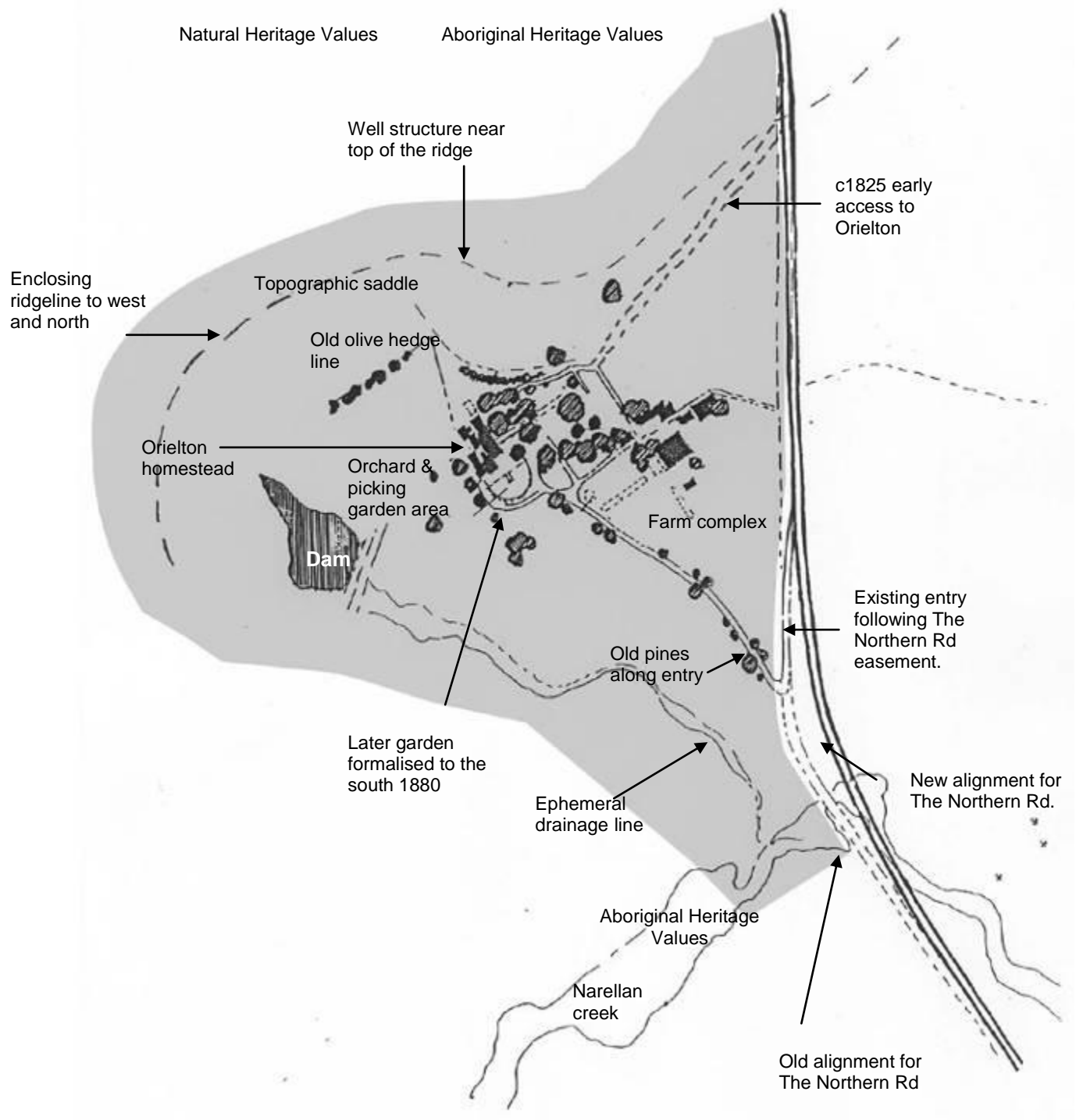
In addition to this Orielson homestead curtilage setting, there are views and vistas that are important because they provide the rural setting for Orielson. These include associated ridgelines and views to and from Orielson homestead. Orielson is an important element in the skyline from many view points.

Appropriate controls for the protection of the landscape setting in the visual catchment of the Orielson homestead should be instituted in the adjacent properties affected by this expanded visual curtilage.

The immediate curtilage setting is defined in Figure No.92 overpage which details the components used to establish the immediate curtilage setting.

Broad Curtilage (Broad setting)

The homestead of Orielson is part of a wider agricultural setting. This broad curtilage setting is encapsulated by the SHR curtilage. The undulating landscape has wide (part steep) long ridges, shallow saddles, small knolls, gentle slopes, creeks, distance vistas to knolls and skyline ridges and vegetation of scattered and clumped regenerating and mature open eucalypt forests, creek lining she oaks and extensive cultivated and managed pastures with fence lines. These areas of sensitivity are considered to be critical in defining a broader curtilage/landscape setting for the property and are identified in Figure No.93, pg.97.



N↑

Figure No.92:

Immediate Curtilage is shown shaded. Source: 2006 CMP.

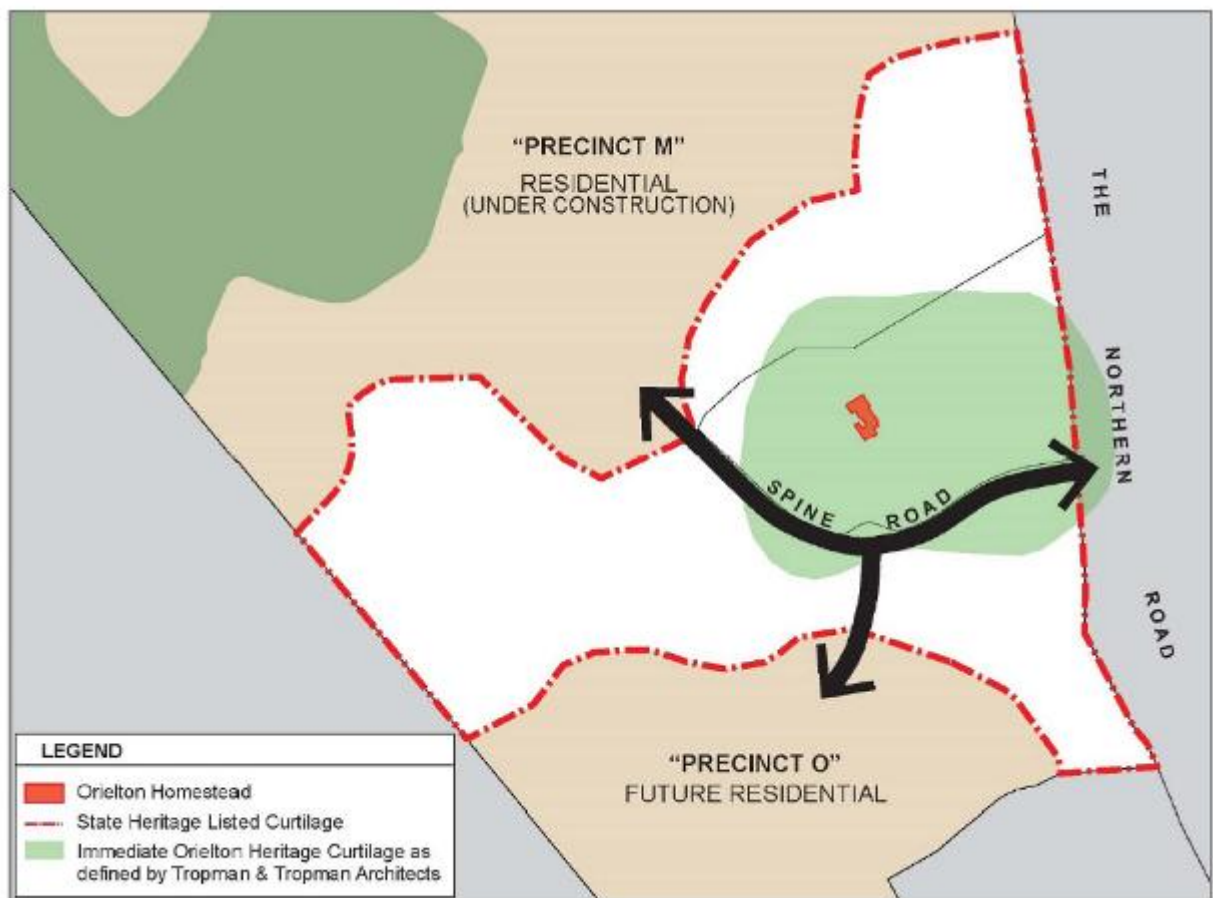


Figure 93: Broad and immediate curtilage of the Orielson estate.

N ↑

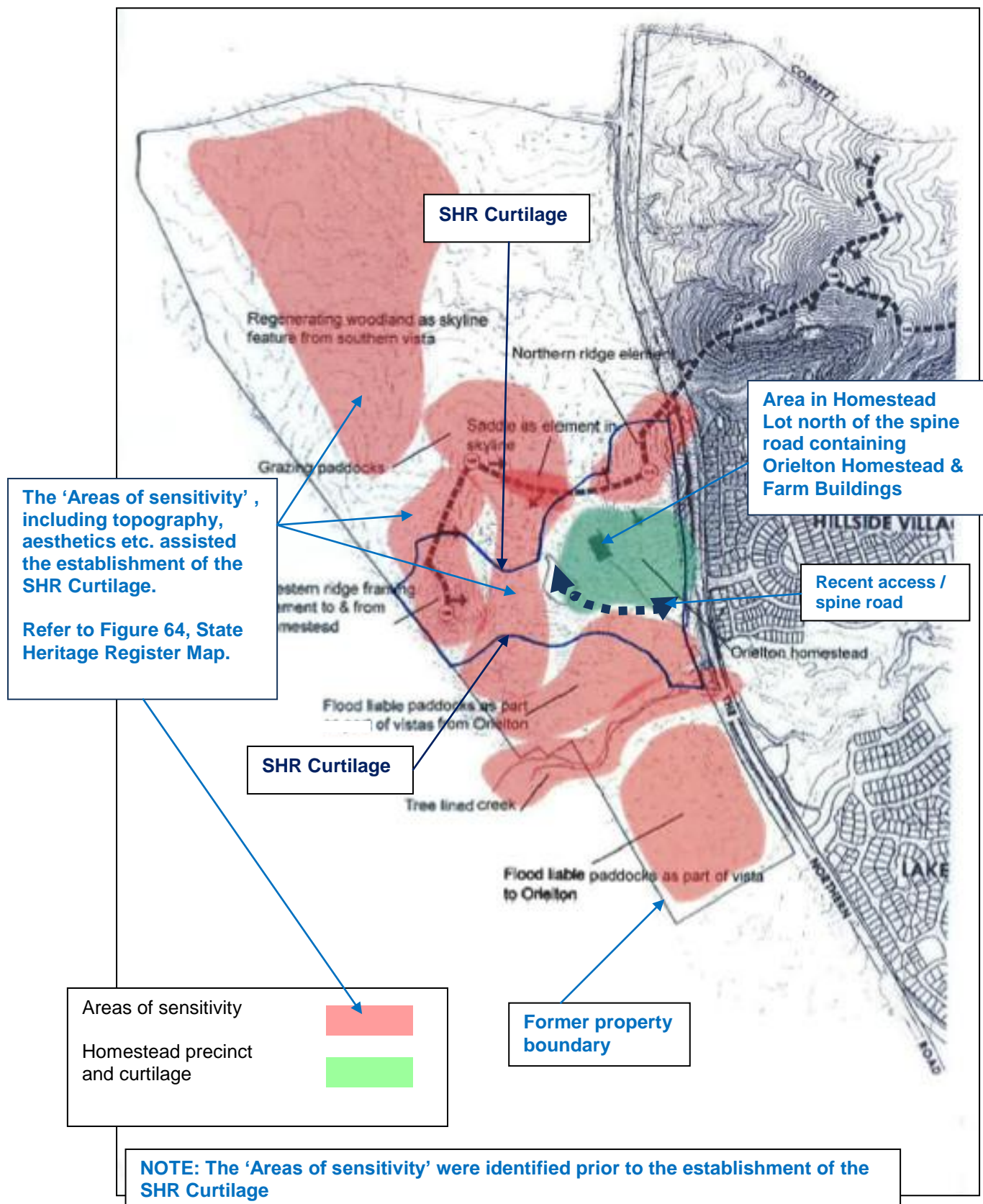
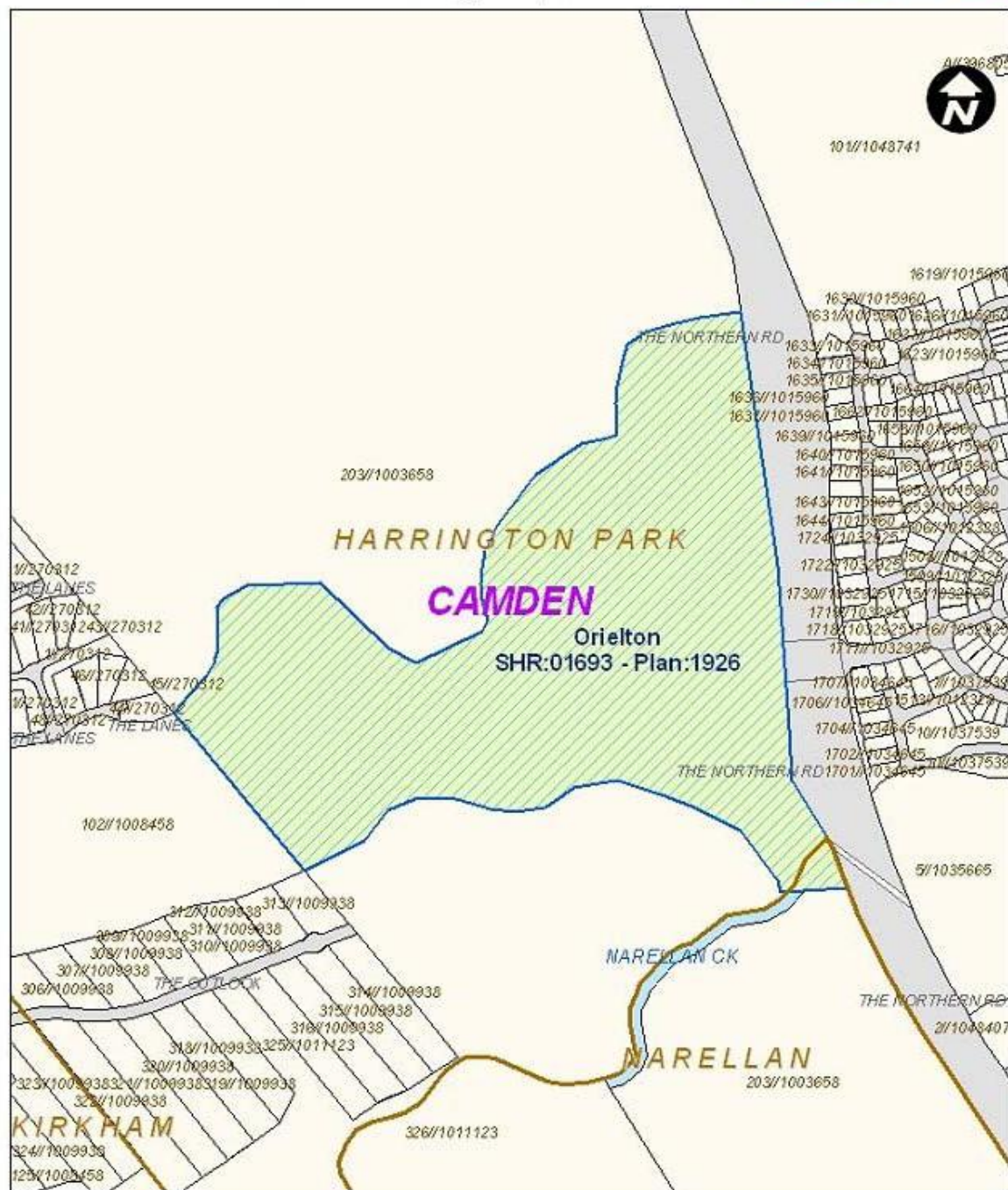


Figure 94: Broad and immediate curtilage of the Orielton estate. Source: 2006 CMP

N ↑

Heritage Council of New South Wales Plan under the Heritage Act, 1977



State Heritage Register

Gazetted Date: 22 December 2006

0 62.5 125 250 375 500 Meters

Scale: 1:7,000

Produced by: Stewart Watters

Legend

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| SHR Curtilage | Land Parcels |
| Curtilage | Water |
| Historic Regions | Roads |
| LGAs | Railways |
| Suburbs | NSW Reserves |

Figure 95: State Heritage Register map showing extent of Orielton Park Homestead curtilage. SHR Inventory form.

6.0 CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Arising from the physical and documentary evidence and the statements of significance for the Orielson Homestead Lot landscape, the following constraints, requirements and opportunities have been identified.

Constraints and opportunities can affect the way in which the values of the individual areas as well as the values of the whole site are managed and interpreted and how the recommendations and policies are implemented.

6.1 Physical constraints and requirements arising from the statement of significance

- 6.1.1 No activity should be allowed that will confuse or diminish the existing curtilage of the Orielson Homestead Lot which allows clear interpretation of the historical uses of the Orielson Homestead and immediate surrounds as a “gentleman’s estate” residence and rural property. The subject site’s early planning, detailing and design features that identify it as a “gentleman’s estate” property should be conserved.
- 6.1.2 The landscape of the Orielson Homestead Lot should be retained and conserved. Management of the site should be based on investigation, identification and assessment of significance.
- 6.1.3 The configuration, setting and design philosophy of Orielson Homestead Lot landscape and gardens should be maintained and appropriately conserved and enhanced or reinstated based on investigation.
- 6.1.4 The arrangement of the outbuildings should be retained.
- 6.1.5 The views and vistas of the site should be retained as should the landmark qualities of the site. (Refer to Figure 11, pg.16).
- 6.1.6 Conservation values of the site require management to include research and the implementation of best practice conservation for the retention of the significant fabric of the site.

6.2 Procedural requirements (conservation methodology)

Since the subject site is of cultural significance, any work at the site or in the vicinity of the site should be done in accordance with the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter. In particular the following procedural requirements (conservation methodology) should be noted.

