

ITEM	6b.20.008	ULMARRA-NYMBOIDA COMMUNITY BASED HERITAGE STUDY
<b>Meeting</b>	Environment, Planning & Community Committee	18 February 2020
<b>Directorate</b>	Environment, Planning & Community	
<b>Reviewed by</b>	Manager - Environment, Development & Strategic Planning (Adam Cameron)	
<b>Attachment</b>	Yes plus To be tabled Attachment	

## SUMMARY

Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd, in conjunction with Council's Strategic Planning section and community members, has undertaken a Community Based Heritage Study (CBHS) of the Ulmarra and Nymboida former shire areas. This was identified as a priority in Council's adopted Heritage Strategy 2013 as the missing link to the existing heritage studies carried out within Clarence Valley Council, of the former Maclean Shire, Copmanhurst Shire and Grafton City areas. The Ulmarra Nymboida study area is the remaining part of the Clarence Valley to be explored. The study is fully funded by Heritage NSW.

The brief, scope and funding of this study does not extend to Aboriginal heritage. A broad valley-wide Aboriginal Heritage Study was carried out for Clarence Valley Council in 2013, also fully funded by Heritage NSW. Aboriginal cultural heritage sites are managed under a different legal system but may, however, be included in recommendations for listing on public registers subject to agreement from the Local Aboriginal Land Councils.

The study has resulted in the identification of 120 heritage places. This includes the review and heritage assessment of 21 existing heritage items and one existing Heritage Conservation Area at Ulmarra, 99 potential heritage items and 5 proposed Heritage Conservation Areas at Glenreagh, Minnie Water, Sandon Village, Wooli and Diggers Camp. The study has been placed on general public exhibition for 2 months and 454 property owners of potential heritage items or within potential heritage conservation areas were consulted individually by letter. The results of the consultation are presented in this report and demonstrate an overall support for the findings of the study.

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the exhibited Ulmarra Nymboida Community Based Heritage Study Final Report and Recommendations (Updated October 2019) and accompanying Contextual History 'From the Tablelands to the Sea', with the exclusion of the proposed Wooli Conservation Area to be deferred for further investigation and consultation.
2. Resolve to prepare a Planning Proposal based on the above Heritage Study reports and recommendations for inclusion of the identified heritage items and Conservation Areas in Schedule 5 of Clarence Valley LEP 2011, with the exclusion of the Wooli Conservation Area, and submits it to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment with a request for a Gateway Determination.
3. Carry out further investigation and consultation with the local community in relation to the heritage significance of the Wooli Village precinct and returns the findings to a future Council meeting.
4. Upon receipt of a Gateway Determination, proceed to public exhibition in accordance with the requirements of the Department and re-consult individual property owners.
5. Consider the findings of the Ulmarra Nymboida CBHS in the assessment of any development applications lodged in relation to identified potential heritage items or heritage conservation areas.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Clancy/Baker

That the Officer Recommendation be adopted.

Voting recorded as follows:

For: Baker, Clancy, Novak, Simmons, Williamson

Against: Nil

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION – 6b.20.008**

Toms/Novak

**That Council:**

1. Adopt the exhibited Ulmarra Nymboida Community Based Heritage Study Final Report and Recommendations (Updated October 2019) and accompanying Contextual History 'From the Tablelands to the Sea', with the exclusion of the proposed Woolli Conservation Area to be deferred for further investigation and consultation.
2. Resolve to prepare a Planning Proposal based on the above Heritage Study reports and recommendations for inclusion of the identified heritage items and Conservation Areas in Schedule 5 of Clarence Valley LEP 2011, with the exclusion of the Woolli Conservation Area, and submits it to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment with a request for a Gateway Determination.
3. Carry out further investigation and consultation with the local community in relation to the heritage significance of the Woolli Village precinct and returns the findings to a future Council meeting.
4. Upon receipt of a Gateway Determination, proceed to public exhibition in accordance with the requirements of the Department and re-consult individual property owners.
5. Consider the findings of the Ulmarra Nymboida CBHS in the assessment of any development applications lodged in relation to identified potential heritage items or heritage conservation areas.
6. Refer the items listed on page 111 of the Ordinary Council meeting minutes to the State Government for listing on the State Heritage Register.

Voting recorded as follows:

For: Simmons, Baker, Ellem, Clancy, Novak, Williamson, Lysaught, Toms

Against: Nil

**LINKAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN**

Theme 1 Society

Objective 1.1 We will have proud and inviting communities

Strategy 1.1.2 Respect the heritage of the region by highlighting and enhancing our unique characteristics

**BACKGROUND**

The study area comprises an area of approximately 6,000 square kilometres including rural and coastal villages, National Parks, State Forests and rural lands and riverine areas of the Orara, Mann and Nymboida Rivers. It extends south from the Sandon River to Halfway Creek on the coastline including the coastal villages of Woolli, Minnie Water and Diggers Camp. The rural hinterland extends from the southern side of

the Clarence River to the boundary of the Nymboida River near Dorrigo and includes historic settlements at Ulmarra, Tucabia, Nymboida, Glenreagh, Ramornie, Jackadgery, Cangai, Seelands, Eatonsville, Lilydale and Newbold.

The project's scope was to address non-indigenous heritage including built, natural, landscapes and movable items within the study area.

The study is based upon a thematic and contextual history which assists in an understanding of the key events and factors which have shaped the development of the study area. This includes a historical review of the following themes as outlined in the report:

- First People: Yaegl, Gumbaynggirr, and Bundjalung.
- Environment: Coast, ranges, tablelands, rivers and creeks.
- Discovery: Voyagers, cedar, squatters and pastoralists.
- Municipal Matters: A history of the administration and governance of these areas.
- Settlement: Grafton, Glen Innes, Ulmarra, Nymboida.
- Industry: Agriculture, dairying, Dalmorton gold mining, timber, forestry, public works.
- Transport: Clarence River shipping, North Coast Rail, roads and bridges, hydro power.
- Twentieth Century: WW11, peace, sandmining, commercial fishing, recreation, camping and fishing, oyster leases, off roading, surfing, sea and tree changers.

The places identified by the community and study co-ordinator are referenced to these historical themes.

The Ulmarra Nymboida CBHS commenced in 2017 and has now completed formal public exhibition. There are three main components to the study documents:

*Volume 1 - Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires Community Based Heritage Study Vol 1 Management* updated October 2019 for public exhibition. (Attachment 1)

This summarises the study findings together with recommendations for future management.

*Volume 2 - From the Tablelands to the Sea - A Contextual History*

This is a historical overview which sets out the historic chronology and themes that have shaped the development of the Ulmarra and Nymboida former shires. This was completed by Historian Dan Tuck and the heritage items are linked to the themes in this report. (Attachment 2)

*Volume 3 - State Heritage Inventory*

A detailed inventory has been prepared for the existing and proposed Heritage Items and Heritage Conservation Areas. This has been prepared under heritage assessment guidelines and the State Heritage Inventory. Due to the volume of information and photographs, it is not practical to attach a copy of the heritage inventory to this report. However, the relevant inventory sheet was provided to owners at the time of consultation for review and copies of any item can be provided on request. A copy of the inventory was made available for public inspection at Council offices and at the Grafton Library.

Exhibition and consultation.

Public exhibition of 60 days was held. 454 consultation letters were sent to owners of existing and potential heritage items and all properties within the existing and proposed Heritage Conservation Areas. A total of 41 enquiries and submissions were received. The results of the consultation are in Attachment 3.

## KEY ISSUES

### Study Methodology

The community based heritage study process is the best practice model endorsed by Heritage NSW (formerly Office of Environment and Heritage). It has been used successfully by many NSW councils and was the basis of the heritage studies carried out for the former Grafton, Maclean and Copmanhurst Council areas. The aim of a community based heritage study is to reveal places, items or buildings that are

important to the local community. This process tends to identify a greater variety of places than items than those that are highly visible and mainly of architectural interest.

### Consultation

As part of the study process, public meetings and working groups were held in various locations throughout the study area. Site inspections have been carried out in the company of key members of the community with historical knowledge and background, and revealed many places of historical interest and significance. Potential items were assessed and researched on the basis of information provided by the community, historical archives, photographs, web based resources, other heritage registers, and Council records.

The heritage study was placed on formal public exhibition for 2 months from 25 October 2019 to 24 December 2019. Owners of items recommended for individual listing or within a Heritage Conservation Area were individually consulted by letter of the study findings and recommendations and received a copy of the Inventory sheet for the relevant property or Conservation Area. A total of 454 consultation letters were sent to owners of existing and potential heritage items and all property owners within the existing Ulmarra Heritage Conservation Area and the 5 proposed Heritage Conservation Areas.

A web page was developed under Clarence Conversations, posts were sent out on social media and newspaper adverts. An article was included in the rates newsletter which goes to every ratepayer by mail. A study update was also provided as part of a public meeting with the Ulmarra business community in relation to the future bypass of the village and economic activity promotion.

Due to the scope and budget it was not possible to hold a public meeting in every area within the study area.

### Results

A summary of enquiries and submissions received in relation to owner and public consultation is outlined in Attachment 3. 41 people responded with predominant support for the heritage study and its findings. The 22 submissions were dominated by supportive comments and feedback. Only a small number raised objections and these were mainly focussed upon the merit of the proposed Heritage Conservation Area at Wooli and need for more consultation with Wooli residents.

19 GENERAL ENQUIRIES, CORRECTIONS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	General enquiry phone calls, provision of additional historical information, and notations of corrections to heritage inventory data sheets.
22 SUBMISSIONS	
	16 SUPPORTIVE Submissions showed support for the heritage study and identified heritage values. Some included additional comments and issues.
	5 OPPOSED Opposition to a Heritage Conservation Area for Wooli, the Minnie Water Store as part of HCA, and one to houses being included at Diggers Camp
TOTAL 41	

### Key Issues raised in Submissions

- Objection to the proposed Conservation Area at Wooli due to the mixed nature of built form in Wooli and perceived restrictions on rebuilding. Property owners should be given opportunity to consider proposed sympathetic and complementary development guidelines before any decision is made about whether the area should be subject to additional development controls.
- Objection to broad brush approach and believe that an itemised list of individual properties to be protected both inside and outside of the proposed Wooli Conservation Area boundary, should be listed in the final document.

- Perceived fear that heritage listing or Conservation Area removes the opportunity to renovate or extend it in the future and a financial setback. Concern about cost of maintaining and upgrading the dwelling.
- Additional historical information, and/or corrections to heritage inventories.
- Support for the findings of the study and identification of heritage values.
- Scope for more detailed research which may reveal more places of significance to Woolli, and the inclusion of Aboriginal and natural heritage items in the heritage study.
- General support for retention of character and scale of Sandon village.
- Support for protection of Diggers Camp Common.
- Support for hall and open space area at Minnie Water.
- Support for the study recommendations to Clarence Valley Council to undertake the listed actions to complete the Community Based Heritage Study.
- Support for the recommendation for establishment of a Heritage Committee and that Council continues the annual local heritage fund.
- After the disastrous consequences of the fires it is important to privilege the importance of local heritage against further/potential losses.
- Potential for education and awareness raising of heritage conservation and support from Council.
- Community groups such as Lions and Rotary and local historical groups to encourage development of cultural resources in the community.
- First people's heritage should also be recognised in the scope of the LEP.
- Fully support the recommendations and next steps of the study for Council to endorse the study and place items on the LEP.
- Further recommend that sites be examined in terms of heritage tourism value to the local economy and to work with local museum staff and community members to develop appropriately themed trails.

**Limitations**

The vast area (7,000km<sup>2</sup>), rural nature of the study area, and budget were limitations for the study. Site assessment was often restricted to places which were visible from public roads. Subsequently, there are likely to be many additional historical rural items on private properties that are not recorded or addressed by the study if they have not been proposed by the community.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS****Why heritage list a property or item?**

The overall aim of a heritage management is to conserve places and objects from the past so they can be appreciated and enjoyed by future generations. Heritage provides a link between past, current and future generations and is integral to the identity and unique character of places. Protection of these values is recognised as having long term value.

**Links to the past and managed change**

Whilst the study area is rural and dispersed, it sits within a context of the North Coast region which is experiencing substantial population growth and development. Places of heritage significance within this area need to be formally recognised, with policies which enable carefully managed change whilst protecting the heritage significance of these items and places.

**Planning Policy-North Coast Regional Plan 2036 - Direction 19 states:**

- Historic heritage is a major contributor to the region's identity and character. It also has the capacity to generate economic value, particularly through tourism.
- Developing local heritage studies in consultation with the wider community will help to identify and secure the ongoing protection and management of heritage items.
- Regeneration of heritage assets through adaptive re-use can help preserve and restore heritage items and can deliver unique and exciting places that can be used well into the future. Where impacts from

new development near heritage items and areas cannot be avoided, proposals that reduce impacts through sympathetic design should be developed, in accordance with relevant statutory processes.

### Actions

- 19.1 Ensure best-practice guidelines are considered such as the *Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* and the *NSW Heritage Manual* when assessing heritage significance.
- **19.2 Prepare, review and update heritage studies in consultation with the wider community to identify and protect historic heritage items, and include appropriate local planning controls.**
- 19.3 Deliver the adaptive or sympathetic use of heritage items and assets.

### Significance and the State guidelines

All items, (existing and proposed) have been assessed using the NSW guidelines provided by Heritage NSW (formerly Office of Environment and Heritage). An item can be of significance if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- **Historical** - the item is important in the course or pattern of NSW's history (cultural or natural) or of the history of the local area.
- **Social** - the item has special associations with the life or works of a person or group of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history or of the local area.
- **Aesthetic/architectural** - the item is important in demonstrating visual character or high degree of creative/technical achievement.
- **Community** - an item has strong or special association with a community or cultural group in NSW or the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- **Scientific/Technical** - an item has potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of NSW history or the local area important in demonstrating innovation and development.

In addition an item is assessed as:

- **Rare** - or outstanding example, or
- **Representative** – example.

### Why assess significance?

Understanding the significance of an item helps when making decisions about any changes in the future.

### Proposed Heritage Items and Heritage Conservation Areas

The study has identified rural, domestic, commercial, civic, industrial recreational and ecclesiastical buildings and settings which are considered worthy of protection. The study also identifies several precincts as Heritage Conservation Areas established around parts of Diggers Camp, Glenreagh Village, Minnie Water, Sandon River Cabins, Ulmarra (existing) and Woolli to protect the collective values and settings of these areas.

### Level of Significance

The majority of items identified in the study are assessed as having **local** significance and Council will be the consent authority if the items are added to the Clarence Valley LEP 2011. Five items (below), all of which are currently existing heritage items of local significance, are recommended for inclusion on the State Heritage register as items of State Significance:

- Nymboida Hydro Electric Power Station, weir and tail race
- Ramornie Meatworks site Archaeological site
- Ulmarra Courthouse and Police Station/official Residence
- Briner Bridge over the Upper Coldstream River, Tucabia
- Glenreagh Railway Station complex. This was referred to Heritage NSW by a community member and was not upheld, however, discussions with Heritage NSW outlined that no supporting information was submitted and there is a detailed Conservation Management Plan prepared by

Caldis Cook Group which concluded that it was an exemplary item representative of State significance.

The final decision for inclusion on the SHR rests with the Heritage NSW as delegate of the Heritage Council.

#### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

##### **A Is the owner required to carry out work as a result of heritage listing?**

Under the Local Environmental Plan level listings there are no policies which can enforce an owner to carry out works or maintenance. However, normal maintenance is required for any property and annual heritage grants have been offered since 2001 through the Clarence Valley as a conservation incentive which have encouraged and supported restoration and conservation works.

##### **B Does Heritage listing stop an owner doing anything with the property?**

Heritage listing does not prevent changes being made to an item providing that they are sensitive and will not adversely affect the significance of an item. Heritage listing essentially applies to the external part of a building unless the interior is specifically included. Works for dwellings, such as replacing kitchens and bathrooms subject to meeting building code requirements and interior works such as floor polishing, carpets, and painting do not require consent, which would apply to any property. Sympathetically designed additions are not discouraged, as they often make a place more liveable and extend the life of the property for many more years.

The heritage exemptions in the Clarence Valley LEP allow a range of maintenance and minor works to be approved in writing by Council, without the need for a development application. This might include verandah restorations, small structures, re-roofing and repainting works to the exterior. Owners are encouraged to discuss proposals first and can gain free heritage advice on materials and conservation approaches for historic buildings from Council's heritage officer where appropriate.

New extensions, pools, and additions all require consent whether an item is heritage listed or not, so there is not a great difference in consent requirements.

##### **C Demolition**

The demolition or removal of a heritage item is not likely to be supported as it is in conflict with the aim of conservation, but the owner may lodge a Development Application which will be considered on its merits.

##### **D Heritage listing can offer more flexibility**

The heritage incentives clause 5.10(10) of CVLEP 2011 gives Council the ability to grant consent to 'any use' or development which would normally otherwise not be permitted in the zone providing that it results in the conservation of the item and does not have an adverse effect on the amenity of the surrounding area.

##### **E Heritage is another layer in the planning process**

Heritage is part of the environment. It needs to be considered in the same way as water quality, flora and fauna, flooding or access. The heritage items recommended in this study are considered important enough to be retained for future generations.

#### **Conclusion**

Generally there is a broad acceptance of the value of heritage to our society and the strength it has in defining the identity of a place. The need to understand the significance and record and protect such places is accepted as sound planning practice on a global scale. One destroyed it cannot be replaced, therefore, a precautionary approach must be held in relation to places of heritage significance.

**COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS****Budget/Financial**

This project (Project 994398-07-8495) was fully funded by the Department of Environment and Heritage with a budget of \$40,000. The project has been managed by Deborah Wray, Senior Strategic Planner.

**Asset Management**

The project has identified some assets which are under Council management such as cemeteries or halls which are of assessed heritage significance and it will be necessary for relevant staff to have a clear understanding of appropriate practice and requirements in dealing with future works. This process is already applicable to heritage items which are in Council's control and management such as the existing heritage listing for Glenreagh School of Arts.

**Policy or Regulation**

The Heritage Study was carried out in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Heritage NSW under the co-ordination and direction of an independent heritage advisor.

A Planning Proposal is proposed to include the items in Schedule 5 of Clarence Valley LEP 2011. The majority of potential Heritage Items and places within a Heritage Conservation Area are proposed as items of local significance and will be subject to the requirements under Clause 5.10 of the Clarence Valley LEP for which Council is the consent authority.

Additional exhibition and consultation with owners will be required in accordance with a Gateway Determination on the Planning Proposal.

The five items nominated for inclusion on the State Heritage Register, if included, would be subject to the Heritage Act 1977 and under the jurisdiction of the Heritage Council or its delegate the NSW Department of Environment and Heritage.

The study is consistent with Direction 19 of the North Coast Regional Plan 2036 as outlined above.

**Consultation**

Addressed in Key Issues.

**Legal and Risk Management**

The Heritage Study is a non-statutory document which was placed on exhibition for public consultation. The study will form the basis of a draft Planning Proposal to include the recommended Heritage Items and Heritage Conservation Areas on Schedule 5 of the Clarence Valley Local Environmental Plan 2011. This process must meet all relevant legislative requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Prepared by	Deborah Wray, Senior Strategic Planner
To be tabled	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd - Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires Community Based Heritage Study Volume 1 Management Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd (updated October 2019)</li> <li>2. From the Tablelands to the Sea - A Contextual History. Former Pristine Waters Council Area (Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires). April 2018. Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd</li> </ol>
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Summary of Enquiries and Submissions to Ulmarra Nymboida Community Based Heritage Study January 2020</li> </ol>



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# Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires



## COMMUNITY BASED HERITAGE STUDY

### **Draft** Volume 1 Management

*Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire Areas*  
Now Clarence Valley Council

May 2018, Updated 2019

## Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires

### COMMUNITY BASED HERITAGE STUDY

### **Draft** Volume 1 Management Report

*Prepared for:*

Clarence Valley Council

*By:*

Gina Scheer, Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd

**May 2018, updated February, April & October 2019**

Cosmos Archaeology Job Number J17/25 – Reports presented:

<i>Draft</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Prepared by</i>	<i>Approved by</i>	<i>Comments</i>
A	03.05.2018	G. Scheer Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Provided in line with Office of Environment and Heritage funding timeframe
B	06.08.2018	G. Scheer Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Including feedback from D. Wray review
C	19.12.2018	G. Scheer Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Including feedback from D. Wray review and community meeting information
D	21.12.2018	G. Scheer Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Including feedback from D. Wray review
E	30.01.2018	M. Bendell Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Including feedback from D. Wray review
F	11.02.2018	G. Scheer Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Including feedback from D. Wray review
G	10.04.2019 & 21.10.2019	G. Scheer	D. Wray Clarence Valley Council	Updated in accordance with numbers of items & changes to SHI sheets.

***Cover Image: Ulmarra Hotel, Seelands Community Hall, Glenreagh General Store and main street, Woolli former boat ramp – photographs taken during site inspections October 2017 – January 2018 Gina Scheer***

## ***Executive Summary***

This Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires Community Based Heritage Study is the first that draws together previous historical information and heritage information for these former Shires. This is a comprehensive Heritage Study which identifies, assesses and recommends places of heritage significance within the study area for inclusion and protection on the Clarence Valley Local Environmental Plan. The project commenced in late 2017 and will be completed in 2019.

The former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires Community Based Heritage Study, conducted from 2017 to 2019, is in two volumes as follows:

- Volume 1 Management Report (this report)
- Volume 2 Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire Thematic History, author Dan Tuck, historian (separate report submitted)

This report provides the findings and recommendations of the Study. It should be read in conjunction with Volume Two to better appreciate the history of development and local context for each proposed heritage item. The Study was coordinated for Clarence Valley Council by Gina Scheer, BA Hons Archaeology M. Heritage Conservation, and involved input and contributions from former Shire Councillors, Council staff and community members.

The Community Based Heritage Study (the Heritage Study) has been conducted in accordance with NSW Heritage Office guidelines for community-based heritage studies and made possible by funding from this body to Clarence Valley Council. The Study would not have been possible without the commitment and ongoing support of the Council and its project manager and information received from interested members of the local communities.

This Study makes recommendations for the inclusion of 114 individual items plus a total of six heritage conservation areas from the former Nymboida and Ulmarra Shires. Of these items, 22 have been listed on a number of State agency Section 170 Conservation and Heritage Registers or have been listed on the former Shire LEPs. Within this number there are recommendations made for listing five places assigned State heritage significance.

The individual items recommended in this Study for Clarence Valley Council have been listed with their details and photographs on the Office of Environment and Heritage State Heritage Inventory database. Once Clarence Valley Council has approved the heritage items, their information will be made freely available via the following website:  
<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx>

### ***Abbreviations used throughout:***

CBHS	Community Based Heritage Study
Council	Clarence Valley Council
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
HCA	Heritage Conservation Area
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
NSW	New South Wales
SHI	State Heritage Inventory database
SHR	State Heritage Register

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Background

Clarence Valley Council amalgamated in 2004 and at that time the former Pristine Waters Council became part of this body. Pristine Waters Council was itself a relatively new Council area, as the Ulmarra Shire Council and Nymboida Shire Council became Pristine Waters Council in July 2000.

The former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire areas comprise the southern part of the Clarence Valley Council local government area, as shown on the maps (Figure 1). Although each former Shire had information from earlier years regarding historical and heritage information, they had not yet been the subject of a community based heritage study. The need for a heritage study for both former Shires was identified in the Clarence Valley Heritage Strategy adopted in 2013.

There are 18 heritage items and one Conservation Area listed within the study area on the Clarence Valley Council Schedule 5, the heritage schedule for the *Clarence Valley Local Environmental Plan 2011*. These listed items arose from the former North Coast Regional Environmental Plan listings which had been made in 1988.

In July 2017, Clarence Valley Council sought tenders to undertake the Heritage Study for the former Shires. The Office of Environment and Heritage had agreed to fund the project with support from Clarence Valley Council (Council). Council expects the Heritage Study to result in the identification of places of heritage significance which are considered important to local communities.

The items identified within this report and for which a state heritage inventory form has been prepared<sup>1</sup> are often places that the local community have recommended or provided information for. Inclusion as heritage items will ensure their protection and their appreciation by the local community and the many visitors to these area. It must be noted that tourism is a big drawcard for the area and the retention of heritage items and heritage streetscapes, such as in heritage conservation areas, is a sure method for ensuring further visitor numbers.

### 1.2 Study Area

The study area is actually two different geographical areas, separated by Grafton. The former Ulmarra Shire lies to the north and east of Grafton and the former Nymboida Shire is located to the south and west of Grafton. The regions are shown on the maps at Figure 1.

The study area includes the New England Plateau to the west and the river plains, coastal hinterland, headlands and beaches of the Mid to Far North Coast. The area features parts of the largest of the North Coast's notable big rivers, the Clarence, as well as the Mann, Nymboida and Orara, and includes a vast range of landscapes and landforms. The northernmost notable settlement is Cowper; the southernmost is Hernani. The westernmost locality is the ranges-tablelands former township of Newton Boyd and the easternmost the small river-coast settlement of Sandon.

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<sup>1</sup> Each item has been listed on the Office of Environment and Heritage web-based State Heritage Inventory database.





**Figure 1: Above, overall map of Clarence Valley Council local government area and below, the two former shires comprise most of the area.**

### 1.2.1 European Settlement

The history of the areas is outlined in the companion volume to this study - Volume 2 Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire Thematic History. To summarise, the area of Ulmarra was settled in the 1850s and the town established in 1870. A petition asking for the Municipal District of Ulmarra was published in the Government Gazette on 23 June 1871. It requested incorporation of an area of about 45 square miles with a population over 1,000.<sup>2</sup> The town of Ulmarra was founded on the banks of the Clarence River and the towns and villages of the former shire extend to the coastal towns of Woolli, Minnie Water, Diggers Camp and Sandon. The historical industries of timber getting and dairy farming have also included fishing and mining. The coastal area of Ulmarra also incorporates the Yuraygir National Park and many acres of native bush. The area today is still dominated by agriculture, with large pastoral properties, although recreation and tourism are emerging sources of income for the region.

Nymboida, the village was set aside from Nymboida, the pastoral property, in 1869 which is when it was surveyed<sup>3</sup>. Gregory Blaxland (son of the explorer) had established the pastoral property of Nymboida in the 1840s. Dairying and agriculture continued and a public school opened at Nymboida in 1879. The 'wool road' through Nymboida from Armidale to Grafton helped establish the village. It became a service stop for the Cobb and Co stage coaches, bullock teams, timber cutters, graziers and other European pioneers. The area also incorporated the former gold mining towns of Dalmorton and Glenreagh. Former Nymboida Shire is a steeper landscape than Ulmarra and included many creeks, as well as gold and coal mining. A timber festival is celebrated annually in Glenreagh. It is also agriculture and tourism that are the main sources of income in the region.

## 1.3 Aims of the former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire Community based heritage Study

This Heritage Study draws on the valuable historical information available within the community regarding identification of items and in some cases further information on their development. One of the aims of this study was to bring people together in the community to discuss heritage and raise their awareness of heritage conservation and the resources available at Council to assist with conservation.

The following information taken from the NSW Guidelines for a Community Based Heritage Study, is relevant for this project:

*A Heritage Study investigates the history of a local government area. It identifies then assesses items and places of heritage significance that demonstrate this history. The study explains why the items are significant and recommends ways to manage and conserve this significance.*

*The study ensures that the community is not only consulted about its heritage, but also that the community is actively involved in researching and nominating items and places of heritage significance, and in considering recommendations for their management and promotion.*

*The methodology is based on the premise that the community holds the necessary skills and knowledge when guided by an experienced heritage consultant. This might or might not be so for every community. However, the process does assist in promoting the community's sense of historical and current identity and ensuring its beginnings, its present and its potential are known and can be explored and celebrated. This greatly assists a sense of ownership and pride regarding heritage*

<sup>2</sup> NSW State Records and Archives, Municipal District of Ulmarra, <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/organisation/189>

<sup>3</sup> The Centenary of Nymboida, 1879-1979, Pap Book Co Pty Ltd., 15.



*assets and involvement in their future management. In addition, the information assists Council in protecting heritage, developing tourism strategies, and in devising education programmes to ensure the community's heritage assets become better known, understood and appreciated.<sup>4</sup>*

### 1.3.1 Indigenous Recognition

While Aboriginal heritage is not directly within the scope of this Study, the traditional language groups, ownership and occupation of the former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shire areas by the Bandjalang, Gumbaingirr and Yaegl people is acknowledged. The Aboriginal history is an important factor for the former Shires and is included in the separate thematic history volume. For this Community based heritage study, if Aboriginal sites are identified as part of the community consultation process, they may be included as heritage items but are subject to the endorsement of the relevant local Aboriginal Land Council.

It is also worth noting here that Clarence Valley Council prepared an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the whole LGA which was adopted by Council on 14 April 2015. The study was prepared in consultation with members of the Clarence Valley local Aboriginal communities. The Study included a thematic history of local Aboriginal occupation, identified publicly recognised places of Aboriginal significance, and contained strategies in relation to the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

## 1.4 Authorship and Reporting

This report is Volume I Project Manager's Report. It introduces the Study, provides its background and methodology, and provides the findings and recommendations. Gina Scheer, Heritage Consultant with Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd is the author and project coordinator. This report includes the list of existing and potential heritage items. Each potential item has been entered on to the Office of Environment and Heritage State Heritage Inventory database.

Volume II is a Thematic History for the Community Based Heritage Study. That report provides the historic context, based around relevant identified local and, or, State historical themes.

## 1.5 Acknowledgements

Deborah Wray, Senior Strategic Planner at Clarence Valley Council

Scott Lenton, Environmental Planning Coordinator at Clarence Valley Council

Dan Tuck, archaeologist and historian

*Local community members:*

Roy Bowling former Ulmarra Shire Councillor, Tucabia,

Leone Roberts, former Ulmarra Shire Councillor, Eatonsville

Bessie Webb, local historian, Glenreagh

Brian Leedham, railway historian Glenreagh

Kevin Watkins, local historian, Ulmarra

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<sup>4</sup> State of NSW and Office of Environment and Heritage, Heritage Branch Community-based Heritage Studies, 1999, revised 2005, 2007, 2013

The contributions made to this study by members of the local communities who attended the community meetings is also gratefully acknowledged.

### **1.5.1 Commissioning and conducting the thematic history**

In late 2018, the Project Manager commissioned the preparation of a thematic history from the local archaeologist and historian Dan Tuck. It is important to note that in the Heritage Study methodology, the thematic history is not expected to be a definitive history or an attempt to record history in a conventional way. Rather, in line with the NSW Heritage Office guidelines for community based heritage studies, it analyses the history of the area by using previously identified historic themes to inform the process of identifying and assessing heritage places. Dan has looked at each former Shire individually regarding specific industries, in order to draw together the thematic information. Dan also has previous experience recording the history and archaeology of the Yuraygir National Park and for Dalmorton.

## **1.6 Limitations of the Study**

The vast study area and its rural nature are limitations for this study. The scope and budget available are also limitations for the study.

These limitations mean that travelling to each and every area is not achievable within the time frame and the budget. Much of the region is rugged landscape and also includes large rural properties.

This study has utilised the historical resources within previously written histories and from first-hand accounts from family descendants or long term members of the local communities. In addition, publications within the Clarence River Historical Society, Grafton Library, or provided by Council have been consulted.

However, many of the historical properties noted to be potential heritage items are private properties. There are gaps in our information, and, without an invitation to enter these properties, there will be historical rural properties within the region that will not be included within this Heritage Study.

## 2 HERITAGE STUDY METHODOLOGY AND OUTCOMES

The study commenced in October 2017 with Clarence Valley Council appointing a project manager and a historian to undertake the project. The Heritage Study will be publically available in 2019 and completed in 2020.

### 2.1 Methodology

The steps to successfully complete this project include the following, which will be completed in 2019 and 2020.

The tasks are split between the project manager and the historian. In addition, Clarence Valley Council's Strategic Planner has been involved for with this Heritage Study and assisted the project manager in completion of initial surveys and community meetings. The project manager's tasks have included the following:

- Liaison with the communities and council, meeting with local interested residents who can provide the necessary history and information for each region
- Facilitate community workshops and initiate the community heritage working group
- Assess heritage significance in line with OEH's requirements and prepare, or review and update, statements of significance
- Use the State Heritage Inventory Database software to prepare, or review and update, heritage data forms for the significant heritage items
- Manage the project to complete the study on time and on budget

Council's Strategic Planner has arranged:

- Local newspaper advertisements for community meetings
- Publicity for the community based heritage study through articles in the local press and for individual property owners through the rates notices.
- Updates to Council's website specifically for the community based heritage study in order to encourage information sharing across the community and to help identify potential item.
- Organisation of venues and materials for meetings.
- Assistance with field work and site inspections.
- Research of Council records and other sources

To complete the project Council and/or Council's Strategic Planner will need to:

- Prepare policy recommendations and implementation strategies for managing and promoting heritage in the area
- Liaise with, and make presentations to, council staff, management and councillors to ensure awareness of the purpose and findings of this study
- Arrange for the management and promotion of heritage conservation at the local level, including the local environmental plans and DCP process based on an understanding of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW) contexts and requirements

Tasks for the historian to successfully complete the project have involved the following:

- Review historical information sourced and provided from the heritage study as well as other archival sources
- Provide a historical account of the patterns of Aboriginal land use, colonial settlement including Aboriginal contributions, and historical events and processes
- Include a chronology – so the history can be used in future research or for other purposes after the study is complete
- Identify and relate the historical account to relevant national, state and local historical themes and identify gaps in historical themes
- Assist the project manager and heritage working group
- Review and provide advice on site-specific histories for potential heritage items identified in this study, if requested by the project manager and heritage working group; attend a community workshop to identify potential heritage items and review existing heritage items which best illustrate the key themes, events and processes
- Assist in identifying historical sources beyond the local area and/or assist in fieldwork with the project manager and heritage working group to understand the historical context
- Prepare a draft thematic local history
- Review and incorporate community, council, project manager, and heritage working group comments into the final thematic local history.

## 2.2 Outcomes

The outcomes of the completed Heritage Study for former Nymboida and Ulmarra Shires will include a greater awareness of the heritage within these areas at a local community level, at Council level and for the wider area. Council's website has already been updated with information relating to the study and information will continue to be updated.

The Heritage Study will also be presented in two volumes to Council, as noted previously. The two volumes are presented as electronic copies, which will be uploaded to Council's website. They will contain the following information:

- Research and fieldwork describing the identified heritage items (this report, Volume 1)
- The thematic history of the area (Volume 2, From the Tablelands to the Sea, A Contextual History Former Pristine Waters Council Area [Ulmarra & Nymboida Shires]: Clarence Valley Council LGA)

The inventory sheets for each proposed heritage item and conservation areas have been completed, using the *State Heritage Inventory Web Application* provided by the Office of Environment and Heritage NSW Heritage Division. The use of paper heritage inventory sheets (SHI forms) have been changed to this web-based application and were undertaken using this direct entry process. The *State Heritage Inventory Web Application* is an Internet based information system for inventory and management of cultural heritage. It is provided for Local Councils and State Government agencies, heritage professionals, etc., who are conducting and managing information collected through heritage studies, Local Environmental Plans and s.170 Heritage and Conservation Registers. The statutory information entered and submitted to the Office of Environment and Heritage NSW Heritage Division will become publicly available via the State Heritage Inventory, once the approvals process has been completed.

This heritage study provides the necessary management information to support heritage outcomes for Clarence Valley Council. The outcomes address social and community responsibilities, strategic and town planning, and economic and cultural responsibilities.

In particular, the following specific initiatives are highlighted by this Heritage Study:

- The community's sense of identity – including its beginnings, the present and its potential. This study and the information contained on the inventory sheets can be used to welcome new residents into a specific local community
- A range of special heritage places which council can support and promote to visitors
- Heritage tourism strategies that can generate local business and greater numbers of visitors
- Local community engagement and a sense of ownership of the area's heritage assets
- Education programs to raise awareness about the community's heritage assets, for better understanding and appreciation. Council can work with local area historical societies and museums, and schools can access web based heritage information
- Future management of heritage items by private owners and Council, where appropriate
- This information will feed into Council's cultural plan; a cultural plan is recommended in order to provide a framework to manage cultural built assets, cultural organisations and other cultural resources within the community.

## 2.3 Information collection and review

The project manager gathered relevant background information from a range of sources, such as the NSW Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage State Heritage Inventory (SHI), National Parks and Wildlife and information held by Clarence Valley Council. This was supplemented by some information from the previous Pristine Waters Councils, information from the Clarence River Historical Society and local history publications.

As this community survey work was undertaken, entries were made onto the NSW State Heritage Inventory database. As the direct entry process is very slow, entries were also made into a separate database (using Filemaker Pro) maintained by the consultant. Each potential heritage item has a SHI form which is completed as per the assessment criteria provided by the NSW Heritage Division.

Clarence Valley Council and the project manager gathered data relating to historic places and to items of potential heritage significance. The information collection stage involved undertaking site visits and inspections of publically accessible areas. For Tucabia, Eatonsville, Ramornie, Seelands and Glenreagh, tours led by the local historical expert were invaluable in highlighting areas of heritage significance.

To better understand the scope of the study and the large geographical areas it covers, there are nine locations identified within the former two shires, as follows:

### Area 1: Ulmarra

This historic township is significant as a 19<sup>th</sup> century river port. The township located on the southern banks of the Clarence River, just northeast of Grafton, is one of the oldest settlements within the former Shire. It retains much of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century building stock. As well as numbers of individual buildings relating to law and order, agriculture, and

commerce and religion, the township is currently designated as a statutory heritage conservation area in the Clarence Valley LEP 2011.

### **Area 2: Tucabia and Coldstream**

The village of Tucabia and the hamlet of Coldstream are located east of Ulmarra, around the banks of the Coldstream River. Individual heritage items relate to the Briner Bridge, an existing heritage item for Roads and Maritime Services. Potential heritage items relate to schools and farming.

### **Area 3: Seelands and Eatonsville**

These villages are located northwest of Grafton, on the banks of the Clarence River. Their settlement pattern reflects the river use and pastoral properties. Potential heritage items relate to schools and halls and are also historically and, in some cases, physically related to Ramornie.

### **Area 4: Ramornie**

The region of Ramornie contains two significant heritage items, the former Ramornie Meatworks site and Ramornie Homestead and barn. This area is located just outside of Grafton on the Orara River. It is a rural setting of rolling hills and pastures, and the former settlement of Ramornie is only marked today by a cenotaph and pine trees located on the northern side of the Gwydir Highway and by a boiling down vat in the rest area further west on the southern side of the Highway. The historical Meatworks site and former village are archaeological remains.

### **Area 5: Glenreagh**

The township is located on the Orara Way mid-way to Coffs Harbour. Founded for gold mining and developed due to the timber industry, the combination of timber, notably cedar, and the railways result in the former Glenreagh Railway Station complex being the only rail heritage item within this Study. The historical centre contains a good representation of timber and iron vernacular buildings including landmark elements of the School of Arts (incorporating the historical museum), churches and the general store.

### **Area 6: Coutts Crossing, Nymboida, Tyringham, Dundarribin**

This is a large area southwest of Grafton, dominated by hills, forests and the river. Coutts Crossing and Nymboida are both historical settlements. Potential heritage items include churches and schools. Early pastoral properties and former villages are also signified by small grave sites, such as at Tyringham. Tyringham also boasts a history hut, a roadside picnic area with wall mounted historical information. This is worthy of heritage listing.

### **Area 7: Dalmorton and Buccarumbi**

These historical areas south and west of Grafton are now rural landscapes, dotted with pastoral properties and popular with campers and canoeists. The former Buccarumbi Bridge is a fascinating ruin at the campground. This area, as well as the former gold mining town of Dalmorton and its hand hewn road tunnel are notable potential and also existing heritage items.



### **Area 8: Sandon, Diggers Camp, Minnie Water and Wooli**

These small coastal towns are located south of Yamba and bordered to the west by the Yuraygir National Park, which places limits to their future development. Minnie Water historically was known as 'Wire Fence' and Diggers Camp is named for the gold diggers who were the first Europeans to settle there, albeit temporarily. Sandon and Wooli were established as oyster and fishing holiday places and their collections and streetscapes of small historical cabins are the reason for their suggested heritage conservation area listings.

### **Area 9: Jackadgery and Cowper**

Jackadgery is located further west along the Gwydir Highway from Grafton, around the banks of the Mann River. Now primarily rural, it is recognised by its rest area with historical interpretation in the hut, similarly to Tyringham. Cowper village, on the southern banks of the Clarence River is located opposite the village of Brushgrove. Cowper's historic public school and former churches are potential heritage items, as is the Cowper Bus Crash Memorial, one of only a few non war memorials within the study area.

## **2.4 Engaging the community**

To date the project manager has attended meetings with local residents who have shared their historical knowledge and accompanied initial surveys of the areas in Glenreagh, Tucabia, Eatonsville, Ramornie and Seelands in order to familiarise with the area and the historical items and potential heritage items located there. There have also been phone calls and emails from individual local residents who are willing to share their historical information and have enquiries regarding the heritage study. Three community meetings were held - in Tucabia, in Grafton and Nymboida, in order to take the study to the relevant communities across this vast area.

The above areas, it is realised, focus on the larger villages and towns of the former Ulmarra and Nymboida shires. One of the issues for this project is the large area of the total study combined with the predominantly rural character of settlements and properties. There are numbers of historical private properties that were not visited as part of the site visits and surveys.

Clarence Valley Council issued a media release regarding the study, as well as the local newspaper advertisements regarding the community meetings. A newsletter article was posted to each ratepayer in the LGA (see **Annex B**) and the Clarence Valley Council website includes links to the study and seeks further information from the public - <https://www.clarenceconversations.com.au/ulmarra-nymboida-heritage-study> .

### **2.4.1 Advising and involving the community**

Council has publicised the Heritage Study through various means such as a local newspaper article, newsletter and advertisements for the community meetings held in three locations (see **Annex C**). In addition, the Project Manager held a number of meetings with community groups and met at various times with a range of individuals to explain the aims of the Heritage Study and its processes and the role of the community as well as Council.

The advertisement also invited nominations for the heritage working group. Attendees at the various community meetings and separate consultations held between October 2017 and October 2018 resulted in meeting attendance and telephone and email information received from the following local community members:

- A total of four former local Councillors from both Shires
- Members of the Clarence Valley Historical Society
- Local resident / business owner from former Ulmarra Shire
- Local resident and historian from Ulmarra
- Local resident and historian from Glenreagh
- Local resident and railway historian from Glenreagh
- Local resident and historian from former Nymboida Shire
- Local resident from Nymboida Shire

## 2.5 Analysis and Recommendations

To date, the recommendations for heritage listing have included a review of the small number of heritage items already listed within the region. These existing items include listings on the S170 heritage and conservation registers of Government bodies such as Roads and Maritime Services, Essential Energy and NSW National Parks and Wildlife.

With regard to new items proposed for heritage listing, the information received from Clarence Valley Council and local residents combined with inspections and historical research have produced the list of recommended heritage items. In some cases recommendations are also made to confirm or upgrade the existing heritage listing through the meetings held to date and the above processes, this Study provides a number of management recommendations in relation to the potential heritage items for Clarence Valley Council. Management issues and recommendations are provided in **Sections 4 and 5** of this report.

The Study's recommendations are for 120 items in total which consist of:

- 114 individual items
- 6 heritage conservation areas - 5 new and 1 existing (Ulmarra)

This number does include those items already listed on other heritage registers and in a few cases, some items already listed as heritage items for Clarence Valley Council.

There may be further additions to the former Nymboida and Ulmarra Shire heritage items that are confirmed during the public consultation phase. These items have already been tentatively identified as:

- historical pastoral properties,
- local industrial places, such as a wrecked sugar cane barge in the Clarence River at Cowper and the historical ill-fated Belmore sugar mill at Ulmarra
- river crossings, such as ferries on the Clarence River
- smaller items, such as the milestones on the Old Glen Innes Road.

### 2.5.1 Changes to the Earlier Draft Report

There have been two potential heritage items that have been removed from the draft report submitted earlier in 2018.

**St Pauls Catholic Church at Glenreagh** - This item was destroyed by fire on the night of 27 May 2018.

**Eatonville Gliding Club** - Not enough is known about its history and the historical use of this item to qualify it for heritage listing at this time.



### 3 ASSESSING SIGNIFICANCE

#### 3.1 Introduction

An assessment of cultural significance or heritage significance seeks to understand and establish the importance or value that a place, site or item may have to select communities and the general community at large. The Australian ICOMOS *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance*<sup>5</sup> (the *Burra Charter* 1979, most recently revised in 2013), the standard adopted by most heritage practitioners in Australia when assessing significance, defines cultural significance as:

***“Aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations”***

Value may be contained in the fabric of the item, its setting and relationship to other items, the response that the item stimulates in those who value it now, or the meaning of that item to contemporary society. Assessments of significance are made by applying standard evaluation criteria. In New South Wales, the NSW Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage provide guidelines for assessing significance which refer to the following seven criteria. The criteria has been discussed with the heritage working group and have been applied in the recommendations for heritage listing within this report.

Criteria A; historical	<i>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);</i>
Criteria B; associational	<i>An item has strong or special associations 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);</i>
Criteria C; aesthetic, creative or technical	<i>An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area).</i>
Criteria D; social values	<i>An item has strong or special associations with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;</i>
Criteria E; scientific or archaeological value	<i>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);</i>
Criteria F; rarity value	<i>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);</i>
Criteria G; representative value	<i>An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places; or cultural and natural environments;</i>

<sup>5</sup> The Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 2013, Charter for the conservation of places of cultural significance.

In addition, the following historical themes, in reference to Criterion A, have been nominated for this study, from the list of nine State and National Historical themes provided by the Office of Environment and Heritage. The history in relation to the selected themes is explored in the separate historical thematic report (Volume 2) provided for the Study. The themes are the following:

New South Wales Historical Themes	
National Theme	State Theme
1. Tracing the natural evolution of Australia	Environment (natural)
2. Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures & interactions with other cultures; convicts; migration; ethnic influences
3. Developing local, regional & national economies	Exploration & events; Pastoralism, agriculture, fishing & forestry; industry & mining; commerce, health & transport; communications; science & technology; events; environment (cultural)
4. Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs & villages; land tenure & accommodation; utilities; labour & education
5. Working	Labour
6. Educating	Education
7. Governing	Government and administration; defence; law & order; welfare
8. Developing Australia's cultural life	Domestic life; creative endeavour; leisure; religion & institutions; sport
9. Marking the phases of life	Birth & death; persons
<a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/themes2006.pdf">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/themes2006.pdf</a>	

Most of the recommended heritage items in this Heritage Study can be grouped within theme 3 and 4, although there are items that relate to each of the above themes.

### 3.2 Potential Individual Heritage Items

This Study recommends the following 114 individual items plus 6 heritage conservation areas are included on the schedule of places of local heritage significance in the Clarence Valley Local Environment Plan.

Please note that the SHI numbers (State Heritage Inventory number) used in the table are an identifying number directly taken from the SHI database.

This number will relate to the item throughout the remainder of this project and will be publically accessible via the link –

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx>

once items have been through the approval process of public consultation by Clarence Valley Council. At that point they will be noted for inclusion on the Local Environmental Plan.

All of these 116 items have now been entered onto the SHI database. The list of items also includes existing heritage items for the study area and these are differentiated within the list as **bold and italicised**. The list is attached with this report **see Annex A**.

### 3.2.1 Condition Reporting

The following definitions can be used throughout the SHI forms when condition can be described for a heritage item:

<i>Excellent</i>	In relation to the condition of an item this means high quality, up to date
<i>Fair</i>	In relation to the condition of an item this means adequate and habitable
<i>Good</i>	In relation to the condition of an item this means high quality (but not excellent)
<i>Poor</i>	In relation to the condition of an item this means less than adequate
<i>Sound</i>	In relation to the condition of the building this means solid and strong

Please note that the condition nominations will need to be finalised during the process of Council consultation and liaison with individual property owners.

## 3.3 State heritage nominations

Within the 114 heritage items recommended for listing on the Clarence Valley LEP, there are six items that have been nominated for State heritage significance. Some of these items have already been listed as State heritage items on relevant S.170 heritage and conservation registers. The six items are noted below with a summary description. They are the following:

### 3.3.1 Nymboida Hydro-Electric Power Station

This building and works are an existing heritage item for Essential Energy, listed as a local heritage item on their Section 170 heritage and conservation register.

The concrete power house building was constructed in 1923 and on the 26th of September in that year Dr Earle Page laid the foundation stone. It is located off the Armidale Road in Nymboida. Pre-dating the Mullumbimby Power House complex, the Nymboida Power House complex may be the second hydro-electric power station built on the Australian mainland.

The complex is representative as a rare and fine example of a 1920s provincial hydro-electric power generating complex, complete with a significant collection of associated features and machinery. As part of a group of power stations and associated items, the Nymboida Hydro-electric Power Station has a high level of heritage significance for its association with the early development of hydro-electric power generation in New South Wales. A modern substation has been built immediately east of the power house. To the southeast the tailrace discharged water that powered the turbines, and the tailrace water flowed into Gulang Creek, which was a popular white-water canoeing location.

### 3.3.2 Ramornie Meatworks site, 1865-1924

This former complex, off the Gwydir Highway on the banks of the Orara River near Eatonsville is an existing local heritage item on the Clarence Valley LEP, No. I344. It is now an archaeological site on private property, most of the buildings were relocated and reused elsewhere within Clarence Valley, including the boiling down vat now located at Gwydir Highway rest stop.

It was an abattoir, meat processing, and canning complex of considerable historical significance to NSW, if not Australia during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It operated under the name Australian Meat Company. It not only employed numerous staff including importing

craftspeople from Europe, but its cans of processed meat were purchased by Britain as military food.

Its founder was a significant historical figure, Charles Grant Tindall, who also constructed an early, 1858, fine and large homestead, also called Ramornie. Its location is 10.5km to the north-west of this site, and it is an existing separate heritage item. It was first proposed by the National Trust to be listed as a heritage item in 1977 and it is also currently recommended for State heritage listing.

### **3.3.3 Ulmarra Court house and Ulmarra Police Station / Official Residence**

These adjoining properties, at 14 and 16 River Street Ulmarra, are currently local heritage items on the LEP, No. I392 and on the NSW Police Section 170 heritage and conservation register. However, as good examples of public buildings designed by the NSW government architect Walter Vernon and completed in 1891, they do fit State level significance for historical, associational, representative and aesthetic values.

Both the Police Station and the adjoining Official Residence are attractive and historic buildings within the townscape of Ulmarra and they contribute to the heritage values of the streetscape (River Street). This pair of buildings are socially and historically significant for their long and continuous links to law and order and the provision of the police service in the Ulmarra area since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. They also retain their 19<sup>th</sup> century character and appearance.

### **3.3.4 Bawden Bridge**

The Bawden Bridge (named after Thomas Bawden the Parliamentary Member) is located over the Orara River on the Old Grafton Road at Waterview Heights. It is a lattice truss bridge, completed in 1874. It is of historical significance and has rare and representative technical and aesthetic qualities. The Bawden Bridge was classified as a 'British style' bridge, a design constructed in NSW prior to the general move towards American-influenced bridge designs in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It has a two-span continuous lattice truss, 77m long with timber beam approaches spanning a deep narrow gorge and is supported on three wrought iron plate piers.

The bridge is in reasonable condition and its appearance and rural location, as well as its technological value contribute to its significance. The Bawden Bridge as a lattice truss bridge is increasingly rare as these structures are replaced or upgraded with modern constructions. The Bridge was noted to be one of six of the oldest lattice truss designs in NSW and the seventh oldest metal truss bridge in Australia. For these reasons it is noted to be of State heritage significance.

### **3.3.5 Briner Bridge over Upper Coldstream River, Tucabia**

The Briner Bridge is a Dare type timber truss bridge and was completed in 1908. It was designed by Harvey Dave and built by a Coffs Harbour bridge maker, J McPhillips. It is a small and neat bridge on a local road, with a single timber truss span of 27.7m (91ft). The bridge is assessed to be of State significance for its history, rarity and its representative values.

The bridge exhibits technical excellence in its design, and all of the structural detail is clearly visible. Within its rural landscape it is part of an attractive country setting and as such is visually appealing and has local aesthetic value. The Briner Bridge is valued by the people of the Clarence Valley district; the bridge was named after a historical local Member of

Parliament, G.S Briner, who was significant in lobbying for its construction<sup>6</sup>. The bridge has technical significance because it is a Dare truss and is representative of some major technical developments that were made in timber truss design by the Public Works Department.

It is also rare within NSW as in 1998 there were only 27 surviving Dare (timber) truss bridges within NSW of the 40 that were built. This number is likely to be considerably less in 2018.

### 3.3.6 Former Glenreagh Railway Station Complex

The former Glenreagh Railway Station has historical, associational and representative heritage values as part of the North Coast Railway. The Station was finally in operation in 1922, after many years of discussion. It was closed in 1983. A conservation management plan was prepared for the site in 2002 and this document noted:

*Since the site was abandoned in 1982, the balance of buildings left on the site have fallen into disrepair.*

*The individual buildings which are remnant to the site are not particularly rare within the NSW rail network, however as a group they are significant in demonstrating a high degree of technical achievement, and exemplifies a particular technology in its dying years.<sup>7</sup>*

The CMP prepared 20 policies for the management of the former railway station and to guide future work at the station. A series of community interest groups made up of locally based keen volunteers are available to undertake projects, once approval is provided. Similarly, to the Briner Bridge above, as more industrial heritage disappears the remaining items are rare. While not all items can be retained, there is a need to preserve the representative samples that do exist.

<sup>6</sup> Roads and Maritime Services, October 2018, Statement of Heritage Impact - Briner Bridge upgrade.

<sup>7</sup> Caldis Cook Group, September 2002, Conservation Management Plan – The Glenreagh Station Group, p1

### 3.4 Heritage Conservation Areas

A total of six heritage conservation areas are advised as a result of this Study. There is one existing heritage conservation area, which is for the township area of Ulmarra. There are minor additions suggested for its boundaries.

The proposed areas are recommended for listing as they retain groups of individual places of local heritage significance that exhibit a consistency of historic eras and designs. In all of these proposed heritage conservation areas, the natural environment or rural landscapes are a contributing factor in the aesthetic value. These areas have heritage significance for their historical, social and aesthetic values. It is worth noting that within these potential heritage conservation areas there are individual places that have been recommended for individual heritage listing. There are also some properties which may not hold any significance, and thus can be classed as 'neutral' or even intrusive – see the ranking below - but are located within the logical boundary of a heritage conservation area.

The terms used below for heritage classification are based on the Australian ICOMOS provided publication, *The Conservation Plan*. The ranking is simply recommended to aid understanding of individual properties within a proposed heritage conservation area and to provide flexibility necessary for management of future change for heritage items and within heritage conservation areas.<sup>8</sup>

Heritage Ranking Identification	Explanation
<b>Exceptional</b>	Rare or outstanding item at either local or State significance. High degree of intactness and original fabric association with early construction period.
<b>High</b>	High degree of intactness and original fabric. Any alterations or additions do not detract from its significance.
<b>Moderate</b>	An item with altered or modified elements which do not detract from its overall significance
<b>Little</b>	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret original item.
<b>Neutral</b>	New item in an area associated with present use. Sympathetic design which does not detract from significance of the area.
<b>Intrusive</b>	Later fabric or major alterations to an item which obscures or detracts from significance of the area.

<sup>8</sup> [James Semple Kerr's *The Conservation Plan* was first published by the National Trust of Australia (NSW) in 1982. In 2013, Dr allowed Australia ICOMOS to provide the 7th edition] J.S. Kerr, *The Conservation Plan*, Seventh Edition, 2013, p19

**Table 3 – Existing and Potential Heritage Conservation Areas**

Area	Description and Location
<b>Diggers Camp heritage conservation area</b>	- This area consists of the houses around Diggers Headland Reserve, which is managed by Clarence Coast Reserve Trust. There are a small number of 1920s-1970s houses facing this reserve, as well as the camp ground and general store.
<b>Glenreagh village heritage conservation area</b>	- Both sides of Coramba Street of Glenreagh, extending from the General Store to the Golden Dog and from Glenreagh Bakery to include the CWA building.
<b>Minnie Water heritage conservation area</b>	- This small area includes the General Store, the Nip Welsh memorial park, and 1960s community hall located opposite the General Store, bounded by the beach area.
<b>Sandon Village (south) heritage conservation area</b>	- The small township south of the Sandon River is difficult to reach without a 4WD vehicle or a boat. Preservation of the small scale coastal is recommended.
<b>Ulmarra heritage conservation area <u>EXISTING</u></b>	- This is recommended to be retained – along with <b>small</b> additions to the existing boundaries.
<b>Wooli heritage conservation area</b>	- This is a long stretch of properties consisting of the small holiday cabins originally constructed for oyster fishing etc, c.1920s onwards located each side of the Wooli Road extending along Riverside Drive and Main Street from behind the Wooli Bowling Club to the water tower on South Terrace.



## 4 MANAGEMENT ISSUES

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There are identifiable issues that have been considered in this heritage study that need to be highlighted to Council. The following sections introduce the issues for discussion.

### 4.1 Social and community responsibilities

Engagement with the local community is best undertaken through existing local community groups. There were nine geographical areas identified in this study:

- Area 1: Ulmarra
- Area 2: Tucabia and Coldstream
- Area 3: Seelands and Eatonsville
- Area 4: Ramornie
- Area 5: Glenreagh
- Area 6: Coutts Crossing, Nymboida, Tyringham, Dundarribin
- Area 7: Dalmorton and Buccarumbi
- Area 8: Sandon, Diggers Camp, Minnie Water and Wooli
- Area 9: Jackadgery and Cowper

Each of the nine areas identified in this study have either a community hall or a central hub where notices are displayed and meetings take place. Council are encouraged to arrange a meeting to discuss heritage issues in relation to each of these localities, once the potential heritage items are approved. It was clear during the community meetings that local communities need to understand what they are responsible for and what Council is responsible to undertake. Issues of responsibility also involve approvals.

### 4.2 Strategic and town planning

For most of the heritage items proposed, Council will be the approval body in relation to any changes. Identification of items of individual heritage significance and the heritage conservation areas is the first step in strategic planning for Council. The next step is listing them on Schedule 5: Items of Environmental Heritage in CVC LEP 2011. Once this is done, the LEP clauses and DCP guidelines for heritage conservation will need to be widely circulated within Council so that issues for Development Approval and heritage are understood. This will assist with any enquiries from owners of the heritage listed items in relation to approval, funding and process. Council already have an excellent tri-fold (12 small pages) brochure prepared that needs to be reprinted and on hand at the Grafton counter and also provided in a Web format. *Heritage items and heritage conservation areas an owner's guide to approval requirements* was printed in August 2011. It needs to be stated to owners that it is only when changes are required that approvals are required.

The Heritage Strategy adopted by Council in 2013 nominated that a Heritage Committee be established to deal with heritage matters in the Clarence Valley Council area. The aims and tasks of this committee will be invaluable in proceeding with this Community Based Heritage Study and are recommended to Council as part of this project.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Clarence Valley Council Heritage Strategy, Adopted 21 May 2013, p3



For the Glenreagh village proposed heritage conservation area, the existing Glenreagh Village Controls (Part R), in the Clarence Valley Council 'Residential Zones DCP 2011' provide the information and guidelines relative to this area.

Ulmarra is an existing heritage conservation area, with minor boundary additions recommended herein. The existing planning conditions outlined in Part 5, Clause 5.10 of the *Clarence Valley Local Environmental Plan 2011* do apply.

For the proposed heritage conservation areas in the coastal villages of Diggers Camp, Sandon and Wooli – these are located within the reserves of the Yuragir National Park. Reference would need to be made to the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding management and regarding heritage listings. The Clarence Valley Council 'Development in Environmental Protection, Recreation and Special Use DCP 2011' is a good source for planning protections for these areas.

### 4.3 Economic and cultural responsibilities

Many of the nine identified areas, noted above, are small rural settlements and within them, many of the potential heritage items will be privately owned. Rather than heritage listing being feared as a burden – either financially or approval wise, there is an opportunity for Council to publicise to all rate payers and to each of the nine communities that it has an existing local heritage funding process. This is a responsibility for Council to communicate as part of the outcomes of this community based heritage study and will help to achieve its cultural responsibility goals.

### 4.4 Location, Context and Use - Tourism

In regard to location and context, many of the heritage places in the Study Area are within picturesque and scenic natural landscapes, which are travelled and appreciated by visitors to the area, mainly tourists. This is in addition to the local inhabitants. This makes the tasks of identifying, promoting and explaining the historical and/or archaeological precincts directly linked to the tourism and visitor experiences that Clarence Valley Council already promote so well.

Each region has tourist promotional brochures and maps in relation to roads and the rivers. Clarence Valley has '52 discoveries in our big backyard' as well as flyers for individual places such as the very popular Ulmarra Heritage Trail (see **Annex B**). The inclusion of heritage signage and provision of tourist maps with information at the places identified below would add greatly to the visitor experience for these areas:

- Glenreagh, to be located at the School of Arts OR the General Store
- Nymboida, to be located at the canoe centre and also at the community hall

One signage approach that works well is the approach that NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services have taken for the coastal settlements within this Study, as well as at Dalmorton. The large signage at these locations are easily maintained and become a welcome stop for all information needed for the area. The examples shown here are from Diggers Camp and Sandon (Figure 2 and Figure 3).



**Figure 2: Historical and useful signage most welcome at small settlement of Diggers Camp**



**Figure 3: The traditional covered and hardy signage adopted by NSW National Parks and Wildlife.**

There is one existing history noticeboard at Ulmarra, and two history / heritage huts located within the study area, one at Tyringham and one at Jackadgery. The Ulmarra noticeboard was erected with the assistance of the former Pristine Waters Council and local Ulmarra residents/groups. It is located in a prominent position for travellers to Ulmarra, in Ulmarra Park near the public toilets. However, it is recommended that Ulmarra include more signage within its heritage conservation area. For all of these historical areas - Ulmarra, Jackadgery and Tyringham - these signs are the only publically accessible historical markers and information sources (Figure 4 to Figure 9).

The Jackadgery and Tyringham heritage huts were also erected with the help of local communities and the former Pristine Waters Council. Both of these are replica timber slab huts, which were chosen to provide an indication of early settlers housing. These huts are located at visitor rest locations on the highways. However, their signage needs to be reinstated. The Tyringham heritage hut has been recommended for local heritage listing within this report as it is a focal point for travellers and provides a wealth of historical information.



**Figure 4: Ulmarra heritage signage at riverside park and public toilets**



**Figure 5: NSW NPWS heritage signage at Dalmorton, by the roadside and in front of the historic police station and lock-up.**



**Figure 6: The Tyringham hut, Armidale Road Tyringham, a pleasant place to stop.**



**Figure 7: One of the wall mounted Tyringham hut history displays - in need of remounting.**



**Figure 8: Jackadgery hut, dedicated to the Lollback family, at the Jackadgery rest stop, Mann River Gwydir Highway**



**Figure 9: One of the wall mounted Jackadgery hut history displays - in sad need of replacement.**

It is recommended that Clarence Valley Council deploy public park funds to upkeep the signage for these small structures and that annual inspections are sufficient to keep the information inside these huts legible. Currently, these huts are a negative presentation for Clarence Valley Council. The information is faded and falling off the walls. As these huts are located on roadside verges, it is recommended that Council includes the inspection and maintenance of these huts and displays as part of their regular roadside maintenance.

#### **4.4.1 Locals and Use**

In regard to use, the importance of engagement with stakeholders and local community groups may not need to be highlighted. Most of the rural villages and townships within the former Shires have active community groups, such as seen in the community noticeboards at both small villages of Dundarribin and Diggers Camp. Other villages, such as Cowper, have active Lions or Rotary Clubs. Nymboida has active clubs that focus on activities, such as cooking and knitting – however all of these groups have a very keen and vested local interest that relates easily to history and heritage protection. Not just family history, but pride and acknowledgement and potentially the capacity to be a guardian for the local heritage places.

Through the active work of Council in the area of community engagement, it will be possible to promote local sponsorship, guardianship and even patronage of heritage items and places. This would mean that the vandalism that removed signage and acknowledgements at the Jackadgery history hut would be reported to a local committee who could organise,

again at the local level, necessary repairs. There will also be an opportunity for local community members to suggest future uses for the buildings and places that are no longer in use for their original purpose.

## 5 RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The NSW heritage management system adopts a three-stage process for investigation, assessing and managing heritage resources by investigating significance, assessing significance and managing significance. The Community Based Heritage Study only addresses the first two steps for Clarence Valley Council, the third step in the process will require management of heritage significance through the LEP and DCP guidelines and further policies.

The final version of this report recommends the LEP listings for identified State Heritage items, Local Heritage items and heritage conservation areas. It is recommended that Clarence Valley Council undertakes the following necessary actions to successfully complete this Community Based Heritage Study:

- Endorses the Heritage Study and its report in relation to the ongoing management and protection of heritage places
- Advertises the listing recommendations and invites public comment on the items, their significance and the identification of any gaps in the listings
- Includes provisions for the management of heritage items and conservation areas within its Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plans (DCP)
- Lists the places identified within this report in Schedule Five, places of heritage significance in the Clarence Valley Local Environment Plan
- Lists conservation areas identified within this report in Schedule Five, places of heritage significance in the Clarence Valley Local Environment Plan
- Supports the heritage listings by inclusion of descriptions and guidelines for development with the relevant Development Control Plan (DCP)
- Records information about those places that were considered within the Study but were not recommended for listing at this point in time due to insufficient information to substantiate local heritage significance
- Undertakes activities to promote the Shires' heritage within Council – specific recommendations are made in Section 4 of this report.
- Undertakes activities to promote and to educate the community of the benefits of listing and protecting items of local heritage significance – specific recommendations are made in Section 4 of this report.
- Continues the annual local heritage fund based on guidelines issued by the NSW Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage.
- Establishes the Heritage Committee which was adopted in 2013 as part of the Heritage Strategy for CVC.