Burra Charter

- Article 3-** *Conservation work should be based on a respect for existing fabric. It should not distort the evidence provided by the fabric.*
- Article 13-** *Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the fabric and only if returning the fabric reveals the cultural significance of the place.*
- Article 15-** *Restoration is limited to the reassembling of displaced components or removal of accretions in accordance with Article 16.*
- Article 16-** *Contributions of all periods must be respected.*
- Article 20-** *Adaptation is acceptable where the conservation of the site cannot otherwise be achieved, and where adaptation does not substantially detract from its cultural significance.*
- Article 23-** *Existing fabric should be recorded before any disturbance.*
- Article 24-** *Study of the site by any disturbance of the fabric or by archaeological excavation should be undertaken where necessary to provide data essential for decisions on the conservation of the place.*

6.3 Constraints and requirements arising from the physical and documentary evidence

It is reasonable to assume that more evidence, both physical and documentary may come to light as a result of further research or during the implementation of major conservation works at the site. This may include information on early landscaping schemes, archaeological information, or further evidence revealed, for example, by intervention to the fabric, or from other resources. This new information should be taken into account when making any decisions regarding the future of the item.

6.4 External constraints

6.4.1 Statutory Heritage Constraints

Approval from the following authorities is required before major changes are made to the items included in their heritage registers.

6.4.1.1 *NSW Heritage Council*

The subject site is listed on the State Heritage Register as an item of State significance.

As the site is listed on the State Heritage Register, no works can occur to the site or buildings without prior approval of Heritage Council of NSW. Works of a minor nature that conform with the current published guidelines for standard exemptions may be allowed, subject to the necessary prior notification and written endorsement being obtained from the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage before any commencement of works.

6.4.1.2 *Camden Council*

The subject site is listed as an item of State significance in the Camden Local Environment Plan (2010).

Any works, alterations or additions will require development consent and be subject to the relevant heritage clauses located in the LEP. Generally, a Heritage Impact Statement will be required. Some works may be exempt if they constitute works of a minor nature (such as maintenance) that will not adversely impact upon the heritage significance of the site.

6.4.2 Non-Statutory Heritage Constraints

The following are non-statutory lists with no legally binding requirements. However, a listing on these registers is generally regarded as being an authoritative statement about the heritage significance of an item.

6.4.2.1 *Australian Heritage Commission*

The subject site is not listed on the Register of the National Estate.

Listing on the Register of the National Estate (RNE) carries no longer carries any statutory implications. The RNE was closed in 2007 and is no longer a statutory list as there was a significant level of overlap between the RNE and heritage lists at the national, state and territory, and local government levels. The RNE is now an archive of information about more than 13,000 places throughout Australia.

6.4.2.2 *National Trust of Australia (NSW)*

The subject site is not listed on the National Trust Heritage Register.

Listing on the Register of the National Trust carries no statutory implications. The Trust's opinions however, are usually sought when major proposals are being formulated in heritage precincts or in relation to heritage buildings.

6.4.2.3 *Department of Planning and Infrastructure*

The subject site is listed in the Macarthur and South Creek Heritage Studies.

Listing here has no statutory implications, however these studies have informed the existing planning controls over the site and surrounds including zoning, height, density, uses, etc.

6.6 Constraints Arising From Current Use and Client Requirements

The Orielson Estate is managed by Harrington Estates Pty Ltd. The homestead and estate are owned by the Fairfax family company, Dandaloo Pty Limited who intend to sell the property.

The NSW Heritage Council and the owners of the site required the development of a Landscape Conservation Management Plan which provides for the long term conservation work and maintenance of the landscape of the Orielson Homestead Lot. This report has been prepared to answer that requirement.

The owners have a Heritage Agreement in place for the place's conservation. The Heritage Agreement is between Dandaloo Pty Ltd and the Minister responsible for the administration of the Heritage Act (NSW) 1977 and is over the Heritage Property Orielson House Lot.

The Agreement was to carry out and complete the conservation works (currently in the planning and investigation stages) and maintain and repair the Heritage Property in accordance with the Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair.

The users/occupants propose to use the place as a residence, retreat or other respectful function.



Figure 96: Heritage Agreement Attachment A.

6.7 Opportunities for future development

A number of opportunities exist to develop the Orielson Park Homestead Lot including, but not limited to, the following:

- The lawned area to the front (south) of the house could be maintained and used as a passive recreational and/or entertaining area
- Lawned platform to the east of the house and north of the farm complex could be used for a tennis court or a swimming pool
- Orchard and picking gardens could be reinstated to the west of the house
- Agricultural / horticultural
- Additional ancillary buildings
- The complex may be used for a retreat and horse or cattle stud.

The above are suggested potential developments following from our (TTA) research and existing physical evidence.

6.8 Archaeological Constraints

A suitable heritage consultant and archaeologist will need to be engaged to assess, record and monitor any works to the site in accordance with the Research Design in the event of any disturbance having to take place. Archaeologists must meet the current Heritage Council requirements for an Excavation Director and obtain appropriate approvals, exemptions to or excavations permits required under Section 57(1) or sections 139-146 of the Heritage Act 1977 prior to any excavation of areas of identified archaeological potential.

Archaeological remains assessed as having both local and state significance should be retained *in situ* wherever possible. In the event that harm cannot be avoided, appropriate archaeological mitigation needs to be conducted under a prior Heritage Council approval. This would need to be assessed on a case by case basis, usually within an s60 application and would depend on the proposal. Archaeological mitigation may include detailed excavation and recording or archaeological monitoring, but only in accordance with an appropriate research design and excavation methodology.

6.9 Current subdivision proposal

The current residential subdivision proposal as required by Camden Council for the Orielson property includes extending the existing large lot subdivision pattern from the neighbouring Kirkham subdivision within the curtilage of Orielson and along the northern boundary of the curtilage. Refer Figure 41 over page.

The remnant south area should be used for community infrastructure and be connected with the paddock immediately south of Narellan Creek.

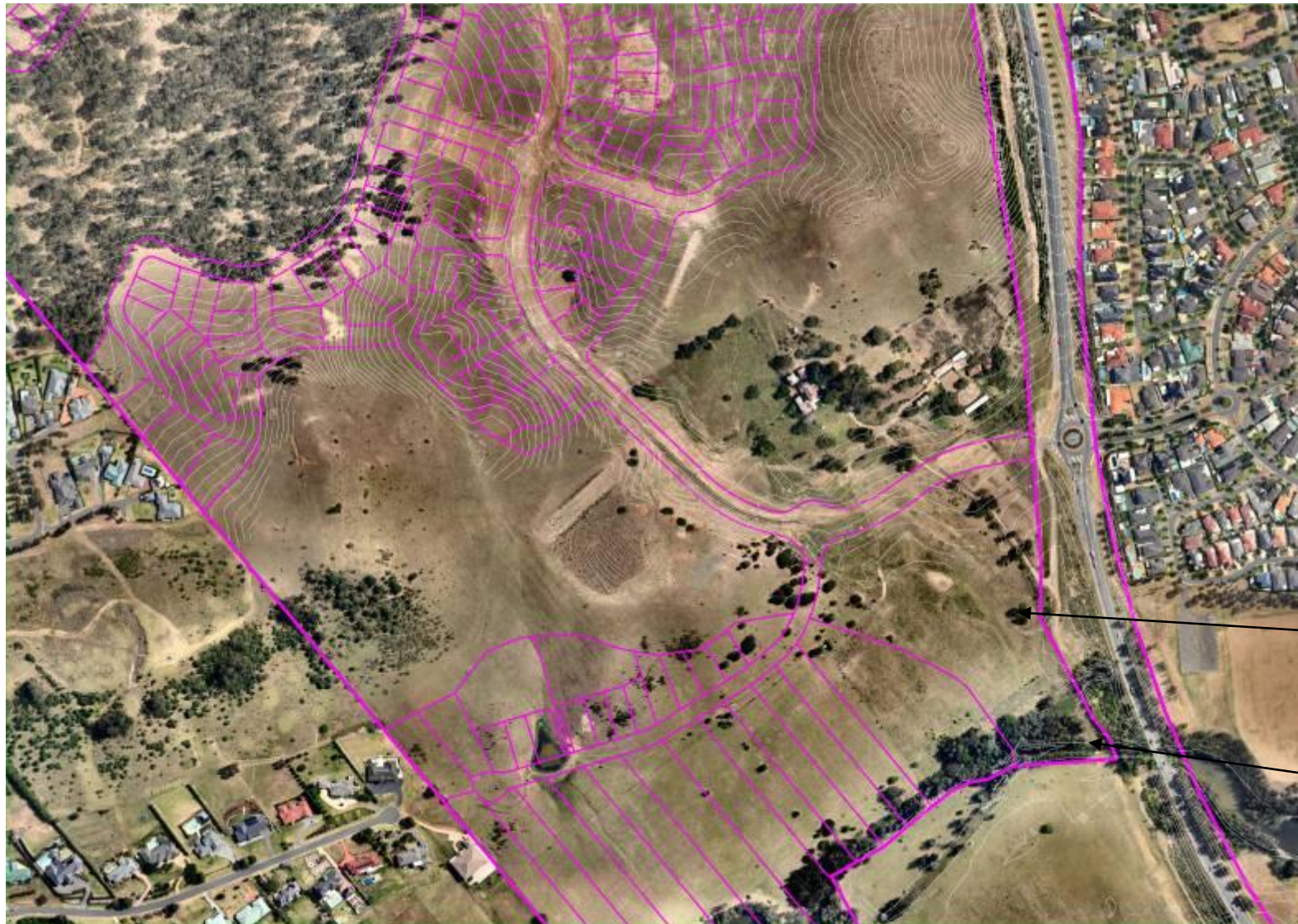


Figure 97:
Current subdivision
proposal at Orielson.
Source: JMD Development
Consultants.

N↑

Use for community
infrastructure

Connection

7.0 CONSERVATION POLICY

The following conservation policies arise out of the statement of significance, the physical condition, archaeological potential, significance and other constraints (Refer Section 3.0, 5.0 and 6.0). An approach should be chosen for the subject site that allows as many as possible of these conservation policies to be implemented to ensure appropriate future management that will retain and enhance significant fabric and allow clear interpretation of the significance of the site.

The purpose of this policy is to determine how the subject site should be managed in terms of future development, use and maintenance in order to retain the cultural significance of the place, the objective being to retain and incorporate significant elements of the place within the framework of a viable appropriate future use for the site.

The implementation of this policy will allow the clear interpretation of the significance of the site and the most appropriate way of caring for the significant fabric.

The policies intend to:

- retain and enhance the cultural significance of the place;
- ensure the retention of significant fabric, planning approach and landscape setting of the site;
- allow adaptation, alterations and new works which are consistent with the cultural significance of the place and which promote a viable appropriate use of the site;
- define guidelines for new development within the curtilage of the site;
- indicate an approach to the future management and maintenance of the site, by qualified persons.

7.1 Conservation procedures at the site

- Policy 1.1 Treat the site as being of cultural heritage significance, and consequently guide works and activities at the site by the provisions of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter.
- Policy 1.2 Manage the site in a way which allows the maximum of this policy to be implemented and followed. The policies outlined in this document should be adopted as the guide to future planning and work at the site.
- Policy 1.3 Engage personnel skilled in disciplines of conservation practice, including professionals, skilled building and engineering trades, archaeologists, ecologists, heritage landscape specialists etc as appropriate to advise or implement conservation works at the site. Record personnel involved in the documentation and implementation of works at the site for future reference.
- Policy 1.4 Carry out, catalogue and archive systematic surveys of the site, before, during and after any works in accordance with current NSW Heritage Division guidelines. Any new information that comes to light during and after works at the site shall be recorded in a report, a copy of which shall be held at the archive of the site.
- Policy 1.5 Assemble, catalogue and make readily available for public inspection, copies of all known historical drawings, pictorial documents and written records relating to the site in a permanent archive of the site.
- Policy 1.6 This Landscape Conservation Management Plan should be revised after major works have been carried out at the site and otherwise at regular intervals, firstly five (5) years from its adoption.
- Policy 1.7 Document any proposed works to heritage items in a way that allows scrutiny by others before they are executed and can be retained for posterity. The documentary or physical evidence upon which conservation decisions are made for

each part of the element should be cited. A copy of the documentation, including schedules and drawings, shall be held at the archive of the site.

- Policy 1.8 Assemble, catalogue and safely house any archaeological finds that have been or are in the future uncovered on the site. These finds should be appropriately displayed and/or appropriately stored on the site, with works conducted by heritage specialists and archaeologists.
- Policy 1.9 The subject site should be easily interpreted as being a rural estate. Any future uses should assist this interpretation. Maintenance of the SHR Curtilage and appropriate development controls within this area is essential to guide the conservation and development in this area to ensure maintenance of the setting.
- Policy 1.10 The local community should be given the opportunity to participate in and contribute to decisions which are made about the use and management of the site.
- Policy 1.11 Avenues for funding and sponsorship should be explored.
- Policy 1.12 The owner(s) of the site must adhere to the Minimum Standards of Maintenance.

7.2 Archaeology

The policies in this section are to be read in conjunction with the Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design prepared by Casey and Lowe in July 2015. Refer to Section 6.0 of Casey & Lowe's 2015 report.

- Policy 2.1 Generally, any new works on areas of the former and current holding of Orielson Park estate should consider areas of assessed archaeological potential within the broader curtilage as well as areas in direct association with the homestead. Refer to section 3.6 Areas of Archaeological Potential tables 3.4, 3.5 and figures 3.52-3.54 as well as section 4.6 Areas of Archaeological Significance tables 4.1, 4.2 and figures 4.1-4.3 prepared by Casey and Lowe, in 2015.
- Policy 2.2 Casey and Lowe's work outlines appropriate research questions in section 7.2 of the Archaeological Impact Assessment and Research Design to guide further proposed archaeological investigation within the property and these should be used as a basis for future investigations in accordance with the Research Design, if so warranted.
- Policy 2.3 Engage a suitable heritage consultant and archaeologist to assess, record and monitor the works in accordance with the Research Design in the event of any disturbance having to take place. Archaeologists must meet the current Heritage Council requirements for an Excavation Director and obtain appropriate approvals, exemptions to or excavations permits required under Section 57(1) or sections 139-146 of the Heritage Act 1977 prior to any excavation of areas of identified archaeological potential.
- Policy 2.4 Archaeological remains assessed as having both local and state significance should also be retained *in situ* wherever possible. In the event that harm cannot be avoided, appropriate archaeological mitigation needs to be conducted under a prior Heritage Council approval. This would need to be assessed on a case by case basis, usually within an s60 application and would depend on the proposal. Archaeological mitigation may include detailed excavation and recording or archaeological monitoring, but only in accordance with an appropriate research design and excavation methodology.
- Policy 2.5 It is appropriate that an excavation director for this site fulfil the requirements of the Heritage Council Excavation Director criteria as outlined in Policy 2.3 (i.e. for state-

significant archaeology). Any proposed works should be guided by an appropriate research design and excavation methodology.

- Policy 2.6 Proposed excavations should be considered in relation to areas of archaeological significance and potential as outlined in the Archaeological Assessment prepared by Casey and Lowe, in 2015. Depending on the proposal and impact, archaeological investigation may be warranted in accordance with an approval, where harm cannot be avoided. This work must be undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist and shall be guided by a research design and excavation methodology.
- Policy 2.7 It is recommended that a separate policy be included to clarify that archaeological remains assessed as having state heritage significance in the Casey and Lowe 2015 Assessment (and any additional assessment undertaken following this report to update that 2015 report) should be retained *in situ*, conserved and protected within the curtilage of Orielson. This policy should be applied to guide the continued use and occupation of the Orielson homestead and property.
- Policy 2.8 An additional policy is needed to address archaeological remains found outside the curtilage of Orielson (for example, remains connected to the Military use of the property in World War II). Appropriate archaeological assessment should be carried out for works outside Orielson's curtilage according to Heritage Act requirements, where there is potential to disturb archaeological resources. An excavation permit may be required under sections 139-146 of the Heritage Act 1977. Any such relics discovered or salvaged during works should be appropriately stored on site at Orielson, subject to conditions of a prior Heritage Council approval.

7.3 Interpretation

- Policy 3.1 Maintain the setting of Orielson Park Homestead so that the site can be easily interpreted as a former large grazing property with a main homestead and farm complex.
- Policy 3.2 Appropriately interpret the original primary driveway (e.g. western approach to carriage loop) and the southern entry, both of which came of The Northern Road.
- Policy 3.3 Reinstatement of significant views and vistas, where appropriate, where they have been obscured by active landscape management (removal, pruning or replacement of vegetation where appropriate) will assist in interpreting the significance of the estate, its arrival sequence and historic visual links to neighbouring properties and features. Refer to 7.7 below.
- Policy 3.4 Consider options for interpretation of Orielson to its new neighbours in the evolving residential suburb of Harrington Grove-West. These would sensibly involve at the least an interpretation sign at Orielson's main entry drive (off the public spine of the subdivision) noting what Orielson is, what its estate was (i.e. the subdivision) and evolution over time.

7.4 Land Adjoining Narellan Creek

- Policy 4.1 Maintain Orielson's connection to Narellan Creek by limiting development along the creek line, particularly in the area south of the house bound by The Northern Road on the east, Narellan Creek on the south and the new spine roads on the north and west. Development in this zone should be discouraged and the area should be linked with community infrastructure. No large facilities, infrastructure or structures are permitted in this zone.
- Policy 4.2 Should development occur in this zone, lots should be larger than the adjoining proposed residential development of the site, i.e. large rural lots with carefully designed building placement so as to limit the visual impact on the setting of Orielson. The western part of the drawn curtilage is capable of minor residential development.
- Policy 4.3 Establish a protected riparian zone along both sides of Narellan creek where no buildings or large infrastructure are permitted (100 year flood zone).
- Policy 4.4 There is limited opportunity for development around the creeks. Restrict development along the creek to the establishment of new creek crossings, stabilisation works to prevent erosion of creek banks, etc.
- Policy 4.5 Conserve and maintain existing creek crossings and remnants of ford crossings. Retain in situ and interpret any heritage technology items associated with pumping water located along the creek.
- Policy 4.6 Carry out regular maintenance and weed removal works on the vegetation along the creek in accordance with accepted OEH guidelines.
- Policy 4.7 Encourage the re-establishment of the habitat along the creek.

7.5 New Work, Future Development and Use

- Policy 5.1 Carry out new works in accordance with the ICOMOS Burra Charter. Undertake new plantings in accordance with currently acceptable horticultural practices to have minimum impact on extant fabric and surrounding areas. All works involving sub-surface disturbance in identified archaeologically sensitive areas should be strictly supervised by a specialist archaeologist familiar with the site and be guided by the Research Design and heritage approvals prior to works taking place.
- Policy 5.2 Any development within the curtilage requires an integrated DA and Section 60 application for 57(2) exemption from the Heritage Council of NSW.
- Policy 5.3 All work outside of the curtilage requires a DA from Camden Council and may require a s.139 excavation permit, depending on archaeological potential, from the Heritage Council of NSW.
- Policy 5.4 Maintain the existing driveway entry to Orielson homestead off the new spine road in any new development.
- Policy 5.5 Future housing development within and adjacent to the heritage curtilage (SHR curtilage) is permitted but must be designed by integrated development to ensure minimal impact upon the heritage significance of Orielson.
- Policy 5.6 Propagate new plant stock from existing site plantings wherever possible.
- Policy 5.7 Ensure species planted on the site are in keeping with those known to have existed in the past on the site or those appropriate to the period.

- Policy 5.8 Significant views and vistas should be retained. Any new plantings or structures should not obscure the cultural, historic or aesthetic significance of the place in a physical or visual way. Refer to 7.7 below.
- Policy 5.9 Where new fence lines are required, these should be based on those known to have existed during a previous period and should be in keeping with the historical uses of the areas of the site.
- Policy 5.10 Reinstate appropriate historical land uses in accordance with the documentary and physical evidence. Allow construction of farm buildings and animal shelters and stables in southern paddocks.
- Policy 5.11 There is limited opportunity for the construction of new buildings/structures within the Orielson Park Homestead Lot. Any new structure must be carefully located, sympathetically designed and clearly identifiable as a new structure and should be located in the farm management complex.
- Policy 5.12 Should extra car parking and toilet facilities or additional facilities of any kind be required in future, they must be carefully located and designed to have the least impact upon the significant landscape and buildings of the Orielson Park Homestead Lot. Locate these facilities in areas of lower significance.
- Policy 5.13 Screen any car parks or facilities added to the site by appropriate plantings to prevent them becoming a visual intrusion to the site. Screening plants should be shrubs capable of reaching 2m maximum height (i.e. no higher than roof ridges).
- Policy 5.14 New shedding for car shelter or farm management may be installed in the Farm Management area (Area 7).
- Policy 5.15 No further subdivision of the northern part of the Homestead Lot within Area 6 is permitted.

7.6 Homestead Lot Landscape Management

- Policy 6.1 Conserve and maintain the setting of the homestead complex as viewed from the south entry as a dominant and notable element in the skyline of native and exotic trees set against the backdrop of the northern ridgeline.
- Policy 6.2 Treatment of the cultural landscape edge between the homestead knoll and new development should be simple and reflect past cultural landscape ideals. Aerial photographs indicate that the land surrounding the homestead and farm complex driveways has been mown grass. Appropriate treatments for the surrounding grass and pasture are:
- Clipped lawns to immediate area around the house
 - Mown grass and/or mulch to the house lot
 - Slashed pasture grass to areas beyond the house lot, preferably native grasses e.g. Kangaroo grass.
- Policy 6.3 Conserve and maintain significant elements of the homestead gardens, especially the layout, edging, landscape character, views and vistas.
- Policy 6.4 Conserve and maintain the mature landscape elements of the site, including but not limited to the configuration and the layout of the site, the significant trees (eg. Bunya pines, etc), and the setting.
- Policy 6.5 Maintain and reinforce the strength of Orielson Park's significant plantings by extensions and underplantings of selected specimens to reinforce the former patterns including:

Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*)
Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*)
Funerary Cypress (*Cupressus funebris*)
Maritime Pine (*Pinus pinaster*)
She oak (*Casuarina*) – along creeklines
Peppercorn (*Schinus ariera*)
Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*)
Privet (*Ligustrum*) (if used – must be managed to prevent seeding)
Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)
Shrubs *Plumbago* and roses

- Policy 6.6 Maintain fencelines and grass paddocks around the house lot to retain the contrast between the paddocks and tall emergence of the trees and house.
- Policy 6.7 Undertake regular maintenance of the plantings on the site by experienced arborists as required.
- Policy 6.8 Plant a replacement for any significant trees which appear to be declining before they are removed to maintain the dominance of the homestead where this does not interrupt or obscure significant views to or from the homestead, along driveways or view lines. This replacement should ideally be from the original stock (a plant propagated from the original tree). Replacement trees may be repositioned outside vistas to ensure long-term retention of the trees surrounding the homestead and farm management complex while reinstating or maintaining historic views and vistas. Gaps and non-continuous plantings where appropriate can achieve both policy goals.
- Policy 6.9 Maintain a clear distinction between the homestead grounds and the surrounding paddocks and farm management areas by reinstating fencing. Hedging could be reinstated along fencelines. Refer also to Policy 6.8 and section 7.7.
- Policy 6.10 Allow the western and eastern sides of the garden to have recreational and productive uses (see past uses).
- Policy 6.11 Encourage kitchen garden development in the western garden. Allow replanting of the orchard and productive gardens to the area. Reinstatement early dam in picking garden by repairing dam wall.
- Policy 6.12 Reinstatement the rose garden to the front (south) lawn centre embankment adjacent the terrace stairs.
- Policy 6.13 Reinstatement terrace stairs to the south garden.
- Policy 6.14 Plant out the curved southern boundary of the front (south) lawned area with Peppercorn (*Schinus ariera*), a continuation of the existing plantings. These will act as a landscape barrier shield from the new roadway development south of the homestead.
- Policy 6.15 Allow adaptation of the existing southern entry driveway to connect with the new link road for community infrastructure, walkways and cycleways.
- Policy 6.16 Reconstruct a new gateway to the the existing driveway entrance to Orielson from the new link road.
- Policy 6.17 Conserve, reconstruct and maintain the existing driveway and carriage loops, including brick dish drains.

7.7 Views and Vistas

- Policy 7.1 Maintain the views to Orielson Park Homestead from the various approaches and vantage points.
- Policy 7.2 Maintain the views and vistas from Orielson Park Homestead to Narellan Creek, Studley Park, Narellan, Camden, Razorback Range, Badgally Hill and Central Hills.
- Policy 7.3 Conserve and maintain views and vistas when developing plans for the future use of the subject site, the significant external and internal fabric of the subject buildings and gardens, so that the significance of the site is maintained.
- Policy 7.4 Retain and maintain the northern ridgeline as a topographical feature so that the visual setting associated with paddocks is not broken and a sense of harmony is maintained throughout the setting. Opportunity for development along the ridgeline is limited and must be restricted so that the ridgeline is not broken.
- Policy 7.5 Reinstate significant views and vistas, where appropriate, where they have been obscured. This may involve active tree removals, pruning or replacements with lower growing species in some key view line locations to assist in interpreting the significance of the estate, its arrival sequence and historic visual links to neighbouring properties and features.
- Policy 7.6 As a principle, significant trees should not be removed. When significant trees that are blocking significant views age and die, replacements – preferably propagated from the original tree – should be planted in a nearby location to restore the significant view line over time. Refer Policy 6.4, 6.5, 6.8.
- Policy 7.7 Carefully consider the placement of replacement trees so as not to obscure significant views and vistas.

7.8 General

- Policy 8.1 Conserve the strong individual character of the Homestead Lot and the original setting which relates to the topography and open space in the vicinity of the homestead. The use of the site as a grazing and agricultural property should be easily interpreted.
- Policy 8.2 Maintain the relationship between the homestead, gardens, farm complex and the eastern paddock to The Northern Road.
- Policy 8.3 Maintain the relationship between, and the views and vistas to and from, the homestead gardens and the homestead.
- Policy 8.4 Maintain and do not obscure the relationship between the homestead, north saddle, south and east paddock.
- Policy 8.5 Any future development and/or use of the subject site should support and fund the conservation and on-going maintenance of the significant buildings and gardens, in particular the homestead, stables, and the gardens around the homestead, and should be aimed at keeping the remaining homestead intact. A heritage agreement has been established for this purpose.
- Policy 8.6 New livestock management buildings are permissible and should be designed and built to resemble existing and former animal and feed shelters.

8.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

This implementation strategy is not comprehensive; rather it is intended as a set of requirements for the implementation of the conservation policy. Any other proposals for the site shall comply with the conservation policies contained in Section 7.0 of this report.

8.1 Strategies for Conservation Management

- 8.1.1 Undertake general conservation and maintenance works on a regular basis to prevent deterioration of the significant fabric and plantings of the subject landscape. This includes inspection and repair of outbuildings/structures/fence lines, pruning of trees, and maintenance of garden beds and pathways.
- 8.1.2 Manage the subject site in a way that allows the maximum amount of this Conservation Management Policy (refer Section 7.0 of this report) to be implemented.
- 8.1.3 Develop a clear structure setting out the responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance and care of the landscape of the site. This should be made available to all persons involved in the care of the site.
- 8.1.4 Personnel skilled in disciplines of conservation practice shall be engaged as appropriate to advise on both minor and major works and implement conservation aspects at the site.
- 8.1.5 The relevant consent authorities must be contacted and approval obtained prior to any major works taking place.
- 8.1.6 Following on from the 2006 Conservation Management Plan and this Landscape Conservation Management Plan, the plans, documents and guidelines tabulated below shall be prepared as required and made available to persons involved in the care and conservation of the site.

Document	Objective/Comment	Priority	Timeframe
Heritage Impact Statements	Heritage Impact Statements will be required to accompany any development applications for the site.	1	To accompany development proposals
Archaeological Watching (Investigation) Brief & Excavation Permit	A watching brief and excavation permit will be required should there be a proposal to disturb any potential archaeological resource on the property in areas recorded as having archaeological potential.	1	To accompany development proposals where the ground is disturbed
Interpretation Plan and Interpretation Strategy	The subject site is of State heritage significance to the development of the Camden area and this should be interpreted to the public. An Interpretation Plan on the site would determine the themes and messages to be interpreted at the site and the best media to accomplish this. The Interpretation Strategy would develop the Interpretation Plan and prioritise the proposed interpretation works and appropriate media. A preliminary draft Interpretation Plan was completed by TTA in 2015.	1	To be approved by council and placed on site prior to commencement of works.
Archival records	The purpose of an archival record is to record the heritage item before, during and after any proposed works to document the heritage item and any changes made. Current NSW Heritage Division guidelines shall be followed.	1	As major works take place. Archival record needs to be undertaken periodically before, during and after works.

8.2 Strategies for Future Works

- 8.2.1 All works should be carried out in accordance with the conservation policies contained in Section 7.0 of this report;

8.3 Strategies for Maintenance

- 8.3.1 General maintenance shall be undertaken on a regular basis, including regular inspection and repair of structures, and management and pruning of plantings.
- 8.3.2 Management and maintenance of the landscaping to the site should be undertaken by a qualified arborist or horticulturist.

8.4 Strategies for Management of Future Development

- 8.4.1 This Landscape Conservation Management Plan shall be consulted and specific proposals for the site assessed in the light of what is recommended in previous sections of these policies.
- 8.4.2 The feasibility of the options listed in Section 6.7 of this report should be investigated with close reference to the constraints and requirements of this Landscape Conservation Management Plan and the conservation policies contained in Section 7.0 of this report.
- 8.4.3 Any future use of the subject site and buildings should continue to allow for its interpretation as a rural homestead with landscaped gardens surrounded by agricultural activities.

8.5 Strategies for Interpretation

- 8.5.1 Options recommended for interpretation of Orielson to its new neighbours in the evolving residential suburb of Harrington Grove-West need to be considered. These would sensibly involve at the least a new sign to Orielson's main entry drive (off the public spine of the subdivision) noting what Orielson is, what its estate was (i.e. the subdivision) and evolution over time.
- 8.5.2 The applicant shall prepare a public interpretation sign to be placed near the entrance of Orielson driveway onto the public spine road to raise public and future resident's awareness of this heritage item on whose former land a new suburb is emerging.
- 8.5.3 Details of the proposed text and imagery for this interpretive sign shall be submitted to the heritage council for its separate delegated approval prior to onsite works.

Appendix A

Historical Background

Aboriginal Historical Notes

Source: Tropman & Tropman Architects *Thomas Barker Estate: Maryland & Lowe's Birling Conservation Management Plan*, February 2017, pp.18-21.

More numerous than expected – inland Aborigines of New South Wales

The Europeans called the Aborigines who lived near Maryland the Cowpastures tribe; they were also identified as Dharawal, a description based on their language. Their territory covered an area between Botany Bay and the Shoalhaven River and they travelled widely in the south-western regions of the counties of Cumberland and Camden. Further inland were the Dharug people whose area covered land from the Hawkesbury River to places as far west as the mountains and south to Camden and Picton.⁷

James Cook's belief, that most Aboriginal people lived near the coast because they depended on a seafood diet, was proved wrong as soon as early European exploration parties moved away from Sydney Cove. They discovered that inland Aborigines lived on small animals such as possums, 'vegetable roots and native fruit seeds and berries, with mullet, eel and kangaroo as supplements'.⁸

From the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788, the official policy towards the indigenous people was conflicted. Although Governor Phillip had been advised to treat the original inhabitants with amity and kindness, as early as the third year of European occupation, he sent a punitive expedition to kill ten aborigines in revenge for the murder of his gamekeeper.⁹ Another Aborigine, Coleby, identified the warrior Pemulwy as the culprit and Phillip chose Watkin Tench to lead a party of soldiers to the land around the head of Botany Bay where Pemulwy was believed to live. Tench was able to persuade Phillip to lower the number of Aborigines captured or killed from ten to six. However, on two expeditions, he and his men were unable to find any Aborigines at all.¹⁰

Settlers in the Parramatta area shot Pemulwy in 1802 but his son Tedbury continued his father's war against the European invaders in 1805 and again in 1809 when Young Bundle helped him terrorise settlers near the Cook and Georges Rivers. Lieutenant governors and governors from 1790 vacillated between fleeting sympathy for Aborigines and ordering settlers to arm themselves and fire on them. Macquarie, who arrived in 1810, tried to encourage Aborigines to settle on land like Europeans but they were loath to do so.

The Cowpastures Frontier

Europeans first entered the district known as the Cowpastures in 1795 when Aborigines reported finding a herd of cattle there. These animals bred from the five that escaped from Farm Cove in 1788. By the time they were located, the herd had grown to 61 animals grazing on the south-west bank of the Nepean River. Aboriginal people knew the place as Baragil or Baragal but Governor Hunter called it the Cowpastures. Captain Waterhouse described it in a letter to John Macarthur in 1804.

After crossing the Nepean to the foot of what is called the Blue Mountains I am at a loss to describe the face of the country other than as a beautiful park, totally divested of underwood, interspersed with plains, with rich, luxuriant grass; but for want of burning off, rank, except where recently burnt. This is the part where the cattle that have strayed are constantly fed – of course, their own selection...it appears that some meadows bordering on the banks of the Nepean River are evidently at times overflowed from the river;

⁷ Carol Liston, *Campbelltown. The Bicentennial History*, Council of the City of Campbelltown with Allen & Unwin Australia, Pty Ltd, North Sydney, 1988, p 1

⁸ Robert Murray and Kate White, *Dharug to Dungaree. The History of Penrith and St Marys to 1860*, Harreen Publishing Company with the City of Penrith, 1988, p 20

⁹ Captain Watkin Tench, *Sydney's First Four Years*, Library of Australian History, 1979 edition, pp 209-16

¹⁰ Ibid, pp 209-214

*but it is not very common and cannot be done without sufficient time to drive away any stock if common attention is paid.*¹¹

The area appealed to Europeans because there was little undergrowth to discourage the lush grasses that made it ideal for grazing cattle on the flats and possibly sheep on the hills towards the Razorback Range. Governors Hunter, King and Bligh ruled against European settlement on the Cowpastures, which was south-west of the Nepean River and outside the County of Cumberland. Even the north-eastern bank of the Nepean, opposite Cowpastures was deliberately kept from aspiring settlers, perhaps because of its remoteness.

Having withdrawn a number of grants by Lt Governors Foveaux and Paterson when he restored order after the New South Wales Corps coup against Governor Bligh, Macquarie had James Meehan survey the Cook District (later Cook Parish) in the County of Cumberland opposite the Cowpastures to prepare it for settlement. Some of the grants he made there were of modest size but most were generous.