## 5.1 Next Steps

With these new heritage items and the large-scale area involving much travel, there are increased responsibilities for Clarence Valley Council in relation to heritage. It is strongly recommended that the heritage committee (also described as a heritage advisory committee) be established to assist with the responsibilities. It is recommended that the committee's role would be to:

- Assist Council's heritage advisor with the many heritage issues within this vast area that do not relate to development approvals. Their scope of works would include terms of reference to support Council in managing (maintenance), promoting and conserving the identified items of local heritage.
- Increase local community engagement, at a minimum, for each of the nine areas noted above in Section 4.1 and within the nominated heritage conservation areas.
- Communicate with potential volunteer organisations such as Apex, Rotary and Lions Clubs within these areas or more specifically to arrange for information gathering, maintenance, clearing and cleaning of places such as the Recreation Grounds, parks and former coal mine sites. These existing volunteer organisations would prove helpful in arranging heritage brochures and heritage walks, such as the Ulmarra heritage brochure, see Annex B.
- Meet each quarter at CVC in order to review achievements and plan the next actions.

## 5.2 Site Specific Recommendations

This study has considered heritage items in a broad sense within the vast area. There is one particular type of heritage item that is common to all areas and that is cemeteries - historic (and current).

### 5.2.1 Cemeteries

Clarence Valley Council has a website page dedicated to *Family and Pioneer cemeteries*. The cemeteries identified within this heritage study need to be included and therefore the website material will need updating.

In particular this applies to small grave sites such as on private rural properties, including at Ramornie and the Tyringham graves. However the historic cemetery along Coldstream Road in Ulmarra also needs to be included.

In relation to Council planning provisions, there are consent requirements in relation to historical cemeteries which are proposed to be heritage listed and these also relate to existing heritage cemeteries. Planning provisions include the need to obtain prior consent to alter, or make changes to the fabric finish and appearance.

However, in reference to the potential item the Aboriginal cemetery at Tucabia, consultation with the relevant local Aboriginal Land Council is required. It is also strongly suggested that during consultation information be provided to the Land Council so that an application for heritage funding to research individuals and families represented can be made.

## ANNEX A – LIST OF POTENTIAL (AND EXISTING) HERITAGE ITEMS FOR CVC

- **Existing heritage items are shown here in bold**
- **Not all fields from the SHI database have been included in this table of items.**

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
1.	Wiriri Road Mailbox	5066194	Billys Creek	Road Reserve Wiriri Road corner with Armidale Road
2.	Buccarumbi Bridge Ruins and Surrounds	5066332	Buccarumbi	Road Reserve- Old Glen Innes Road and across the Nymboida River
3.	Calliope Public School (former) and Community Hall	5066149	Calliope	681 Sherrys Road, Calliope 92/751390
4.	OBX former Church	5066331	Chambigne	Old Glen Innes Road Lot 63 DP 752 822
5.	Rockview Station (HomesteadComplex)	5066346	Chambigne	670 Rockview Road CHAMBIGNE NSW Lot 31 DP 752811
6.	Coutts Crossing Coronation Hall	5066148	Coutts Crossing	7 Armidale Road Lot 1, DP 950371
7.	Coutts Crossing Public School	5066932	Coutts Crossing	1570 Armidale Road
8.	<b>Coutts Crossing Union Church and Sunday School buildings</b>	<b>5066951</b>	<b>Coutts Crossing</b>	<b>Armidale Road &amp; Acacia Avenue Lot 1 DP 954316</b>
9.	Cowper former Church now art gallery	5066335	Cowper	90 Clarence Street Lot 3/DP 758299
10.	Cowper General Store gallery	5066337	Cowper	96 Clarence Street Lot 1 DP 548548
11.	Cowper former Creamery Building	5066336	Cowper	52 Clarence Street Lot 13 DP 862144
12.	Cowper Memorial	5066338	Cowper	Road Reserve eastern end of Clarence Street

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
13.	Cowper Public School	5066333	Cowper	74 Clarence St Cowper 2460. Lot 1 Section 3, DP 758299
14.	Cowper former Catholic Church (Residence)	5066047	Cowper	1 Samuel Street Lot 1 DP 582159
15.	Dalmorton Police lockup Complex	5066316	Dalmorton	Old Glenn Innes Road Lot 3 DP 758334
16.	Old Glen Innes Road Tunnel	5066044	Dalmorton	Road Reserve Old Glenn Innes Road
17.	Mt Remarkable Gold Mine Existing heritage item	5066317	Dalmorton	6584 Old Glen Innes Road Lot 3 DP 753533
18.	Diggers Camp Heritage Conservation Area	5066312	Diggers Camp	As defined by Conservation Area Map Nugent Street and Miners Street
19.	Dundurrabin Community Centre	5066193	Dundurrabin	Bridge Street Lot 7006, DP 1052194
20.	Eatonsville Community Hall	5066141	Eatonsville	38 Orara Street Lot 134 DP 751383
21.	Eatonsville Recreation Ground	5066144	Eatonsville	Ryan Gully Lane Lot 7012 DP 1055186
22.	Eatonsville Public School (former)	5066143	Eatonsville	25 East Street Lot 151 DP 751383
23.	First Falls Park	5066158	Eatonsville	Orara Street Lot 7303 and 7304 DP 1151546
24.	Residence Former Church	5066156	Eatonsville	13 Orara Street Lot 13 DP 817915
25.	Camp Eagle Eye	5066174	Glenreagh	2080 Orara Way Lot 99, DP752843 Lot 7303 DP 1130431 Crown Lot 7006 DP 1001497

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
26.	Glenreagh Anglican Church	5066198	Glenreagh	50 Coramba Street Lot 5 DP 6505
27.	Residence (former Glenreagh bank)	5066179	Glenreagh	9 Dorriggo Street Lot 11 Section 6 DP 758452
28.	Glenreagh Residence / Shop (former billiards hall)	5066176	Glenreagh	Cnr Coramba and Shannon Streets Lot 1 DP 739210
29.	Glenreagh Bridge over the Orara River	5066051	Glenreagh	RTA Bridge No. 2681 Sherwood Creek Road
30.	Glenreagh Cemetery	5066178	Glenreagh	Cemetery Road Lot 7013 DP 92552
31.	Glenreagh (former) Forestry Office and Forestry House	5066171	Glenreagh	5 Shannon Street Lot 2 DP 11960  7 Shannon Street Lot 1 DP 11960
32.	Glenreagh Former Railway Station Complex	5066049	Glenreagh	Sherwood Creek road Lot 2 DP 785174
33.	Glenreagh General Store	5066046	Glenreagh	49 Coramba Street Lot 27 DP 6504



#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
34.	Glenreagh Mountain Railway Museum	5066173	Glenreagh	Towallum Street  Lot 1 DP 823625 Lot 5 DP 198501
35.	Glenreagh Public School	5066175	Glenreagh	Bridge Street  Lot 105, DP 820521
36.	Glenreagh Recreation Reserve	5066172	Glenreagh	Bridge Street Lot 97 DP 752843
37.	Glenreagh Village Heritage Conservation Area	5066170	Glenreagh	Coramba Street
38.	Golden Dog Hotel (archaeological site)	5066177	Glenreagh	57-59 Coramba Street Lots 22 and 23 DP 6504
39.	Old Glenreagh Station	5066180	Glenreagh	2980 Orara Road, Kremnos Lots 1 or 2 DP 746338
40.	Glenreagh School of Arts	5066048	Glenreagh	62 Coramba Street Lot 4 Sec 6 DP 752843
41.	Shannon Park and The Esplanade	5066169	Glenreagh	Cnr of Boundary Street and Sherwood Creek Road Lot 7003, DP 1052456
42.	Heifer Station	5066676	Heifer Station	1080 Gorge Road
43.	Jackadgery former community hall	5066163	Jackadgery	44 Mann River Road Lot 39 DP 753509

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
44.	Jackadgery School (former)	5066161	Jackadgery	Mann River Road Lot 36, DP 753509
45.	<b>Newbold Grange Homestead Building complex</b>	5066165	Lilydale	<b>600 Gorge Road Lot 1 DP 753528</b>
46.	Minnie Water Heritage Conservation Area	5066313	Minnie Water	Sandon Road
47.	Minnie Water Community Hall	5066678	Minnie Water	Sandon Road Lot 7308 DP 1153056
48.	3 Grafton Street Nymboida	5066186	Nymboida	3 Grafton Street Lot 3 Sec 6 DP 758801
49.	Barns and Outbuildings	5066189	Nymboida	3860 Armidale Road Lot 1 DP 264136
50.	Cartmill House / Property	5066192	Nymboida	4269 Armidale Road Lot 43 DP 1079210
51.	St John's Presbyterian Church (former)	5066184	Nymboida	8 Church Street Lot 6 Sec 5 DP 758801
52.	Former Nymboida Post Office	5066185	Nymboida	1 Nymboida Street Lot 1 DP 781668
53.	Glencoe Rural Property	5066188	Blaxlands Creek, Nymboida	3071 Armidale Road
54.	Nymboida Canoe Centre	5066181	Nymboida	3518 Armidale Road Lot 103 DP 1130173
55.	Nymboida Cemetery	5066183	Nymboida	Cnr of Coalmine Road and Armidale Road Lot 7306 DP 1145336
56.	Nymboida Coaching Station - former	5066187	Nymboida	3970 Armidale Road Lot 11 DP 710619

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
57.	Nymboida Coal Mine	5066319	Nymboida	330 Coalmine Road Lot 58 DP752836 Lot 792 DP 813613
58.	Nymboida Community Hall	5066182	Nymboida	3779 Armidale Rd, Lot 1 Sect 6 DP 758801
59.	Nymboida former Power Station Cottages (Group of 4 Houses see below)	5066195	Nymboida	3522 3526 3532 (2 houses) Armidale Road
		5066195	Nymboida	3522 Armidale Rd Lot 102 DP 1130173
		5066195	Nymboida	3526 Armidale Rd Lot 101 DP 1130173
		5066195	Nymboida	3532 Armidale Road Lot 100 DP 1130173 (2 houses on one lot)
60.	Nymboida Goolang Creek Fossil Wood deposits Existing Heritage Item	5066347	Nymboida	Goolang Creek, off Power Station Road
61.	Nymboida Hydro-electric Power Station Complex including Pipeline and weir Existing Heritage Item	5066139	Nymboida	3532 Armidale Road
62.	Nymboida Police Station Complex Existing heritage item	5066052	Nymboida	4216 Armidale Road Lot 116 DP 723024
63.	Pollacks Bridge over the Nymboida River (170 register only)	5066140	Nymboida	Armidale Road (Regional Rd 74)
64.	Sunnyside Historical Cemetery	5067093	Nymboida	Armidale Road

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
65.	Pillar Valley Public Well Existing heritage item	5066677	Pillar Valley	Road Reserve Ulmarra Woolli Road
66.	Ramornie Historical Cemetery	5066164	Ramornie	1672 Gwydir Highway Lot 1 Dp 1088677
67.	Ramornie Cenotaph	5066157	Ramornie	Road Reserve adjacent to 1672 Gwydir Highway
68.	Ramornie Meatworks (former) Existing heritage item	5066142	Ramornie	off Gwydir Highway Lots 4 and 8 DP 752846 – description needs updating in LEP.
69.	Ramornie Station Homestead & Barn Existing heritage item	5066150	Ramornie	Ramornie Station Road Lots 1 and 2 DP 752846
70.	Sandon North cabins	5066315	Sandon	Yuraygir National Park Sandon River Village SANDON NSW 2463
71.	Sandon Village Conservation Area	5066330	Sandon	Sandon Back Trail, Jetty Road and Pebbly Crescent as defined on Conservation Area map.
72.	Seelands School Site	5066166	Seelands	297 Seelands Hall Road Lot 1 DP 181781
73.	Seelands Hall including Honour Board	5066145	Seelands	5 Ski Lodge Road Lot 1 DP 312440
74.	The Ford House	5066168	Seelands	24 Schwinghammer Road  Lot 43 DP 1066418
75.	Yattendon House	5066167	Seelands	121 Seelands Hall Road Lot 2 DP 706806
76.	Residence Former Post Office	5066154	Tucabia	17-19 Coldstream Terrace Lot 9 Sect 11 DP 758999

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
77.	Tucabia General Cemetery (historical)	5066146	Tucabia	Collett Street Lot 1 668527, Lot 7300 DP 1139262 Lot 1 DP 668344 Lot 1 DP 668343
78.	Bowling Homestead	5066151	Tucabia	Bowlings Road Lot 240 DP 751390
79.	Ulmarra Cemetery	5066147	Ulmarra	Coldstream Road Lots 1-5 DP 115158; Lot 7303 DP 1147299 being D1024308 and Lots 6-7 DP 115158; & Lot 7304 DP 1147299 being D1025768
80.	Tucabia Public School	5066153	Tucabia	2 Mookin Street Lots 1- 10 Sec 17 DP 758999
81.	<b>Tucabia former Well</b>  <b>Existing heritage item</b>	<b>5066057</b>	<b>Tucabia</b>	<b>Candle Street</b> <b>Lot 7</b> <b>DP 902431</b>
82.	Residence, former Post and Telegraph Office Tucabia	5066152	Tucabia	2 Aradin Street Lot 9 S 11 DP 758999
83.	<b>Briner Bridge over Upper Coldstream River</b> <b>Existing heritage item</b>	<b>5066058</b>	<b>Tucabia</b>	<b>RTA Bridge No. 2680</b> <b>Coldstream Terrace</b>
84.	Tyringham Heritage Hut	5066191	Tyringham	Armidale Road Lot 7300 DP 1153798

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
85.	Tyringham Village Graves	5066190	Tyringham	Armidale Road Lot 4 DP 752847
86.	NSW Rural Fire Service HQ (Former Council Chambers) and historic plantings.	5066323	Ulmarra	15-17 Coldstream Street Lot 7 DP 1022562 Lot 6 DP 1106942
87.	<b>Police Residence / Lock-up Ulmarra</b> <b>Existing heritage item</b>	<b>5066567</b>	<b>Ulmarra</b>	<b>16 River Street</b> <b>Lot 1</b> <b>DP 199572</b>
88.	Residence 17 River Street Silverweir	5066068	Ulmarra	17 River Street Lot 1 DP 800248
89.	House, 20 River St Woodfordleigh	5066325	Ulmarra	20 River Street Lot 1 DP 743742
90.	Shop and Residence (Folk Art Cottage)	5066643	Ulmarra	13 Coldstream Street Lot 5 DP 976697
91.	Coldstream Gallery	5066072	Ulmarra	5 Coldstream Street Lot 1 DP101684
92.	Anglican Church (former) Ulmarra	5066063	Ulmarra	12 Pacific Highway Lot 1 DP 615287
93.	Former Anglican Rectory (Residence)	5067032	Ulmarra	10 Pacific Highway Lot 2 DP 615287
94.	Catholic Church (former)	5066321	Ulmarra	35 River Street Lot 91 DP 1133642
92A	Former Catholic Rectory	On same sheet as 5066321- create separate listing sheet for residence circa 1897	Ulmarra	37 River Street Lot 1 DP 784036

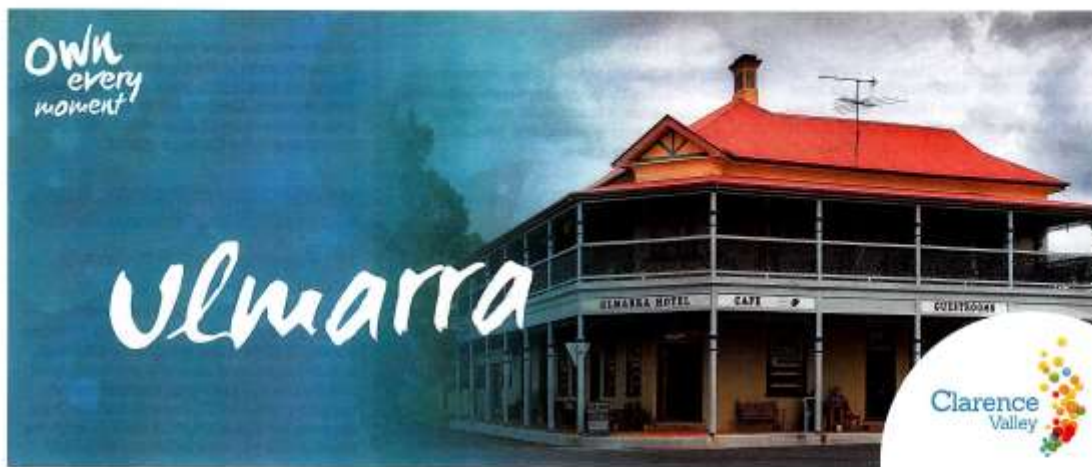
#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
95.	Lower Ulmarra School & Residence	5066060	Ulmarra	1708 Pacific Highway Lot 407 DP 751390
96.	Former Presbyterian Church with Memorial Fence	5066320	Ulmarra	23-25 Coldstream Street Lot 28 DP 1103583
97.	Ulmarra (former) Masonic Lodge	5066065	Ulmarra	8 River Street Lots 1 and 2 DP 797896
98.	Shop Former Ulmarra Butter Factory Butcher	5066196	Ulmarra	25 Pacific Highway Lot 101 DP 816691
99.	Ulmarra Hotel and adjoining cottage	5066066	Ulmarra	2 Coldstream Street Lot 1 DP 847075
100.	Commercial Building (Former Ulmarra Cream and Butter Factory)	5066645	Ulmarra	21 Pacific Highway Lot 104, DP 826322
101.	Courthouse (Former)	5066059	Ulmarra	16 River Street Lot 1 DP 199572 ( note on same land as former Police Residence)
102.	Ulmarra Heritage Conservation Area	5066061	Ulmarra	Urban Area around Coldstream Street
103.	Woolitji Co-Op (former Methodist/Uniting Church)	5066642	Ulmarra	2 River Street Lot 22 DP 794498
104.	Ulmarra Public School Complex & Hoop Pine	5066327	Ulmarra	14 Pacific Highway Lot 10 DP 1031995
105.	Exchange Hotel (former) incl pressed metal linings ceilings & walls etc	5066657	Ulmarra	3 Coldstream Street Lot 150 DP 1228053
106.	Residence (Former Norco Factory Managers Residence)	5066653	Ulmarra	6 Pacific Highway Lot 1 DP 560144



#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
107.	Residence (Ulmarra Post Office former)	5066568	Ulmarra	18 River Street Lot 2 DP 586095
108.	Residence, 27 River Street	5066069	Ulmarra	27 River Street  Lot 1 DP 600056
109.	Pair of Houses, 37 Pacific Hwy Ulmarra	5066647	Ulmarra	37 Pacific Highway Lot 2 DP 1097103
107 A	<i>Pair of Houses, 39 Pacific Hwy Ulmarra</i>	<i>5066647 Shares same sheet- need to create separate sheet</i>	Ulmarra	39 Pacific Highway Lot 2 DP 1097103
110.	Residence	5066655	Ulmarra	21 Coldstream Street Lot 1 DP 797958
111.	Residence (Former ESA Bank)	5066646	Ulmarra	1 Coldstream Street Lot1 DP 1100038
112.	SES Building (Former Capp Theatre)	5066654	Ulmarra	20 Coldstream Street Lot 7 DP 1099212
113.	Residence (Corndale)	5066641	Ulmarra	1117 Pacific Highway Lot 4 DP 617490
114.	Residence 'Belmore'	5066644	Ulmarra	41 Pacific Highway Lot 1 DP 196108
115.	Windsor Cottage	5066572	Ulmarra	2 Hoades Lane Lot 1 DP 596080

#	Name of item:	SHI Number:	Suburb or Town:	Address Lot/ DP
116.	Silo	5066339	Ulmarra	1652 Pacific Highway Lot 50 DP 854424
117.	Silo	5066340	Ulmarra	398 Coldstream Road Lot 1 DP 986364
118.	Bawden Bridge over the Orara River (170 Register - State Significant)	5066138	Waterview Heights	Road Reserve Old Grafton to Glen Innes Road
119.	Wooli Heritage Conservation Area	5066314	Wooli	Caraboi Street and Main Street As mapped in proposed Conservation Area boundary.
120.	Slovenski Monument Statue	5066328	Yuraygir National Park	Yellow Cutting Road GPS AMG 05147 E 669112 S

## ANNEX B – ULMARRA HERITAGE BROCHURE



A visit to Ulmarra is like stepping back in time as the village remains one of the finest examples of a 19th Century riverport in Australia. The entire village is classified by the National Trust.

Little wonder that this community is keen to develop the village as a town of living history with "crafty" businesses occupying the lovely old commercial centre.

The lattice work and colonial style of the Ulmarra Hotel attracts considerable comment as it nestles on the banks of the Clarence River. The hotel and village were used as the location for the T.V mini-series "Fields of Fire" - a story based on life in a 1929 Queensland sugar cane town. Scenes for the film "The Picture Show Man" were also shot here.

Bailey Park, beside the hotel, is a good local fishing spot. Coach groups and travellers regularly use the park facilities, including disabled toilets, and enjoy the old photographs and information on a "Heritage Trails" board.

A walk down memory lane may be the best way to describe a wander through Ulmarra.

By the time you explore the art & crafts or antiques shops and enjoy refreshments at the local coffee lounge, hotel or service station you will love the place and want to learn more of its history.

### Explore Ulmarra

If you feel like taking an interesting walk follow the map (on the reverse side) and enjoy these delightful features:-

#### 1] Fibre Delights

11 Coldstream Street.

Unique local handmade goodies. Handworked crochet, handknits, photography, woodwork, handforaged metalwork, reclaimed timbercraft, leatherwork, silversmithed jewellery, gifts plus much more. Open 9.30am to 3.30pm - 7 days.  
0423 836 249

#### 2] Rathgar Retro Op-Shop

9 Coldstream Street.

Supporting Rathgar Lodge. You just never know what new treasure you might find. Open Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm.

#### 3] Coldstream Gallery

5 Coldstream Street.

Coldstream Gallery is located in the historic river port of Ulmarra. Situated in the original Sydney Stores department store circa 1907, this building has quite some history. Transitioned to a fine art gallery in 1975 it has grown to become a gallery promoting local artists and artisans predominantly from the Clarence Valley. Continuing on with the tradition of personal service and quality we exhibit painting, wood, glass, bronze and more, there is something for everyone; from a card for mum to a collectable piece of original Australian art. Workshops and creative classes are run on a regular basis and unique onsite accommodation is available. Contact us with any workshop or accommodation enquiries. Open everyday from 10am to 4pm or by appointment.

(02) 6619 6446

[www.coldstreamgallery.com.au](http://www.coldstreamgallery.com.au)

#### 4] Ulmarra Books

4 Coldstream Street.

Probably the largest second-hand bookshop on the North Coast of NSW, it covers a complete range of titles in all categories. The shop is open 7 days from 10am - 4pm.  
(02) 6644 5000 0421 474 268

#### 5] Jack a Dandy / Lilly's Lair

8 Coldstream Street.

Located at 8 Coldstream Street. Paul & Jill have an exotic range of unusual gifts from around the world ranging from ceramics to jewellery to fabrics including a range of trade arts. Open 10am to 4pm Thursday - Sunday.  
(02) 6644 5881

#### 6] P.J.Art Gallery

12 Coldstream Street.

His name is Peter J. Hill and his equine and landscape art works are hanging on the walls of private collections and public offices in three continents. Peter and his wife Judy have opened a Studio/gallery in Ulmarra situated in the village's former newsagency. Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 3pm. Open by appointment Monday & Tuesday.  
0428 259 014

#### 7] Muddy's & Studdy's Servo

Located on the corner of Coldstream Street & Pacific Highway is Liberty Service Station, post office and newsagency. Treat yourself to one of their delicious homemade pies, sausage rolls and pasties.  
(02) 6644 5496

#### 8] Bailey Park

Locals often fish from the bank here for bream and flathead and travellers enjoy the riverside rest area, park facilities (including disabled toilets) and find the "Heritage Trails Board" very interesting.

#### 9] Ulmarra Hotel

2 Coldstream Street.

The hotel offers icy cold beer, delicious meals at the Cafe Clarence, beer garden on the river bank, Pub TAB, Sky Channel and quality country riverside pub accommodation. The hotel with its recently renovated colonial style and fine iron lacework featured in the movie "The Picture Show Man" and more recently in the TV mini series "Fields of Fire". Breakfast and lunch 7 days, dinner Tues. to Sat.

(02) 6644 5305

[www.ulmarrahotel.com.au](http://www.ulmarrahotel.com.au)

#### 10] Ulmarra Wharf

At the river end of Coldstream St on the left you will find the Ulmarra Wharf. This was a major pick up point for steam and sailing vessels serving Sydney, but is now a good fishing spot for the locals and a place for yachts, pleasure craft and house boats to tie up whilst visiting the village.

#### 11] Catholic Church

35-37 River Street.

The church was built in 1912, and a convent school was situated behind the church on the riverbank. The house next door was built for either the nuns at the school or the parish priest. The house is in good condition, and is now the home of the Northam family.



**12] Police Residence & Court House**

The first sitting in the new Ulmarra Court House was in April, 1887. The buildings were built on land donated by Thomas Small Junior, and he is in the court records as being the first JP, and he may have been the first Magistrate.

**13] Former Masonic Hall****[Private Residence]**

What was the Masonic Hall is a public hall with stage, supper room, kitchen and toilet block on the ground floor, with the lodge room upstairs.

**14] Uniting Church****[Private Residence]**

This was previously known as the 'Methodist Church', and originally faced Small St., which later became the Pacific Highway. In the late 1930's the church was moved to face River St.

**15] Anglican Church & Rectory****[Private Residence]**

The church which now stands on this site was opened in 1912, the foundation stone is still in place. The rectory would have been built about the same time.

**16] At The Wood Shop**

27 Pacific Highway.

At The Wood Shop is open Monday to Friday 7.30am to 4.00pm with architectural timber products e.g. bench tops and handcrafted unique timber furniture.

(02) 6644 5808

[www.woodshop.com.au](http://www.woodshop.com.au)

**The Little Local Cafe**

27 Pacific Highway

Whether visiting Ulmarra or just travelling through, stop in at the The Little Local Cafe van at the side of the highway to pick up a great Botero coffee, frappe or smoothie.

**17] Old Codgers Antiques**

21 Pacific Highway.

Located in the old butcher shop. Here you can browse through a range of antiques, old wares and bric-a-brac. It is only open on a casual basis so it is best to phone Ron Wheatley ahead to arrange a time.

0400 285 774

**18] Contrary's on Clarence**

21 Pacific Highway, in the old Norco Butter Factory.

"Old Wares & Old Wears". An eclectic array of goods available ranging from antique & vintage through to retro. Everything from collectables, clothing, tools, costume jewellery, old linen, kitchenalia, creatively restored & traditional furniture. Open 7 days 9am - 4.30pm.

(02) 6644 5999

**19] Ludo & Swagman's Oldwares**

21c Pacific Highway.

Open 7 days. 9am - 4.30pm.

(02) 6644 4080 or 0403 071 121

**20] Ulmarra to Southgate Ferry**

If you would like an unusual experience then hop in your car and take a ride on the Ulmarra to Southgate Ferry. At one time 19 vehicular ferries crossed various sections of the Clarence River to link local communities. This wide river crossing is a pleasant experience, just 1 km out of town north along the Highway. It is not recommended for cars with caravans.

**OPERATING TIMES:**

6.00am - 7.45am; 8.30am - 11.45am; 12.30pm - 5.45pm; 6.30pm - 11.00pm. The ferry stops for maintenance each Sunday 6.00am - 8.00am. PLUS: The first Wednesday of each month 9.30am - 11.30am.

0437 836 067

**21] Cemetery**

About 5 minutes drive east along Coldstream St you will come to the Ulmarra Cemetery. This is the final resting place of so many of the early pioneers. Ulmarra and its surrounding area is home to direct descendants of three first fletters in the Clarence district.

**Accommodation****A] Rooftops Bed & Breakfast**

6 Coldstream Street.

Rooftops B&B is the place to stay when travelling through the Clarence Valley. All rooms are well appointed and thoughtfully decorated, with two queen ensuite rooms and family room with a three way bathroom. Rooftops has all budgets catered for. Please note that Rooftops does require to use a flight of stairs to reach the rooms and is therefore unsuitable for people with mobility problems. *At rooftops B&B 'your comfort is our priority'.*

(02) 6644 5305

[www.rooftops.com.au](http://www.rooftops.com.au)

**B] Ulmarra Hotel**

2 Coldstream Street.

The Ulmarra Hotel Ulmarra offers overnight accommodation in the traditional pub fashion. Upstairs and overlooking the Clarence River, most rooms have balcony access with stunning river views. Prices per night include a continental breakfast, which is available in the dining room. Group bookings are priced upon negotiation and discounts may apply.

(02) 6644 5305

[www.ulmarrahotel.com.au](http://www.ulmarrahotel.com.au)

**Bus services****Atwal Bus & Co. Pty Ltd**

Atwal Bus & Co. operates the school bus services from Ulmarra to Wooli and Grafton and these can be utilised by the public.

(02) 6644 5482

**Busways Northcoast Bus Service**

Busways operates to the bus stop opposite the Commercial Hotel. This service links Ulmarra to Grafton, Maclean, Yamba & Iluka.

1300 555 611

[www.busways.com.au](http://www.busways.com.au)



Updated: 29 October 2017



**Clarence Valley Information Centres**  
Pacific Highway, Grafton & Maclean

P: 02 6643 0800

E: [visit@myclarencevalley.com.au](mailto:visit@myclarencevalley.com.au)

[www.myclarencevalley.com.au](http://www.myclarencevalley.com.au)

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## ANNEX C – COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND HERITAGE WORKING GROUP PLUS COUNCIL ADVERTISING

### List of community meetings and participants

Ulmarra, 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2018	Nymboida, 1 <sup>st</sup> March, 2018	Grafton, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2018
Des Avery	Joan Smythe	Hazel Lawson
Corallie Eggins	Wendy Birch	Leone Roberts
Warren Henwood	Same day meeting at Nymboida Canoe Centre:	Ross Austen
Hilda Smidt	Gray Stride	
Carolyn Smidt	Dave Stephenson	
Steve Pickering	Eva Staehelin	
Mark McIntyre	Leana Stephenson	
Jean Barnier		
Michelle Scott		
Deborah Wray	Deborah Wray	Scott Lenton
Gina Scheer	Gina Scheer	Gina Scheer

## **MEDIA RELEASE, ADVERTISEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER**



### **Former Ulmarra Shire**

### **Heritage study 2018**

### **Seeking Community Heritage Working Group Members**

Residents interested in local history and heritage are invited to join a working group to help collect information on existing and potential heritage places and items within the former Ulmarra Shire.

We are seeking your help with this project as we need to know which items are valued by your community.

There will be a meeting held in Ulmarra on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2018. Please note the separate notice regarding time and place.

If you are interested in joining the heritage working group, can you please contact:

**Gina Scheer**

Heritage Consultant

Telephone: (02) 6672-7572

Email: [Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com](mailto:Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com)

**OR**

**Deborah Wray**

Senior Strategic Planner

6643 0271

[Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au)

**Please note that the closing date for nominations is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.**

*This project is supported by the Office of Environment and Heritage and the Heritage Council of NSW*







## Former Ulmarra Shire

### Community meeting

### Call for historical and heritage information in the former shire area

**Bring in your old photos. Share your stories.**

Clarence Valley Council is preparing and updating a list of heritage places and items within the former Ulmarra Shire. Old photos and other documents such as letters, newspaper clippings, event programmes, etc. help us understand the history of the area and see how places have changed.

**We are seeking your help with this project. We are holding an information day at the RFS on 21st February 2018.**

**Time: 10.30am – 12 noon**

**Venue: RFS, 15 Coldstream Street, Ulmarra  
(Enter from driveway side of the building)**

Please come and meet with us and have morning tea. Share your photos, stories and information on places of historical interest within Tucabia, Ulmarra, Coldstream areas. Your photographs will be reviewed, scanned and returned to you on the spot.

Please contact us for catering purposes:

**Gina Scheer**  
Heritage Consultant  
Telephone: (02) 6672-7572  
Email: [Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com](mailto:Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com)

**OR**

**Deborah Wray**  
Senior Strategic Planner  
6643 0271  
[Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au)

Please also let us know if you would like to be included on our contact list for future similar meetings and information sessions.

***This project is supported by OEH and Heritage Council of NSW***







## Media release

Mayor: Jim Simmons  
General Manager: Ashley Lindsay

LOCKED BAG 23 GRAFTON NSW 2460  
Telephone: (02) 6643 0200  
Fax: (02) 6642 7647

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2018

### Help council learn more about our heritage

A STUDY into how the areas around Ulmarra and Nymboida developed is about to get underway and the Clarence Valley Council is looking to the community to provide some crucial input.

Senior strategic planner (heritage), Deborah Wray, said the study aimed to record a range of places in the former Ulmarra and Nymboida council areas, and their stories would help illustrate how the areas developed.

"We want to look at Aboriginal sites, agriculture, mining, fishing, forestry, settlement, tourism, recreational facilities, cemeteries and items of natural heritage," she said.

"We hope the study will bring together many people who share a love of the area and are keenly interested in the links to the past.

"It is important that this information is recorded for our future generations."

Ms Wray said there would be three community meetings (details below) where community members could come along and share their information, photos and stories about buildings and places they consider important to future generations.

"This will help us develop a picture of these communities, but should also be great fun as people share their stories and their links to the region's past," she said.