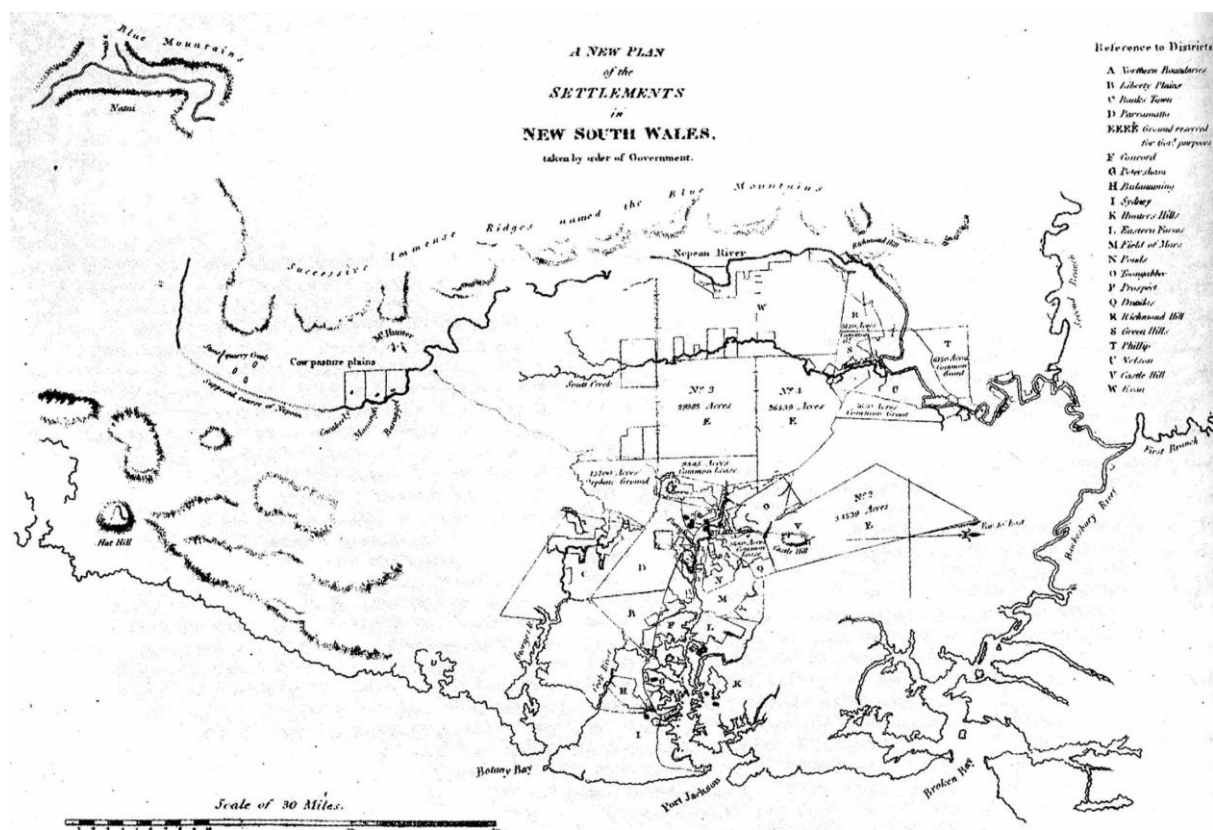


Figure 1: The settlements identified on John Booth's map of the settlements in New South Wales in 1810, were A Northern Boundaries. B Liberty Plains, C Banks Town, D Parramatta, E Ground reserved for Government Purposes (four reserves), F Concord, G Petersham, H Bulanaming I Sydney, K Hunters Hill, L Eastern Farms, M Field of Mars, N Ponds, O Toongabbie, P Prospect, Q Dundas [?], R Richmond Hill, S Green Hills, T Phillip, U Nelson, V Castle Hill and W illegible. The roughly shaped rectangles on the upper left side of the map on the Cowpasture Plains were the two grants to Macarthur and one to his friend Davidson. Most of the land north of the river was vacant. SLNSW

Conflict on the Southern Frontier

From 1814 a drought led to serious violence in the more remote southern parts of the County of Cumberland. Lack of their traditional food brought Aborigines from the south coast and Gandangara from the mountains to raid the settlers' crops. In Appin, three members of the Veteran Company

¹¹ Cited in Robert Murray, Kate White, *Dharug and Dungaree: The History of Penrith and St Marys to 1860*, Hargreen Publishing Company with Council of the City of Penrith, North Melbourne, 1988, p 183

militia fired on natives who were taking corn. The Aborigines retaliated. Too wounded to flee from their spears one militia man was abandoned and his body was found later without one of its hands. The Europeans avenged this death with unmitigated violence, murdering a woman and two children in their sleep and mutilating their bodies. These acts brought more Aboriginal retaliation. The following day they killed Mrs Macarthur's Camden stock keepers. More aggressive than the local Dharawal, Aborigines from Jervis Bay and the mountains gathered in the Cowpastures in late May. It was rumoured that they no longer feared guns and would kill all white people. Two servants speared to death at Broughton's farm at Appin in June, and the murder of James Daley's children at Bringelly in July, lent credence to that rumour.¹² A party led by two Campbelltown men failed to capture the culprits.

In 1816 Aboriginal raiders killed four of G. T. Palmer's men and three of Mrs Macarthur's servants. A large party of farmers armed with muskets, pistols, pitchforks and pikes approached the Aborigines at Camden but were forced to flee when spears and stones rained down on them. The deaths of five more whites from Aboriginal attacks made Macquarie plan severe reprisals. He ordered soldiers to arrest all Aborigines in the southern districts. In April Lieutenant Dawes and the soldiers sent to capture Cowpastures Aborigines fired on them as they tried to flee, killing an unspecified number and leading to the capture an innocent boy.

Governor Macquarie sent Captain James Wallis to Airds and Appin with armed soldiers. In this war, Macquarie did not distinguish between the friendly and non-friendly Aborigines but some settlers actively protected their Dharawal friends. Their attitude enraged Wallis who had fruitlessly led his force to Minto, only to find that the person calling for help was no longer there. He then turned back to Appin and found the Aboriginal camp at Broughton's farm abandoned.¹³

A child's cry was heard in the bush, Wallis formed his men into a line and pushed through the thick bush towards a deep rocky gorge. Dogs barked in alarm and the soldiers started to shoot. It was moonlight and the soldiers could see figures bounding from rock to rock. Some Aborigines were shot, some met their death by rushing in despair over the cliffs. Two women and three children were all who remained 'to whom death would not be a blessing'. Fourteen had died.¹⁴

Some bodies were hauled up the cliff and hung from trees on Broughton's farm as a warning to others. Some were never recovered. The captured women and children were taken to Liverpool. As Carol Liston states in her history of Campbelltown, 'The Appin massacre is traditionally remembered as the annihilation of the Aboriginal people of Campbelltown'.¹⁵

Wallis continued to search fruitlessly for Aborigines along the Georges River. He then joined other contingents at Narellan and they marched together to the Wingecarribee district. They spent another month patrolling but failed to find any of the wanted Aborigines. Macquarie then issued a proclamation in May 1816 forbidding 'gatherings of armed Aborigines within one mile of farms and villages.

After the frontier conflict of 1816 the Dharawal stayed in the Cowpastures under the protection of the Macarthurs. The family maintained friendly contact with them. They had surveyor James Meehan mark out some land at Camden Park for any who wished to live there. This action allowed a form of tribal life to continue and corroborees were held there and at Denham Court when other Aborigines visited.¹⁶

¹² Carol Liston, op cit, pp 19-20

¹³ Appin Airds and Minto are south of Cook Parish. See Figure 11

¹⁴ Carol Liston, op cit, pp 22-3

¹⁵ Ibid, p 23

¹⁶ Ibid

European Historical Notes

Source: Tropman & Tropman Architects Orielson Park Homestead Estate Conservation Management Plan, August 2006, pp.9-26.

This history was prepared by Sally Vallis, with some excerpts from the Harrington Park history prepared by historian Rosemary Broomham. Sally used history notes prepared by Ken Cable in 1997.

The Cowpastures Frontier

The Europeans first saw the Camden area in August 1790. Captain Watkin Tench, Lieutenant William Dawes and Surgeon George Worgan (late surgeon of the Sirius) undertook an expedition where the country had not previously been explored by the settlers. In his journals Tench records the seven day trek that penetrated in a south-south-west direction passing the river which they gave the name of the Worgan (now Nepean) in honour of one of their party. They reached a "*remarkable hill, to which, from its conical shape, we gave the name Pyramid Hill*"¹⁷ (known today as Mount Prudhoe). Nothing very interesting was remarked. They discovered fresh water running northward, found traces of Aborigines wherever they went and passed through very bad country everywhere intersected with deep ravines. Towards the end of August the party undertook a second expedition to the north-west of Rose Hill, where they discovered that the Nepean and Hawkesbury was in fact one river.¹⁸ The second expedition into the Camden area by Europeans was in 1795.

For a short period the settlement was short on livestock because the cattle that arrived on the First Fleet had escaped within five months of its arrival. A large importation from India in May 1795 had ended the shortage. Nonetheless a party was organized by Governor Hunter to investigate the stories of the Aboriginal people that the first herd (which had grown substantially in size) was grazing 60km to the south west of Sydney. Sixty-one cattle were found grazing in open country beyond the Nepean River. Hunter named the area the Cowpastures; the name used in England for the common grazing of land near a village.¹⁹

The country impressed the Europeans but it was too far away from the seat of government to be useful. Hunter left the cattle to multiply undisturbed. In 1800 when the herd numbered about five or six hundred, his successor Governor King tried unsuccessfully to muster them. When that plan failed he had a slab hut built at the river crossing place, which acted as a guard house and a base for butchering. King tried to stop settlers from going there.

During King's time the Cowpastures was becoming a fine spot for visiting naval officers and those interested in romantic landscapes. A man was stationed at Prospect as a guide to people heading to the area. To prevent depredations on the wild herd, on 6 July 1803 King issued a proclamation forbidding people to cross to the western bank of the Nepean River without a permit signed by the Governor (cattle were thought to have been killed by escaped convicts as a source of sustenance).²⁰ In a later ruling on 1 March 1804 he continued the ban, stating that 'no ground whatever ought to be granted or leased to individuals on the other side of the Nepean'.²¹

Captain Henry Waterhouse described the country on the far side of the Nepean in a letter to John Macarthur in 1804.

After crossing the Nepean to the foot of what is called the Blue Mountains I am at a loss to describe the face of the country other than as a beautiful park, totally divested of underwood, interspersed with plains, with rich, luxuriant grass; but for want of burning off, rank, except where recently burnt. This is the part where the cattle that have strayed are constantly fed – of course, their own selection...it appears that some meadows bordering on the banks of the Nepean River are evidently at times overflowed from the river; but it is

¹⁷ Watkin Tench, *Sydney's First Four Years: A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay and A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson*, Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1962, pg.174.

¹⁸ Tench, op cit, pp.174-175.

¹⁹ Alan Atkinson, *Camden*, Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1988, pg.8.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Proclamation 6 July 1803, King to Hobart, 1 March 1804, *Historical Records of Australia (HRA)* I, 4, pp.344, 463, see also pg.494.

*not very common and cannot be done without sufficient time to drive away any stock if common attention is paid.*²²

It appears that a number of settlers occupied land on the Nepean from 1800, although no grants were issued there until 1805, and early accounts of this occupation suggest that most was on the north-eastern bank.

Captain Waterhouse was not the only person to wax lyrical about the Cowpastures. As Alan Atkinson reports, the river flats drew admiration from the Europeans who travelled through in 1795. They described 'large ponds covered with ducks and the black swan, the margins of which were fringed with shrubs of the most delightful tints'. Governor Bligh, a naval man, particularly admired the second type of country in the district rising gradually from the river as 'Hills and Dales, waving like the Sea, their Bases nearly uniting and rising as they advance towards the high Mountains' [of the Razorback range].²³ The Europeans thought the flats were perfect for cattle and the hills would carry sheep. They admired the absence of underbrush – probably achieved through Aboriginal burning off – and felt comfortable with a landscape that reminded them of an English gentleman's park.

On his return to England in 1801 John Macarthur had shown samples of his wool from Elizabeth Farm, Parramatta, to the Board of Trade and Lord Camden and persuaded them that New South Wales and Britain would both benefit from wool production. Lord Camden rewarded his enterprise with a grant of 5,000 acres (2,023 ha) on his return to the colony and another 5,000 acres (2,023 ha) if his sheep breeding venture was successful. Macarthur chose the Cowpastures for his grant and, though King tried to prevent him taking it, he marked out his farms on 13 October 1805. Macarthur organised a 2,000 acre (800 ha) grant for his friend Walter Davidson, who allowed Macarthur to use it freely after he returned home. In this manner, Macarthur controlled 12 miles of the riverbank on the side where the cattle had discovered the best pastures near Sydney.²⁴ Later purchases and exchanges increased the Macarthur land there to over 27,000 acres (10,800 ha) an endowment that Governor Macquarie greatly resented. (Refer to Figure A2).

In spite of Governor Bligh's ruling that no further grants should be made at Cowpastures, small settlers made their homes on the Sydney side of the Nepean from about 1810. This move was part of a large push to extend the settlement southwards after floods and over-cultivation had blighted the Hawkesbury farming area. The New South Wales Corps deposed Bligh on 26 January 1808 and during the interregnum, which lasted until Macquarie replaced Bligh in January 1810, members of the Corps served as lieutenant governors. Joseph Foveaux, in particular thought Bligh's restriction of land grants was detrimental to the colony's progress and he granted land to all who requested it, spreading the small farmers broadly across the Cumberland landscape.²⁵

Even so, as John Booth's map of 1810 indicates, the 'Cowpastures plains' was remote, at the edge of the known landscape. Immediately after the grants to Macarthur and Davidson – marked Carbeely, Manangle and Baraggle – the path of the river is only dotted and is labelled 'supposed course of the Nepean. (Refer to Figure A1).

Restoring order after the rebellion, Governor Macquarie recalled a number of the grants given out by Foveaux and Paterson during the interregnum but he agreed that the 'right' or northern bank of the Nepean should be settled. He had James Meehan survey the area and made additional grants on the Sydney side of the river. Some of these were modest, ranging from 50 to 200 acres (20 to 80 ha), but others were extensive. From 1812, Macquarie began to allot land north of Camden to potential large scale landowners, men of substance in the colony. Food shortages and the imminence of population growth as the Anglo-American War of Independence drew to a close prompted this move to favourable ground in the south-west of the Sydney Plain. The first grants in the area were made in 1815: Kirkham to Oxley (Surveyor-General) who was also granted the 820 acre (330 ha) Elderslie farm; Harrington to Campbell (sea captain and Pacific trader); and Orielson to Lord (ex-naval officer and entrepreneur). In 1816 there was Netherbyres to Molle (regimental colonel) and Nonnorah to Dickson (steam moller). About the same time, grants of a similar kind were made: Macquarie's Gift to Cowper (clergyman);

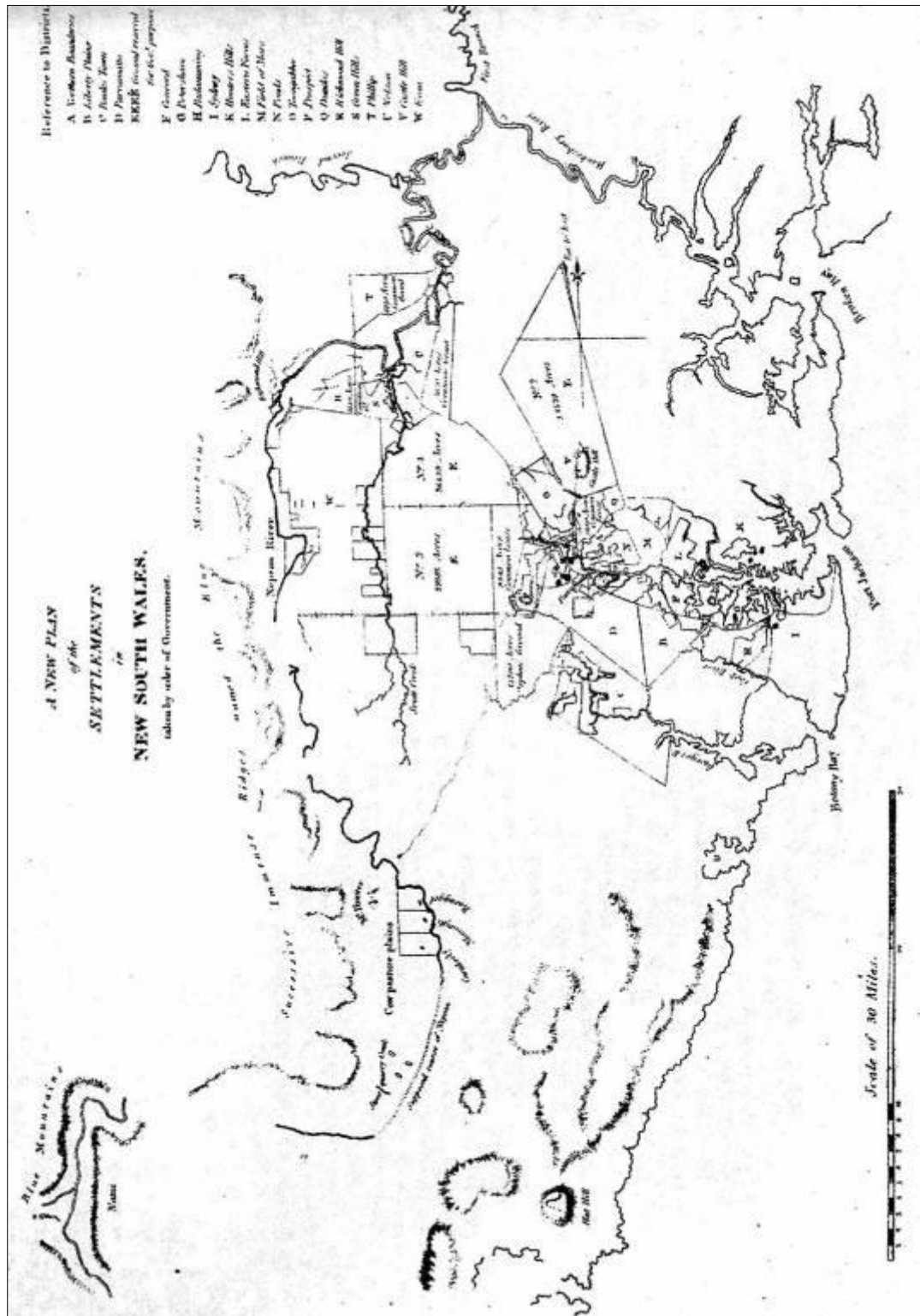
²² Cited in Robert Murray, Kate White, *Dharug and Dungaree: The History of Penrith and St Marys to 1860*, Hargreen Publishing Company with Council of the City of Penrith, North Melbourne, 1988, pg.183.

²³ William Bligh to William Wyndham, 31 October 1807, HRA 1vol 6, pg.366.

²⁴ Alan Atkinson, op cit, pg.10.

²⁵ Rosemary Broomham, *Vital Connections: A History of Roads in NSW from 1788*, Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 2001, pg.31.

Denbigh to Hook (merchant); Curtis to Blaxcell (merchant); and Raby to Riley (merchant).²⁶ Macquarie later regretted his generosity because of the great numbers of cattle stolen from the government herds after the settlers had moved into the area.²⁷



²⁶ Kenneth Cable, *Notes of the History of Orielton*, ed. Sally Vallis, unpublished MS, 1997, pg.1. (Held at the office of Tropman & Tropman Architects).
²⁷ Macquarie to Bathurst, 4 April 1817, *HRA*, 1, 9, pg.349.