The area covered by the former Ulmarra and Nymboida shires is vast and covers the area from the boundary of the Nymboida River near Dundarrabin and Tyringham, to Glenreagh, Nymboida, Ulmarra, Cowper, Jackadgery, Cangai, and the coastal villages of Minnie Water, Diggers Camp and Sandon.

Meeting details:

Where	When	Time
Ulmarra, Rural Fire Service, 15 Coldstream Street	Wednesday, February 21	10.30am-noon
Nymboida, Nymboida Hall, Armidale Road,	Thursday, March 1	10.30am-noon
Grafton, Clarence Valley Council conference room, 42 Victoria Street	Friday, March 2	10.30am-noon

## ***Community Heritage— former Nymboida and Ulmarra Shires Heritage Study***

The community based heritage study is underway with a heritage consultant appointed to undertake this project for Council. The history of these wonderful places, formerly part of Pristine Waters Council, is well known, however this is the first time a heritage study to record individual places and stories is being done.

We have held 3 community meetings: the first meeting in Ulmarra on 21<sup>st</sup> February attracted numbers of interested locals, with one family coming from the former Nymboida shire (Tyringham) to discuss heritage listing for historical graves located on private property. Meetings were also held in Nymboida and Grafton and valuable local history and heritage information was provided by community representatives.

The area covered by these former shires is vast. The boundaries run from the Nymboida River near Dundarribin and Tyringham to Glenreagh as well as Ulmarra, Cowper, Jackadgery, Cangai and the coastal villages of Minnie Waters, Diggers Camp, Wooli and Sandon.



**Historical graves on private property Tyringham**



**War Memorial in Ulmarra Memorial Park**

There is still time for you to nominate a property or place that you know of - located either in Nymboida former shire or Ulmarra former shire – that you would like to see protected for the future. Places such as Nymboida Police Station have heritage value, as does the former Glenreagh Railway Station to name just two items nominated. Heritage listing means maintenance and changes will continue to occur but often with funds provided to help with costs. Big changes like demolition or change of use would need consultation and agreement before they can take place.

### **Please contact**

Gina Scheer, Heritage Consultant, Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd  
on 6672-7572 ([ginascheer@cosmosarch.com](mailto:ginascheer@cosmosarch.com)), or

Deborah Wray, Senior Strategic Planner, Clarence Valley Council  
on 6643 0271 ([Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au));

if you have historical information or a property you would like to see protected or if you would like to join our heritage working group this year.

A draft report is due to Council in May and a final report is due in April 2019.



## Heritage study in full swing

A COMMUNITY-based heritage study of the former Nymboida and Ulmarra shire areas is under way and a heritage consultant appointed to undertake the project.

The history of these wonderful places, formerly part of Pristine Waters Council, is well known. However, this is the first time a heritage study to record individual places and stories is being done.

There have been three community meetings: the first was in Ulmarra on February 21 and attracted many interested locals, with one family coming from the former Nymboida Shire (Tyringham) to discuss heritage listing for historical graves located on private property. Meetings were also held in Nymboida and Grafton and valuable local history and heritage information was provided by community representatives.

The area covered by these former shires is vast. The boundaries run from the Nymboida River near Dundambin and Tyringham to Glenreagh as well as Ulmarra, Cowper, Jackadgery, Cangai and the coastal villages of Minnie Water, Diggers Camp, Woolli and Sandon.

There is still time for you to nominate a property or place that you know of – located in the former shires of Ulmarra and Nymboida – that you would like to see protected. Places such as Nymboida Police Station have heritage value, as does the former Glenreagh Railway Station to name just two items nominated.

Maintenance and changes can still occur with a heritage listing, but listing means funds could be



Top: Historic graves on private property in Tyringham. Above: The Ulmarra War Memorial.

provided to help with costs. Big changes like demolition or change of use would need consultation and agreement before they can take place.

If you have historical information or a property you would like to see protected, if you would like to join our heritage working group, or if you want more information, contact Gina Scheer on 6672 7572 ([ginascheer@cosmosarch.com](mailto:ginascheer@cosmosarch.com)), or Deborah Wray on 6643 0271 ([Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au)).

## Community grants program now open

THERE'S no time to waste. Round one of the 2018/19 Community Initiatives Program is open for applications until midnight on April 30.

If your not-for-profit organisation has a project or initiative between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, you can apply. Multiple events/initiatives are accepted, but applicants can only submit one application per financial year.

Please read the Community Initiatives Program guidelines and donations policy before applying.

Apply online by searching for SmartyGrants on the council website ([www.clarence.nsw.gov.au](http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au))

For assistance contact the community projects officer, Sammy Lovejoy on 6642 0957 or email [sammy.lovejoy@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sammy.lovejoy@clarence.nsw.gov.au)

*For all the latest news, a weekly information column is available at [www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/weeklyad](http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/weeklyad)*



## BLOCK ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FORM

Coastal Views & The Daily Examiner

Dates to appear:	Coastal Views – Friday	9-Feb-18, 16-Feb-18
	Daily Examiner – Saturday	10-Feb-18, 17-Feb-18

### ULMARRA AND NYMBOIDA FORMER SHIRES AREA HERITAGE STUDY

Clarence Valley Council is preparing and updating a list of heritage places and items within the former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires. We are seeking your help with this project as Council needs to know which items and places are valued by the community.

You are invited to attend community meetings detailed below. Please bring your photos, stories and information such as letters, newspaper clippings, and event programmes on places of historical and heritage interest within the Ulmarra and Nymboida former shire areas. Any photographs can be scanned and returned to you on the spot.

Interested residents are also invited to join a working group to further assist with the research on heritage places and items within the former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires.

#### Community meetings

##### **Ulmarra      Weds 21 February 2018.**

10.30am – 12 noon

RFS, 15 Coldstream Street, Ulmarra.

##### **Nymboida    Thursday 1 March 2018.**

10.30am – 12 noon

Nymboida Hall, Armidale Road, Nymboida

##### **Grafton      Friday 2 March 2018.**

10.30am – 12 noon

Clarence Valley Council Offices

Conference Room, 42 Victoria Street, Grafton

Please RSVP for catering purposes. For further enquiries, or if you are unable to attend these meetings and wish to be involved, please contact:

**Gina Scheer**

Heritage Consultant

Telephone: (02) 6672-7572

Email: [Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com](mailto:Ginascheer@cosmosarch.com)

**OR**

**Deborah Wray**

Senior Strategic Planner

6643 0271

[Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Deborah.Wray@clarence.nsw.gov.au)

**This advertisement was run over two scheduled newspapers,  
Coastal Views & The Daily Examiner**

**9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

## ANNEX D – PROCESS FOR A HERITAGE STUDY

There are 20 steps recommended to successfully complete a Community based heritage study. This checklist has been updated from the 2013 State of NSW and Office of Environment and Heritage, *Heritage Branch Community-based heritage studies: a guide*. It is noted that for certain projects, it may be appropriate to change, delete or add steps to the process.

Step 1	Council contacts OEH to organise funding.
Step 2	Council defines the project's scope, finalises the consultants' project briefs for a project manager and historian, advertises and selects preferred consultants.
Step 3	Project manager gains OEH approval to engage the consultants selected and obtains a copy of the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) Heritage Database.
Step 4	Council notifies the community about the heritage study and advertises for volunteers to join the heritage study working group.
Step 5	The project manager and heritage working group prepare a list of local historical sources for the thematic history (or for a review and update of an existing history).
Step 6	The professional historian engaged for this project prepares the draft thematic local history (or reviews and updates the existing study).
Step 7	The project manager and heritage working group compile a list of known heritage items from existing registers and lists.
Step 8	The project manager uses the draft thematic local history to create a list of known heritage items and looks for obvious gaps to follow up.
Step 9	The council advertises and invites the community to nominate heritage items and to provide further information on known gaps and known heritage items.
Step 10	The council, project manager and heritage working group approach all potential heritage item owners and set up site visits to collect information for all nominated heritage items.
Step 11	The historian uses community input to revise the draft thematic local history and provides advice on local histories for individual heritage items prepared by the project manager and heritage working group.
Step 12	The project manager works with the heritage working group to complete significance assessments, prepare statements of significance and complete heritage data forms for individual heritage items.
Step 13	The project manager, historian and heritage working group finalise the draft heritage study (including the thematic local history, the list of recommended individual heritage items and management recommendations)
Step 14	The council officer sends a copy of the draft heritage study and heritage database to OEH then invoices OEH for a 50 per cent grant payment by the end of the first year of the funding agreement.

Step 15	The council officer and the project manager consult with individual owners of recommended heritage items about the draft report and management recommendations prepared for their property.
Step 16	Council officers and council management review the draft heritage including the management recommendations and heritage items.
Step 17	Council officers send the final heritage study and heritage database to OEH and invoice the remaining 50 per cent payment by the end of year two of the funding agreement.
Step 18	Council officers present the draft heritage study with a covering report to the councillors.
Step 19	Following councillor approval of the draft heritage study, council officers notify heritage item owners and the wider community about the heritage study and undertake a public exhibition and consultation process.
Step 20	The council adopts the study and commences implementing it, including listings on the schedule to the local environmental plan, promotion and incentives.



## ANNEX E – RECOMMENDED CONSERVATION AREA MAPS

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### Ulmarra Heritage Conservation Area Map:





### Glenreagh Heritage Conservation Area Map:



### Minnie Water Heritage Conservation Area Map:





### Sandon village (south) Heritage Conservation Area Map:

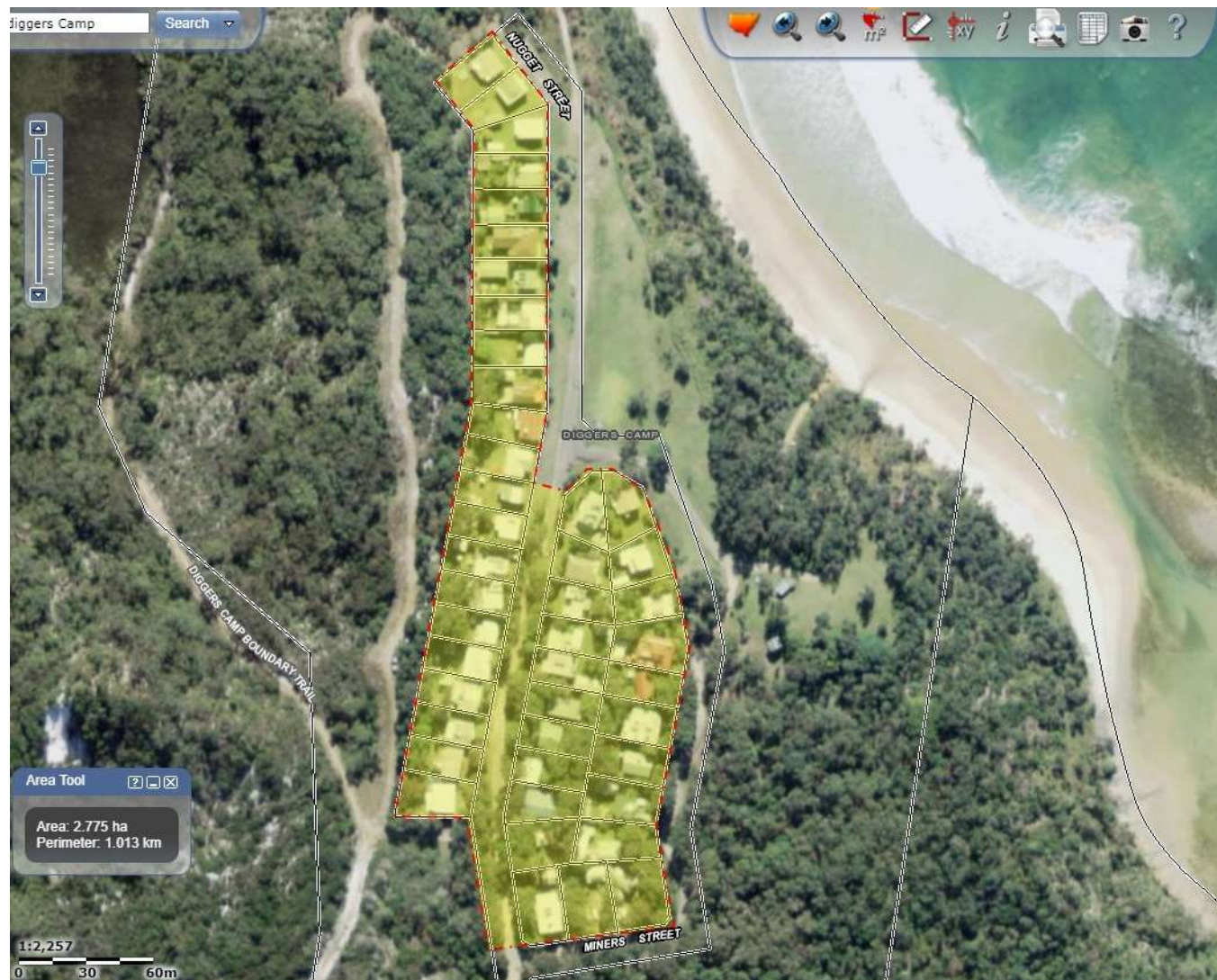


### Wooli Heritage Conservation Area Map:





### Diggers Camp Heritage Conservation Area Map:





# FROM THE TABLELANDS TO THE SEA



27/4/18

## A Contextual History

Former Pristine Waters Council Area (Ulmarra & Nymboida Shires):  
Clarence Valley Council LGA



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## **Former Ulmarra and Nymboida Shires**

### **Community based heritage study**

### **Volume 2 Thematic History**

*Prepared for:*

Clarence Valley Council

*By:*

Dan Tuck, for Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd

**April 2018**

Cosmos Archaeology Job Number J17/25

**COVER IMAGE: RAMORNIE STATION ON THE CLARENCE RIVER (C.1880); PHOTOGRAPH BY ELIZABETH STILLWELL, STATE LIBRARY OF NSW, NO. ML SV/17**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following is a contextual history of the former Pristine Waters Council area on the North Coast of NSW. The locality is now part of the Clarence Valley Council (CVC) LGA, but historically it resulted from the year 2000 amalgamation of two expansive Council areas, below and bordering, the City of Grafton. Namely, the Shires of Ulmarra and Nymboida. This report accompanies the Community based heritage study Clarence Valley Council project funded by the Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Heritage Division.

### 1.1 Framework

This history of the former Shires of Ulmarra and Nymboida is presented chronologically in this report with subdivisions based on key localities, events, groups, and individuals. This approach is somewhat counter to the thematic histories that prevail in many heritage reports but was deemed appropriate in order to allow for a flowing and engaging narrative. While the history is presented chronologically, a number of broad national and state historical themes are acknowledged and addressed throughout the body of this report. This report is not designed to be a definitive history of this vast study area. It accompanies the Community based heritage study, which is Volume 1. This report is Volume 2 of the study.

### 1.2 Themes

The ensuing table summarises current national and state research themes. The heritage items and conservation areas proposed as part of the Community based heritage study demonstrate these themes in their assessed heritage values.

New South Wales Historical Themes	
National Theme	State Theme
Tracing the natural evolution of Australia	Environment (natural)
Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures & interactions with other cultures; convicts; migration; ethnic influences
Developing local, regional & national economies	Exploration & events; Pastoralism, agriculture, fishing & forestry; industry & mining; commerce, health & transport; communications; science & technology; events; environment (cultural)
Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs & villages; land tenure & accommodation; utilities; labour & education
Working	Labour
Educating	Education
Governing	Government and administration; defence; law & order; welfare
Developing Australia's cultural life	Domestic life; creative endeavour; leisure; religion & institutions; sport
Marking the phases of life	Birth & death; persons
<a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/themes2006.pdf">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/themes2006.pdf</a>	

### 1.3 Resources

Major references and archival resources included:

- State Archives & Records NSW
- State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library)
- Clarence Valley Council Central Library & Branches
- Historical Societies & Museums (various)
- NSW North Coast regional & thematic histories.

### 1.4 Acknowledgements

Major direct and indirect contributors to this report included:

- Clarence Valley Council
- Deborah Wray (CVC Heritage Advisor)
- Gina Scheer (Cosmos Archaeology)

Information was also kindly provided by the following:

- Roy Bowling (Tucabia)
- Leone Roberts (Eatonsville)
- Bessie Webb (Glenreagh)
- Ross Austen & Gaine Cartmill (Nymboida)
- Clarence Valley Historical Society (especially Nita Child & Hazel Lawson).

### 1.5 Limitations

Project limitations included:

- Enormity & geographical range of the study area
- Limited time frame & budgetary constraints
- Paucity of readily available information for some localities.

### 1.6 Authorship

This report was prepared by Cosmos Archaeology (heritage consultants). Most notably, Dan Tuck (heritage sub-consultant) with Gina Scheer (Cosmos Archaeology project manager).

## 2.0 MUNICIPAL MATTERS

The following section provides summary detail of the somewhat convoluted municipal history of the study area.

### 2.1 Ulmarra

The Municipal District of Ulmarra was located in the north coast region of New South Wales, on the south bank of the Clarence River, in the parishes of Ulmarra and Lavadia, County of Clarence. It included the villages of Ulmarra, Coldstream (in the east) and Cowper and Brushgrove (to the north). It was incorporated as two wards (North and South) under the *Municipalities Act 1867* (31 Vic. No.12) on 16 November 1871.

Under the *Municipalities Act 1867* the Governor could approve the creation of a borough or municipal district if a petition asking for it was signed by at least 50 persons who were willing to pay municipal taxes. If no counter petition was signed by a greater number of persons within three months, the Governor could proclaim the area a municipality and define its boundaries. A petition asking for the establishment of the Municipal District of Ulmarra was published on 23 June 1871, requesting incorporation of an area of about 45 square miles with a population exceeding 1,000.

On 29 November 1871, the returning officer was appointed and the nomination day for the election of the first six aldermen and two auditors set. The election was held on 10 February 1872. The first mayoral election was held on 16 February 1872 and by 15 May 1872 a town clerk was appointed. By 1876 the population had grown to the point where the municipality was entitled to nine aldermen and an additional ward designation (East) consequent of adjustment.

The Municipal District of Ulmarra became the Municipality of Ulmarra on 31 December 1906. Under the *Local Government Extension Act 1906*. Thereafter the terms 'municipal district' and 'borough' ceased to be used.

Boundary exchanges between the Municipality of Ulmarra and the Shire of Orara took place on 24 July 1912. This generated subsequent changes to the boundaries of all three Ulmarra in May 1913. Six years later, the municipal ward divisions were abolished (10 October 1919).

The *Valuation of Land Act 1916* was applied to the Municipality of Ulmarra on 20 October 1952, under which the Valuer-General took over the valuing of land within the municipality from Council. A valuation list was issued to the Council by 3 December 1952 and thereafter the Council ceased to create valuation books.

A review of local government areas in the Clarence Region was conducted by staff of the Department of Local Government in early 1956. This led to a proposal to merge the ten existing Clarence LGAs into five: one municipality and four shires, which would include new shires centered on Maclean, Coffs Harbour and Bellingen. Due to local opposition, a Commissioner was appointed to inquire and report on the matter. The Commissioner recommended the establishment of six local government areas: one municipality and five shires. The Municipality of Ulmarra was reconstituted as the Shire of Ulmarra on 1 January 1957 with the addition of land from the defunct Shires of Dorrigo and Orara. The Shire of Ulmarra was divided into three ridings (A, B, and C) on 17 January 1958. The first election was held on 9 August 1958.

Boundary exchanges occurred between Ulmarra and the Shire of Coffs Harbour on 1 May 1961, and with the City of Grafton on 27 February 1976 and again on 1 January 1981. The riding divisions of Ulmarra were consequently altered in March 1961, February 1976, and January 1981. The division of the Shire of Ulmarra into ridings was abolished 15 July 1983.



Under s.221(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* the corporate name of all councils was changed by deleting any reference to 'municipality' or 'shire'. However, this was opposed by some local government areas. The *Local Government Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1994* enabled local government areas to retain the words 'municipality' or 'shire' as part of their corporate name if they resolved to do so before 31 December 1994. Ulmarra Shire Council did so.

In November 1999 Ulmarra Shire Council and Nymboida Shire Council sought the permission of the Minister of Local Government for a voluntary amalgamation. The Local Government Boundaries Commission's inquiry began on 18 January 2000. The Boundaries Commission reported to the Minister on 31 March 2000 recommending that the merger should proceed. Ulmarra Shire Council and Nymboida Shire Council became the Pristine Waters Council on 1 July 2000.<sup>1</sup>

## 2.2 Nymboida

The Shire of Nymboida was constituted on 6 August 1913 under the *Local Government Act 1906*, when the Shire of Dorrigo was divided into two local government areas. The western portion (previously A Riding, B Riding and part of C Riding of the Shire of Dorrigo) became the Shire of Nymboida. The Shire of Nymboida was located in north-eastern NSW and included the localities of Buccarumbi, Dalmorton, Dundurrabin and Nymboida. The eastern portion, which had previously been part of C Riding of Dorrigo, became the Shire of Dorrigo. As part of the conditions of the split, all account books and record books of the Shire of Dorrigo were retained by Nymboida - except for the valuation and rate books for C Riding which were retained by the Shire of Dorrigo.

The Shire of Nymboida was divided into 3 ridings on 6 August 1913: A, B and C, each represented by two councilors. The Governor appointed a provisional council of six councilors to each of the reconstituted areas on 6 August 1913, to hold office until the next ordinary triennial election due in January 1914. The provisional council of Nymboida Shire held its first meeting on 15 August at which the first president was elected. The first meeting of the permanent council was held on 5 February 1914.

Boundary alterations with the Shire of Guyra took place on 9 November 1917 and with the Shire of Severn on 25 December 1917. These changes also resulted in changes to the three Ridings.

The *Valuation of Land Act 1916* was applied to the Shire of Nymboida on 20 December 1957. Under this legislation the Valuer-General took over the valuing of land within the shire from Council. Council ceased to create valuation books from 8 January 1958.

As described previously, a review of local government areas in the Clarence Region was conducted by staff of the Department of Local Government in early 1956. The Shire of Nymboida was reconstituted on 1 January 1957 with the addition of some land from the defunct Shire of Dorrigo. The reconstituted Shire of Nymboida was divided into three ridings (A, B and C) on 1 November 1957. The first election was held on 9 August 1959.

In 1994, when the corporate name of all councils was changed by deleting any reference to 'municipality' or 'shire', Nymboida Shire Council retained the word Shire in its name as had Ulmarra. Nymboida Shire Council

---

<sup>1</sup> This information is a summation of data from State Archives and Records NSW pertaining to Ulmarra (notably NSW Government Gazette notices & Ulmarra Shire Council Minutes c.1871-2000).

and Ulmarra Shire Council amalgamated and became the Pristine Waters Council which began operations on 1 July 2000.<sup>2</sup>

## 2.3 Pristine Waters

Pristine Waters Council was a local government body in the north of the Eastern Division of New South Wales. It formed 1 July 2000 by the amalgamation of the former shires of Nymboida and Ulmarra. Pristine Waters replaced Nymboida and Ulmarra as part of the Clarence River County District and the Lower Clarence County Districts.<sup>3</sup> The amalgamation was a result of a voluntary proposal from the two shires in November 1999, which followed on from the failure of broader merger discussions with neighbouring areas.

The Pristine Waters local government area bordered the areas of Bellingen and Coffs Harbour to the south; Severn and Guyra to the west; and Copmanhurst, Maclean and the City of Grafton to the north.

In 2004 Pristine Waters was amalgamated with the areas of Copmanhurst and Maclean to form the Clarence Valley Council. As part of the restructure, 152 square kilometres of Pristine Waters was added to neighbouring the Coffs Harbour LGA to the south.<sup>4</sup>

## 2.4 Ownership

The study area comprises private land interspersed with significant places, parcels, easements and corridors that are held under the jurisdiction of (or managed by) various local, state and federal government entities including:

### Federal Government

- AMIA (add others)
- NSW State Government
- NSW Roads & Maritime Services
- NSW Department of Industry (Lands)
- NSW Planning & Environment (Energy & Resources)
- Transport NSW
- Forestry Corporation of NSW
- NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

The holdings of the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service in particular are notable features of the region and include parts of:

- Gibraltar Ranges National Park
- Washpool National Park
- Yuraygir National Park.

Refer **figures 1 - 4**.

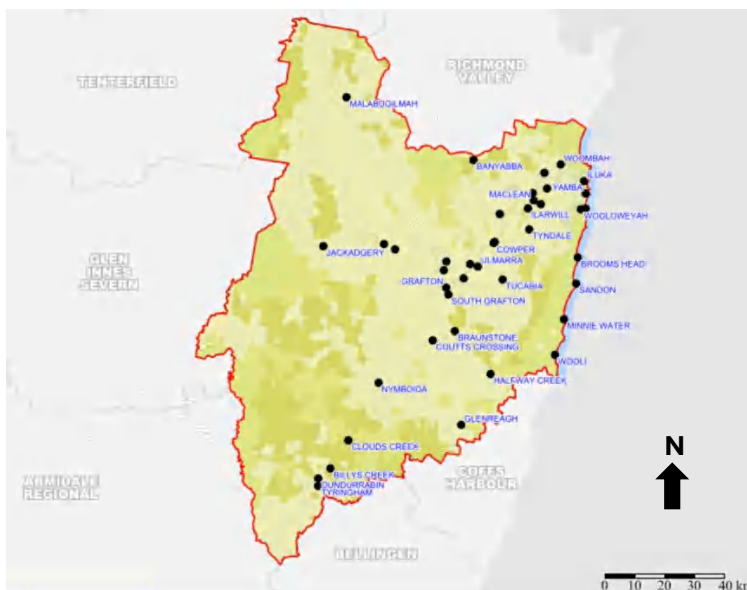
<sup>2</sup> This is a summation of information from State Archives and Records NSW holdings pertaining to Nymboida (notably NSW Government Gazette notices & Nymboida Shire Council Minutes c.1912-2000)

<sup>3</sup> Department of Local Government annual report 1999/2000, p.60

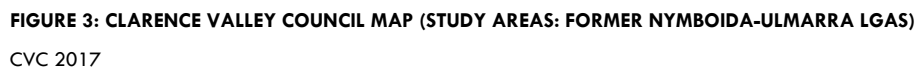
<sup>4</sup> NSW Government Gazette No.46, 25 February 2004, pp.809-22

**FIGURE 1: CLARENCE VALLEY COUCIL MAP (GENERAL)**

CVC 2018

**FIGURE 2: CLARENCE VALLEY COUCIL MAP (SETTING)**

CVC 2018



### 3.0 ENVIRONMENT

The following section provides a contextual history of the study area. As this history is inextricably linked with that of the City of Grafton, the broader history of this locality – though detailed extensively elsewhere – is also included where relevant.

The study area extends east-west across an area of some 115 kilometres and north-south over 160 kilometres. Spanning the Great Dividing Range (Gibraltar Ranges) it takes in the temperate New England Plateau to the west and the river plains, coastal hinterland, headlands and beaches of the Mid to Far North Coast. The area features parts of the largest of the North Coast's notable big rivers (the Clarence) and includes a vast range of landscapes and landforms. The northernmost notable settlement is Cowper; the southernmost Hernani. The westernmost locality is the ranges-tablelands former township of Newton Boyd; the easternmost the sleepy, river-coast settlement of Sandon.

#### 3.1 Coast

The study area fronts the Pacific Ocean between the coastal settlements of Sandon and Corindi and the coastal portion of the study area is effectively the area between these coastal settlements and the Pacific Highway. The immediate coastal strip is defined by salt and freshwater lakes; headlands connected by long curved beaches and associated dune systems; and intermittent heathlands and swamps. A low-altitude, coastal range forms a forested backdrop to the landscapes of the immediate coast and supports a vast array of vegetation communities including:

- remnant littoral rainforest
- wet, dry & swamp sclerophyll shrublands, woodlands & forests
- mangrove forests & mallee scrubland.

Most of the forests are remnant and were selectively logged throughout the twentieth century.<sup>5</sup>

#### 3.2 Ranges

Moving westward from the coastal fringe, the landscape of the study area typically rises up from the coastal lowlands to the eastern uplands. The latter are part of the Great Dividing Range (or Eastern Highlands): a unique mountain range that extends broadly north-south, then west, over 3500 kilometres from Northern Queensland to Southwestern Victoria. Historically the range has presented a significant barrier to exploration and settlement beyond, and geographically has been a major influence on predominantly wet climates east of the range and dry climates beyond.

Typically, different regions of this range have different names, with the most notable portion within the study area being the Gibraltar Range. This range extends off the Great Dividing Range at Bald Nob (approximately 25 kilometres east-northeast of Glen Innes) and trends generally east-northeast and north-northeast for around 100 kilometres to the junction of the Timbarra and Clarence rivers. The range is notable for its high ridges, steep valleys and intersecting plateaus: a product of Palaeozoic Era geological activity.

---

<sup>5</sup> Kijas 2009: 3

Remnant patches of significant Gondwana rainforest are an important feature of the vegetative regime of the well-watered rangelands.<sup>6</sup>

### 3.3 Tablelands

Further west beyond the rangelands, the study area comprises the extreme eastern part of the New England Tableland Bioregion: a stepped plateau of hills and plains with elevations between 600 and 1500 metres. The geology of this bioregion is based on Permian sedimentary rocks, intrusive granites and extensive Tertiary basalts.<sup>7</sup> The most notable New England settlement areas – which sit beyond the study area but have a significant historical connection to it – are Glenn Innes and Armidale.

### 3.4 Rivers

The Clarence River is one of a series of important rivers in North East NSW, which include the Hastings, Macleay, Nambucca, Bellinger, Richmond and Tweed Rivers. It runs from high country in the Border Ranges, through rugged gorge country around Copmanhurst, and down to the sea via Grafton, Ulmarra, Maclean and Yamba-Iluka. Featuring a catchment of over two million hectares, the Clarence drains a number of significant tributaries including the Orara, Mann and Nymboida Rivers, as well as Coldstream Creek. Grafton is the navigable head of this unique river, which features over 100 islands interspersed along its length.

Other notable (predominantly coastal) watercourses within the study area include:

- Halfway Creek
- Sandon Creek
- Wooli River
- Saltwater Creek
- Station Creek.

---

<sup>6</sup> NPWS 2005

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/bioregions/NewEnglandTableland-Landform.htm>



## 4.0 FIRST PEOPLE

This document is concerned primarily with the European (non-indigenous) history of the study area. However, it would not be complete without acknowledgement of the long and continuous Aboriginal occupation and use of the area, which significantly pre-dates the annexation of Australia by the British. This history has been imprinted on the land, remembered by the people, recorded in the observations and studies of early European settlers, diarists and proto-anthropologists, and memorialised in the place names of some localities.

### 4.1 Language Groups

The study area spans the traditional domain of people from a range of North Coast Aboriginal nations:

#### Yaegl

Broadly, Yaegl territory encompasses the northern side of the Lower Clarence River and the coast, possibly reaching as far north as Black Rocks/Jerusalem Creek (south of Evans Head), with an area of overlap with the neighbouring *Gumbaingirr* between Wooli and Red Rock/Corindi Beach in the south.<sup>8</sup>

#### Gumbaingirr

There is general agreement that the Aboriginal people who occupied and/or made use of the area on the southern side of the Clarence River were the *Gumbaingirr*.<sup>9</sup> At the time of first European settlement, the *Gumbaingirr* domain appears to have extended from South Grafton to North Nambucca Heads, and from the coast in the east, to the eastern fall of the Great Dividing Range in the west.<sup>10</sup> Within this major language group, there were at least four dialectic divisions and a range of sub-groups including extended family clans. Several of these sub-groups were referred to as *tribes* by early European settlers and were named after the areas where they most commonly resided. Historical records attest to a number of *Gumbaingirr* sub-groups including the *Bellingen*, *Nimboy* and *Woolgoolga*.<sup>11</sup>

#### Bandjalang

The Clarence River appears to have functioned as something of a language group area boundary. While South Grafton appears to have been part of the domain of the *Gumbaingirr*, neighbouring group the *Bandjalang* had traditional rights to the northern bank of the Clarence River at Grafton. From Grafton, *Bandjalang* land extended to the Richmond River at Ballina, and inland as far as Tabulum and Baryugil.<sup>12</sup> Clarence River district tribes which were recorded by early white settlers and may have had *Bandjalang* affiliation included the *Southgate* and *Carrs Creek* tribes.<sup>13</sup>

### 4.2 Lifestyle

Prior to European settlement, the varied landscapes of the North Coast (which included forests, open grasslands, swamps, rainforests, estuaries, headlands and open beaches) combined with a mild climate to provide an ideal living environment for the *Gumbaingirr* and *Bandjalang* Aborigines. The oceans and the

<sup>8</sup> <http://muurrbay.org.au/languages/yaygirr/>; <http://www.abc.net.au/indigenous/map/>

<sup>9</sup> Aboriginal name for the Clarence River was 'Brimbo' or 'Berin'. Ryan, 1964; McBride, 1978; Tindale, 1974. Other spellings include *Kumbainari*, *Kumbaingiri*, *Koombangbary*, *Coombangree* and *Coombagoree*

<sup>10</sup> Tindale, 1974; Yeates, 1993a: 8; English, 2002

<sup>11</sup> Tindale, 1974

<sup>12</sup> Tindale, 1974. Other spellings include *Bandjalang*, *Bunjellung*, *Budulung*, *Buggul*, *Bandjalong*.

<sup>13</sup> Letter from L. Cheveally to R. C. Law cited in CRHS, 2002: 17-18

Clarence River and its tributaries and feeder creeks provided a range of maritime, estuarine and freshwater resources including birds, cetaceans, crustaceans, fish and shellfish. The adjacent hinterland, plains and woodlands (and the ranges and tablelands further afield) were also rich in terrestrial food reserves including marsupials, such as kangaroos and wallabies; birds such as ducks, bush turkeys and emus; and reptiles such as snakes and lizards.

Timbered areas were not only a food larder but a source of numerous usable products. Ethno-historical records indicate that the Aborigines of the North Coast made use of a variety of tree species for the production of canoes and shelters; the manufacture of tools, weapons and other implements; and the preparation of traditional medicaments. The following is a mere snapshot:

- The spears of Clarence and Richmond areas, generally single, un-barbed, wooden shafts, were fashioned from a variety of woods. These differed considerably to the multi-pronged spears prevalent in the Macleay valley to the south.<sup>14</sup>
- Leaf sheaths of the Bangalow Palm were fastened at each end and utilized as water and honey carriers: known as *pitchie-ban*.<sup>15</sup>
- Bark fibres from the Hibiscus trees that grew along creek lines were woven to produce fishing nets. These were often used to cast over shoaling mullet in shallow estuaries and creeks.<sup>16</sup>
- Soft tea-tree bark provided wrappings for babies who were slung in woven fibre bags.

While the lands and waters of the North Coast were bountiful, the people of the North Coast were not anchored to any locality and moved around in complex patterns dictated by tribal boundaries, cultural taboos, ceremonial gatherings, seasonality and resource availability. Not surprisingly, they adopted a range of living places and accommodations depending on location, season and length of stay in any given area. There are a number of descriptions of the different types of North Coast Aboriginal camps from the nineteenth century.

Temporary Aboriginal camps appear to have been fairly rough and ready affairs as North Coast resident and *Daily Examiner* contributor MacFarlane noted:

*The darkies were a gregarious race, and we found them in tribal groups, camped usually in dense or sheltered scrub clumps, their camps merely low lean-to or an arched projection of bark supported on slender brushwood rods or twigs, just sufficient to accommodate a few occupants from the rigours of the weather. The roofing was generally the light outer bark of the small leafed tea-tree, quite rain proof and texture akin to delicate paper. It also served for the camp flooring and was immune from damp.*<sup>17</sup>

In contrast to the above, in some areas there were relatively significant, semi-permanent settlements, such as the 'villages' on the Clarence River, which featured clustered semi-circular bark huts and lean-tos.<sup>18</sup> Captain Perry, who anchored off the North Beach at the mouth of the Clarence River in May 1839, recorded people huddled in a village at the head of the estuary where they had '... considerable command of fishing'.<sup>19</sup>

### 4.3 Contact

<sup>14</sup> NSW Dept of Planning, 1989: 5

<sup>15</sup> Mrs Bundock c1896 quoted in Ryan, 1964: 183

<sup>16</sup> Yeates, 1993a: 10

<sup>17</sup> MacFarlane in Ryan, 1964: 154

<sup>18</sup> Ryan, 1964

<sup>19</sup> Clarence River Historical Records, Volume 1: 209

The arrival of cedar getters, pastoralists and settlers in the Clarence Valley in the early nineteenth century changed the lives of Aborigines of the district forever. Generally, white incursion proved as disastrous for the people of this region, as it did for Aborigines elsewhere.

Contact with Europeans brought exposure to European diseases such smallpox, influenza, tuberculosis and venereal disease. These spread rapidly from the sites of first contact, such as Sydney and Parramatta, and saw a rapid decline in Aboriginal population numbers across the country. Furthermore, as settlers cleared land, fenced holdings and commenced grazing activities, they effectively reduced the land available to the traditional owners for resource procurement and free movement. The resulting competition for land and resources inevitably resulted in violence. Perhaps not surprisingly, the history of the early period of European settlement on the Grafton district frontiers is dotted with notable episodes of conflict.

#### 4.4 Conflict & Coexistence

In the early years of North Coast settlement, Aborigines assisted some settlers in the clearing of land receiving tobacco and 'a nominal pay in silver', as Macfarlane noted:

*The Aborigines undertook the burning off portion of the clearing of the native heath and both sexes proved capable workers in administering the firestick.*<sup>20</sup>

Not all relations were quite so peaceable. Thomas Coutts, was one of the first European to 'pioneer' the area south of Grafton, and was involved in considerable conflict with local aborigines whose traditional hunting grounds were being diminished by the establishment of large sheep stations. Coutts established Kangaroo Creek Station, on the banks of the Orara River in 1840. Early in the same year, numerous sheep, and three of Coutts's employees, were killed by Aborigines: likely as a result of ill treatment towards them.<sup>21</sup> After protracted disquiet over eight years, Coutts gave (or left out to be stolen), arsenic-laced flour that killed at least seven Aborigines.<sup>22</sup> Though Coutts was arrested and sent to Sydney he was never tried for his crimes.<sup>23</sup>

In 1841, a similar tragedy occurred when Commissioner for New England G. McDonald lead Border Police troops through the Clarence Valley in search of Aborigines responsible for theft at Ramornie cattle station. McDonald's troops came upon a large group of aborigines near Grafton, where they surrounded the group and rushed them, firing arms and killing an unknown number of men, women and children.<sup>24</sup>

Other incidents that grew out of cyclical conflicts between Aboriginal people and the squatters who had taken their land included:

- massacres at Newton Boyd and Ermington (mid-1840s)
- massacres at Wire Fence (Minnie Water)<sup>25</sup>
- Massacres at Red Rock-Corindi (c.1840s)

<sup>20</sup> D. Macfarlane in the *Daily Examiner*, 28 December 1932

<sup>21</sup> Letter from Commissioner Fry to Colonial Secretary, 22 June 1847, Col. Sec. Cor, SRNSW 4/2779/1

<sup>22</sup> *Grafton Argus*, 31 August 1886; Tindal in Dawson, 1934: 86; *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 February 1848 (supplement).

<sup>23</sup> Mackay, 2001: 201; Edwards 1993; Messner 2005

<sup>24</sup> Bawden, 1987: 48; CRHS 2009

<sup>25</sup> Kijas 2007

The latter was particularly notorious. In the early 1840s, Aboriginal people had attempted to rob a hut at Glenugie Station. This precipitated the rise of a revenge party led by Major Oakes, whose men overtook the alleged offenders 'somewhere about Corindi' where they were 'severely punished for their deeds'.<sup>26</sup>

Violence was a feature of frontier life in the 1840s and 1850s, but by the 1860s, it is understood that frontier conflict had virtually ceased in the region.<sup>27</sup>

#### 4.5 Marginalization & Movement

Despite the harsh conditions endured by district Aborigines, the breakdown of traditional lifestyles and the dislocation of traditional groups, Aboriginal family groups and individuals remained on the Northern Rivers throughout the nineteenth century. However, nearly half a century of conflict and introduced disease had resulted in population decline and the breakdown and displacement of traditional Aboriginal groups. Many Aborigines who had survived white invasion formed new social groups. These were often mixed groups, sometimes from disparate areas, that were less based on traditional affiliations to more on the need for mutual support and protection.

Some of these groups moved away from the region to areas less impacted by settlement, while others established fringe camps and pocket camps on the margins of regional centers such as Grafton, or on the lands of more benevolent landholders. Many gravitated towards Grafton, particularly around May 24 when each person received an annual dole of one blanket at the Grafton Courthouse.<sup>28</sup> Those that sought refuge on private land sometimes became a valuable workforce. This was particularly true from the mid-1850s when the various local and extra-local gold rushes saw white pastoral employees leave their employer's properties in droves. This created a labour force vacuum across the country that was alleviated in part by significant contributions by Aboriginal workers.<sup>29</sup>

It is known that the local gold rushes in the Dalmorton-Cungiebung region in the late 1870s provided work for district Aborigines, though details are scant. Newspaper articles from the 1870s note that some local Aboriginal families continued to camp in the Cunglebung area into the 1870s as well as detailing problems with the distribution of blankets to the *Cunglebung Blacks* (who at the time included an 'old warrior' thought to be over 100 years old).<sup>30</sup> Elsewhere, in the 1880s, Gumbaingirr Aborigines are known to have supplied miners in the Upper Bucca and Orara goldfields (to the distant southeast of the study area) with wild bee honey sourced from the surrounding forests.<sup>31</sup>

By the turn of the century however, many Aborigines on the Northern Rivers had been encouraged to settle on the numerous missions and reserves established by the Aborigines Protection Board (APB) from the 1880s. These were generally located outside towns and settlement areas and included Ulugundahi Island Mission, where Aboriginal people from the Clarence Valley were sent in the early 1900s. Other missions and reserves established after 1880 included:

- Bellbrook Reserve (c1883)

<sup>26</sup> Bawden T 1997, p. 47; Cane S 1988 for the first documentation of the Red Rock massacre and Yarrawarra place stories; University of New England for Garby Elder Tony Perkins's story.

<sup>27</sup> DEC 2005

<sup>28</sup> *Grafton Daily Examiner* 20 November 1924

<sup>29</sup> Jill Sheppard & Associates 2003: 14

<sup>30</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald* 11 July 1872; *Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser* Tuesday 19 August 1873: 6

<sup>31</sup> Dallas & Tuck 2003

- Burnt Bridge (c1898)
- Nymboida (c1910).<sup>32</sup>

In spite of the best efforts of the APB, not all people moved to, or stayed on, the official Aboriginal settlements. German researcher Rudolf Pöch who visited the Clarence River in the early twentieth century to study Aboriginal skulls, recorded numerous 'unsupervised' aboriginal camps in the vicinity of Grafton including:

- one on the hill above Copmanhurst
- one north of Grafton (near the Junction Hotel)
- one on the road from Copmanhurst to Grafton
- one 'south of Grafton'.<sup>33</sup>

He also visited 'the aboriginal settlement' near Grafton, where there were around 65 people living and growing field vegetables.<sup>34</sup> This settlement may have been the Aboriginal school and home run by the 'firebrand parson', Reverend C. Currey, which was recorded as being sited near Grafton Common in the late nineteenth century.<sup>35</sup>

Aboriginal traditional life was severely curtailed by European settlement activity and post-contact lifestyle changes, though it was never completely extinguished. Ceremonial activity in the Northern Rivers continued well into the twentieth century, with organised combat between Clarence River and Richmond River Aborigines occurring at Lower Southgate in 1891/92, and fish increase ceremonies occurring on the Richmond River into the 1920s.<sup>36</sup>

Aboriginal association with the study area continued into the twentieth century. In Nymboida for example, Gumbaingirr elder and South Grafton resident Betty Cameron recalled a number of Aboriginal families (and families with Aboriginal heritage) living and working in the Buccarumbi area in the 1940s and 1950s. These families included the Briggs, Littles, Maskeys and Cobleys.<sup>37</sup> There is also documentary evidence of 'quarter-caste' Aboriginal station hands at nearby Marengo station in the 1910s. Probably the most well-known twentieth century Aboriginal identities who lived in the greater Dalmorton area were the Aboriginal trackers stationed in Dalmorton village from at least the 1930s. Especially Kevin Randall, who was a popular and widely respected town tracker until 1961.<sup>38</sup>

Refer **figures 5 – 10**.

<sup>32</sup> NSW Department of Planning, 1989a: 22

<sup>33</sup> Pöch, 1915: 267

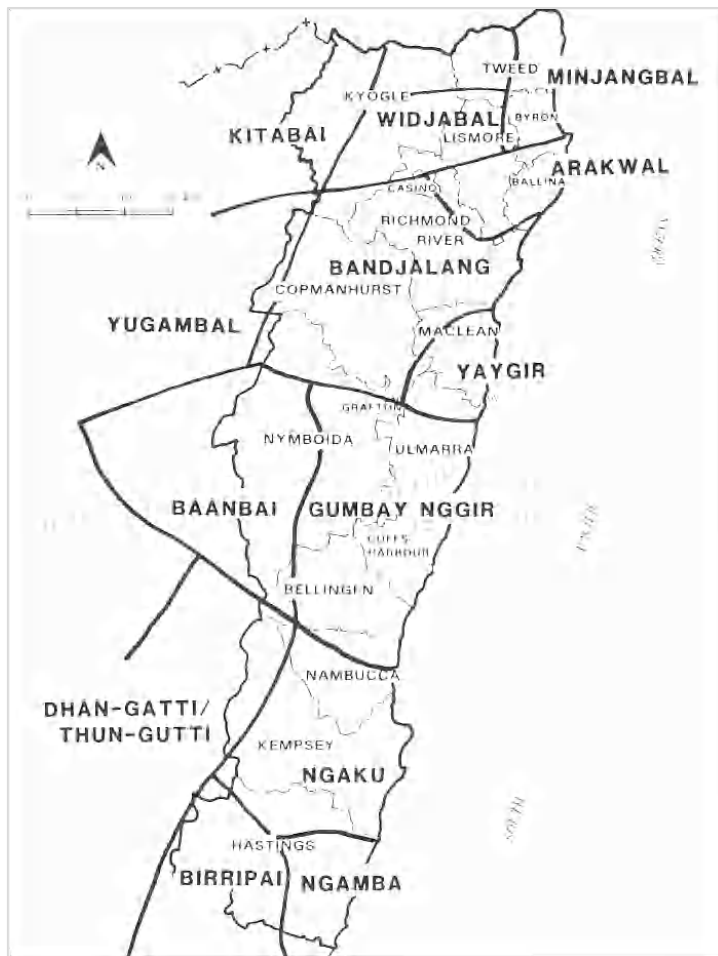
<sup>34</sup> Pöch, 1915: 269

<sup>35</sup> CRHS, 2002: 20

<sup>36</sup> Notes of W. L. Morgan cited in CRHS, 2002: 43; NSW Dept of Planning, 1989: 5

<sup>37</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 15

<sup>38</sup> Tuck 2007



**FIGURE 5: ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE GROUP AREAS**  
NSW Department of Planning 1989b



**FIGURE 6: 'BLACKS NEAR NEWTON BOYD' (1848)**  
National Library of Australia - Rex Nan Kivell Collection NK671 /16





**FIGURE 7: CAMP OF AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINALS – GRAFTON DISTRICT (1895)**  
State Library of Victoria Image H18599-4



**FIGURE 8: ABORIGINAL WORKERS SPLITTING TIMBER @ GRAFTON (1890)**  
National Library of Australia - PIC/16016/1



**FIGURE 9: 'AN ABORIGINAL UNCLE TOM'S CABIN' GRAFTON DISTRICT (PRE-1893)**

Photograph by G W Wilson @ State Library of Victoria H30480



**FIGURE 10: 'GRAFTON ABORIGINES' (C.1900)**

State Library of New South Wales ML MPG 221

## 5.0 DISCOVERY

European discovery of the Clarence and the broader study area commenced in the 1830s.

### 5.1 Voyagers

The first European sighting of the Clarence River was by Captain James Cook who noted the existence of the river and other landmarks nearby but did not examine the area closely. News of the second encounter with the Clarence River came from Captain Butcher of the *Abercrombie*, who gave an account of his voyage up the *Big River* in 1838. An official voyage of discovery up the river was undertaken in May 1839 by Deputy Surveyor-General Perry aboard the *King William*. On the 4th of December 1839, the following notification was made:

*His Excellency the Governor has directed it to be notified for general information and in order to avoid confusion that the river entering at Shoal Bay in latitude 29° 26' 28" south and commonly known as the Big River will for the future be called the Clarence.*<sup>39</sup>

Aside from the river voyage recordings of the Clarence mentioned above, there is a legend that the river was first reached on foot by convict-at-large Moreton Bay Richard Craig in 1834-5. Craig is said to have befriended and lived with Aboriginal tribesmen and ultimately led timber merchants to the region's rich cedar reserves.<sup>40</sup>

### 5.2 Cedar

From the time of first European settlement the timber reserves about Sydney were recognized as being a valuable and exploitable resource. Governor John Hunter was one of the first to recognize the value of Australian hardwoods, testing several varieties and finding them similar to 'Indian Teak' and suitable for use in a variety of purposes including ships timbers, gun carriages and general building.<sup>41</sup> By the early 1800s, timber getters had already made inroads into the greater Sydney District to extract timber from the dense eucalypt forests along the Georges River.<sup>42</sup> Heavily targeted forest timbers included Cedar (*Toona ciliata*), Ironbark (*eucalyptus cebra*), Scribbly Gum (*eucalyptus pilularis*) and Turpentine (*eucalyptus haemastome*).

Timber reserves in the vicinity of Sydney became heavily exploited by the early 1800s, and timber getters began to look elsewhere for supplies. At first, they exploited the river systems associated with new settlements such as Port Macquarie, Brisbane & Newcastle. Large river systems provided penetration into forest reserves away from the coast and also facilitated the transport of timber back to Sydney.

By 1820 the Hastings River had been reached, by 1828 the Manning, and by the early 1830's the Macleay. Soon after this the Clarence was reconnoitered, and by 1838, cedar camps had been established on the river banks and the forests were being felled to supply the voracious Colonial timber market.

### Merchants & Getters

The cedar trade saw the union of respectable 'timber merchants' who were private entrepreneurs, and the somewhat less respectable 'timber getters', many of whom were escaped or ex-convicts. The merchant

<sup>39</sup> McFarlane, c1910: 2

<sup>40</sup> DUAP, 1996: 64; Kass, 1989; Jervis, 1939: 238-240

<sup>41</sup> Davies, 1979: 44

<sup>42</sup> Kennedy, 2001: 15



pioneers have been described as 'men of a fine stamp', while the getters enjoyed a reputation as '... hard livers, hard workers, hard drinkers and hard swearers'.<sup>43</sup> A writer in the 1860's summed up the cedar getters as follows:

*They are the roughest of the rough fellows, muscular as a working bullock, hairy as a chimpanzee, obstinate as a mule, simple as a child, generous as the slave of Aladdin's lamp. A fondness for rum and a capacity for absorbing vast quantities of that liquid are among their prominent characteristics. They are also in the habit of "bruising" each other upon the smallest provocation, and it is a noticeable fact that one of the surest modes of securing the friendship of a cedar getter is to knock him down. He will probably return the compliment with interest, and reduce your features into an unrecognisable condition, but he will ever afterwards be your firm friend. There is a good deal of rude honour about these fellows. Thus, if one chance to light upon a Yall of cedar, none of the others will attempt to cut even a tree out of the group.*<sup>44</sup>

The first settlements on the Northern Rivers were cedar camps and cedar ports with Grafton, originally referred to simply as 'The Settlement'. This was the earliest principal cedar port on the Clarence on account of its location at the river's navigable head.<sup>45</sup>

Among the first to engage in the Clarence cedar trade were the Small family. Thomas Small was a respected Sydney merchant who had ventured up the Clarence with Henry Gillett, apparently having heard about the cedar lands from the aforementioned Richard Craig.<sup>46</sup> The 1838 return to Sydney of Small's first boatload of cedar from the Clarence was reported in the *Sydney Monitor* newspaper as follows:

*The Schooner Susan, lately built by Mr. Small of Kissing Point, returned from a trip to the Big River on Monday last with a cargo of Cedar.*<sup>47</sup>

The *Susan* was commanded by Captain Harry Thorne who plied the Clarence River as far as the site of latter Grafton, where he named the prominent Island there after the vessel under his command.<sup>48</sup> Small established the first cedar camp on Woodford Island in addition to taking an upriver run and raising cattle.<sup>49</sup>

Another Sydney businessman to engage in the Clarence River cedar trade in 1838 was a Mr A. Phillips, who went to the Big River, accompanied by shipwrights and sawyers, to build a 250-ton bark in December 1838.<sup>50</sup> Phillips is believed to have established a shipyard and store at South Grafton (managed by 'Phillips & Cole') by 1839. The reliance of the cedar merchants on river transport inevitably led to the creation of other ship building yards and wharf facilities along the navigable reaches of the Northern Rivers.

Not long after the initial establishment of the Northern Rivers cedar camps came the squatter-pastoralists. They took up large tracts of land and further contributed to the development of the cedar towns and the establishment of new towns to service the pastoral industry and its workers.

Refer **figure 11**.

<sup>43</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 2; Jervis, 1939: 154-155; Kass, 1989: 5

<sup>44</sup> Quoted in Jervis, 1939: 156

<sup>45</sup> DUAP 1996: 60; The Daily Examiner, 1959: 27

<sup>46</sup> DUAP, 1996: 64; Kass, 1989: 11

<sup>47</sup> *Sydney Monitor*, 4 July 1838

<sup>48</sup> Jervis, 1939: 245

<sup>49</sup> DUAP, 1996: 64; Kass, 1989: 11; Jervis, 1939: 147

<sup>50</sup> *Sydney Monitor*, 10 December 1838



FIGURE 11: GEORGE WILSON'S CHART OF THE CLARENCE RIVER (1840)

State Library of NSW ML Z/M2 813.14/1840/1



### 5.3 Squatters & Pastoralists

Increasing wool prices and droughts in southern and central NSW in the late 1830's saw men of wealth looking north to the Clarence and Richmond River valleys to expand their activities and holdings.<sup>51</sup> The winding down of the Port Macquarie penal settlement and the opening up of surrounding lands in 1833, led to northward expansion and there were pastoral settlers on the Macleay by 1836 and along the Clarence by 1839.<sup>52</sup> By 1839, bullock teams carrying wool & other produce regularly gathered on high ground at South Grafton (Wilsons Hill).<sup>53</sup> Wool was such an important commodity in the Grafton district that the settlement itself was referred to as *Woolport* for a short time in the 1840s (1842-1847).<sup>54</sup> In 1842 the Clarence and (neighbouring Richmond River valley) were officially separated from the Port Macquarie District and designated the Clarence Pastoral District.

While sheep were the squatter's stock of choice initially, the sub-tropical climate meant that these animals were subject to diseases such as liver fluke and were largely replaced by cattle by the 1850's. By the mid-nineteenth century, there were 65 cattle stations in the Clarence district, covering some 2887 square kilometres.

#### 5.3.1 Around Grafton

In the late 1830s, a number of pastoral runs were taken up above and below the settlement of Grafton. These included Francis Girard's Waterview Station (adjacent to South Grafton) and the Mylne brother's Eatonsville (within the study area to the north of Grafton).

#### Eatonswill & Eatonsville

The Mylne brothers (John, James and Thomas) took up Eatonswill station in 1839. They established a pastoral run and constructed a notable homestead, which was built in 1842 of locally pit-sawn timber by the Austen Brothers.<sup>55</sup> The homestead featured silky oak flooring and a 75-foot long front verandah.<sup>56</sup> The Mylne family was however ultimately beset by misfortune. John and Thomas went down in the shipwreck of the *Dunbar* in Sydney in 1857 (along with two sisters), and James died later off Malta en-route to England. The pastoral station was broken up into smaller holdings from the mid-1870s. The homestead itself was deconstructed in 1914 and another home was built thereon using the recycled timber. This house was destroyed by fire in June 1980.

Opposite the station, on the other side of the Clarence River, was the village of Eastonsville (initially referred to as First Falls). Early residents in this locality included Faithful Crabbe (1840s innkeeper and boatman) and Thomas Higham and family (from the late 1850s onwards).<sup>57</sup> By the 1880s, the settlement featured a ferry-punt (1880); school and telegraph office (1881); and post office (1887). A telephone exchange was established in 1929 and a Church of England was built in 1931 (operating until 1967).<sup>58</sup>

<sup>51</sup> Blackmore and Associates, 1993: 9

<sup>52</sup> DUAP, 1996: 60

<sup>53</sup> Kass, 1989: 10

<sup>54</sup> Apex Club, 1947: 11

<sup>55</sup> CVHS 2009

<sup>56</sup> CVHS 2009: 20

<sup>57</sup> McLennon 2016

<sup>58</sup> McLennon 2016

### 5.3.2 Coastal Grazing

The central and northern parts of the study area (located west of the Pacific Highway) were surveyed early in the settler history of the region. William Wilson and his brother Christopher were contracted at the end of 1839 to survey the natural features from the south side of the Clarence to the coast, carrying out surveys in 1841 and 1842. W C B Wilson surveyed Coldstream, Tyndale, Gulmaradd, Taloumbi, Conoulán and Wolibbarri. He also provided an early appraisal of the area between Brooms Head and the Coastal Ranges:

*The whole of the land for two and three miles from the Coast is very clear of trees and slopes gently to the sea. The timber chiefly consists of Gums, Blood, Tea Tree, Myall, Black Butt, Stringy Bark, Apple, Turpentine, Honeysuckle, Oaks...*

Wilson named many of the places in the area after Greek place names (including Clarenza, Lavadia, Lanitza and Tucabia). According to Thomas Bawden, this was because Wilson had served in the Greek War of Independence as a lieutenant in the British Army.

On the coast and hinterland, pastoral activity appears to have begun at around the same time as on the Clarence River. The first of the pastoral runs taken up near Yuraygir National Park was Glenugie Station. Skirting the southern part of the Park, it was taken up in 1840 with an outstation established near Corindi. The latter was renamed Red Bank Station (as it ran south from the mouth of the Red Bank River/Red Rock River) when it was taken up in 1848 by John Pike. On the north side of the river, there were two runs on the eastern side of the Coast Range extending to the coast: Bookram and Barungary stations respectively.

Further to the north below Angourie, Rosemary Waugh-Allcock believes that Taloumbi Station was first taken up by the surveyor Wilson in the 1840s. It was then on-sold to Edward Ryan, George Powell and the Smalls who sold it to the Waugh brothers. Taloumbi Station was bought by W N R (Reeve) Waugh and his brother John Waugh in 1888. The country regarded as the station proper was on the western side of the Coast Range, but the 'bush blocks' or 'the run' once took in all of the Yuraygir National Park's coastal belt from Angourie to the Wooli Lakes. Somervale Run in Shark Creek Valley (on the western side of the Coast Range parallel to the central section of Yuraygir National Park) was taken up in 1843. While these stations were established early in the history of settler incursion into the Clarence region, they were very isolated compared with the rest of the region.

### 5.3.3 Further Inland

Ramornie Station was reputedly the first cattle station established on the Clarence and was taken up by Dr Dobie in 1839. It was on the banks of the Orara River (near its junction with the Upper Clarence River). The north side of the Orara and Upper Clarence rivers was staked out by cattle rearing pastoralists soon thereafter.

Fluctuating meat prices, the prevalence of free firewood, and the number of suitable ports, encouraged Northern River's squatters to venture into the tallow and canning industries in the 1840's and 1850's. In 1846, 89 tons of tallow was shipped from the Clarence to Sydney. Joseph Sharp had established a boiling down works on the banks of Alumny Creek at Grafton by 1849. By the 1860s the first meat preserving factory on the Clarence had been established at Ramornie.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Kass, 1989: 9; DUAP, 1996: 61; Mackay, 2001: 58

## Ramornie

When Dr Dobie acquired Ramornie Station in 1839, he sent three men there to erect huts and establish the run. Thereafter, the property was supplied with cattle by emancipist Richard Craig, who had been largely responsible for opening up the Clarence as a convict escapee in the early 1830s. Dobie held the property until the mid-1840s. The station was acquired by Charles Grant Tindal in 1852. Tindal had previously leased Koreelah Station (near the headwaters of the Clarence) and had been located on the Northern Rivers since the late 1830s (see Yulgilbar below).

Early in 1855, Tindal sailed for England and after a range of ventures that included marrying, sight-seeing and various business trips in Europe and England, he returned to New South Wales in January 1857. Work then started on a stone homestead at Ramornie, which was to be the centre of his regional operations. The homestead featured shell mortar that had been excavated from Aboriginal shell mounds at Yamba and shipped upriver. The homestead of Ramornie was completed and occupied by December 1858.<sup>60</sup>

Spending time in both England and Australia, Tindal launched the Australian Meat Company in London. This was in 1865, with capital of £100,000. Early in 1866, plant and tin-plate were shipped from England to Ramornie and a then state-of-the-art meat processing and canning works was established.<sup>61</sup>

Meat extract production (based on Justus von Liebig's process) and canning commenced in September 1886. Within a few years Ramornie-branded canned meats had become well established on the English market (where it had a range of procurers including the British Army and Navy). 35,000 cattle were slaughtered annually at the works, with the cannery ensuring a regular market for both Tindal's own cattle as well as the local cattlemen of the district. In addition to canned meat products, preserved meat, tallow, artificial manure, hides and pelts were also produced on-site. The operation was expansive. In addition to the homestead and works buildings, the station featured huts for employees, described as a village, as well as a hotel and other 'social' buildings such as a billiards hall.

In 1879, Tindal bought out the other meat company shareholders, but in the ensuing year, the first consignment of frozen meat from Australia was sent to London. This marked the beginning of the company's gradual decline and that of Ramornie Station more broadly.<sup>62</sup> In 1917 the company was sold to the Kensington Preserving Company, who kept it running until c.1924. During 1924-1925 many of the buildings were relocated and all the removable items at the works were sold at auction.<sup>63</sup>

Refer **figures 12 – 19**.

## Yulgilbar

Edward David Stewart Ogilvie (pastoralist) was born 25 July 1814 at Tottenham, Middlesex, England. He was the son of William Ogilvie (naval officer) and his wife Mary. With free passage, William and his family sailed to Sydney aboard the convict ship Grenada (arriving on 23 January 1825). He settled at Merton: a 2000-acre grant on the Upper Hunter.<sup>64</sup> Edward was soon working on his father's stations and later managing the sheep.

<sup>60</sup> CRHS 2009

<sup>61</sup> <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tindal-charles-grant-1238>

<sup>62</sup> <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tindal-charles-grant-1238>

<sup>63</sup> Allerton, 1993: 10

<sup>64</sup> <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/ogilvie-edward-david-777>

In 1840, after Richard Craig had refused to let Ogilvie join Dr John Dobie's party, which he was guiding to Ramornie, Edward pushed on with his brother Frederick and an Aboriginal guide and reached the Clarence at Tabulum ahead of Craig's party. Downstream, Edward took up fifty-six miles (90 km) on both sides of the river for a pastoral run and later named it collectively, as Yulgilbar.

The two brothers and a 'new chum', Charles Tindal, settled at Yulgilbar, with Tindal managing the property between 1843 and 1849. By 1850 Yulgilbar covered about 300 sq. miles and included Fairfield, a 100,000- cattle station in the mountains. When Ogilvie lost his European hands to the district gold rushes, in the early 1870s, he is known to have employed Aborigines and Chinese workers.

After time overseas, where he was married, Ogilvie designed and constructed an elaborate, castle-like mansion at Yulgilbar, which was completed in 1866 for a cost of £8000. It was built from local serpentine and sandstone with a crenellated roof and two towers and set about a courtyard. It took four years to build the homestead, with masons and builders brought over from Germany, and construction involving the use of over 110,000 handmade bricks. During the 1860s, Ogilvie found the country too wet for sheep and successfully switched exclusively to cattle.<sup>65</sup>

A complex and combative individual, Ogilvie was unpopular and shunned in Grafton. To avoid the centre and meet his own business needs, he developed the new riverside town of Lawrence, where he built his own wharf to allow the shipping of his cattle to Sydney. In addition to his pastoral enterprises, he was also a director of the Clarence and Richmond Rivers Steam Navigation Company and was a founding member of the Linnean Society of New South Wales (1875). He died at Bowral in 1896 and was buried at Yulgilbar.

Sam Hordern purchased the property in 1949 and became one of the Australian pioneers of the Santa Gertrudis cattle breed from Texas. For the last 60 years, the property has operated as a cattle and horse stud, now under the ownership of Hordern's daughter Sara and her husband Baillieu Myer, the son of Myer retail store founder Sidney Myer. Today the property encompasses 35,000 acres and runs 4,500 commercial cattle.<sup>66</sup>

Refer **figures 20 & 21**.

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<sup>65</sup> R. L. Dawson, 'Pioneering days in the Clarence River district', *JRAHS*, 20 (1934)

<sup>66</sup> <http://www.abc.net.au/local/photos/2014/09/22/4092111.htm>



**FIGURE 12: RAMORNIE STATION ON THE CLARENCE RIVER (C.1880)**

Photograph by Elizabeth Stillwell State Library of NSW ML SV/17



**FIGURE 13: MEAT WORKS, RAMORNIE, ORARA RIVER (C1900-1910)**

State Library of NSW PXE 711/438





**FIGURE 14: RAMORNIE MEAT WORKS, ORARA RIVER (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191060h



**FIGURE 15: RAMORNIE MEAT WORKS, ORARA RIVER (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191061h



**FIGURE 16: RAMORNIE MEAT WORKS (C.1870) ABOVE ORARA RIVER.**  
Photograph courtesy Clarence Valley Historical Society Inc. 1993: 109



**FIGURE 17: ORARA RIVER @ RAMORNIE STATION (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191064h



**FIGURE 18: RAMORNIE HOTEL, ORARA RIVER (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191065h



**FIGURE 19: 1920S ADVERTISING FOR RAMORNIE CORNED BEEF.**  
Photograph courtesy Clarence River Historical Society Inc. 1993 publication





**FIGURE 20: YULGILBAR, CLARENCE RIVER (C.1880)**

Watercolour by Edward Boulton @ State Library of NSW ML V1B/Cla.R.D./1



**FIGURE 21: YULGILBAR CASTLE (1900-1910)**

Photograph by W Stephenson State Library of NSW ML PXA 410

### 2.3.4 Nymboida

By the 1840s, squatters had established extensive runs on almost all prime arable valley lands on the North Coast - including those in the Nymboida area south and west of Grafton. Early pastoral stations into the ranges and tablelands beyond included Nymboida. Gregory Blaxland (son of the explorer) had established a large run there in the 1840s. The 40,000-acre Cunglebung Station, which was set between the Boyd and Mann Rivers was another early run and the pastoral stations that followed included selected runs at Chandler's Creek, Marengo, Wintervale (west of Pine Creek) and Broadmeadows.<sup>67</sup>

Even with the selection of Cunglebung and the above-mentioned runs, the district remained relatively remote and was scarcely settled for much of the nineteenth century. Despite this, the Boyd (Little) River Valley was something of a conduit or communication route between the more established regional townships of Grafton and Glen Innes.<sup>68</sup> The Robertson Land Act (1861) attempted to open up land to free selection and broke down some of the vast pastoral holdings in an attempt to loosen the strangle hold of the squatters. However populations in the district remained low until the discovery of gold in the 1870s.