Figure A1: On John Booth's map of the settlements in New South Wales in 1810, the grants to Macarthur and Davidson can be seen on the left on the Cowpastures plains. (Source: ML SLNSW).

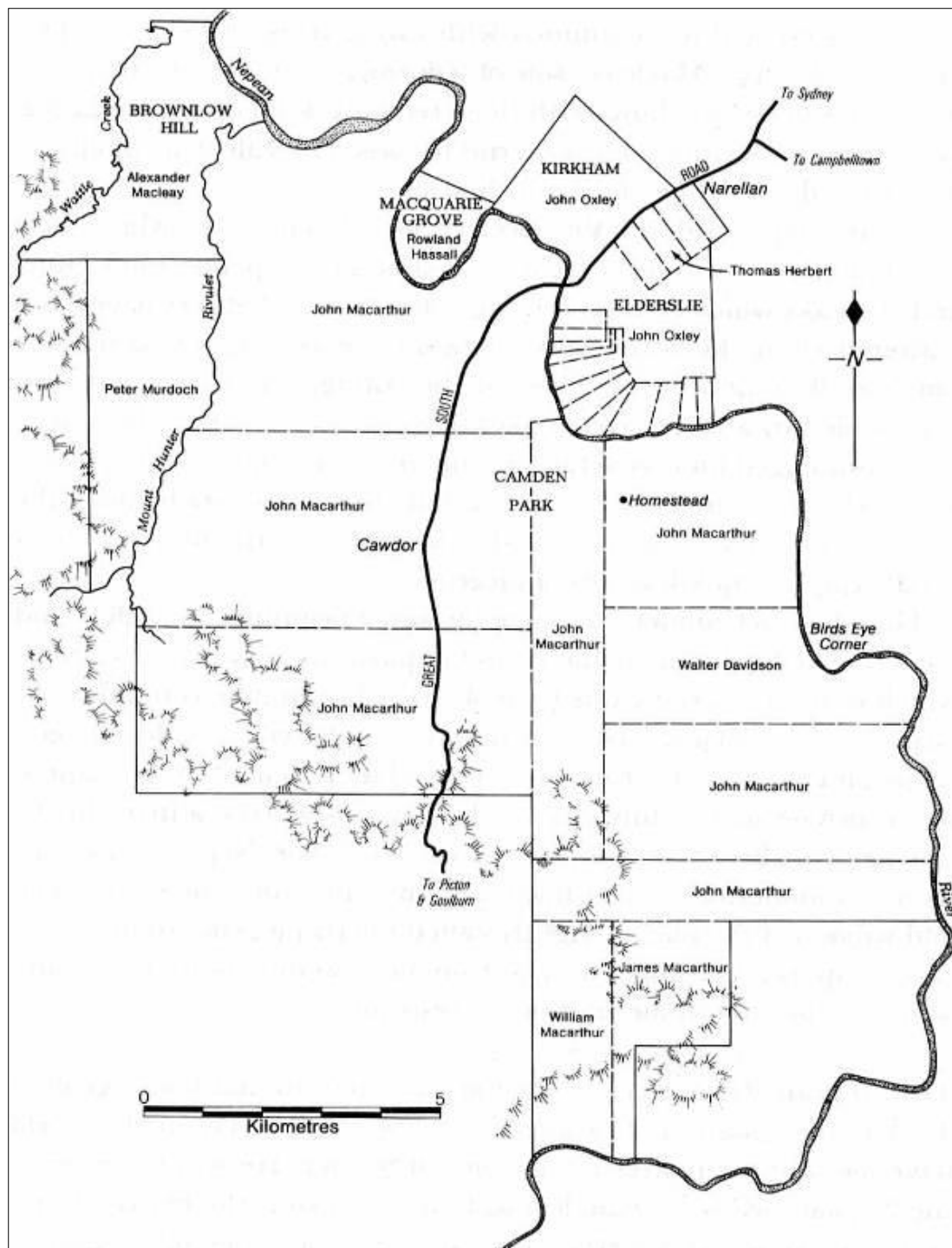


Figure A2: This map from Alan Atkinson's history, Camden: Farm and Village Life in Early New South Wales, shows John Macarthur's dominance of the land at the Cowpastures south of the Nepean. Not far north of Oxley's properties, Harrington Park enjoyed a similar milieu.

At first, these, and similar properties in the neighbourhood were used for sheep and cattle; the few assigned resident convict stockmen lived in primitive huts. By the 1820s some owners looking for 'rural retreats' and needing to cultivate the land, established residences and began to build permanent homes with associated farm buildings. These included Oxley and Campbell. The practice began of such landowners running sheep beyond the mountains (on Crown land), using their Cowpasture estates for breeding and agistment and, increasingly, developing agriculture, which began to include milling, threshing, and viticulture as allied activities.²⁸

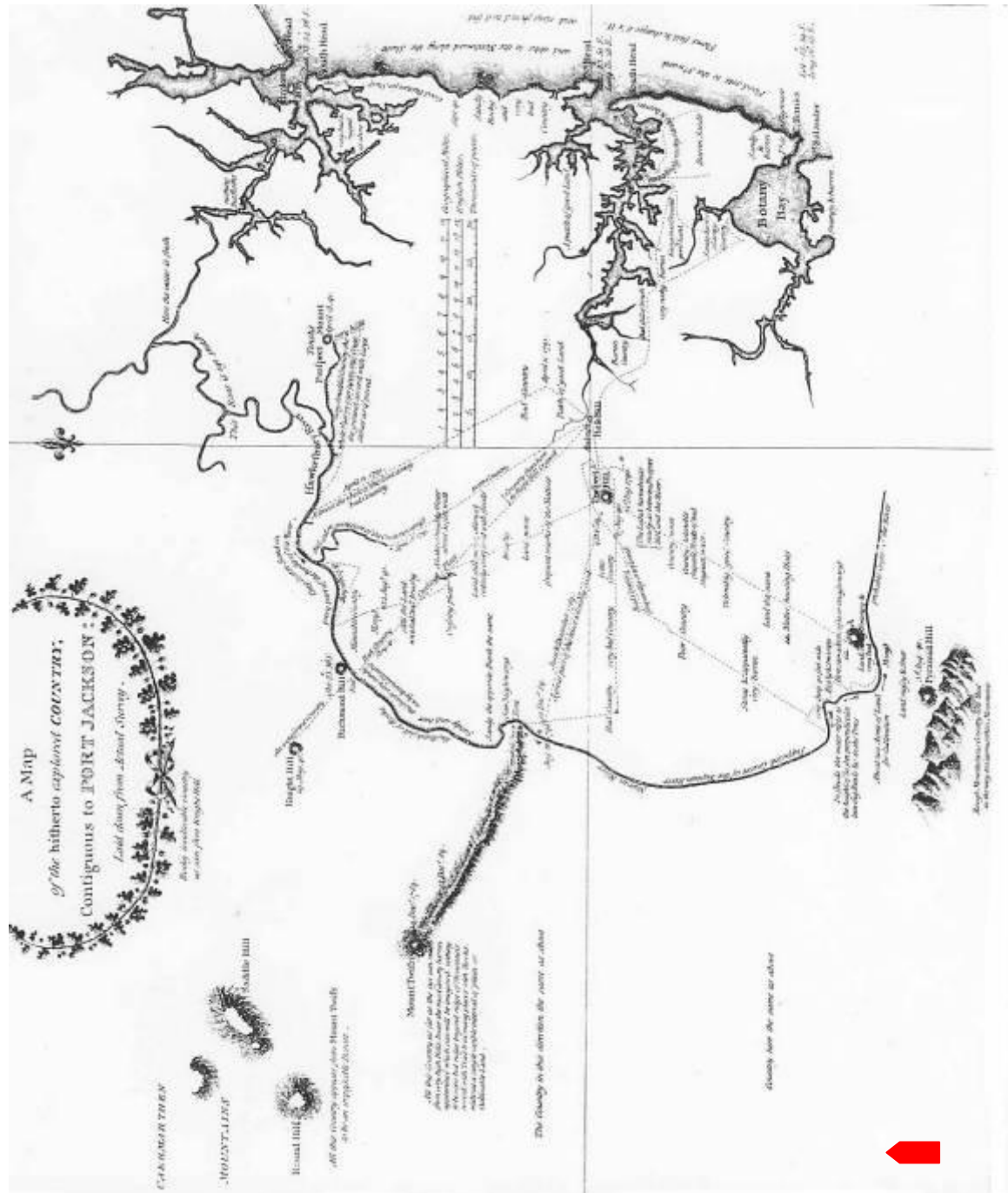


Figure A3: Map indicating the travel direction from Port Botany to the country's western regions. (Source: Watkin Tench, *Sydney's First Four Years: A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay and A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson*, Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1962, p 121.)

²⁸ Ibid.

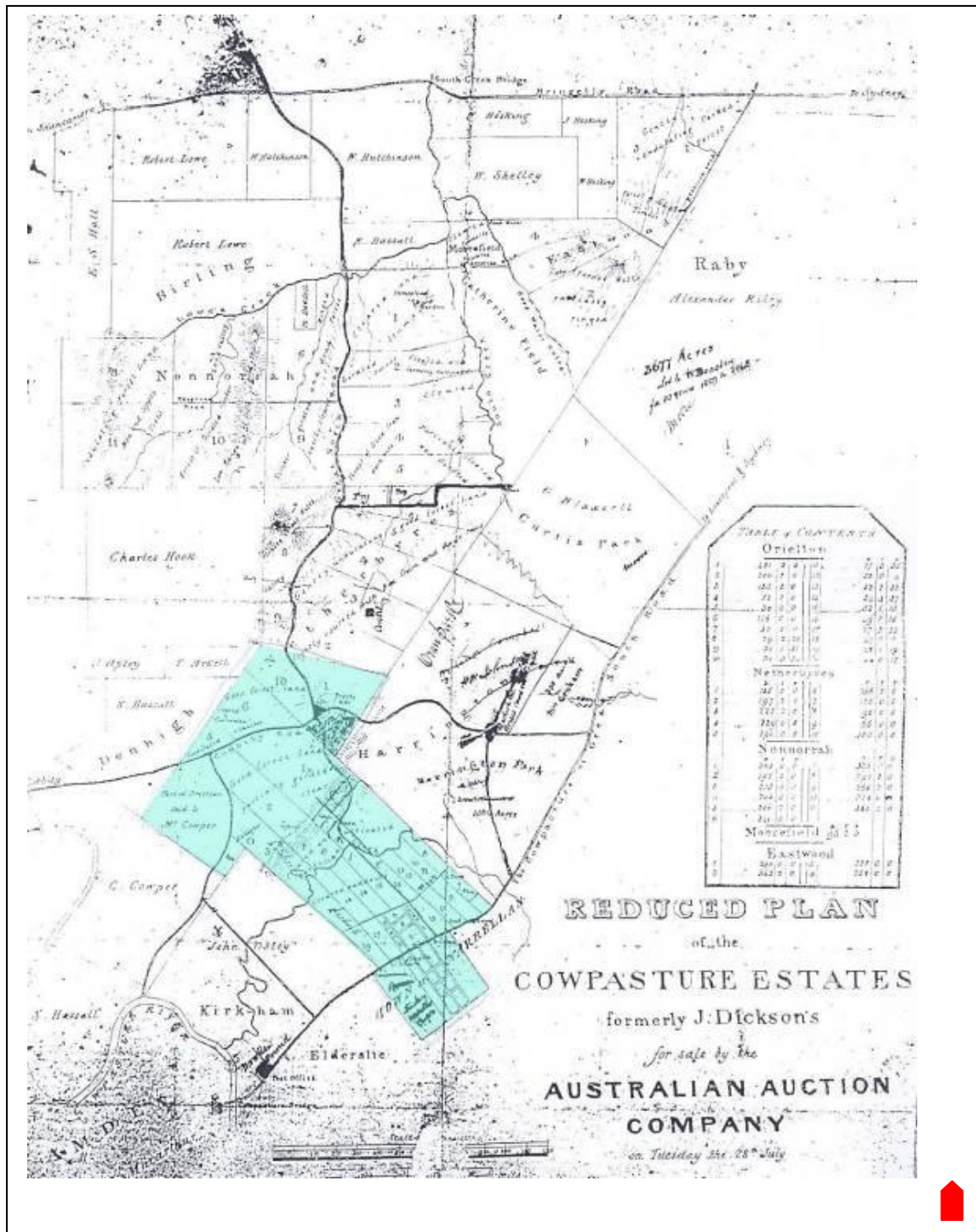


Figure A4: Reduced plan of the 1840 Cowpasture estates including Orielson by E.J.H Knapp. (Source: Mitchell library M2 811.113/1840/1)

Lord's Grant – an absentee owner – 1814 - 1822

Edward Lord, the original proprietor of Orielton, was born on June 15, 1781 in Pembroke, Wales, of a family with a large estate at nearby Orielton. A marine officer from 1798, Lord belonged to the first group to settle in Van Diemen's Land. He became a landowner, trader and office holder but, failing in his expectation of becoming Lieutenant-Governor, resigned his commission. Family influence (his brother at Orielton in Wales, was an M.P.) secured Lord a grant of 3,000 acres (1,214 ha) in 1812. He took one half in New South Wales and the other in Van Diemen's Land. Both were approved in

1814; both were called Orielson.²⁹ He named his property at Narellan “Orielson Farm” and then later “Orielson Park”. This is probably a good indication that the sublime qualities of the landscape context were appreciated by Lord.

Lord's later career in Van Diemen's Land was marked by the accumulation of wealth by trade, quarrels with Governor Macquarie (who disliked Lord and warned his Hobart colleagues about him) and persistent litigation. Lord's Orielson estate in Van Diemen's Land, more than 3,000 acres (1,214 ha) was graced by an elegant Georgian mansion. He visited Sydney chiefly to hurry his opponents in the courts. Though Edward Lord returned to live permanently in England in 1828, he maintained his colonial interests and returned several times to pursue ever more litigation. He died in London in 1859.³⁰

Lord never resided on his 1,600 acres (647 ha) at Narellan. However, obliged to retain the property for five years, he left the deeds with his Kirkham neighbour, Surveyor-General John Oxley, and permitted him to run cattle on the land. Oxley even erected some fencing and seems to have come to regard Orielson estate as his own. When, in 1822, Lord decided to sell his property, Oxley wrote a letter of protest to the *Sydney Gazette* asserting his right to Orielson. Oxley had claimed:

*That the same [Orielson] was some time since sold by the Grantee, Edward Lord, Esquire, to me who in confirmation of such sale put them into my possession and delivered the grant thereof to his solicitor... with the instructions and a letter of attorney, to convey the same to me: And I further give notice, that I am fencing the said farm in, and shall resist every attempt to deprive me of the possession.*³¹

William Campbell also wrote a letter to the *Gazette* claiming that the Orielson estate was sold to him several years before for the sum of £1,600. Campbell claims that Oxley's protest was incorrect and, having been in his possession, did not erect fencing. There were no payments made to Lord nor were there conveyances executed to either gentleman regarding the sale of the property.³²

It may have been an error; Oxley, though Surveyor-General, was not a man of business-like habits. On the other hand, Oxley may have been trying to deter possible purchasers, hoping for a cheap sale to himself. Lord, on the other hand, was not a man to be trifled with. He was visiting Britain, but his Sydney agent published an indignant denial of Oxley's and Campbell's claims. No more was heard of the protest and the sale went as advertised by public auction and Orielson was sold to John Dickson in 1822.³³ Thus Orielson Estate commenced its many periods as an outstation estate with tenants and absentee landlords.

It is difficult to ascertain if Lord erected shelter or accommodation at Orielson, but it is assumed he made minimal improvements to the property.

Dickson's Accumulation – Orielson as an Outstation – 1822 - 1841

John Dickson was a middle-aged Scotsman who had come to the colony in 1813 to set up a steam mill. The British Government had directed Macquarie (who was delighted to have so skilful a migrant in Sydney) to give him land in town and country. Dickson's grants were in Sussex Street (including the present Dixon street), where he built his flour mill with its imported steam engine, and at Bringelly. Here he acquired the 3,000 acre (1,214 ha) grant he named Nonnorrah (the present Maryland forms a part of the site). By 1823, Dickson had installed his brother as manager of Nonnorrah and on it erected: *A verandahed, shingle-roofed homestead of 30 squares. It comprised six rooms, a hall, a butler's pantry, detached kitchen, brick-built stores, dairy, cheese-house etc.*³⁴

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Cable, op cit, pg.2.

³¹ Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, Friday October 11, 1822, pg.1. (Source: State Library-Reference, microfilm draw 191, roll 4, Sydney Gazette 1803-1842).

³² Ibid.

³³ Cable, op cit, pg.2.

³⁴ Cable, *Notes of the History of Orielson*, pg.2.

Dickson was not content with his original grants. Though he lived in Sussex Street, he acquired land beyond the ranges, where he ran sheep and cattle. He extended Nonnorrah by purchasing some of the contiguous properties that were held by non-resident owners. In this way he gained Eastwood (1,060 acres [429 ha]), Moorfield (87 acres [35 ha]), Netherbyres (1,600 acres [648 ha]) and Orielson (1,620 acres [656 ha]). Dickson was thus the owner of a broad wedge of land from Bringelly Road south to the Cowpastures Road.

The 1828 Census return showed that Dickson held 17,000 acres (6,880 ha), 1,500 (607ha) of them cleared and 300 (121ha) cultivated, with 3,000 cattle and 2,000 sheep. While it must be assumed that many of the livestock were on his outer properties, the cleared and cultivated land would have been on his 7,000 acres (2,833ha) in the Bringelly-Camden district, an estate second only to the Macarthur's at that time.

Dickson left Australia in 1833 and disposed of his properties in 1838 and 1842. He died in London in 1843. He owned Orielson for almost twenty years and never lived on it but, rather, at Nonnorrah homestead a few miles to the north, he and his brother would have watched it closely. Though the Dicksons were not resident owners, they lived close by.³⁵

Dickson probably sited the Orielson Homestead Complex on the southern knoll in the lee of the northern escarpment initially as an outstation with commanding views and vistas over the alluvial pasture and towards Harrington Park to allow supervision of the workers by the estate managers.