### Cunglebung

Cunglebung station was established in the 1860s by squatters Norman Cowen and Norman McLean. Between the establishment of the run in the 1860s and the local gold rushes of the early 1870s, Cunglebung Homestead was constructed on the flat above Cunglebung Creek and its junction with Wellington Creek. The exact date of construction is uncertain, though by 1872 - a month before the accidental death of Norman Cowen in a riding accident - the *Sydney Morning Herald* described Cunglebung as having a 'comfortable homestead'. It appears that the small dwelling formed the core of a residential-pastoral operation that included stores, stockyards and associated facilities. It grew to service the nearby 'Cunglebung diggings', which were a mixed mining enterprise that operated at several locations in the general area until the 1890s. The extended Cowen and Maclean families successfully operated the run until well into the 1890s with some family members living periodically onsite at the homestead. By the mid-1890s the run had expanded to account for some 100 000 acres and stretched from the Nymboida River in the east; the Mann River in the north and west; and the Boyd River in the south.<sup>69</sup>

Tragedy struck the station owners in the closing decades of the nineteenth century. John Cowen's 20-year old son Fred (who resided at Cunglebung for at least six years) died of an 'infection of the brain' in 1894 and after the death of Norman McLean in 1896 (and John Cowen in 1897), the run was sold to JTB McDougall. It was thereafter on-sold to the Turnbull family in 1916. While they had an interest in the property, and Errol and Margaret Turnbull lived onsite for some time (1946-1947), the Turnbull's appear to have been largely absentee landlords who managed the station via a station manager.<sup>70</sup>

After WWII there was considerable change to the rural landscape as soldier settlers established farms, rural industry boomed and populations exploded. During the 1950s, after the rationalization and partial breakup of Cunglebung station, the lease was sold to a Mr Frank MacLauchlan. He in turn passed the lease on to the Watters family in 1956. The Watters association with the property lasted around 50 years but they appear to have made only occasional use of the homestead. They rescinded the lease in 2001.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>67</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 18

<sup>68</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 18

<sup>69</sup> Urbis 2010; Tuck 2011

<sup>70</sup> Urbis 2010; Tuck 2011

<sup>71</sup> Tuck 2011



Refer **figures 22 – 26.**



**FIGURE 22: MAP OF THE COUNTY OF GRESHAM (1873)**

Presented in Curby 1993: 9



**FIGURE 23: CUNGLEBUNG STATION (C.1884)**

Map presented in Curby 1993: 9



**FIGURE 24: CUNGLEBUNG HOMESTEAD (1946)**  
Turnball family images presented in Messner 2005: 11



**FIGURE 25: CUNGLEBUNG HOMESTEAD (1950)**  
Turnball family images presented in Messner 2005: 11



**FIGURE 26: CUNGLEBUNG HOMESTEAD (2011)**  
Dan Tuck 2011

## 6.0 SETTLEMENT

Settlement beyond the rural within and about the study area - was largely centred on the Grafton (at the navigable head of the Clarence); Glen Innes (beyond the ranges on the New England Tablelands); and at other strategic locations (such as Ulmarra).

### 6.1 Grafton

The township of Grafton, which started out as a cedar port and grew as a sheep and cattle station centre, was supporting two stores by 1840, a courthouse with police magistrate by 1846, a School by 1852, and the first Anglican Church in 1854. The first land sales took place in the 1850s, and township was officially laid out and proclaimed a municipality in 1859.<sup>72</sup> Among the first storehouse/wharf facilities established to service the fledgling community at Grafton were the William Phillips wharf, yard and store at the mouth of Cowans Creek at South Grafton. There was also Thomas Hewitt's Inn, wharf and store at the mouth of Alamy Creek on the outskirts of Grafton.<sup>73</sup> Generally, the houses of the first settlers were simple affairs as early Grafton settler George Gray described in his journal:

*... first, they would cut a small space in the scrub, sufficient to build a small humpy just large enough to protect them from the weather. It was hard to get material to build with, the roof was the most difficult, some used tea-tree or stringy bark, some shingles. Our floors were only earth as it was almost impossible to get boards – our furniture consisted of a few blocks for seats or a wooden stool, our beds were composed of a couple of bags filled with tea-tree bark ...*<sup>74</sup>

An indicative sketch plan prepared by Rose Elizabeth Selwyn between 1853 and 1867 gives some indication of the layout of riverside Grafton in the mid-nineteenth century.<sup>75</sup> Establishments located in Grafton at that time included a parsonage; shoemakers, blacksmith and butcher; a court house and lock-up; an inn, boiling down works (Alamy Creek), dairy farm, store, house and wharf. The latter were all owned by the Sharp family (noted as 'Germans'). At South Grafton there was a Chief Constable's office; store; chemist (medicine store); post office; and public house.

Numerous wharves were established from the 1850s as Grafton benefited from its location on the major road to the north and the establishment of gold fields in the Orara Valley and Upper Clarence. By the 1860s, Grafton, with its significant wharfage and prime location, had begun to develop into an important Northern Rivers centre with professional, legal and administrative functions. Reflecting this growth, was the establishment of a number of significant commercial enterprises including the local horse racing track and the *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* (newspaper established in Grafton in 1859). The town's first solicitor, J. Michael, had established a practice there by the early 1860s.

Refer **figures 27 - 28**.

<sup>72</sup> DUAP, 1996: 65

<sup>73</sup> APEX, 19475; Mackay, 2001: 59-62

<sup>74</sup> Journal of George Gray cited in CRHS, 2002: 35

<sup>75</sup> Rose Elizabeth Selwyn was the 6<sup>th</sup> daughter of Reverend George Rusden of East Maitland. Rose came to Grafton with her husband in 1853 and was an accomplished artist.

## 6.2 Glen Innes

On the other side of the Great Dividing Range, on the elevated New England tablelands, Glen Innes was established as an inland regional centre in the 1850s and has been closely linked to Grafton ever since.

In c.1838, Archibald Boyd acquired the first pastoral run in the Glen Innes district. Two hirsute stockmen known as 'the Beardies' introduced Boyd and others to the best runs in the district. The area became known as the 'Land of the Beardies' or 'Beardie Plains'.<sup>76</sup>

The name Glen Innes is believed to have been bestowed in honour of Scotsman and early landholder Archibald Clunes Innes, who for a time owned Furracabad Station. Glen Innes was gazetted as a town in 1852, with the first lots sold in 1854. The post office was established in August 1854 and the court in 1858. In 1866 the population was about 350, with a telegraph station, lands office, police barracks, courthouse, post office and two hotels. A winding road to Grafton, via Dalmorton and Nymboida was constructed in the 1870s.

Glen Innes became the centre of a notable mining boom during the late nineteenth century, and tin was first discovered at Emmaville in 1872. In 1875, the population had swelled to about 1,500 and the town had a two-teacher school, three churches, five hotels, two weekly newspapers, seven stores and a variety of societies and associations. On 19 August 1884 the new Main North railway from Sydney opened. The arrival of the rail service, and the expansion of mining operations (including arsenic and opals) contributed to the late nineteenth century prosperity in the town, which is reflected in town's remarkable civil and civic architecture.

Refer **figures 29 & 30**.

## 6.3 Ulmarra

The settlement of Ulmarra was established when Thomas Small bought 76-acres of land along the river in 1857 for the sum of 81 pounds; 14 shillings. Small had been a timber cutter, but by the 1850s he had turned to general farming. He first grew maize and then in around 1865, sugar cane. By 1871 Ulmarra had a population of nearly 1000 people. Sugar cane was not successful however, and dairy farming dominated the fertile plains beside the river. By the 1880s the town had developed as an important river port.

The town's port served as one of two embarking points for excursionists going up and down the river (the other being the port at Lawrence) and for agricultural 'dealers' or traders, who went door to door along the Ulmarra riverbanks buying eggs and poultry and supplying news and gossip.<sup>77</sup> River travel was initially by way of sailing boats which were gradually replaced by steamers from the 1850's.<sup>78</sup>

### Ulmarra in the Mid-Nineteenth Century

It is perhaps advantageous at this stage to consider what life in the Clarence River Valley and specifically Ulmarra was like in the mid-nineteenth century. Though primary sources of data are few and far between, the anecdotal evidence of Clarence River personality and later Sydney MP John McFarlane (1854-1915) provides a valuable insight.

The location of the mid-19th century town of Ulmarra, as opposed to the town centre that constitutes the modern village of Ulmarra (an Urban Conservation Area), is open to some debate. Old or Lower Ulmarra

<sup>76</sup> Summerlad 1972

<sup>77</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 53

<sup>78</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 27

has been variously described as being between 500 and 4000 metres north of the current town.<sup>79</sup> McFarlane states in relation to Lower Ulmarra that *'... not a vestige of this once prosperous township remains', with the modern village featuring little built heritage dating its mid-nineteenth century roots.*<sup>80</sup>

While the exact location and nature of much of the old township is something of a mystery certain details of Old Ulmarra and its population have been recorded. In the 1860's, Lower Ulmarra had a population of around 800 in the town and surrounding farmsteads and could boast three stores, two hotels and a post and telegraph office as well as two churches and two schools.<sup>81</sup> One of the Schools mentioned may have been located to the west of Small Park and may be the old school mentioned in a series of Department of Instruction letters dating to the 1860's at NSW State Records.<sup>82</sup> Schools in this region in the early days were described as 'makeshift' with children having to travel up 3 to 4 miles to attend.<sup>83</sup>

By the late nineteenth century, the refocusing of central Ulmarra to its present location had commenced. In 1890 the town was hit by three floods in a single year. However development continued and by 1900 Ulmarra had four blacksmiths, a bacon works, an abattoir, a hospital, two schools and three policemen. A fire raged through the town and destroyed a number of the predominantly timber buildings in 1906. The Commercial Hotel, setback with a garden on the Clarence River, was destroyed by the fire and re-constructed post-fire (now the Ulmarra Hotel). James Retallick's two storey general store on the main street was also destroyed in the 1906 fire and rebuilt.

Refer **figures 31 - 37**.

<sup>79</sup> DUAP, 1998: 60; McFarlane, c.1910: 51

<sup>80</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 51

<sup>81</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 51; JRC Planning Services, 1995

<sup>82</sup> NSW State Records, School File-Ulmarra: 5/17930

<sup>83</sup> McFarlane, c. 1910: 7





**FIGURE 27: SETTLER'S HUT IN THE CLARENCE RIVER DISTRICT (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191491h



**FIGURE 28: FERRY ON THE CLARENCE RIVER AT GRAFTON (C.1860-1890)**  
State Library of NSW ML a7191038h



**FIGURE 29: BILLIARD PARLOUR, GROCER SHOP, TOWN HALL & TEA ROOM – GLEN INNES (ND)**  
State Library of NSW bcp\_02491h



**FIGURE 30: VISIT OF GOVERNOR SIR HARRY RAWSON ON THE OLD GRAFTON ROAD - PROBABLY GLEN INNES (C1900)**  
State Library of NSW bcp\_02496h

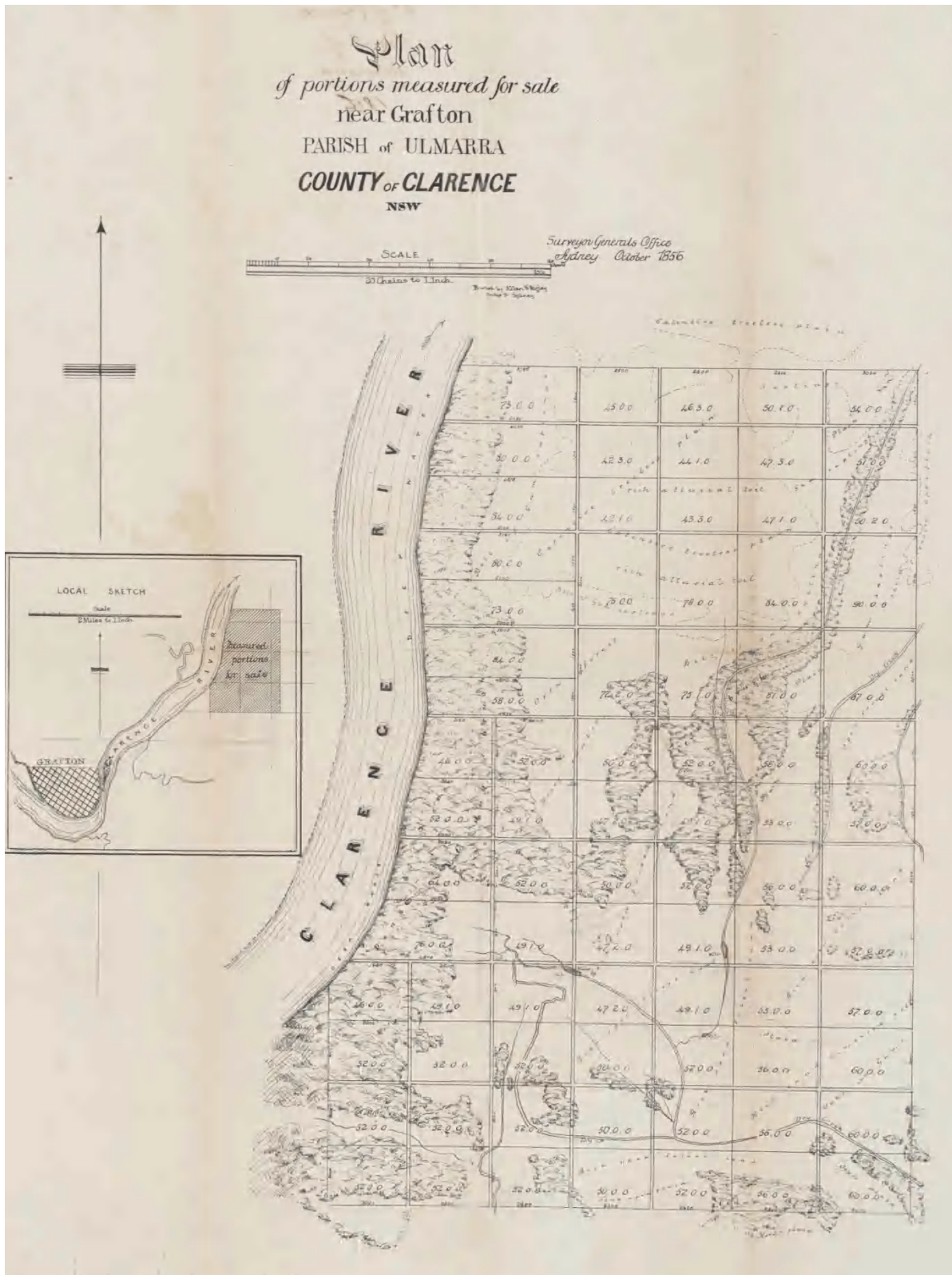
**FIGURE 31: PLAN OF PORTIONS FOR SALE NEAR GRAFTON – ULMARRA (1856)**National Library of Australia <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-229959713>





FIGURE 32: PARISH OF ULMARRA; COUNTY OF CLARENCE (1936)

National Library of Australia <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-556920867>

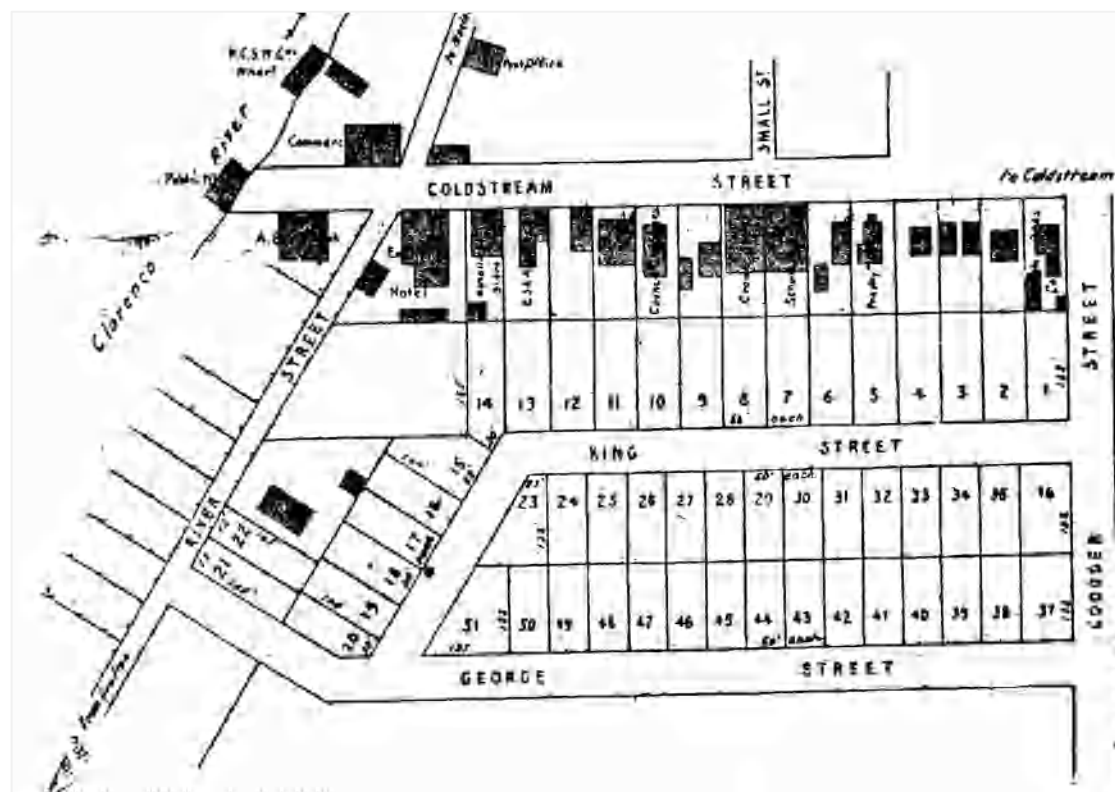


FIGURE 33: AUCTION PLAN, ULMARRA (1924)

Presented in Avery 1991



**FIGURE 34: RIVER STREET ULMARRA (C.1900) OUTSIDE COURTHOUSE, POST OFFICE AT MID LEFT, VIEW TO EXCHANGE HOTEL**  
Presented in Avery 1991



**FIGURE 35: JAMES RETALLIC'S RESIDENCE NEXT TO HIS STORE ON COLDSTREAM STREET BEFORE THE FIRE.**  
Photograph from Ulmarra Hotel Gina Scheer March 2018





**FIGURE 36: ULMARRA FROM WEST END OF MAIN STREET LOOKING EAST (1936)**  
State Library of NSW Government Printing Office 1 – 21334



**FIGURE 37: THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL, ULMARRA (1946) – NOW THE ULMARRA HOTEL**  
Tooth & Co Hotel Card

## 6.4 Nymboida

Nymboida was settled in the hills above the Nymboida River. The first official sale of town lots for Nymboida took place in September 1870, however European settlement had begun in the 1840s with the large pastoral stations. In 1870 there were 25 allotments offered for sale in Grafton. William Sutton, who already operated Suttons Inn in Nymboida purchased 5 allotments at that time.<sup>84</sup> By 1879 Nymboida had a school and by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the village also had a mill, coaching station (1904), hotel, hall and police station. In the 1920s the Nymboida Hydro-electric Power Station Complex was completed and this brought more workers and their families to the village.

During the later 20<sup>th</sup> century, c.1980s, Nymboida became a location for 'tree changers' and particularly those interested in living a more environmentally aware life than city life could provide. The pioneers of this second wave of habitation included many who built their own houses and farms and lived self-sufficiently within the areas around Nymboida. These settlers arrived after the final closure of the Nymboida Coal Mine (1979) and helped keep the village and its post office and school open.

Refer **figures 38 - 40**



**FIGURE 38: NYMBOIDA POST OFFICE AND CHURCH AT TOP RIGHT (1911-1920)**

Provided by Clarence Valley Council (Deborah Wray) February 2018

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<sup>84</sup> Suters, 1979, 4



**FIGURE 39: PUBLIC SCHOOL NYMBOICA C.1886**

Courtesy of Clarence Valley Historical Society



**FIGURE 40: ABORIGINES MISSION CLARENCE RIVER SCHOOL (ND)**

Courtesy of Clarence Valley Historical Society

## 7.0 INDUSTRY

In addition to the cedar getters, squatters and early merchants, small farmers also played a significant role in shaping the history of the Northern Rivers and the study area.

Prior to 1861 there had been limited settlement along the Clarence and indeed along the other Northern River Valleys. In 1847, government regulations divided land into "settled", "intermediate" and "unsettled" areas and made land in the settled areas (as well as land within 3 miles of the coast and 2 miles of the Clarence and Richmond Rivers) available for purchase. The saleable land had been surveyed as early as 1841.<sup>85</sup> Sales of subdivided rural land were slow at first but by 1856, 200,000 acres of land had been sold along the Clarence and by 1857 major government auctions saw further significant land sales in the parishes along River.

In 1861, the *Land Alienation or Robertson Act* (1861) opened up Crown land across NSW to free selection at a low fixed price. The Act and subsequent land rush proved to be the most significant reason for population increases in the towns along the Northern Rivers. As a result, large numbers of farmers purchased small holdings and there was a swelling population within established towns, as well as revitalisation of the cedar ports and establishment of new towns and agricultural centres.<sup>86</sup> The rich riverside lands of the Clarence in particular were rapidly populated by many small homesteads linked by a complex road system.<sup>87</sup>

### 7.1 Agriculture

Small farming at Grafton and along the Clarence River valley from the 1860's was characterised by experimentation and crop diversity. The first crop to be successfully grown and marketed was Maize. This was rapidly followed by cotton, tropical fruit and cane:

#### Maize

Initial cropping in the Clarence involved the growing of wheat, which unfortunately failed due to rust problems in the early 1860's.<sup>88</sup> Subsequent planting of maize was more successful and this crop became a Northern Rivers agricultural mainstay until oversupply led to market problems.

#### Cotton

Fluctuations in the maize crop price led farmers in the Ulmarra district to early experimentation with cotton, particularly during the American Civil War period when world cotton prices were high.<sup>89</sup> Cotton grew well on the Clarence and with the 1863/64 Ulmarra season bringing government supplied seed and a two-pence per pound bonus it is not surprising that many local farmers chose to produce this crop.<sup>90</sup> The end of the American Civil War resulted in market price fluctuations, and eventually, a decline in world cotton prices. The result was a collapse of the local Northern Rivers cotton industry. Most of the cotton picked after 1864 was never marketed and ended up being used for bed stuffing and a range of domestic purposes. Some Clarence growers persevered into the late 1860's but by 1868 production had all but ceased.<sup>91</sup>

<sup>85</sup> Kass, 1989: 12

<sup>86</sup> Kass, 1989: 13

<sup>87</sup> DUAP, 1996: 65

<sup>88</sup> DUAP, 1996: 65

<sup>89</sup> Rowley, 1939: 159

<sup>90</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 28-29

<sup>91</sup> Rowley, 1939: 161-162; Jervis, McFarlane, c.1910: 28-29

## Tropical Fruit

Local Ulmarra farming identity, 'Banana' Brown was also responsible for the first successful cultivation of bananas for domestic consumption, signaling the start of another of the early agricultural industries in the Clarence region.<sup>92</sup> The report of the Inter-Colonial Exhibition of 1870 mentioned that 8965 bunches of bananas were sent from the Clarence in 1869.<sup>93</sup> It would appear however that banana growing, though successful, continued in only a limited way in the Clarence River Valley perhaps due to the overwhelming success of sugar cane production in the 1870's.

## Sugar Cane

Sugar Cane became the agricultural mainstay of the Clarence River communities in the 1870's after successful experimentation in the mid-1860's determined that a number of varieties grew well in the Northern Rivers area. A series of lectures on cane growing by authorities Thomas Scott and Melmoth Hall in 1869, and successful cane cultivation experiments in Grafton at around the same time, led many Clarence River farmers to take up cane farming. Sugar farming succeeded for two reasons; it fitted the intensive farming pattern of the northern rivers, and could be sold direct to a local market in an unrefined state.

The primary production of sugar on small farming allotments and its direct sale to market was soon aided by the establishment of production mills along the Clarence, one of the earliest and largest being the Co-Operative sugar mill, the Belmore Mill, located at Ulmarra and opened in 1869 by the NSW Governor, the Earl of Belmore.<sup>94</sup> Although that mill was short-lived, soon after other mills which operated with varying degrees of success "sprang up like mushrooms" along the river banks.<sup>95</sup> The establishment of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company (CSR) and the construction of a number of very large central mills at strategic Northern Rivers sites brought about the stabilisation of the sugar industry and the rise of 'company towns' in the Northern Rivers. The Southgate Mill, opposite Ulmarra, was the first CSR mill to be built on the Clarence River in 1871.<sup>96</sup>

The producers of sugar, like the producers of other crops in the Clarence River valley faced a number of hurdles in the latter decades of the 1800's. Overall production was affected by frosts (on farms located too far up river), flooding in the mid-1870's, the rise of beet sugar internationally, and finally gumming disease and government threats to remove protective tariffs in the 1890's.<sup>97</sup> While CSR overcame many of the problems associated with production through sheer domination of the industry, independent farmers looked for another source of income. The alternative that many chose was dairying.

## 7.2 Dairying

Described with great enthusiasm by one gentleman in the 1880's as '*...one of the greatest, if not absolutely the greatest of the leading industries ...*' dairying came to be established in the Northern Rivers in the late 1880's and carried on as a key industry until well into the 1930's.<sup>98</sup>

<sup>92</sup> Kass, 1989: 19

<sup>93</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: note 37

<sup>94</sup> Kass, 1989: 15, DUAP, 1996: 62, Clarence Valley Historical Society Inc., Ulmarra Public School Centenary, 24

<sup>95</sup> Kass, 1989: 15

<sup>96</sup> Kass, 1989:15

<sup>97</sup> McFarlane, c.1910: 30-31; DUAP, 1996: 62

<sup>98</sup> Na. 1910: 107; Kass, 1989: 28



Prior to the 1880's, southern notions persisted that dairying was a temperate climate activity not suited to tropical conditions. This attitude, coupled with the apparent lack of suitable grazing grasses, prevented the move of serious dairy farmers into the Northern River lands. The discovery of *Paspalum diliturn* (a suitable native feed grass) and the success of Illawarra farmers in non-temperate conditions, served to dispel earlier doubts and dairying began in earnest in the Northern Rivers in the 1890's.<sup>99</sup> Though the Richmond River valley was the dominant dairying area until the early 1900's, the Clarence River also enjoyed the successful spread of dairying and the rise of the allied industries associated with it.

### Co-operatives

The first Clarence River cheese factory was established at Ulmarra by an Illawarra businessman in 1886, and was followed by a host of co-operative creameries throughout the Clarence. The first of the Cooperative creameries, the *Clarence River Pioneer Dairy Company*, was also situated in Ulmarra and commenced operation in 1892. A similar operation, *Norco*, was established at the Government Port of Byron Bay in 1895, and the *NSW Fresh Food & Ice Cream Company* opened its doors to Clarence River farmers in 1896 when it established a factory at South Grafton.<sup>100</sup> Consequently, every dairy farmer with riverfront land built a jetty:

*Every few miles along the banks - and often at shorter intervals – the droghers and river steamers have to stop at tiny jetties to pick up the cans of cream from surrounding farmers, while at the larger wharves each steamer is always sure to find two or three consignments awaiting transport to the butter factories.<sup>101</sup>*

The Clarence River Co-operative Pioneer Dairy Co. butter factory at Ulmarra was rebuilt in 1923. Thereafter, it amalgamated with Grafton in 1970; was sold to Norco in 1990; and was closed in 1999.<sup>102</sup>

### Transport

Transportation of cream and milk was initially by horse and dray to creameries, and to river transport as many small cream boats plied the river, picking up cream at the many small wharves. About the 1930's, after roads had improved in the area, trucks took over the transport with a few small cream boats remaining.<sup>103</sup>

### Production

Northern River's dairy production peaked in the 1930's/1940s with the Ulmarra butter factory producing 4,432,291 pounds of butter in 1931 and Northern Rivers region accounting for 60% of all the butter produced in NSW in 1934-35.<sup>104</sup>

In the 1940's there were over 500 dairy farms stocked with about 25,000 cows in the Shires of Ulmarra and Harwood, producing over six million gallons of milk.

After the 1930's however, the industry started to decline, responding to shrinking overseas markets; failing export prices; and the invention of vegetable oil-based, butter alternatives such as margarine.

Refer **figures 38 – 43.**

<sup>99</sup> DUAP, 1996: 62-63

<sup>100</sup> Kass, 1986: 19

<sup>101</sup> North Coast Steam Navigation Company Ltd, 1909: 105

<sup>102</sup> Stubbs

<sup>103</sup> Stubbs

<sup>104</sup> Kass 1989: 28



**FIGURE 41: THE (FIRST) ULMARRA BUTTER FACTORY (1905)**  
State Library of NSW Government Printing Office 1 – 09723



**FIGURE 42: MILKING STANDS @ MCLEOD'S DAIRY FARM, ULMARRA (1905)**  
Government Printing Office 1 - 09725



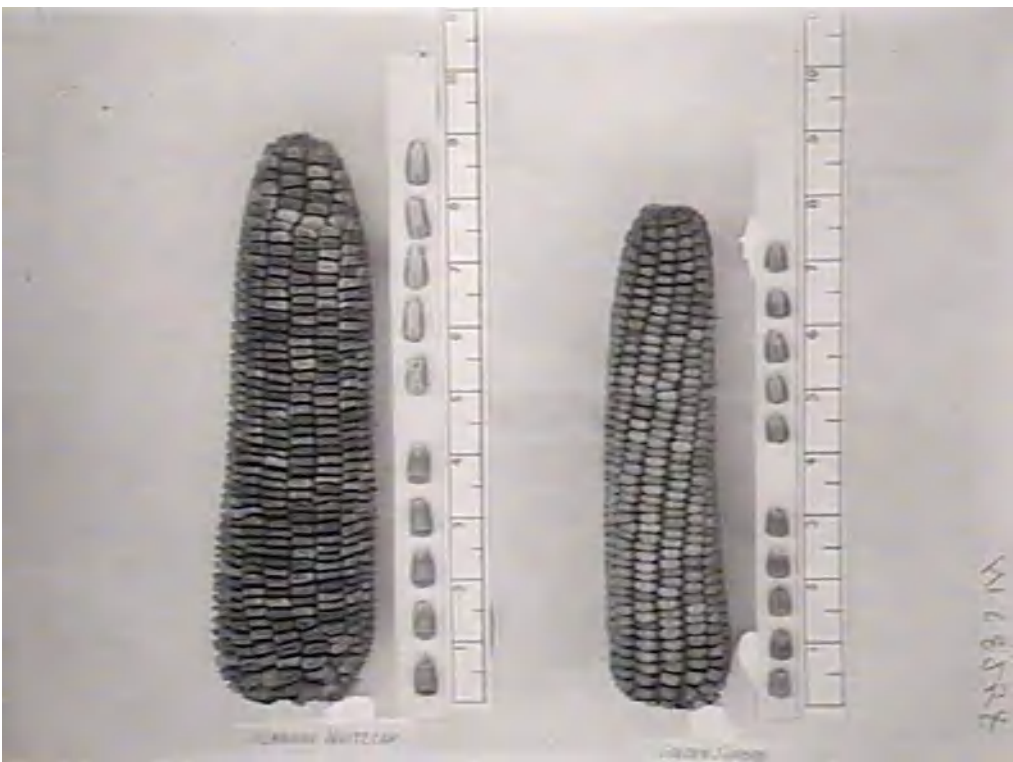
**FIGURE 43: MCLEOD'S FARM ON THE ORARA RIVER (C.1905)**  
North Coast District Album State Library of NSW M X981.8/ 5A1



**FIGURE 44: COCHRANE'S FARM ON THE ORARA RIVER (C.1905)**  
North Coast District Album State Library of NSW M X981.8/ 5A1



**FIGURE 45: SUGARCANE HARVESTING AT ULMARRA (1905)**  
State Library of NSW Government Printing Office 1-09722



**FIGURE 46: ULMARRA CORN TYPES: ULMARRA WHITECAP & GOLDEN SUPERB (ND)**  
State Library of NSW Government Printing Office 1-40302

### 7.3 Gold!



The discovery of gold was responsible for major changes in both the locations in which it was discovered and the localities from which gold mining towns harvested their labour. It changed the face of towns and landscapes and took labour from the farmlands and forests and inserted it en masse into the mines. This was as true in Northern NSW as it was elsewhere – no more so than at Dalmorton on the Boyd River (Little) River.

### 7.3.1 Dalmorton

It is believed that gold was discovered in the greater Dalmorton area in the 1860s by a Cunglebung Station leaseholder. Thereafter, gold was worked sporadically on the tributaries of the Mann and Boyd Rivers until the main 'rush' - precipitated by the discovery of a gold bearing quartz reef (Union Reef) at Quart Pot Creek located south of Dalmorton in early 1871. This piqued the interest of prospectors and led to the rapid discovery of over 50 workable reefs in the greater Dalmorton area. By March of the same year the rush to the Boyd River and Dalmorton had begun.<sup>105</sup>

By 1872 'splendid stone' was being excavated from the Dalmorton area reefs and the Boyd or Little River Goldfield diggings were becoming well established. There were 500 people at the Boyd River diggings, and two quartz crushing plants had been established.<sup>106</sup> The need for a town to service the diggings became paramount and proto-Dalmorton was established.

Newton Boyd (1871), Buccarumbi (1871) and Dalmorton (1873) were the three Boyd River towns surveyed in the early 1870s on '*favourable land ... nearest the centres of mining activity*'.<sup>107</sup> Sited on the Boyd River at a crossing point, amidst the goldfields and halfway between Grafton and Glenn Innes, Dalmorton was well situated to service the 'rush' and became a mining hub.

One of the first buildings was a post office, established in 1872. The township, originally mooted as 'El Dorado' but mercifully changed to Dalmorton, appears to have grown up around this structure. The town served as the centre of a broader temporary settlement area marked by the workings and tents of the miners. By 1874 the town had been officially proclaimed and featured the aforementioned post office, several hotels and stores and an indeterminable number of residences generally of bark and slab construction. Population estimates suggest the town and surrounds supported a population in the order of 3000 at the peak of the rush.<sup>108</sup>

Despite the intentions of the town planners, the settlement was restricted to the northern side of the river. At around this time the Grafton to Glenn Innes Road (Newton Boyd Road) was upgraded to facilitate higher volume use. In 1875 the construction of the Buccarumbi bridge (Nymboida River) and Bawden bridge (Orara River) allowed for transportation of the heavy machinery needed to improve the diggings.<sup>109</sup>

By 1881 the township featured a police station and a butcher's shop. It was around this time also that development in the town and surrounding goldfields stalled, as the diggings within the officially proclaimed goldfields failed to live up to their initial promise.<sup>110</sup> By 1887 the township population had fallen to 180.<sup>111</sup> Refer **figures 47 - 59**.

<sup>105</sup> Tuck 2014

<sup>106</sup> Town & Country Journal 8 June 1872.

<sup>107</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 26

<sup>108</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 58

<sup>109</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 21-24

<sup>110</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 25

<sup>111</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 72





**FIGURE 47: VILLAGE OF DALMORTON (1883)**  
NSW Land Registry Services Historical Lands Record Viewer



**FIGURE 48: VILLAGE OF DALMORTON (1894)**  
NSW Land Registry Services Historical Lands Record Viewer







**FIGURE 50: THE BUTCHER'S SHOP DALMORTON (1897)**

NSW Through the Eye of the Camera (36 Views), Eyre & Spotswoode, Melbourne



**FIGURE 51: DALMORTON COACH HOUSE (ND)**

Clarence River Historical Society Image presented in Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003



**FIGURE 52: DALMORTON SCHOOL (ND) 'THE SMALLEST SCHOOL IN CREATION'**  
Clarence River Historical Society Image presented in Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003



**FIGURE 53: DALMORTON POLICE PRECINCT – COURTHOUSE (ND) – VIEW FROM STREET WITH LOCK-UP AT FAR LEFT.**  
Image presented in Tuck 2007





**FIGURE 54: TUNNEL ROCK (COLLOQUIALLY KNOWN AS THE CONVICT TUNNEL) DALMORTON (1897)**  
NSW Through the Eye of the Camera (36 Views), Eyre & Spotswoode, Melbourne



**FIGURE 55: DALMORTON SILVER MINE (C.1920S)**  
Clarence River Historical Society Images presented in Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 25





**FIGURE 56: DALMORTON (1921/1922) – ONE OF THE FIVE HOTELS**  
National Library of Australia PIC/8847/3/16



**FIGURE 57: NYMBOIDA RIVER (1929)**  
State Library of New South Wales ML



**FIGURE 58: NYMBOIDA RIVER JUNCTION (C.1900)**  
State Library of New South Wales ML



**FIGURE 59: MILL ON THE NYMBOIDA RIVER (1939)**  
State Library of New South Wales ML

## Minor Rush

After the initial rush and almost two decades of sporadic mining, Dalmorton was the subject of a minor secondary rush in 1891.<sup>112</sup> This rush coincided with extensions to the proclaimed Little (Boyd) River Goldfield and saw a host of new mines established at Springbrook and Pine Creek. These included Abercrombie, Black Jack, Carbine, Excelsior and Black Slate Creek.<sup>113</sup> Technical and engineering advances allowed for deeper, more complex excavations than had been available to miners during the earlier rushes of the 1870s.

Although the mines met with varying success, Dalmorton remained an active service centre with a population fluctuating between 300 and 1100 for much of the 1880s and 1890s. Features of the township at the time included a progress association (established 1892) and five operational hotels: the Golden Fleece, Dalmorton, Perseverance, Royal and Post Office. Social events were a feature of the township in the 1890s and in 1896 the NSW Governor was a dinner host.<sup>114</sup>

Though the town was going well in the 1890s, few people had taken up the allotments set out on the original 1870s town surveys. Those that had taken up allotments often held a number of blocks. Plans from the 1890s reflect the contrast between the grand plans of the 1870s and the reality twenty years later. Significant landholders and citizens in the town at the time included Henry A. Brown, David Pinkerton, Charles Tennant, Martha Elliot and Frank Norrie.<sup>115</sup>

Mining declined in the Dalmorton area throughout the closing decades of the nineteenth century. Although it continued sporadically with peaks related to new finds and mine reworking (a consequence of advances in technology) - the golden era of mining in the Boyd River Valley was over. The last mining operation in the area (Mount Remarkable) ceased operation in 1942.<sup>116</sup>



**FIGURE 60: LOCATION OF MINES DALMORTON STATE FOREST**

State Forests of NSW, 1994 Environmental Impact Statement Figure 6.2 Grafton Management Area

<sup>112</sup> The 'peak year' of production in the Little River Gold Field was 1892 which produced 2024 ounces of vein gold and 342 ounces of alluvial gold.

<sup>113</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 26; 30

<sup>114</sup> Tuck 2011

<sup>115</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003

<sup>116</sup> Greg Kater & Associates Pty Ltd 1981b; Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 53

## Timber

Timbergetting was the earliest major industry in Northern NSW and Grafton was well established as a timber port by the 1840s. Dalmorton was not immune to the enterprises of timber getters, although its remote location and siting on a minor river stalled the broad-scale exploitation of its forest resources.

By the 1870s timber was being felled in earnest in the Dalmorton area. This was a consequence of both the exhaustion of more accessible timber supplies on the Clarence and demand for structural timber from the mines that had sprung up after 1871. The early picture of timber exploitation in the region is not well documented but a 1907 Royal Commission into Forestry noted heavy exploitation at Nymboida in the 1880s and the demise of the cedar stands there by 1890.<sup>117</sup>

The Commission precipitated a range of changes in forest management and saw the creation of a number of new State Forests (S.F.) and Forest Reserves (F.R.) in the district. The Dalmorton State Forest to the north of the Dalmorton township was dedicated in 1927 (later extended).<sup>118</sup>

While there appears to have been heavy exploitation at select locations, the forests were vast and during the 1920s and 1930s, Dalmorton was the centre of timbergetting enterprises in the Boyd Valley with co-operatives including Pine Creek, Buccarumbi and Newton Boyd. Numerous mills peppered the valley at the time including those at Dalmorton, Newton Boyd and Sheep Station Creek.<sup>119</sup>

Mill workers huts and bullockies were part of the Dalmorton landscape in the early twentieth century. The bullockies provided the only real transport option for the mills at that time. They remained a force until the late 1950s when technology superseded them, and the motor lorry became the dominant mode of transport.

## Decline

The timber industry kept Dalmorton afloat for the opening decades of the twentieth century. Other forces were at work that saw the township commence an irreversible decline.

This was reflected in population decline in the township as well as the poor state of disrepair of the Grafton to Glenn Innes Road. WWI saw the departure of young men to the battlefields, many of whom were never to return. After this war many in the region turned to fossicking and rabbiting to ward off the effects of the economic depression. Meanwhile, the Department of Main Roads (DMR) investigated ways of improving the Grafton to Glenn Innes Road and in 1939, using relief labourers, set about bypassing the Little (Boyd) River section of the road.

## WWII

Dalmorton received a brief reprieve during WWII when the road bypass was put on hold and the town continued to service travelers and landholders in the local area. Though all of the hotels had now gone, the town retained a functional heart which included a butcher's shop, post office, mill, police station and store.<sup>120</sup>

After the war, the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act (1938) encouraged people to obtain small blocks of land in the country.<sup>121</sup> Much of the Dalmorton region was rugged country and so few people took up the

<sup>117</sup> *Royal Commission into Forestry in NSW* 1908: 559

<sup>118</sup> Curby 1993

<sup>119</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 42

<sup>120</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 50

<sup>121</sup> Among the blocks for selection were a number of 40 acre blocks sited along the Grafton - Glenn Innes Road



offer. The Dalmorton region further declined to such an extent that by the close of the 1940s the only non-residential buildings in the town were a mixed business store and the police station.<sup>122</sup>

### **Bypass**

The Little River Valley bypass commenced in 1939 and was completed in 1962. This effectively closed the town of Dalmorton off from the lifeblood of through traffic traveling between Glen Innes and Grafton.<sup>123</sup> The opening of the bypass took place as the last public complex in the town, the Police Station, was closed and leased. The Police Department ultimately disposed of the property in 1965.<sup>124</sup>

The 1960s and 1970s saw regional State Forest logging operations contrast with the creation of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (1967) and the subsequent establishment of national parks such as Guy Fawkes River National Park (1972). Negotiation and conflict over land use was common during the period leading up to the establishment of these parks.

Parks such as Guy Fawkes River heralded the commencement of official environmental and cultural tourism in NSW. Concurrently, the bypassed ghost town of Dalmorton was also becoming part of the cultural tourism trend, with visitors drawn to its isolation and standing remnants of a once busy gold mining township whose time had long past.

In the 1970s much of the former township of Dalmorton was put up for lease. Grafton solicitor Ray Burridge took up the lease and converted the majority of it to freehold title. There was some grazing in the area undertaken at the time by Bob Scott's Dalmorton Investments pastoral lease company.<sup>125</sup>

### **Gold Revisited**

In 1980 Dalmorton was re-birthed as the headquarters of the Little River Goldfields (LRG) Company who took up a number of exploration licenses in the Dalmorton region. Managers Phil and Christina Wales lived at the former Dalmorton Police Station and endeavored to explore the potential of the region for mining using advanced technologies.<sup>126</sup>

Despite ten years of exploration and investigation, the company ultimately proved unsuccessful and abandoned the town.<sup>127</sup> Pastoralist Matt Stahlen brought the land around the remaining buildings in Dalmorton in 1991. In that same year the former Police Station and Courthouse complex burnt to the ground.

### **Guy Fawkes State Conservation Area**

In September 1996, the nearby Pine Creek Catchment of Chaelundi State Forest was proposed for addition to the Guy Fawkes River National Park. This was subsequently gazetted in 1997.

The Chaelundi area of forest was part of a landmark campaign by the environmental campaigners, North East Forest Alliance (1990 - 1996), to protect old growth forest. The campaign spearheaded by John Corkhill resulted in numerous court cases and arrests and became one of the most significant events in NSW conservation history. The campaign led to the establishment of the first endangered species legislation, the

<sup>122</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 49

<sup>123</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 46

<sup>124</sup> NSW Police Archives PS 62/3724/1253; Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 50

<sup>125</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 53

<sup>126</sup> Greg Kater & Associates Pty Ltd. 1981a & 1981b; Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 55

<sup>127</sup> The final reports for the LRG exploration licenses were forwarded in 1993 (refer Elliot 1993)



Endangered Fauna (Interim Protection) Act 1991, and also resulted in the creation of several new national parks and wilderness areas.<sup>128</sup>

This addition to NSW NPWS reserve system which linked Guy Fakes National Park and Reserve with a declared wilderness area was not the last addition to the greater Guy Fawkes National Park. In 2003 Dalmorton's history and inherent cultural heritage values were officially recognized when the Guy Fawkes River State Conservation Area, incorporating the former town site of Dalmorton, was gazetted.<sup>129</sup> Dalmorton is now located within an area managed by NSW NPWS.

### History of Policing in Dalmorton

Calls for a locally stationed police officer at Dalmorton coincided with the Little (Boyd) River goldrush and the establishment of the township in the early 1870s. The need for law enforcement (police, mining commissioner and JP) related to the both the rapid growth of the township and the need for the adequate and timely resolution of claims disputes and other grievances typical of a burgeoning gold town.<sup>130</sup>

It remains uncertain as to exactly when the first police officer was stationed at Dalmorton - a police reserve was set aside on the 1873 town plan and by 1875 a station had been established.<sup>131</sup> Whether the first station was within the later allotment is uncertain, however, there was certainly an occupied station house fronting Boyd Street on site by 1881.<sup>132</sup>

By 1892 the police precinct was fenced and featured a station house and several outbuildings (possibly including a Lock-Up).<sup>133</sup> In the same year, the Dalmorton Court of Petty Sessions was created.<sup>134</sup> In 1895 the reserve was extended to include land to the immediate west at the corner of Boyd and Martin Streets.<sup>135</sup> The courthouse and officer's quarters were constructed in c.1899. This structure possibly incorporated (or replaced) the earlier police building.<sup>136</sup>

During the closing decades of the nineteenth century, Dalmorton was served by officers of the Mounted Police who depended on their horses in the difficult and variable terrain of the Little (Boyd) Valley. Not to be confused with the earlier and more infamous Colonial Mounted Police, the Mounted Police had considerable longevity in the region due to their appropriateness for the environment they policed. Early officers at Dalmorton included:

- Constable Swan: c.1890 - late 1890s
- Constable McSpedden: late 1890s - 1916

Most of the business of the station and courthouse related to the operation of the goldfields and the usual town affairs, however there was the occasional notable event. In 1918 for instance, an outlaw of German origin known as the 'Red Bushranger' was stealing from properties in the district and was holed up in the range behind Dalmorton. Armidale and Dalmorton Police utilised the services of Aborigines from Marengo

<sup>128</sup> DEC 2006: 30 - 31

<sup>129</sup> DEC 2006: 10. Dalmorton was purchased by the Service in 2001 as part of 4000 acres to be included in the Guy Fawkes River SCA

<sup>130</sup> *Town & Country Journal* 21 September 1872

<sup>131</sup> SRNSW - Dalmorton Police Station (Agency 365).

<sup>132</sup> *Clarence & Richmond Examiner* 22 October 1881

<sup>133</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 36

<sup>134</sup> NSW Government Gazette 8 April 1892

<sup>135</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 36

<sup>136</sup> *Clarence & Richmond Examiner* 19 December 1899

Station in an attempt to track him but he appears to have evaded capture by moving north out of the district.<sup>137</sup>

When gold mining ceased and the population declined, particularly after WWI, the role of the station changed somewhat. It was still the centre of policing, but it also served as the heart of district business activity as other business and government facilities in the town shut up shop.<sup>138</sup>

By 1961 the town population had diminished significantly, the town was in the process of being bypassed, and the local police force - comprising the station officer and associated tracker - was made redundant. The station was officially closed on 13 November 1961.<sup>139</sup>

After the Police Station closed it was let to a Mr Bruce Winn in 1962 for £2.0.6 - on the condition that he vacate the premises when required to do so.<sup>140</sup> The reserve was ultimately revoked in November 1965 and the Police Department disposed of the property in the same year.<sup>141</sup> In 1991, after pastoralist Matt Stahlen brought the land around the remaining buildings in Dalmorton the former Police Station and Courthouse complex burnt to the ground.

### Aboriginal Trackers

Aboriginal people formed part of the Colonial police force from the mid-nineteenth century. This is when units of 'native police' were established in various parts of the colony. There has been much written about the Native Police and the role they played in the enforced oppression of their own people, particularly along the Murray-Darling River system.

Aboriginal people were also informally engaged as 'trackers' to aid in the retrieval of escaped stock and convicts from the earliest years of settlement. Their landscape knowledge, bush craft and natural horse riding ability ideally suited them to such a task which provided occasional, ad hoc employment. From the 1880s however, an official policy of employing trackers was adopted in NSW and Victoria. This occurred at the same time as the Native Police forces were being disbanded.

There were professional trackers in the Guy Fawkes area by the late 1800s. These included James Boney (Snr & Jnr); Freddie Briggs; and Charlie Layton. Aboriginal trackers were officially employed and stationed at Dalmorton in the early 1900s - the exact date is uncertain though it probably postdates 1918 when Aboriginal farm workers were called on to track 'Red Bushranger'.<sup>142</sup>

<sup>137</sup> Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003: 40

<sup>138</sup> Tuck 2007

<sup>139</sup> Tuck 2007

<sup>140</sup> NSW Police Record & Information Process Services - Dalmorton Police Station Property File.

<sup>141</sup> NSW Police Record & Information Process Services - Dalmorton Police Station Property File. Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003

<sup>142</sup> Tuck 2007

**Kevin Randall**

Kevin Randall is the best known and most recent of the Dalmorton trackers. Originally from Cabbage Island in the Maclean (or McLeay) district, Randall lived and worked at Dalmorton in the 1950s and early 1960s. He is known to have replaced an earlier tracker known only as Robertson - who had moved to Grafton by the time of Randall's arrival. Randall lived with his family (wife and two children) in a wooden cottage opposite the Police Station - now the site of a small, hard top tennis court.

Kevin Randall is perhaps best remembered for his clothing and horse (which were kept immaculately) and for his football prowess. He was an excellent district footballer (winger) and played for the Glen Innes Magpies in the 1950s, overnighing most weekends during the football season at the Club Hotel in the township with his family.

Kevin left Dalmorton when the station was wound up in 1961. He was one of the last trackers in NSW to serve with the Mounted Police.

Refer: Bob O'Bryan pers. comm. 10 May 2007; Presland 1998; Jill Sheppard heritage Consultants 2003: 37-38; 51; 73; [www.prov.vic.gov.au/nativepolice](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/nativepolice)

## 7.4 Forestry

Forestry has been a significant industry shire-wide, since the earliest days of settlement. From the felling of early indigenous hardwood species (such as red cedar) along the Clarence in the 1830s, to the plantation hard and softwood coops of today, the industry has shaped the landscapes and settlement within it. Timber getting and processing has occurred across much of the study area: from the exploitation of the Gondwana forests of the now-Gibraltar Ranges-Washpool National Parks to the NSW Forests plantations of low-altitude pine forests in the Yuraygir National Park area and surrounds. It is beyond the scope of this project to detail the full history of logging and forestry within the subject area, however the locality of Glenreagh serves as a convenient analogue for an in-shire, NSW timber town.

### 7.4.1 Glenreagh

Glenreagh was first settled in 1858 and is reputed to be the oldest village in the Orara valley. John Campbell Shannon was a notable early resident. He built 'Glen-Righ' homestead on his sheep and cattle run, a Crown Grant of 164-acres, which he had acquired in 1859. It was later sold to the Pearson brothers, who owned it until 1874. It was then sold to Sydney identity and a member of parliament for the Clarence and Richmond, John Connell Laycock.<sup>143</sup>

Gold was discovered on upper Tallawudjah Creek in 1881, but the rush was short-lived and was over by the turn of the century. A stamper battery is known to have existed near the junction of Avery and Tallawudjah Creeks, which was used for the processing of ore (albeit intermittently) until the 1930s. A few of the miners saw potential in the area and settled. They cut logs and cleared the land and assisted others in building the fledgling community. With the advent of railways, 'sleeper cutters' either also settled or became transient workers who travelled and worked in timber areas.

Glenreagh has ultimately become known as a timber town. As railways were spreading out over the state there was a heavy demand for timber sleepers and girders. Typically, heavily loaded bullock wagons travelled to South Grafton from Glenreagh with the timber that was then sent by boat to Sydney. Alternately, rafts of timber were floated down the Orara River to Grafton in times of high river flows.<sup>144</sup>

Glenreagh is on the North Coast Railway line, and was connected to it in 1915. A picturesque branch line - from Glenreagh to nearby the nearby timber town of Dorrigo - was opened in 1924. Picturesque though it may have been, it was difficult to maintain due to the steep terrain and high rainfall and it was closed in 1972 after a wash-a-way.

Refer **figures 51 – 64**.

<sup>143</sup> Webb 1998

<sup>144</sup> Webb 1998



**FIGURE 61: GLENREAGH HALL (C.1916)**  
Coffs Harbour Regional Museum accession no. 07-5215



**FIGURE 62: ROAD TO THE RAILWAY STATION OVER THE ORARA RIVER AT GLENREAGH (1921)**  
Coffs Harbour Regional Museum accession no. 07-5272





**FIGURE 63: CORAMBA STREET, GLENREAGH TOWNSHIP (1921) – HALL AT LEFT AND THE EARLY GLENREAGH HOTEL AT RIGHT.**  
Coffs Harbour Regional Museum accession no. 07-5273



**FIGURE 64: FIRST TRAIN OVER THE BEILSDOWN BRIDGE, CORAMBA ROAD, GLENREAGH (1924)**  
Coffs Harbour Regional Museum, Accession No. 07-2818

## 7.5 Public Works

### 7.5.1 Shannon Creek Dam

The undulating, rocky, and densely wooded valleys of Shannon Creek to the southwest of Grafton were first subject to selection in the 1840s. The selection containing the later Shannon Creek dam was Geergarow. This was an expansive lease of some 8800 acres taken up by William Forster in c.1840. Extending from the Orara River in the north to the boundaries of adjoining Kangaroo Creek and Nymboida Runs in the south, the run appears to have been little utilised by Forster and the lease was on-sold to John Campbell Shannon in the late 1840s. The southern part of the run was thereafter acquired and renamed Levenstrath by Dr Alexander Skinner (Shannon's brother-in-law) with the Shannon family (after whom the area is known) retaining the remainder.<sup>145</sup>

The Shannon family lived on the run located on the Orara River until 1865 when they moved to another property (Glenreagh Station). Through the mid-nineteenth century, Geergarow was leased and grazed. It was acquired by Thomas Jardine and managed by his brother James William in the 1880s. The breakup of the run and subsequent free selection commenced in the late nineteenth century. Arable open land with good water access was taken up first. The less accessible and more difficult terrain of the middle and upper Shannon Creek catchment subject to later selection.<sup>146</sup>

### Rockview

The Rockview Estate was established by the Austen family in the late 1880s. Portion 31 in the County Fitzroy of Parish of Blaxland, on which Rockview Homestead was later built, was selected by Joseph Austen. His family owned lands surrounding it, including his brother Frank's holdings to the immediate north. Rockview Estate was initially relatively small but grew over time as neighboring lands were acquired and added to the family's collective holdings. Joseph Austen's first residence was a slab hut, which was replaced by a more substantial dwelling (the core of the extant homestead) in 1906. Over the years, the homestead (with its kitchen annex and tennis court) served as a social and recreational hub of the Austen's estate. The estate focused initially on dairy production, pigs and poultry, after 1919 it focused on cattle breeding, beef production and later mixed farming.

The homestead and surrounding land was acquired by Council in 2002 as part of the managed Shannon Creek catchment area. Rockview Station itself is leased for cattle grazing. The homestead has been largely vacant since that time, although it has until recently been subject to seasonal use by scientific researchers working within the catchment.<sup>147</sup>

### Dam

Shannon Creek remained a relatively quiet locale until 2001, when properties in the Shannon Creek catchment (including Rockview Station) were bought by North Coast Water for the construction of the Shannon Creek Dam. At the time there were five landowners in the area, with the Austin family owning much of the site of the dam, as well as Rockview Station. Works on the dam completed on 3 December 2008, with the official opening on Monday 20 July 2009. The dam catchment is now managed for water supply and as a nature reserve. Refer **figures 65 - 66**.

<sup>145</sup> Tuck 2014

<sup>146</sup> Tuck 2014

<sup>147</sup> Tuck 2014

**FIGURE 65: ROCKVIEW C.2001**

Source Ross Austen, Grafton, March 2018

**FIGURE 66: GRAVES IN CEMETERY – OTHER GRAVES ON ROCKVIEW PROPERTY**

Source Ross Austen, Grafton, March 2018

## 8.0 TRANSPORT

### 8.1 On the Water

The Clarence River is a significant maritime transport corridor and perhaps not surprisingly, Grafton and Ulmarra became significant ports. Ulmarra was home to a cross-river ferry service and steamers, punts and droughers that carted people and produce. Grafton became a centre for the ocean steamers trading to and from Sydney, as well as a considerable amount of inter-colonial trade in timber to Victoria and New Zealand.

The shipping trade was initially carried out by sailing ships engaged in the cedar-cutting business. In 1844, *William the Fourth* became the first steamer to trade regularly with the Clarence, making fortnightly trips for several years, chiefly carrying wool, and greatly assisting to open the trade of the river.<sup>148</sup>

In 1850 a shipping company with some local proprietors was formed, and had the paddle steamer *Clarence* built for the Clarence River service. Upon arrival of *Clarence* in 1852 the Sydney proprietors decided to sell her instead, the recent discovery of gold had created such a demand for steamships that she could be sold immediately at a considerable profit. Later the same year, a group consisting only of Grafton businessmen formed the Grafton Steam Navigation Company and in 1855 placed the paddle steamer *Grafton* in service between Sydney and the river. The company was formally registered in 1857.<sup>149</sup>

In 1860, the Grafton Steam Navigation Company was re-formed as the Clarence and Richmond Rivers Steam Navigation Company, the new name indicating the intention to begin serving the Richmond River. The company traded under this name until it absorbed its Macleay River opposition in 1889, when it became the Clarence, Richmond and Macleay Rivers Steam Navigation Company. When it merged with another rival shipping line John See and Company in 1891, it acquired the new name of the North Coast Steam Navigation Company.<sup>150</sup>

The most significant early opposition to the Clarence and Richmond Rivers Steam Navigation Company was the Clarence and New England Steam Navigation Company, begun early in 1865. The company introduced screw steamers into the Clarence River service. These were faster and more comfortable than paddle steamers and competed successfully for the New England wool trade. Despite the new technology, the company collapsed in 1879.<sup>151</sup>

The sea wise trade of the Clarence River in 1874 comprised a total of 206 voyages, 41 by sailing ships and 265 by steamships. More than five thousand passengers were carried (2,747 inwards and 2,485 outwards). Among the main imports were general merchandise, clothing, tools and machinery and coal. Exports included grain, sugar and molasses; bananas and potatoes; meat; livestock (horses, pigs, cattle, fowl); bones, horns, hides, and tallow; oysters; gold; and timber (hardwood and cedar). This broad range reflects the broad range of local products. In addition, there were more than two thousand bales of New England wool, and tens of thousands of bags of tin ore, also from New England. A substantial amount of the general merchandise received at Grafton was on-forwarded by horse and bullock teams to New England.

In 1900, the shipping service conducted by the North Coast Steam Navigation Company remained by far the main means of communication between Grafton and Sydney. Two of the company's vessels - *Kallatina* and

<sup>148</sup> Stubbs 2007

<sup>149</sup> Stubbs 2007

<sup>150</sup> Stubbs 2007

<sup>151</sup> Stubbs 2007

*City of Grafton* - ran regularly, twice a week. In addition, occasional trips were made by *Oakland* and *Australian*. These four steamers conveyed 8,264 passengers from the Clarence to Sydney in the previous year, and in addition shipped the whole of the produce exported from the district. The dominance of the shipping service was unchallenged until the opening of the first railway to Grafton in 1905.



**FIGURE 67: STEAMERS ON THE CLARENCE RIVER AT THE COLONIAL SUGAR MILL (ND)**

State Library of NSW ML a116625h

## 8.2 North Coast Rail

The North Coast Rail line was effectively a lengthy branch line connecting Sydney to the Queensland border. It was constructed in disjointed sections over a period of about forty years. This line linked West Maitland to South Brisbane - over a distance of 493 miles. The first section of standard-gauge line on the North Coast line connected Lismore to Murwillumbah and Condong, and was opened in 1894. Over the ensuing 21 years, various sections of track were laid between Grafton and the Murwillumbah terminus, with the 66-mile Grafton to Casino section (and the station at Grafton) opened 6 November 1905.<sup>152</sup> The 27 mile, 18 chain section between South Grafton and Glenreagh on the Orara River was completed in October 1915, but it was not until December 1923 when the Raleigh to Urunga section was completed, that through travel between Sydney and South Grafton was facilitated.<sup>153</sup>

## 8.3 Roads & Bridges

### Roads Across the Ranges: Grafton to Glen Innes

Access to the New England Region from the Pacific Coast has always been a difficult enterprise. In the 1830s for example, Grafton had already been established as a cedar getting port and was the main port servicing the grazing lands of the interior. In the 1840s, New England Pastoralists desired a route to the coast for their wool to be sent to market. Initial tracks or 'roads' often followed Aboriginal pathways. One of the early routes followed Cunglebung Creek to the north of Dalmorton; another followed the ridge-line above the Little

<sup>152</sup> Love, 2004: 5

<sup>153</sup> Love, 2004: 6



River. The Little River Valley was a much better gradient but it did require significant construction work. As Laws, a historian of the Clarence region recalled in the 1930s:

*Before the cutting was made on the Glen Innes road up the Little River, the road went from Buccarumbi by way of the Blacksmith's Shop along the top of the range.*

This route returned to the river at Newton Boyd via Barney's Hill. The initial construction of the route along the river from Buccarumbi to Newtown Boyd is unclear. After several alternatives were mooted the Commissioner and Engineer for Roads in New South Wales visited the district and decided in favour of the Little River route. It was upgraded to the status of a government road in 1865 and reported as open and '... used by a large proportion of the traffic' in 1870. An earlier route north of the Little River Valley through Copmanhurst was in use by 1851. In 1866 the tender for construction of the road over the 'Big Hill' was granted to H P Wiseman with David Houison the Chief Engineer.

The *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* reported favourably on its construction and the difficulties of working the numerous cuttings and a tunnel of '... 66 yards long through the mountain'. This tunnel has since been widely known in the district as the Convict Tunnel: more from its primitive construction than any historical evidence.<sup>154</sup> Contractors blasted and hand-hew this tunnel in 1866-67, but the road between Glen Innes and Grafton did not fully open until 1873.



**FIGURE 68: ON THE GRAFTON-DALMORTON ROAD (1884-1917)**

Charles Kerry Image from glass negative 85/1284-433 @ the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences

This road had been known by several names, such as the Inverell, the Newton Boyd and the Little River roads. In an 1872 article praising the merits of the area to potential mining investors, the road between Grafton and Dalmorton was described as so well graded and bridged that '... a better one does not exist in the colony'.<sup>155</sup> This roadway has changed considerably over the years and is now the Old Glen Innes Road. The Little Rivers section was bypassed during depression-era road improvement works in the 1930s. Refer **figures 69 - 70**.

<sup>154</sup> The Tunnel was constructed in 1866, well past the period of convict road gangs. The *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* mentioned the road superintendent Mr Houison and that he and 'his assistants' were due praise – suggesting they were not prison labour either.

<sup>155</sup> C&RE 16 July 1872



**FIGURE 69: TUNNEL CUTTING (1876)**

Image presented in Jill Sheppard Heritage Consultants 2003



**FIGURE 70: SO-CALLED CONVICT TUNNEL ON A SECTION OF THE OLD GRAFTON-GLEN INNES ROAD  
SOUTHWEST OF DALMORTON, VIEW TO NORTH**

Photographs by Gina Scheer 2018

## Pacific Highway

The main north coast road, which passes through South Grafton, was proclaimed a State Highway in 1928. It was at first named the North Coast Highway, but was renamed Pacific Highway in 1931. This was after Queensland had given that name to its section of the Brisbane to Sydney coastal route. It is the main road passing through the Grafton district and therefore through the northern section of the Study area.<sup>156</sup>

## Buccarumbi Bridge

The Old Glen Innes Road was the main access road from Grafton to the New England tablelands and the gold fields of Dalmorton until the Gwydir Highway was completed in 1960.

A stage coach service ran between Grafton and Glen Innes, taking three days with stopovers at Buccarumbi and Newton Boyd. In the early 1900's bullock teams hauled timber through to the wharves at south Grafton. By the turn of the century there were two hostels at the Buccarumbi location, one on either side of the River to cater for travelers when the Nymboida River could not be crossed.

A high-level bridge was completed at this site in 1875 which took seven years to build. The bridge with its huge cylinders was 754 feet (230m) long and 45 feet (13.7m) high. The bridge collapsed under the strain of a flood in 26 March 1946, when the Nymboida River rose to a record height of 52 feet (16m). Remains of the old bridge pillars can still be seen today rusting away in the river waters and on the southern bank.