This Homestead Complex area probably included extensive farm buildings in close proximity to the farm buildings today and extensive accommodation and offices for the managers and men noted to have been employed on the estate.

The later 1820s and the 1830s were years of development. With convict transportation and large-scale assisted free migration, the population of Sydney and its environs grew rapidly. Wealth came from the wool of the vast interior, but most people lived in the settled regions, providing services and producing food. The Cowpastures region saw an inflow of population – the Macarthur's brought out three shiploads of workers for their estate as well as tenants. Cereal production flourished, with some dairying (mostly for cheese production), viticulture and market gardening. There were sheep and cattle, despite the competition of the west, often working with the new outback stations. Landowners now employed more labour, most of it free, and began to attract tenant farming. They themselves were constructing larger houses and ordering the landscape, so that it became almost commonplace for travellers to comment on the 'Englishness' of the scenery. Villages grew: Narellan, an official settlement, and Camden, a private one. Campbelltown remained the main town centre.³⁶

Dickson and, after 1833, his local trustees, were intelligent and moneyed men who would have made full use of Orielson estate. The most southerly of the properties, it faced the main road and had provision for a government road to run through it (later The Northern Road). Being on Narellan Creek, it had fertile, well-watered land, with lightly wooded slopes to the north leading on to Cobbitty Road. Flooding was a constant problem.³⁷

There is limited information about Orielson in Dickson's time. David Waugh's *Three Years Practical Experience of a Settler in NSW* is a series of letters written to his parents and sister over three years detailing his experiences in agricultural pursuits in Australia between 1834 and 1837, part of which was written at Orielson estate.

In a letter dated August 14, 1834 to his father, from Sydney, Waugh discusses his decision to pursue farming. After speaking to several gentlemen and a school friend regarding the pursuance of the legal, mercantile and agricultural profession almost all of Waugh's acquaintances had advised on the country. It was looked upon as the surest way of living and making money.³⁸

An acquaintance of Waugh's, Mr Barker, who managed three of the most extensive farms including Nonnorrah, Mummel (Goulburn Plains) and Orielson, suggested he live at one of the farms to learn the

³⁵ Cable, op cit, pg.3.

³⁶ Cable, op cit, pp.3-4.

³⁷ Cable, op cit, pg.4.

³⁸ David Waugh, *Three Years Practical Experience of a Settler in NSW*, ed. James Waugh, John Johnston, 1838, pp.17-18.

business. Waugh went to Nonnorah on August 10 and lived there for a month.³⁹ About the middle of October 1834 Barker had asked Waugh to move to Orielton estate to assist at the harvest. The property was described as having 150 acres (61 ha) of hay and 350 acres (142 ha) of wheat; and here *"I am at present furnishing stores of fifty men, keeping accounts, &c."*⁴⁰ It appears that Waugh stayed at Orielton estate for a short time before moving to Mummel in early February 1835.

Orielton during the 1840s Depression – Subdivision potential

In 1840, when the estate was put up for auction, an elaborate description was provided by the Australian Auction Company. While it presented a colourful picture, this was darkened by the disastrous drought of 1839. The auction was on the basis of an estate divided into 20 rural lots, with some small residential portions near Narellan. The division, by the well-known surveyor, E.J.H. Knapp, was probably based generally on the existing situation; in presenting the estate as consisting of a number of farms, it was representing the current position, the result of Dickson's period of management.⁴¹

The main feature of the 1840 subdivision was the Home Farm of 481 acres (195 ha). This was about one-half of the total; Dickson had disposed of portions of the original grant west of Kirkham Lane to Charles Cowper and had sold other outlying portions as well. The Home Farm stretched from Cobbitty Lane to Narellan Creek. The north section was partly wooded but the slope and the Creek flats were cleared and fenced and had been under cultivation. It was clearly the centre of the estate's agricultural activities. The Australian Auction Company described Orielton estate as having a *substantial built brick cottage, commodious stabling, an excellent built barn with two floors, containing therein an 8 horse-power threshing and winnowing machine.*⁴² This was probably built c1830.

Here was a manager's house with a central barn complete with one of Dickson's steam machines. Knapp's map of 1840 shows that the complex was on the site of the present Orielton House. It had a driveway to the 'Argyle Road'.

There were two large allotments between the Home Farm and Kirkham, each with its own hut and barn and yard; another of similar description (though less agricultural) was north of Cobbitty Road. These were quite possibly tenanted. The remainder were 30 acre (12 ha) lots between Narellan Creek and the Cowpasture Road, intended to attract some of the numerous labourers of the district who aspired to be modest landholders.⁴³

The disposal of the Dickson estate was a matter of great complexity with his affairs still in disarray. The Orielton estate was sold in 1841 for £4,000 to Mathew Dysert (or Dysart) Hunter, who was Dickson's business agent. It is possible that Hunter's ownership was nominal. Dickson died in 1843. It is unlikely that Hunter resided at Orielton. In any case, the early 1840s were trying times for many of the local landholders. The collapse of the wool market had led to an economic depression. Those Cowpastures squires who had invested in outback sheep runs were in dire straits, often mortgaging their Camden properties. The genuine agriculturalists, however, were less affected. About 1847, Hunter sold out to John Perry, a Camden miller. Perry had already leased Orielton from Hunter and was possibly in residence.⁴⁴

³⁹ Waugh, op cit, pg.18.

⁴⁰ Waugh, op sit, pp.26-27.

⁴¹ Cable, op sit, pp.4-5.

⁴² Cable, op sit, pg.5.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ Cable, op sit, pg.6.

The First Resident Owners – The Perry Family – 1847 - 1861

Perry was the son of a baker and pastry cook. He and his wife, Susannah Boulton Perry, were married in 1827 and a year later they were living at their own bakery in Clarence Street, Sydney. In 1831 their son, Thomas, was born and, according to his birth certificate, John Perry was a confectioner. By 1834 John and Susannah gave up the bakery and owned a line of taverns, inns and hotels.⁴⁵

While Perry owned many properties including Orielton, he lacked the social status of some of his neighbours. He could not compete with the social standing of the Macarthurs or Cowpers. Orielton, on the other hand, was a growing concern. The early 1850s saw the district doing well with cereal production but prosperity did not last: Cowpasture wheat was coming under threat from outside competition and, internally, from rust, and diseases of this kind. The reign of the Perry family also began to fade when, in 1855, John's daughter, Caroline Isabella, died aged 11. Perry secured enough ground to buy a vault in the graveyard at St Paul's Church, Cobbitty, where he was a church warden. In the chancel of the church, immediately above the altar there is a window in memory of the child.⁴⁶

In 1856 another child, Alfred, died and was laid in the family vault and in 1857 further misfortune struck the Perry family. Susannah died at the age of 48. Only a year after Susannah died, Ann, mother of four young girls, wife of Perry's son, Thomas Perry, was laid to rest in the vault. John and Thomas Perry, father and son, were both widowers. Thomas and his daughters continued to live at Orielton until he remarried. They then moved to Haydonton, near Murrurundi. After Susannah and Ann died and Thomas and the four girls moved away, John Perry mortgaged Orielton in 1860. Perry picked up the threads again of his old life and became an innkeeper at Penrith. At the same time, he sold off land for residential purposes on Cowpasture Road, this beginning a pattern of nearby urban settlement.⁴⁷

One of those who were involved in Perry's mortgage arrangements was William Peisley, a carcass butcher. Peisley, concerned with meat production (a rising occupation in the district) finally bought Orielton in 1861. He maintained a business connection with Perry's inn. In 1864 Peisley put Orielton up for auction by Richardson and Wrench; at the same time, Perry's Penrith premises also went under the hammer. Orielton was sold to John Thomas Neile of Sydney for £2,500. Within the year he was described as a 'gentleman' and was accorded local respect.⁴⁸

Another Absentee Owner – Neile – 1864 - 1876

A real estate agent's description of the property was published with the auction of Orielton. It was a flowery piece, praising the park-like qualities of the estate, its vistas and its reminders of England referred to as the 'fatherland'. Evidently the idyllic setting was exploited as a selling point. A newspaper notice provided a more prosaic description. It gave a solid account of the Orielton complex.⁴⁹

The Home Farm of 1864 consisted of 330 acres (134 ha), 200 acres (81 ha) of them under cultivation. The homestead was of brick on a stone foundation, with eight rooms, two kitchens, a servant's room and dairy. There was a planted garden and lawn, a vegetable garden and a 3 acre (1.2 ha) orchard. The outbuildings were a four-stall stable, wash-house, men's huts, foul-house enlargement of the arrangement of 1840. Neile bought the Home Farm for £1,350 - not a high price. There was a second farm, on the other side of the 'Great South Road', of 200 acres (81 ha), with a farmhouse and stockyard. It was sold for £2:15:0 per acre.⁵⁰

The central point of the sale was the Steam Mill. This was a brick on stone building, 60 feet by 30 feet (18m x 9m), roofed with 'galvanised tin' with three floors, a verandah, smithy, engine-house, smut

⁴⁵ Perry Family, Miscellaneous Collection of Papers (Source: Perry family vertical file, Randwick Historical Society).

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Cable, op cit, pg.6.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

and dressing rooms. The machinery consisted of a twelve horse-power engine, two pairs of stones, smutting and dressing equipment, pulleys and agree. Close to the Mill was a brick cottage for the miller, an eight-stall stable, pigsty, milking shed and dam. Set in 59 acres (24 ha) of paddocks, the mill had recently been erected by the previous owner, for £4,000. Perry, the miller, had constructed this steam-mill, on 'the best position in the district'.⁵¹

The mill was passed in at auction. Neile then bought it for £600. It was a knock-down price for so elaborate a structure. By that time, the Cowpastures had ceased to be a prosperous grain-producing district. External competition and attacks of rust were undermining the local economy. Farmers were moving to the Riverina, encouraged by the cheap land available under the 1861 Selections Act.⁵²

Peisley and his family remained at Orielson until 1876. A photograph dated c1860 (probably 1865), taken from the summit of the hill to the west, shows a well kept farm complex in an ordered estate (refer to Figure A5). The Peisley family came to be regarded as local gentry and some of the members remained prominent in the district after they left Orielson. People came to Orielson from Sydney,⁵³ using the train to Campbelltown to shoot over the land and to attend the Harrington race track.

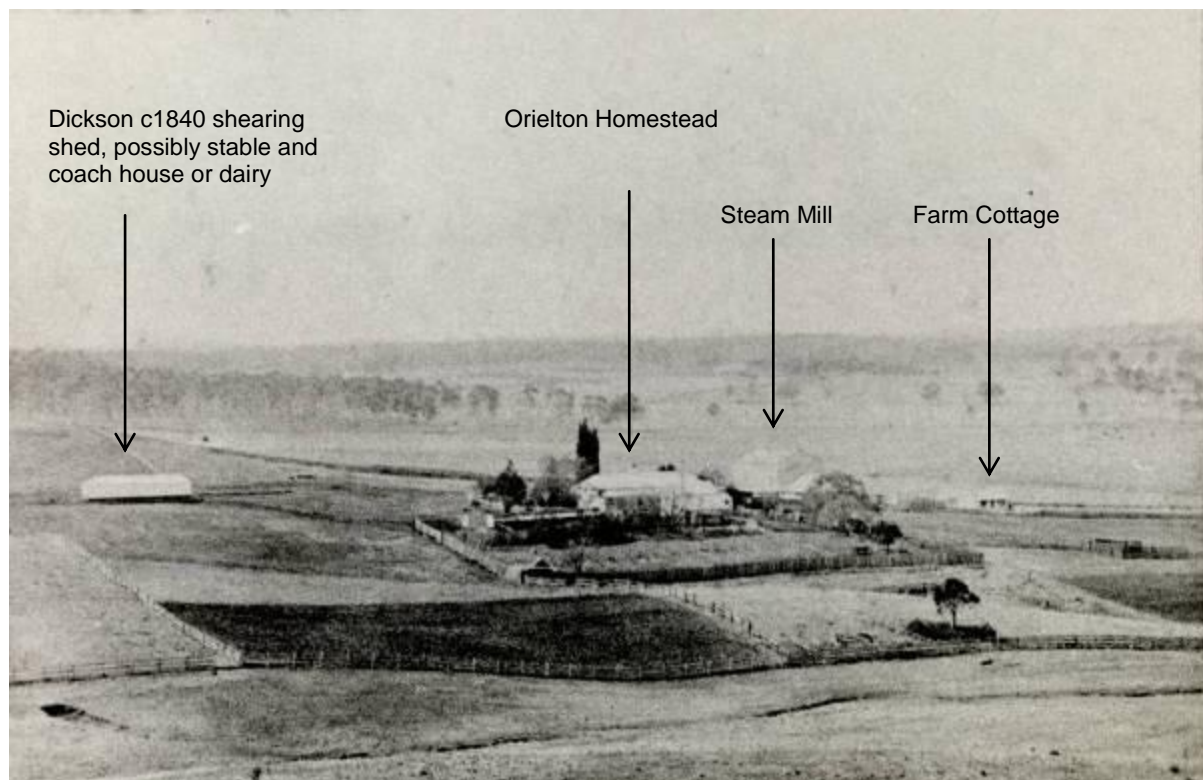


Figure A5: Photograph of Orielson estate c1865 titled 'My grandfather Peisley's country home' by H.J Lock (Source: Mitchell Library, SPF/Camden, NSW, 1864-1898).

⁵¹ Cable, op cit, pg.7.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

Beard Dynasty Gentry Occupation – 1876 - 1912

In 1876, Orielton was sold to Mrs Harriet Beard, widow, of Wynyard Square, Sydney. The Beard family became involved in district affairs and were esteemed as local gentry. The current front entry and rooms with 4m (14' 0") ceilings, two-storey front and added faceted bay window, the north room (currently used as a garage workshop) and the impressive cast iron verandah (two-storey in part) date from their occupancy. The Beards changed and developed the homestead extensively to relate to the southern prospect and expansive vistas to Studley Park and the floodplain of Narellan Creek. At one stage, a small school was conducted at Orielton. With the shift to grazing, the great barn would have lost its original function.⁵⁴

Mrs Beard died in 1910 and her estate was held in trust until it was sold in 1912 to Frederick Walker (solicitor), Henry Webster (bank manager) and John Morton (physician) as joint tenants and leased to Ephraim Cross.⁵⁵ Cross, a Narellan storekeeper whose family had been Camden brickmakers (they had made the bricks for Studley Park and Camelot), later bought the property.⁵⁶ The 1912 sale to Walker, Webster and Morton was auctioned through Richardson & Wrench and described as having approximately 919 acres (372 ha), 500 acres (202 ha) of which were cleared, balanced and ringbarked, subdivided into paddocks and well grassed and watered from the creek with five dams. The property was described as having:

*Extensive stabling and carriage room, milking shed, barns, vegetable gardens etc, etc.
Brick barn (100' x 40') of 3 floors, engine house, saw bench, pumping plant, windmill,
workshop, two cottages...*⁵⁷

Twentieth Century Owners – Occupiers and Estate Managers

Cross sold the section east of The Northern Road precinct to Harrington Park in 1926 and the remainder (including the house) to Yvonne Coleman in 1927. The northern farm building in fig.A4 was lost in a fire in 1928. The building was considered by the local community to be where Cross operated a spirits distillery. She sold the property in 1930 to William Bernard Pilling of Rushcutters Bay, builder and investor, who, in turn, sold it in 1931 to William Henry Trautwein, of Sydney, manager, through Union Investments.⁵⁸ The property then returned to Pilling's ownership.

During Pilling's ownership, Eileen Cummings, daughter of William Pilling, recalls that he was not a farmer but bought 1,000 acres (405 ha) at Narellan which included Orielton estate. Though not a farmer, Pilling ploughed the property and cultivated the land. He ran 100 cows at the southern end of the property where timber bales with galvanised roofs housed the cows. The family did not live on the property but, rather, at Elizabeth Bay.

Eileen Cummings would come to the property during school holidays where she was looked after by her nanny and would spend most of her time at the house or horse riding around the property. She remembers the large homestead to have had an ornately detailed iron verandah with bullnose galvanised iron roof that carried around the sides of the house. French doors opened onto the verandah providing vistas to the town of Narellan. The long drive leading up to the house was lined with trees and at the entry to the house a carriage loop circled close to the garden. Within the carriage loop a large aviary was located with its centre filled with a variety of colourful birds.

Towards the front of the house a tennis court was located and the stone steps leading up to the Italianate façade included splendid gardens. She remembers the orchard to the west of the homestead filled with fruit and nuts including walnuts and almonds and would often spend time picking them off the trees.

The house was entered from the east into the foyer. To the left the living rooms were located. The furniture was grand and ornately detailed with splendid colours, the laundry and kitchen to the back of

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ LTO: Vol. 2281 Fol. 187.

⁵⁶ LTO: Vol. 3795 Fol. 123.

⁵⁷ Camden News, 06/06/1912 (Source: Orielton file, Camden Historical Society).

⁵⁸ LTO: Vol. 4183 Fol.103.

the house and a separate lavatory at the rear. Later a bathroom was built within the house footprint. Stables were also located to the back of the house as was the septic tank. The location of the house on the side of a knoll meant that the ballroom was located underneath the house. Mrs Cummings spent hours at the property as a child but the beginning of the Great Depression meant that the family property had to be sold.

Orielson passed to Arthur Donovan Swan and Elaine Gordon Hall Swan, of Harrington Park, in 1938.⁵⁹ The Swans appear to upgrade sections of the farm building complex in 1938 with new dairy shedding stables and silos. Again the homestead was occupied by agents or estate managers during 1925 to the 1940s. The Swans had a tenant dairy farmer using the place from 1940 to 1942.

The northern section of Orielson Estate was occupied by the military camp from 1942 until 1947. The farm outbuildings and shed were used for storage, namely explosives. The explosives were soon removed when safety issues were raised about the proximity of personnel.

The military occupied Orielson homestead from 1942 to 1943 after making alterations to make it habitable for themselves. Repairs to the house by the Army included the installation of water supply (which was cut off on vacating the premises), electric light fitting (which were later removed by the military on vacating the premises), telephone, flooring replacements and plumbing repairs/replacement including reconstruction of septic tanks, and an additional water closet. As the building was in a fairly poor state, verandahs and foundations were repaired and various rooms renovated. Latrines, ablution blocks and grease traps constructed outside the building and necessary drainage was also carried out. These repairs (that came without the permission of Swan), were thought to have caused more harm than good to the fabric and were only beneficial to the military occupants at the time. Before the military officially moved into the homestead, Swan claimed that the soldiers trespassed and vandalized the property. Windows were smashed, mantelpieces broken and cedar doors damaged. Swan removed a quantity of saleable fittings such as brass door handles, shutter catches, taps and copper piping to Harrington Park where he lived.⁶⁰

The Fairfax Dynasty – Orielson again becomes an outstation – 1944 - present

In 1944 the Swans sold both Orielson and Harrington Park to John Fairfax & Sons Pty Ltd. Under the Fairfax ownership, Orielson and Harrington Park were used together for stud Hereford cattle breeding and management. Parts of the farm building complex were adapted from their roles as dairy shedding and horse stabling to cattle management.

The large barn appears to have been taken down during this initial Fairfax ownership period due to engineering concerns. The stock yards were also adapted. By 1952, the paddocks of Orielson were reorganised to take account of stud breeding. The paddocks were often called after local identification such as the "Camp Paddock" related to the military camp, the "Oak Paddock" related to the extensive She Oak woodlands, and the "Hill Paddock" related to the western landmark hill, etc. Warwick Fairfax had the place transferred to his name in 1956.

Orielson was vandalised during the 1960s by cult worshippers who partly pulled up floors and destroyed extensive sections of joinery. This vandalism resulted in the place being shut up with boarding and iron sheeting by Warwick Fairfax and his advisors. A goat breeder and a veterinarian surgeon used the shedding and livestock facilities during the 1970s.

In 1982, Jim Baxter took over the homestead and repaired it for occupation and commenced the horse stabling and agistment. The farm buildings, fencing and paddocks were adapted for horses and their stabling requirements. This use continues today.

⁵⁹ LTO: Vol. 4919 Fol. 175.

⁶⁰ Letter – Valuer Hiring Service, 30/04/1943, pg.3 (Source: NAA: SP857/6 PH2073).

The City Reaches the Country

Even during the early twentieth century the Narellan-Camden district remained relatively remote from the city, largely because, although these places were on the Hume Highway, they had no direct rail link with Sydney and car ownership was modest until the 1960s. The 45-mile journey on a two-lane highway from Sydney to Camden could not be undertaken on a daily basis.

The Cumberland County Council planners classified the Camden district as rural in 1948 and classified Campbelltown as a satellite town beyond the green belt. However, the statistical basis for that plan's population growth was rapidly overtaken and by 1972 the plan – particularly the expectation of saving a green belt around Sydney – was no longer viable. Already, by the early 1960s, developers had created suburbs north of the Nepean at Narellan and Elderslie by carving up some of the old estates.

In 1968 the Sydney Region Outline Plan devised the merging of the three cities of Camden, Campbelltown and Appin to make a living space for 500,000 people. In preparation the State Planning Authority commenced acquiring land in the region the year before it released the plan. It released a more detailed projection, the Campbelltown-Camden-Appin Structure Plan in 1973. (Refer to Figure A6).

The 1973 plan turned Narellan into a district centre and divided the surrounding land between open space and living areas. Camden Park was zoned as a scenic protection area and a significant proportion became non-urban because it was on the flood plain. Some of the land on the Narellan side of the river was also to be protected for its scenic value.⁶¹ Already being rebuilt as an expressway, the Hume Highway had passed by Camden and the old route was renamed the Camden Valley Way. By this time, Sir Warwick and Lady Fairfax had formed their own development company and Camden Council had accepted its proposal for an 800-hectare estate of executive homes in June 1981.

A Commission of Enquiry reviewed the Camden Structure Plan in 1983 to determine the extent of the zoning for urban development. In 2005, the last part of this 800 ha development of executive homes was under construction. The estate is currently managed by Dandaloo Developments Pty Ltd.

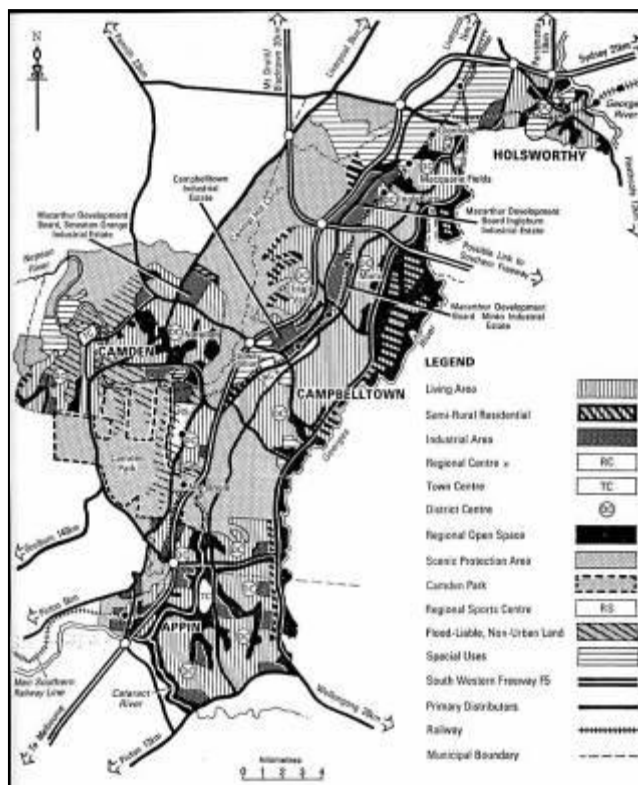


Figure A6:
The Campbelltown-
Camden-Appin Structure
Plan released in 1973.

⁶¹ Peter Spearritt & Christine DeMarco, *Planning Sydney's Future*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 1988, pp.65-73.

Chronology

1788	First Fleet arrives. In June, the herd of cattle escapes.
1790	Captain Watkin Tench, Lieutenant William Dawes and Surgeon George Worgan travelled south-west from Parramatta on an explorative mission.
1795	The second European party went there to locate a herd of cattle reported by the Aborigines. Having confirmed that 61 cattle – descendants of those that had run away from Port Jackson in June 1788 – were grazing south of the Nepean River, Governor Hunter led a small party to see the cattle and the country for himself.
1800	Governor King attempted to muster the cattle (now numbering 500-600). He was unsuccessful and has a slab hut built at the river crossing as a guard house and butchery.
1801	John Macarthur was granted 5,000 acres by Lord Camden and another 5,000 if his sheep breeding venture was successful. Macarthur chose the Cowpastures for his grant and, though King tried to prevent him taking it, he marked out his farms on 13 October 1805. Macarthur organised a 2,000-acre grant for his friend Walter Davidson, who allowed Macarthur to use it freely after he returned home.
1803	Governor King issued a proclamation forbidding people to cross to the western bank of the Nepean River without a permit signed by the Governor.
1804	Governor King extended the ban stating that no ground should be granted or leased on that side of the river.
1805	Grants along the Nepean began to be issued (settlers seem to have occupied the land on the Nepean from 1800 but no grants were issued until 1805). Most occupied the north-east bank.
1808	Governor Bligh deposed by the NSW Corps. Members of the Corps served as lieutenant governors. Joseph Foveaux granted land to all who requested it.
1810	Macquarie became governor. Macquarie recalled a number of the grants given out by Foveaux and Paterson. Macquarie had the area surveyed by Meehan and began granting properties.
1815	Edward Lord granted 1,620 acres at Narellan as part compensation for a claim on the government. He named it Orielson Farm, later Park.
c1820	Lord establishes Orielson Farm, later Park, including some type of hut along with an early brick kitchen building which survives today. 1 December Governor Macquarie names township Campbelltown.
1822	Lord sells Orielson to John Dickson, a middle-aged Scotsman who had come to the colony in 1813 to set up a steam mill.
1825-30	Orielson Homestead site established as an outstation to Dickson's principal residence at Nonorrah (later Maryland).
1827	Governor Darling had surveyor Hoddle draw up Campbelltown.
1828	Lord returned to live permanently in England.
1833	Dickson leaves Australia and disposes of his properties in 1838-42.
1839	Disastrous drought hits the area.

1840	Orielson put up for auction by Australian Auction Co. describing 481 acre home farm to have <i>a substantial built brick cottage, commodious stabling, an excellent built barn with two floors, therein an 8 horse power threshing an winnowing machine.</i> Convict transportation ends. The area is growing with large-scale assisted free migration.
1840s	Collapse of wool market leads to depression.
1841	Orielson sold to Mathew Dysert Hunter, Dickson's business agent.
1843	Dickson dies in London.
1847	Hunter sold out to John Perry, a Camden miller.
c1850	Perry built the steam mill at Orielson.
1859	Lord dies in London.
1860	Orielson sold to William Peisley a carcass butcher.
1864	Peisley puts Orielson up for auction, at the same time Perry's Penrith premises went under the hammer. Orielson was sold to John Thomas Neile of Sydney for £2,500.
1876	Orielson sold to Harriet Beard, widow, of Wynyard Square, Sydney. The new front section, the two-storey front and the northern ballroom to the residence dates to this time (c1880). With the change over to grazing the great barn would have lost its utility.
1910	Harriet Beard dies.
1912	The estate was held in trust and sold by Richardson & Wrench to Ephraim Cross, a Narellan storekeeper whose family had been Camden brick makers. The property is described as having <i>commodious residence, and all usual out offices. Extensive stabling and carriage rooms, milking shed, barns, vegetable, garden etc.</i>
1926	Cross sold the section east of The Northern Road to Harrington Park.
1927	The remainder of the property (including the house) was sold to Yvonne Coleman.
1930	Sold to William Bernard Pilling of Rushcutters Bay, builder and investor. Timber bales built for 100 dairy cows.
1931	Sold to William Henry Trautwein, of Sydney, through Union investments. Orielson soon after sold back to Pilling.
1938	Orielson sold to Arthur D. Swan and Elaine H. Swan, who also own Harrington Park.
1941-45	Air force training operations at Camden airport. Large military transfer and staging camp at Orielson on the corner of Cobbitty and The Northern Roads (known as Greene's Corner).
1942	Military occupied the homestead and made unauthorised changes to the homestead.
1942-43	Swan removes considerable amount of saleable ironmongery (and probably cast iron) from Orielson for sale.
1943	Homestead vacated by the Military. Military camp buildings removed to Canberra.
1944	Sold to John Fairfax & Sons Pty Ltd. Warwick Fairfax did not reside on the property but

	leased the premises and land.
c1945	Verandah – cast iron, etc – pulled down, possibly because it was unsafe, and possibly sold for the war effort.
1947	Orielton Estate vacated by the military.
1952	Orielton transferred to Warwick Fairfax.
1950s– 1960s	Fairfax used Orielson Estate in combination with his Harrington Park Estate for breeding cattle.
1960s	Warwick Fairfax Knighted. Orielson windows boarded up. Some areas of the estate used for goat farming.
1970s	Orielton leased and used by a veterinarian.
1982	Property used for horse agistment. This use continues to 2013.
1987	Sir Warwick Fairfax died.
2013	Current owner Lady Mary Fairfax of Harrington Park. Managed by Brett for horse agistment.

Historical Themes

The Australian Heritage Commission (AHC) has developed nine draft National themes and the NSW Heritage Office has developed thirty five sub state themes. These themes provide a context within which the cultural significance of Orielson can be understood. They provide a framework in which historic influences that have affected and shaped the development of Orielson can be assessed, and have been identified in the history discussed above.

	State Themes	Local Themes
P r i m a r y T h e m e s	Aboriginal contact	The Cowpastures Frontier
	Land tenure	Crown Grants 1810s Subdivision patterns 1810s-1870s Subdivision patterns (future) Ownership patterns Toponymy
	Housing	Early colonial settlers cottages Victorian gentlemen's country houses Turn-of-the-century grazier's homesteads Twentieth-century country houses Rural worker's housing on country estates
	Cultural landscape	Eighteenth Century Landscape School principles
	Environment	The estate as a cultural landscape Development of the gardens Development of the outbuildings 'streetscape'
	Persons	Dynasties: The Dicksons 1820s-1840s The Perrys 1840s – 1860s The Beards 1870s – 1910s The Fairfaxs 1940s+
S e c o n d a r y T h e m e s	Pastoralism	Cattle raising stock yards/sales yards Pastoral emigration 1860s Out stations
	Commerce	The estate within dynastic businesses
	Agriculture	Wheat production - milling Dairying in the Camden district
	Utilities	Public Roads in the colonial period Public Roads 1940s-1970s Water and sewerage services 1940s Electricity transmission 1940s-1970s
	Education	Gentry schooling 1870s
	Government	Settlement planning 1810s- 1830s Planning for urban expansion 1960s+, 1970 to 2005
	Defence	Military base (WWII)

Appendix B
Excerpt from “Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain”

Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain and Camden, NSW, 2000
Colleen Morris & Geoffrey Britton for the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

36

4.3 Orielson

Other References

Formerly Orielson Park

Heritage Item on Camden LEP No.48 (21.2.92)

Historical Overview

Edward Lord, the original 1815 grantee of Orielson (Orielson Park), portion 43 of 1620 acres in the Parish of Narellan, placed the deeds of this property with John Oxley of Kirkham in September 1816.¹¹¹ David Waugh describes Orielson as a productive farm in 1834,

*About the middle of the month, I got a letter from Mr Barker to come down the country to assist at the harvest at this farm from which I now write, where they have 150 acres in hay, and 350 in wheat; and here I am at present furnishing stores to 50 men, keeping accounts &c.*¹¹²

In 1835, 231 acres of Orielson Estate was amalgamated with the Macquarie Gift grant, Wivenhoe.¹¹³ In 1847 it was purchased by a John Perry who later subdivided a portion of the estate and leased the main property to Charles Thompson, Clerk of the Bench to Camden Court.¹¹⁴ In 1863 Abraham Davy of Harrington Park purchased Lot 1 of Orielson Farm (60 acres 2r) from John Lait of Sydney, James Ryan of Emu Plains and James Jones of Sydney. In 1874, Harrington Park and Lot 1 of Orielson, was purchased by William Rudd who appears to have also gained control of the rest of the estate.¹¹⁵ Hares were brought for sport to Orielson during the early 1870s and coursing with live hares became an activity at Orielson and Harrington Park.¹¹⁶ Sidman, writing in the 1930s stated that Orielson had had many owners.¹¹⁷ Research by Tropman and Tropman indicates the greater Harrington Park estate including part of Orielson continued to be controlled by the Rudd and Britten (descendents) families until 1933 when it was sold. In 1934 this was purchased by Arthur Donovan Swan and Elaine Gordon Hall Swan who by 1838 were also the proprietors of Lot 8 of Orielson Estate, lots 43, 44, 50, 51, 52 and pt 45 of Perry's subdivision of Orielson Estate and adjoining land (all part portion 43) of 908 ac 1r 223/4 p (383.3 ha). Since 1944 Orielson has been owned by the Fairfax family who also own nearby Harrington Park.

An undated photograph in the Small Pictures File of the Mitchell Library labelled as "My grandfather Peisley's Country home" is taken from the nearby ridge (Figure 4.3.1). This can be compared with a more recent photograph taken from a slightly different angle (Figure 4.3.2). There is only a slight resemblance between the present form of the house, much of which dates from the late 19th century, and the house in the photograph. This and oral evidence suggests that the original entrance drive was from Northern Road directly passing through the area occupied by farm buildings to the entrance (a typical entrance route as described by Louisa Meredith) which

¹¹¹ Sidman, G. V., *The Town of Camden*, Facsimile with index compiled by Liz Vincent, Camden Public Library, 1995, p. 7.

¹¹² Waugh, David Lindsay, *Three years' practical experience of a settler in New South Wales: being extracts from letters to his friends from 1834-1837*, edited by James Waugh, published, London c.1839, p. 26

¹¹³ Design 5, *Wivenhoe Conservation Analysis and Conservation Policy* Vol. 2 Appendices, Final Report May 1997, Appendix D unpaginated. For an analysis of all the boundary changes for Wivenhoe, Vol. 1 page 46.

¹¹⁴ Sidman, op. cit. p.16

¹¹⁵ Tropman & Tropman, op. cit. p.7., p. 41

¹¹⁶ Liston, *Campbelltown*, op. cit. p, 113

¹¹⁷ Sidman, op. cit. p.7

Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain and Camden, NSW, 2000
Colleen Morris & Geoffrey Britton for the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

37

was oriented toward Northern Road and facing Crear Hill. More mature plantings were on the north east side of the house, the main garden, between Northern Road and the homestead. There is a pine which is possibly the now mature Bunya Pine (*A. bidwillii*) on the northern edge of the garden. There is little evidence of the other large araucarias which are associated with the property. Mature cupressus (?) are to the east of the house. A large barn (?) features to the south-east of the house. There are few trees in the paddocks but the landscape between Orielson and Harrington Park shows that there was little change between the early photo and December 1997.

Additions were made to the house in the late 19th century and it was reoriented to face toward Camden. Oral history sources report that terraced rose gardens were constructed in the foreground of the later house front. Orielson homestead was occupied by the army during WWII and substantial damage to the fabric of the house occurred during this period. An aerial photograph from 1947 indicates the carriage drive and associated trees in its present position although the alternative and possible former major entrance route is still discernible. The garden directly to the front of the house is defined by a curved line of planting (edging the terrace?) which also bordered a section of carriage drive, with more planting in an outer area of garden beyond.¹¹⁸ The major area of planting is still to the east of the house. Other plantings define the boundaries between "house paddocks" and grazing or cropping paddocks. The designed landscape of the house appears to be defined on its southern side by a watercourse and to the northwest by a row of trees. A 1952 site plan for Harrington Park and Orielson (an amalgamated total of 1760 acres) indicates the pattern of farming of the property (Figure 4.3.3)¹¹⁹

In 1983 a Commission of Inquiry into the future of Harrington Park recommended that the 320 ha in the south-east corner - the south-eastern Orielson area - be rezoned from rural to urban which was approved by then Planning Minister Bob Carr in 1986.¹²⁰ Note see also Figures 4.3.4 to 4.3.6.

Outline of Significance

- * It still retains its quintessential landscape character - based on the traditional juxtaposition of homestead area, with its dominant garden, and cleared pastureland beyond;
- * Its historical relationship to other nearby early grants (Harrington Park, Wivenhoe and Kirkham) and its place in the development of the local area can still be appreciated;
- * It has associations with some notable people;
- * The place retains its historical local prominence and serves as an important local landmark;
- * The place retains some key historical visual relationships - vistas to Harrington Park, Studley Park, the spire of St John's, Camden and the Razorback Range;
- * A relatively intact estate - still able to appreciate main homestead group in its traditional rural context and in relationship to the various natural features - Narellan Creek and the enclosing ridgelines;
- * The place has many features of individual significance such as the original homestead, later homestead, outbuildings, garden layout, terracing and mature plantings, and the entry drive from the Northern Road;
- * The place has considerable capacity to demonstrate its development from c. 1815 to the present;
- * The place is of considerable scientific interest on account of its archaeological research potential.

¹¹⁸ Lands Photo, Camden, Run 18, Jan 47, 54-65

¹¹⁹ Tropman & Tropman, op. cit. p.9.

¹²⁰ Ibid. p.42



Figure 4.3.1 "My grandfather Peisley's Country home" is taken from the nearby ridge (ML Small Picture File undated)

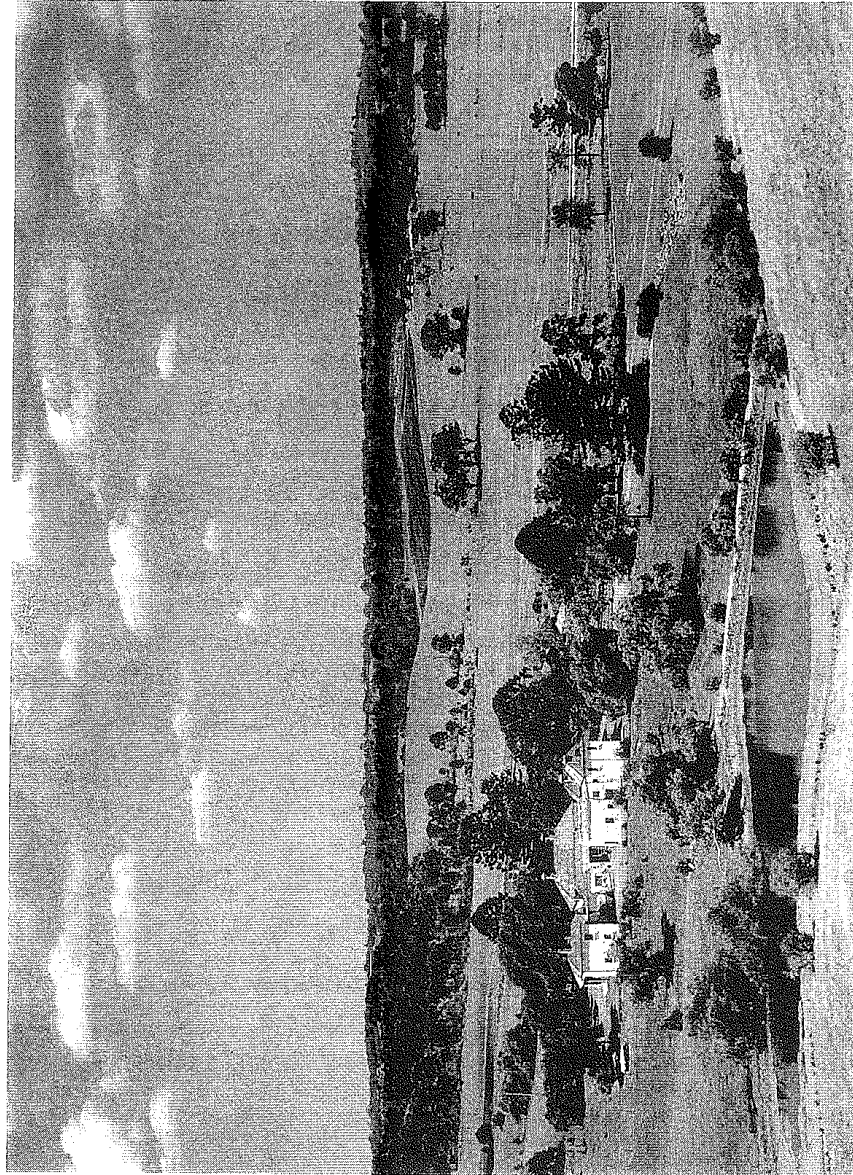


Figure 4.3.2 1998 photograph taken from a similar place to that in Figure 4.3.1(Dr Richard Lamb photo)

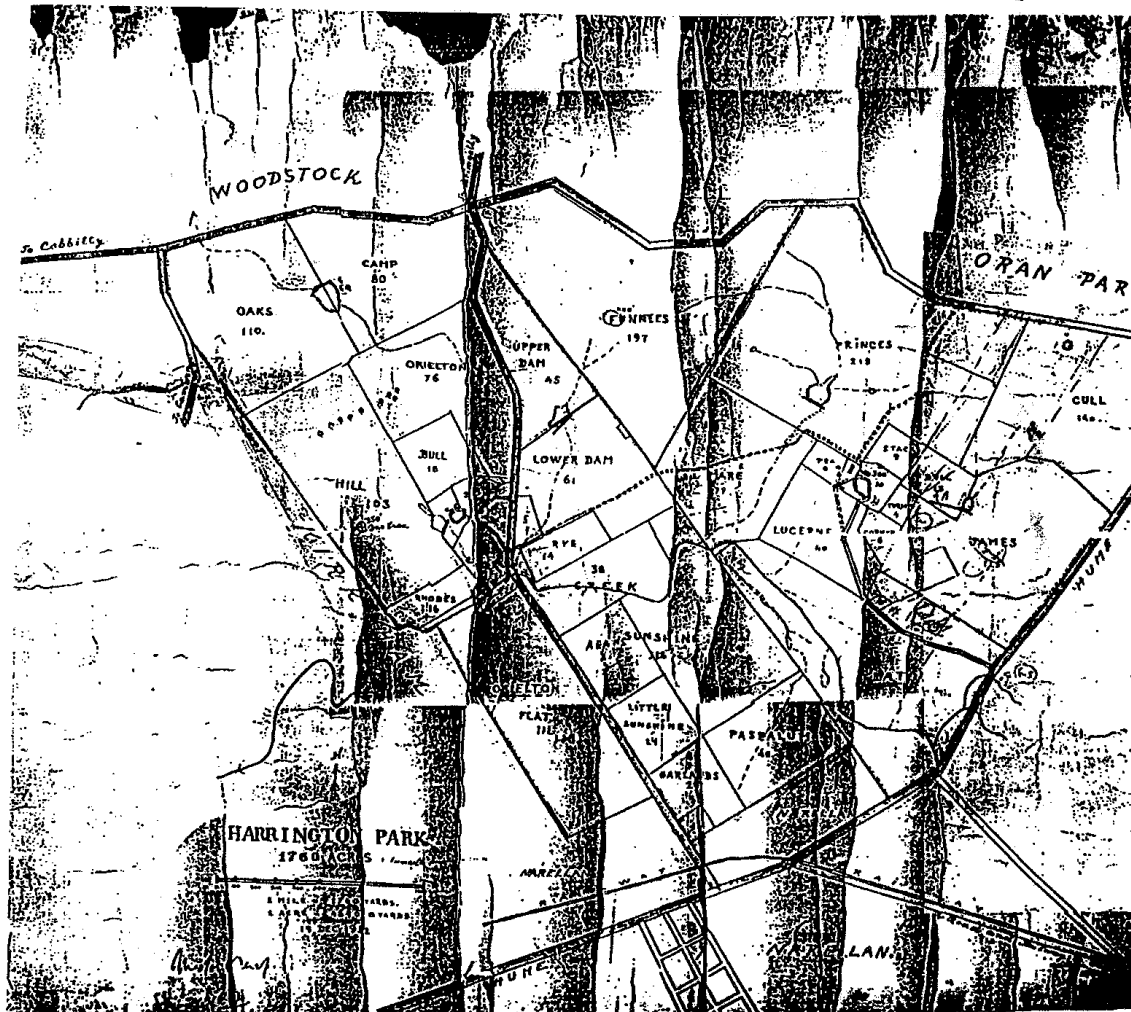
Colonial Landscapes of the Cumberland Plain and Camden, NSW, 2000
Colleen Morris & Geoffrey Britton for the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

38

Recommendations

- * The Orielson estate should be listed immediately on the State Heritage Register.
- * Ensure no development is permitted between the ridgeline encompassing Orielson and Narellan Creek as this would seriously compromise the traditional rural landscape setting and visual prominence of the homestead complex. This setting should extend to the south-west to protect the integrity and rural landscape character along the view to the former Kirkham estate.
- * Consider an appropriate means of protecting this curtilage and its associated key vistas (to Harrington Park and to St John's, Camden over the former Kirkham estate), eg rezone LEP with a special category of Zone 7 - Environment Protection.
- * The owner should be advised, in relation to the older buildings, about the provisions of the new Heritage Act regarding minimum standards of maintenance and repair.
- * Ensure appropriate controls and conditions on adjacent development areas to the south of Narellan Creek and along the southern skyline as these are within the visual catchment of the estate and are currently intrusive.
- * Consider appropriate treatment of the new road embankment to the east as it is higher than the original formation and more intrusive. Such treatment should be on the basis of an informed design scheme so that the treatment itself does not contribute to further visual intrusion.

Figure 4.3.3 1952 Plan of Harrington Park Estate
(Tropman & Tropman Architects, *Cultural Resource Management Plan for Harrington Park Homestead*.)



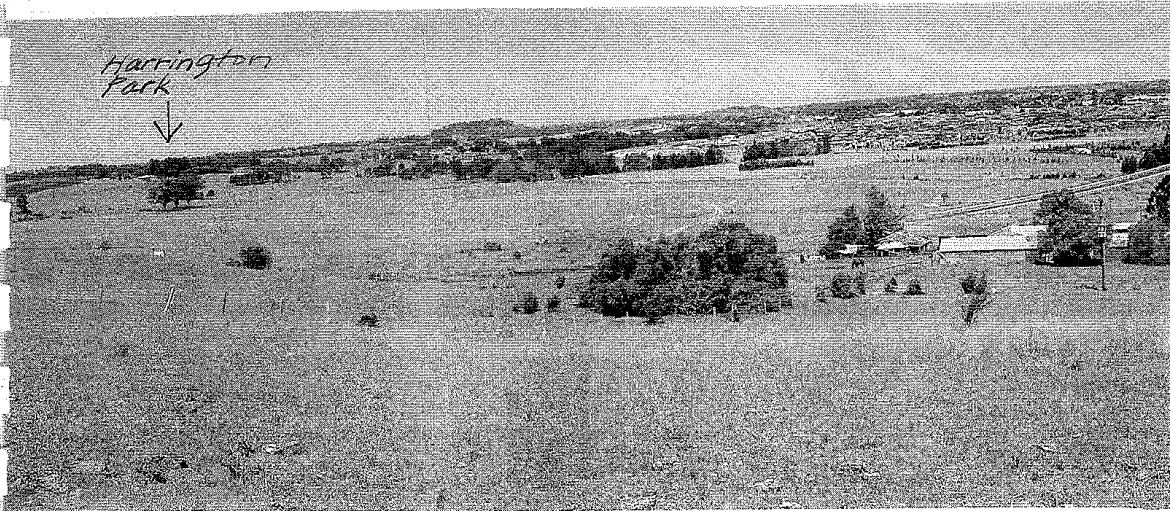
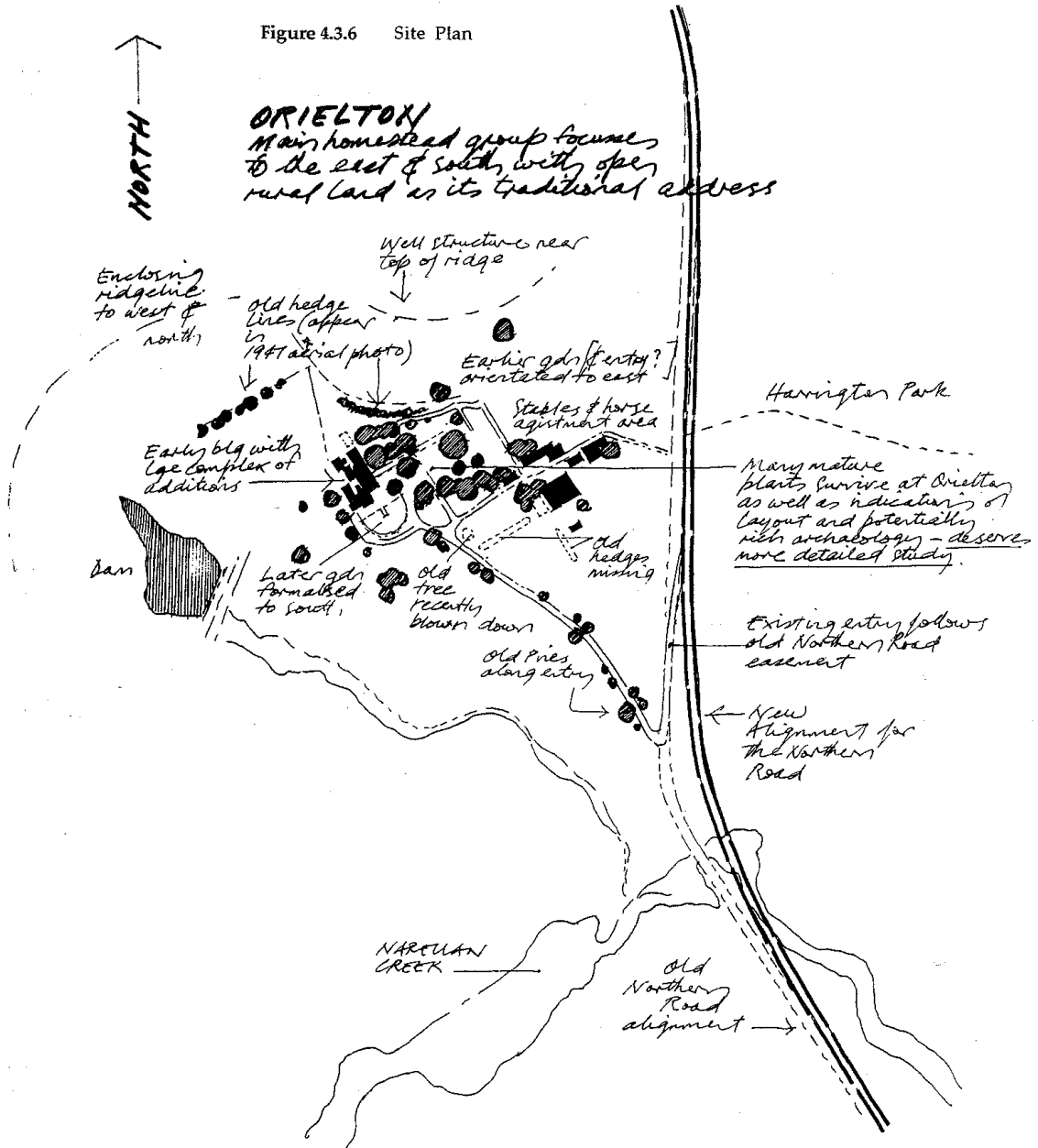


Figure 4.3.6 Site Plan



Appendix C

Early Photographs



Figure No.1: Subject site (flat buildings) c. 1930, provided by Ileen Cumming



Figure No.2: View of dam and picking garden c.1930, provided by Ileen Cumming



Figure No.3: View of homestead entry from carriage loop c. 1930, provided by Ileen Cumming



Figure No.4: Front elevation of homestead looking south c.1930, provided by Ileen Cumming

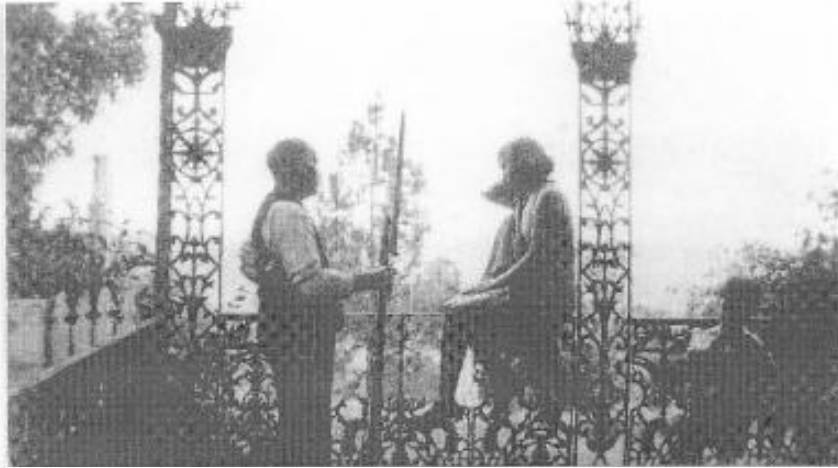


Figure No.5: South view of verandah (date unknown), provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.6: View of south gardens leading up to homestead (date unknown), provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.7: View of front entry (date unknown), provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.8: Significant lawn embankments and rose plantings c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.9: Principal vista to Narellan Creek and Studley Park c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.10: Front garden and embankments c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.11: South elevation of the Mid Victorian Building South Wing c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.12: West Courtyard c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.13: South elevation of the Mid Victorian Building South Wing c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter



Figure No.14: West elevation of the Mid Victorian Building South Wing c.1980, provided by Jim Baxter

Appendix D
Current Photographs 2017



Figure No.1: Looking south west at Orielson Homestead Mid Victorian Building South Wing.



Figure No.2: Looking west at Orielson Homestead main entry.



Figure No.3: Looking east at Orielson Homestead Mid Victorian Building South Wing.



Figure No.4: Looking north east at Orielson Homestead West elevation.



Figure No.5: Looking north into North Courtyard.



Figure No.6: Looking west at East elevation of Orielson Homestead.



Figure No.7: Looking west at East elevation of main entry to Orielson Homestead.



Figure No.8: Looking south west at Orielson Homestead Mid Victorian Building South Wing.