Refer **figures 71 – 73**.

## Bawden Bridge

Bawden Bridge (named after Thomas Bawden the local Parliamentary Member) over the Orara River on the Old Grafton-Glen Innes Road, was built in 1874.<sup>157</sup> It is one of the oldest lattice truss design bridges in NSW, and has a two-span continuous lattice truss (77 metres long) with timber beam approaches. Crossing a deep gorge, it is supported by three tall piers made from pairs of tubes fabricated from curved and shaped wrought iron plates riveted together, and with cross ties shaped to form a vertical set of elliptical holes.

The design was prepared by the Commissioner for Roads William Bennett and was said to be the 'heaviest work' in the colony with a build cost of 12, 000 pounds. The wrought iron shapes and bars were imported from Butterley & Co, Derbyshire, England (well-known suppliers in the colonial period).<sup>158</sup>

For a time, there was a hotel (The Urara Hotel) sited adjacent to the bridge crossing and operated by a Mr Thomas Aish.<sup>159</sup> Refer **figure 74**.

<sup>156</sup> Stubbs 2007

<sup>157</sup> *Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser* Tuesday 7 April 1874

<sup>158</sup> <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=4300640>

<sup>159</sup> *Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser* Saturday 2 October 1880



**FIGURE 71: BUCCARUMBI BRIDGE, GRAFTON GLEN INNES ROAD (1900-1910)**  
State Library of NSW ML PXE 711 / 618



**FIGURE 72: BUCCARUMBI BRIDGE OVER THE NYMBOIDA RIVER - POST-FLOOD (1946)**  
State Library of NSW ML Government Printing Office 1 – 41725





**FIGURE 73: PYLON REMAINS OF THE BUCCARUMBI BRIDGE**  
Photograph Gina Scheer April 2018



**FIGURE 74: BAWDEN BRIDGE OVER ORARA RIVER**  
Photograph Gina Scheer April 2018



## 8.4 Hydropower

### 8.4.1 Nymboida

Gregory Blaxland took up land that ultimately became the locality of Nymboida in c.1846. Originally the site of grazing; limited mining (Dalmorton) and timber exploitation, Nymboida became something of a district hub and featured a school, mill, coaching station, hotel, hall and police station by the opening decades of the twentieth century.<sup>160</sup>

#### Coal Mining

One of the notable industries of the district was coal mining, with the first mine opening in 1909 and mining occurring until the 1970s. The two tunnel mine was sited on the hillside at Coal Mine Road near where it meets the Armidale Road. Its boom years were in the 1950s, when the Koolkham Power Station commenced sourcing coal from the mine. Its relative success in the early to mid-nineteenth century, and its importance as an employer in the district, was reflected by its neighbor directly opposite, the Old Cartmill Hotel.<sup>161</sup>

### 8.4.2 Power Station

It was not coal but hydro that came to define the locality. The Nymboida Hydro-Electric Power House, set within natural bushland in a valley off Armidale Road, is a significant feature of the locality. It was constructed in the 1920s, and involved erection of a weir across the Nymboida River (just downriver from the Nymboida township) and the creation of a large mass-concrete powerhouse featuring seven turbines. Enabled by the Hydro-Electric Act (191) and commissioned in 1924, the station produced for Grafton, South Grafton and Ulmarra, which was transported via a 31 mile long transmission line.<sup>162</sup> It is said to be the first

A modern substation has been built immediately east of the original power house. To the southeast the tailrace discharges the water that previously powered the turbines. From this location, the tailrace water flows into Gulang Creek (a now-popular white-water canoeing location) and thence into Blaxland Creek, the Orara River and ultimately the Clarence.

Refer **figures 75 - 76**.

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<sup>160</sup> TAFE 1997

<sup>161</sup> TAFE 1997

<sup>162</sup> TAFE 1997



**FIGURE 75: NYMBOIDA POWER STATION (PRE-1950S)**  
Clarence Valley Historical Society



**FIGURE 76: NYMBOIDA POWER STATION (PRE-1950S)**  
Clarence Valley Historical Society

## 9.0 TWENTIETH CENTURY

### 9.1 War & Peace

During WWII, there was a mustard gas effectiveness trial at a locality between Wooli and Minnie Waters. The so-called Grafton Range was leased by the Australian military for a single series of live artillery firings conducted between 10 and 17 April 1943. This was the last of a series of East Coast chemical trials, designed to assess the level of incapacitation of troops in or near an area which had been bombed with chemical shells filled with sulphur mustard (mustard gas) and the tearing agent bromobenzyl cyanide (BBC).<sup>163</sup> The military record summarised the process as follows:

*'After the first shoot, six volunteers were posted on the downwind edge of the area for 30 minutes. No casualties resulted. After the second shoot, eight observers marched across the area and then marched back to camp, with no casualties resulting from this traversing party. A further fourteen other volunteers remained on the downwind edge of the area for at least two hours following the shoot. In the case of this occupying party, three certain and one possible casualties resulted...'*<sup>164</sup>

The total number of casualties was 15. All had minor injuries including blisters, burns and skin lesions. Ultimately, the trials proved mustard gas to be ineffective for military purposes, as the product which had been manufactured in Britain did not stand up to the warmer Australian climate.<sup>165</sup>

### 9.2 Industry

#### 9.2.1 Sandmining

The mining of mineral sands took place along the Yuraygir coastline in the late twentieth century (generally between 1930 & 1980). It is uncertain when all of the mining took place, or the totality of the methods used, however the target minerals are likely to have included Zircon, Rutile, Ilmenite, Tin, Platinum, Monazite and Garnet which were generally extracted for processing as a mixed concentrate.<sup>166</sup>

The first area that appears to have been mined was Angourie, where the Titanium Alloy Manufacturing Company (TAMCO) incorporating local producers Derrick, Anderson & Porter, commenced black sand mining operations in 1935. Here they extracted the mineral zircon that was shipped in concentrate form to TAMCO in the USA. In 1939 the Angourie operation had been exhausted and the company commenced mining at Minnie Water and Woolgoolga, obtaining a rich mixed concentrate. In 1940 the company moved its operations to Cudgen in the Tweed Shire on the far North Coast.<sup>167</sup> Another operator within the Park area was Dillingham Mining Company of Australia Ltd, which mined a number of statewide leases including at Wooli and a dredging plant at Brooms Head (c1974-1978). The Brooms Head operation was sold to local producers McGeary Brothers of Woodburn who operated this site from 1979 (treating the concentrate at Woodburn). The Wooli area was also mined by sandmining giant Cudgen R-Z (Rutile & Zircon), though the exact dates of operation are unknown. Cudgen R-Z is also known to have operated in the Sandon area.<sup>168</sup>

<sup>163</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>164</sup> Cited in Kijas 2007: 47

<sup>165</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>166</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

<sup>167</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

<sup>168</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

## Operations

Mineral sand mining typically involved onsite mining and concentration plants where sand was extracted, then fed into a concentrator. Techniques used varied from site to site and included line dredging and dry milling. After concentration, mined sand was subject to mineral extraction and the tailings replaced. Generally, sand mining removed only a small portion (1-3%) of the total sand mass at any given site, however it greatly affected geomorphology and soil structure at the mined site. Typical changes, which occurred when mineral sand was mined from a coastal area, included:

- Broadening and lowering of the frontal dune
- Seaward or landward displacement of the frontal dune
- Decreasing the stability of the frontal dune by removing any existing indurated sand beds
- The removal of dune vegetation and wildlife habitat
- Dieback of tertiary vegetation adjacent to mined areas.<sup>169</sup>

### 9.2.2 Commercial Fishing on the Coast

Fishing has been a major industry in the study region since the late nineteenth century. Despite the problems of transport on the terrible roads which severely impeded the commercial fishing industry in the park, there were a few commercial fishers and oyster farmers at each coastal village of Wooli, Diggers Camp, Minnie Water, Sandon and Brooms Head. Lake Wooloweyah was commercially fished from the late nineteenth century.<sup>170</sup>

The Clarence River fishing industry was one of the largest providers to the Sydney market from the early twentieth century, once refrigerated steamers enabled successful transportation to the city. Not only fish but oysters, and later lobsters and prawns, were sold, and Clarence River oysters were prized in Sydney from as early as 1868. Commercial oyster leases were first granted at Wooli in 1885 to the Park brothers from Italy, who established an oyster salon in Grafton (and a vineyard about four miles from the coast). By 1909, commercial oyster leases were operating on Sandon River.

Like most industries in the vicinity, the fishing industry was generally small-scale, made up of small family businesses with marginal earnings. The most substantial fishing industry on the Yuraygir coastline was at Wooli, where a small co-op was established. Wooli supplied snapper to the Sydney markets from the 1920s; lobsters and leather jackets from the 1940s; and later, prawns. The fish hauls were sometimes significant, all done by handline off the fishing vessels which sheltered on the Wooli River. In one period of four days at sea, one schnapper haul weighed in at over two tons. The 1940s lobster hauls and annual sea mullet catch off the beach were often also quite large.<sup>171</sup> The Wooli Co-op closed in November 2002 after the declaration of the Solitary Island Marine Park and the subsequent professional fishing license buy-back scheme. This scheme halted most commercial fishing along the Yuraygir estuaries and headlands.<sup>172</sup>

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<sup>169</sup> Tuck 2009

<sup>170</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>171</sup> Davidson cited in Kijas 2007: 42

<sup>172</sup> Kijas 2007

## 9.3 Recreation & Tourism

### 9.3.1 Coastal Recreation

#### Camping

Camping along the Yuraygir coastline and in the lower reaches of the waterways that dissect the Park has been a popular activity since the early twentieth century. Generally, evidence of use of the area for historic camping purposes is limited because the main camping spots remain in use today and have been constantly renewed. Formalization of the camping areas by the National Parks & Wildlife Service have involved re-vegetation programs that limit visibility beyond the established camping areas.

Separate to the informal camping areas are the Sandon huts: leased, permanent dwellings that exist within Yuraygir National Park. This residential-holiday area has developed in an ad-hoc manner since the early twentieth century and functions in a similar manner to the other Yuraygir settlement areas, such as Diggers Camp.<sup>173</sup>

#### Sandon Huts

Farmers from Tyndale, Shark Creek and Woodford Island (as well as professionals from Grafton and Sydney) began travelling to Sandon River from the late nineteenth century. Residents of Maclean and farmers from the Lower Clarence Valley camped at Brooms Head from the 1880s. One landscape feature of this central area is the low heath, noted as a 'treeless plain', which lies between the villages. Beside the salt water lagoon at the entrance to Brooms Head (Lake Cakora), a line of freshwater springs, which used to be full of freshwater mullet, spread along the coast towards Sandon River.<sup>174</sup>

Before nineteenth century settlement of the Sandon River area, archaeological and oral evidence shows that the estuary, headland and beach were favourite meeting and camping places for Yaegl people. The area's fishing fame carried over into settler history. While the first bark hut to be built in the area was on the southern headland in 1901, the first house was built by Jack Gallagher on the north side in 1914 for fishing holidays. He took out a mining lease which allowed him a title to build.<sup>175</sup>

The first family to live permanently on the Sandon River were Ann and Henry Burchell and their two sons. Henry worked Percy Judd's oyster leases, with the family living on the north side of the river from 1926–1931. The Judds eventually sold their land to the Franklins in the late 1960s. Also, on the north side, from 1932 to the 1960s, cabins were built under Permissive Occupancy (PO) in two areas: a line of eight along the road and another five at the river entrance. POs were part of the State Planning Authority's early attempts to ensure some measure of planning control over unapproved coastal developments.<sup>176</sup>

In November 1983, the land on the north side of Sandon River was included in the Yuraygir National Park, taking in the cabins and also the camping reserve which had been run by the former Maclean Shire Council since the late 1950s with a permanent caretaker. The POs were terminated by the NPWS in December 1983 though some remain occupied by the families of original residents.<sup>177</sup>

<sup>173</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

<sup>174</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>175</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>176</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>177</sup> Kijas 2007



Houses were also built on the southern side of Sandon River. Ownership of these changed through the 1950s and 1960s as local fishing families gave way to professionals from Grafton and Sydney. On the south side, the Sandon Village residents were able to take out freehold title through the 1960s. The two PO huts on the south side were brought into Yuraygir National Park at gazettal in the 1980s.<sup>178</sup>

### Wooli, Minnie Waters and Diggers Camp

Wooli was declared a camping reserve as early as 24 December 1861. Surveyed in 1910, Wooli grew as a popular camping area under the control of Orara Shire and it was declared a village in 1923. The area from Sandon River to Dirty Creek was first dedicated as a Forest Reserve in 1908 and renamed several times (including as Wooli Wooli Forest Reserve), ultimately culminating in what is now Yuraygir National Park.

Early constructions at Wooli included small timber and fibro houses and ancillary structures, as well as boat and vehicle sheds.<sup>179</sup> They retain the holiday shack approach, being small and simple structures, often of only a few rooms. Schooling took place only via correspondence until 1942, when the Wooli Public School opened in the local hall. This was followed by the opening of a new school building in 1946.<sup>180</sup>

In the early days, Wooli was connected to the outlying communities and towns via sulky tracks. As for Sandon, Wooli was a holiday destination for families in the Clarence valley with locals recalling the journey from Grafton. In 1950, land ballots were introduced, and blocks were cleared and fenced. December 1962 saw the connection of electricity to the village, while the water supply commenced in 1966.<sup>181</sup>

The first oyster leases in Wooli were established in 1885, costing one pound per annum. Fishing, lobster trapping, boat building and oyster farming were significant activities during the 1900s, with large hauls of mullet and lobster not uncommon during the 1940s to 1960s. With some 20 commercial fishing boats working Wooli, port works commenced in the 1960s. These works resulted in the river entrance being trained by rock walls and a permanent sealed road constructed along the terrace to the river entrance.<sup>182</sup>

Today, Wooli caters to the growing North Coast tourist trade including those seeking to enjoy the diving, fishing and sightseeing in the Solitary Islands Marine Park, the flora and fauna of the Yuraygir National Park and fishing options available in Wooli Wooli River.<sup>183</sup>

Minnie Waters was established later in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with locals recording houses there in 1939. Sand mining in 1941 introduced workers to the area and by 1956 the number of residents had grown and a community hall was constructed. Minnie Waters is a well-known fishing settlement owing to good anchorage in lee of the prominent southern reef and the presence of permanent water which drains across the beach, hence its name. The beach is 1.5 km long and consists of two parts. The northern half receives the full force of the waves. The southern half lies in lee of the reef and is used to launch fishing boats. It has a wide flat beach used as a road access to the launching area.

Diggers Camp earned its name from the gold miners who camped there in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Orara gold seam runs down to Diggers Camp. Local families who came to Diggers Camp after the 1930s for holidays were told Chinese miners had lived and worked at the north end of the spring and German

<sup>178</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>179</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>180</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>181</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>182</sup> Kijas 2007

<sup>183</sup> Kijas 2007

miners had dug large holes in the sand hills. In the 1930s, on inquiring about purchasing a land title or acquiring a block of land at Diggers Camp, miner's rights were issued instead. These were converted to Permissive Occupancies in 1935.<sup>184</sup> After this and during the late 1930s, numbers of local families from the Clarence Valley such as the Gillets, the Foxovers, the Chapmans and Don Collins, a Grafton monumental mason, built or relocated small, generally two bedroom timber and galvanised iron cottages to Diggers Camp. These cottages operated as shared family holiday houses but some became permanent homes. The Tremouths, a German couple, lived in a bark hut for many years.<sup>185</sup> It was also a popular fishing spot with locals such as Roy Bowling, driving from Tucabia with friends and family to fish for bream, blackfish and jewfish. Refer **figures 77 – 79**.

### Recreational fishing

Recreational fishing has been a favoured pastime of visitors to the Yuraygir area for many decades. Many of the beaches and rocky headlands are well known fishing locales with resident fish populations such as mullet (jewfish), groper, bream, tarwhine, whiting and flathead, as well as seasonal pelagic surface feeders such as tailor, kingfish and cobia.

Popular locations include the Shelley Headland coffee rocks, Brooms Head, Freshwater, and One Man Headland. The lower reaches of the major rivers here, particularly the Wooli and Sandon, are well-known for flathead, bream and whiting (as well as prawns and mud crabs).

With the exception of a handful of boat ramps, there is little obvious evidence of this popular recreational activity. Although the numerous cleared riverside areas at the end of bush tracks and fire trails do bear witness to past camping and fishing activity.<sup>186</sup>

### Off-roading

Since the 1950s, old cars (and later 4WDs) have utilized the tracks through the Park (created by pastoralists and sand miners) to both access camping locations and to 'bush bash'. These vehicles have also created tracks of their own – mostly located between camping locations and along the beach margins.

Most of the evidence related to 'bush bashing' is in the form of increasingly elaborate attempts by the NPWS Service to thwart 4WD activity. These have included a variety of bollard arrangements, other obstacles and steel gates. The most significant of these anti-access measures was 'Friedrich's Line': an innovative system of concrete pipe end bollards at either end of the former Arragan to Angourie track.<sup>187</sup>

### Surfing

Surfing has been a popular recreational activity within the Yuraygir National Park area since the late 1960s. Despite the popularity of the sport, the low impact nature of this activity has resulted in a paucity of physical evidence of surfing within the Park. By far the most well-known location in the general district is Angourie Point at the extreme north end of Yuraygir National Park, but notable breaks also exist at Minnie Waters and elsewhere.<sup>188</sup>

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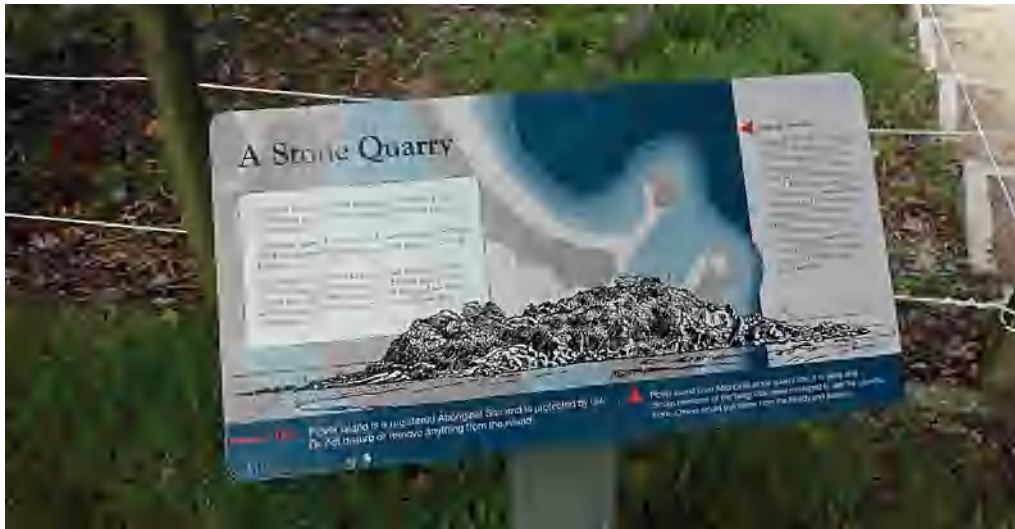
<sup>184</sup> Foxover 2014

<sup>185</sup> Foxover 2014

<sup>186</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

<sup>187</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007

<sup>188</sup> Tuck 2009; Kijas 2007



**FIGURE 77: ABORIGINAL STONE QUARRY SIGN AT SANDON NORTH**

Photograph Gina Scheer January 2018



**FIGURE 78: WOOLLI RIVER BOAT BUILDING ENTERPRISE (ND)**

Photograph Gina Scheer January 2018



**FIGURE 79: DIGGERS CAMP FISHING C.1940S LEFT AND CHAPMANS HOUSE ON THE MOVE, 1962**

Photograph Gina Scheer January 2018

## 9.4 The Modern Era

### 9.4.1 Sea & Tree Changers

The shire areas have certainly changed. The early townships and settlements were established due to farming, mining and access to the rivers which were the main mode of transport even up until the 1930s. This earlier historical period is reflected in the historic villages and pastoral properties generally in the western sections of the former shires and around the main rivers. However, settlements such as Tucabia in the former Ulmarra shire were also based around dairy farming. The rich natural resources of this vast area for Clarence Valley Council included coal and gold mining, as well as an environment supportive still today of sugar cane and dairy farming.

The ingress of roads opened the former shire areas to more recent travelers who have also moved to the area as 'sea or tree changers'. A colloquial story told by Nymboida locals is that hippies on the way to Nimbin after the 1970s 'age of Aquarius' had their VW kombi vans break down at the hills below Nymboida – and stayed there. However, the first of the alternative lifestyle' settlers for Nymboida was during the early 1980s.

Since that time within the shire areas, there is less emphasis on farming and agriculture and more emphasis on small business and environmental leisure or sporting pursuits such as fishing. An increase in coastal activities, such as surfing and fishing has very much been a late 20<sup>th</sup> century change for the area and this affects particularly the former Ulmarra shire.

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## Ulmarra Nymboida Heritage Study; Summary of Enquiries and Submissions January 2020-ATTACHMENT 3

Ref	NAME	Property	TOWN	SHI Reference	Comments/Summary of Points raised	Comments/Category	Date
1	Ion McPhee	37 Pacific Highway	ULMARRA	5066647	Phone discussion with Ion. No 37 was built 2nd as pair of houses. No 49 was built in 1914 and by the time John Hart came back from WW1 the second one was built. Ion's father Finley Alan McPhee was a photographer and used to develop photos for the chemist. There was another photographer in Ulmarra Auld Napper. Many early photos. Kevin Watkins has copies.	<b>Corrections and updates</b> Information and dates added to SHI sheet. Comments supportive.	30/10/2019
2	Brian Leedham	Glenreagh Railway Station	GLENREAGH	5066049	General Discussion and support for information. Has previously made a submission to NSW heritage for state nomination. Some additional information. <i>The report is fantastic, thank you for all your work.</i>	<b>Submission.</b> Corrections and updates made to text on SHI. Supportive of study	30/10/2019
3	Don Caldwell	Ramornie Meatworks	RAMORNIE	5066142	Phone call. Picked up error on SHI - Clarence River should read Orara River.	<b>Corrections and updates.</b> Minor correction to SHI.	30/10/2019
4	Barry Kemp	16 Main Street	WOOLI	5066314	Has a lot of history including his property which was a farmhouse moved there in 1940s. They have had the property since 1974. Timber cottage. 1. Provided references and articles on Wooli History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wooli Reflections Jean Ensby</li> <li>• Wooli The First Fifty Years-various articles</li> <li>• The Waters of Yuraygir Dr AA Racek- information on Minnie Water and Lake Hiawatha and Wooli Wooli Lakes-important element of heritage.</li> <li>• Across the Bar Story of the Village of Wooli</li> <li>• History of 16 Main Street dwelling and previously a farm cottage transported to the site and previous owners.</li> <li>• Comment that the training walls have had a serious impact on silting of the river, fishing, oyster growing and navigation.</li> </ul>	<b>Submission. Supportive.</b> Comment There is scope for more detailed research which may reveal more places of significance to Wooli, and the inclusion of natural heritage items in the heritage study. Inclusion of natural items as heritage items is possible, as with similar examples of Angourie Reserves. Natural areas surrounding the village are however within an E1 zone and are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.	31/10/2019
5	Dan Smythe	3522 Armidale Rd	NYMBOIDA	5066195	Phone call. Discussed values of the old power station cottages. His grandfather used to work at the Power Station. The original garage at the back of the house is built of the Kauri timber which was the original timber pipeline. It shows evidence of the curve and where the metal bands were used to hold it together in sections. It is important to preserve this history. The shed is deteriorating and needs work.	<b>Corrections and updates.</b> Added information to the SHI. If listed, heritage grants can be made available or even to potential item pending future inclusion.	30/10/2019
6	Margaret Walker	52 Clarence St	COWPER	5066366	52 Clarence Street is now a separate property to the adjoining historic building. This has been described as a Creamery but was an Orphanage and is owned with the church by the Catholic Church. The person to talk to about Cowper History is BASIL MOORE who lives at Brushgrove. 0408 478 067. or 6647 6424. 787 South Arm School Rd.	<b>Corrections and updates.</b> Further investigations required. Corrections are required to history and property descriptions. There is recorded history of the creamery in the SHI sheet. Returned to consultant for additional work.	31/10/2019
7	Rhonda James	1/2 Nugget Street	DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	<i>I am the owner of 2 Nugget Street Diggers Camp and write in support of the UNHS . ( Heritage Study)</i> Minor corrections to text noted.	<b>Submission. Support</b> for study. Corrections to text made.	1/11/2019



8	Chris Gooley and Peter Kaukiainen	51 Coramba Street	GLENREAGH	5066176	<p><i>The heritage study is a fascinating read. As we are selling our property currently, it's a veritable treasure trove of information for future purchasers.</i></p> <p>Comment- supportive of study findings.</p>	<b>Submission. Support for study.</b>	4/11/2019
9	Doug Newberry	26 Nugget Street	DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	Phone discussion. Opposed to Conservation Area for Diggers Camp. Some errors on SHI General store.	<b>General Enquiry-</b> no written submission lodged.	4/11/2019
10	Colin Clague	2 River Street	ULMARRA	5066642	Changes to ownership are currently occurring. It will not become the Woolitji Cooperative as this proposal did not eventuate. Now proposed to be a private property. A DA is going to be prepared next year to convert the Church hall to a residence and retain the church intact. Will check historical information as he has access to Methodist church archives in Sydney.	<b>Corrections and updates</b> General Support. Some updates will be required when information is received.	4/11/2019
11	Stephen Rooke	Old Glen Innes Road	CHAMBIGNE	5066331	Positive feedback to history of property and supplied additional information on the history of the former church.	<b>Submission.</b> Comment. Supportive. Additions made to the SHI information.	
12	William Biddle	not specified	SANDON	5066330	<p>General support for retention of character and scale of Sandon village. Wider impacts referenced in submission. Would like more community involvement. Had not heard about the study prior to getting the letter. Submitted document outlining report. Public workshops were not possible in every the heritage values held by property owners at Sandon. <i>Main issues: Diverse streetscape of older holiday homes shacks and cabins and more recent modifications. Heritage values encompass the environmental values of the area. Opposition to sand mining and oyster farming. 2001, a publication Sandon A remote coastal settlement was published to document the history of the village through stories of long term owners. Owners cherish: the village and pristine natural environment; family activities, no commercial development, no public amenities or infrastructure, no bitumen roads or curb and guttering, no consolidation of house blocks and no large dwellings, isolation and difficult access which helps provide environmental protection, surrounding Yuraygir National Park, community involvement and contribution of owners to the Sandon River Rate Payers Association, Community Library, Fire shed and tennis Court, Good relationship with NPWS.</i></p> <p><i>Threats to heritage: Bank Erosion from storm surge, weeds, wild fire, costs of ownership, day tripper access and impacts, 4 wheel drives, dogs which are not allowed in the NP, increasing promotion of the area on the web and tourist sites. If the creation of Conservation Area will help preserve what we cherish, then I am all for it. Providing it does not impact our ability to modify houses appropriately it might be useful thing to help precent over development. If the aim to protect the streetscape this make it more difficult and costly and less sustainable.</i></p>	<b>Submission.</b> Supportive of values. Comments. Advertising of study was as outlined in locality within the Ulmarra Nymboida study area and the nature of Sandon River village is difficult with access by boat or 4WD only and constrained by study budget. A Heritage Conservation Area is about the values of the precinct and would assist in planning controls to maintain the scale and character of buildings and spaces within this precinct and ensure that development is appropriate to these values expressed in the submission.	5/11/2019

13	David Mulvaney	General Store	MINNIE WATER	5066313	Phone call- Questioned why the general store is part of the potential Conservation Area at Minnie when separated by road. Functions form part of that precinct. Supports protection of hall and open space area but does not think that the shop is worthy of protection.	<b>General Enquiry-</b> Refer to submission ref 30.	6/11/2019
14	John Hoade	Windsor Cottage Hoades Farm	ULMARRA	5066572	John phoned and has a much history of the property and the area generally including Corndale on the river opposite. A site meeting was held to discuss in detail. Interior of house highly intact and high degree of original fabric.	<b>Corrections and updates</b> Comment- Supportive of stu	6/11/2019
15	Wayne Ritchie	Woodfordleigh 20 River Street	ULMARRA	5066325	General discussion about existing Ulmarra Heritage Conservation Area and potential heritage status of individual property. Wayne has researched the history and has original land titles and previous owners. Slight corrections required. He will write in with information. Highly significant to early development of Ulmarra.	<b>General Enquiry-</b> supportive no written submission or	6/11/2019
16	Sandra Nelson	The Ford House	SEELANDS	5066168	Phone call-Sandra questioned where this information came from. The house has been in the family for 108 years. The ferry was operated on a different place and connected to different house. Information source to be confirmed from consultant's source and research.	<b>Corrections and updates-</b> Referred to Gina Scheer to f	6/11/2019
17	NPWS	Dalmorton Lock UP	DALMORTON	5066316	Phone call- Information noted for existing heritage Item.	<b>General Enquiry</b> Supportive of existing listing	6/11/2019
18	Susan Ariell	3860 Armidale Road	NYMBOIDA	5066189	Supportive of protection of historic timber barns and this originally was a request for listing prior to commencement of the study.	<b>Submission-</b> supportive.	6/11/2019
19	Peter Cowie	5 Nugget Street	DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	Phone enquiry- questioned rationale for including residential precinct. Issues discussed.	<b>General Enquiry</b>	6/11/2019
20	Denise Teys		DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	Phone call questioned rationale for including residential precinct. Issues discussed.	<b>General Enquiry</b>	6/11/2019
21	Maroun Mallat	Yattenden House	SEELANDS	5066167	Very positive to receive information on house and has been researching it too. Fairly recent owner of property. Previously owned by John Palmer. Significant local historic home.Has sent in early photographs taken by Herbert Fishwick, a renowned photographer with the Sydney Morning Herald	<b>Submission Supportive</b> of information on property. Supplied additional information.	7/11/2019
22	John Weatherly	School House former	EATONSVILLE	5066143	SHI from earlier entry mentioned aluminium windows which have been removed. Horse paddock faces Orara Street on western side of property. Closed in 1965 maybe not 62. Enquiry about heritage funding.	<b>Corrections and updates</b> Corrections made to SHI. and enquiry about heritage funding. Eligible to apply for heritage funding as significant item.	7/11/2019

23	David Embury	32 Nuggett Street	DIGGERS CAMP		Permanent resident. Phone call 11/11/2019 states that he did not receive a letter but other people have that he knows. Checked mailing list and it was sent out. A copy of the letter and SHI was resent to him. Submission 19/11/2019. Comments were various corrections to text which have been addressed. No objections raised.	<b>Submission.</b> No objections raised, text corrections.	19/11/2019
24	Lisa Dielt	5 Jetty Rd	SANDON RIVER	5066330	Phone call. Daughter received letter and has mislaid it. Please send another copy. Residents association generally have a meeting early January mailed copy and exhibition links.	<b>General Enquiry</b>	11/11/2019
25	Tara Parkinson	57 Main Street	WOOLI	5066314	Questions general discussion about conservation area and what it would mean. Discussed building style and materials, scale etc.	<b>General Enquiry</b>	25/11/2019
26	Phillipa Page	Heifer Station	Heifer Station	5066676	Few corrections to some details on inventory information. Meeting held on 5 December to review details on inventory and corrections made.	<b>Corrections and updates</b> Corrections made and sent b	25/11/2019
27	Steve Amundsen	Wooli owner	WOOLI	5066314	Main issues raised; <i>Property owners should be given opportunity to consider proposed sympathetic and complementary development guidelines before any decision is made about whether the area should be subject to additional development controls.</i> <i>Surprised that council would consider that the built form of Wooli is worthy of heritage listing.</i> <i>Considers that the natural elements of the river beach, esplanade vegetation and bird life are dominant elements.</i> <i>The eastern side of Main Street has been modified and at best can be considered neutral items,</i> <i>question merit in adopting a precinct approach to a heritage area where not every property is of heritage value,</i> <i>the built form reflects the limited resources and purpose of the original development as holiday homes with little or no aesthetic value.</i>	<b>Submission- objection</b> Concerned about impacts on development with heritage conservation area, acknowledges natural values rather than built environmental values of area.	25/11/2019
28	Gaine Cartmilll	Owner	NYMBOIDA	5066319	Comments on history and coal mine workings. Phoned and discussed. Gaine was former Councillor on Nymboida Shire. Has a great deal of knowledge. Will meet in the new year but has been unwell and it is difficult at present with the bushfires and access. Commends initiative of the study. Corrections are needed to text regarding Nymboida Coal Mine.	<b>Submission</b> Supportive of study but corrections required to some matters.	11/11/2019
29	Patricia M Kelly	27 Main St	WOOLI	5066314	Objection to heritage conservation area and assessment of property as contributory to heritage conservation area. Property has been modified by two renovations. Concern about loss of value. Almost all original buildings are gone or unrecognisable due to renovations.	<b>Submission</b> <b>Opposed to proposed Heritage Conservation Area.</b>	2/12/2019

30	David Mulvaney	Minnie Water store	MINNIE WATER	5066313	<p>Objection to inclusion of Minnie water store in HCA no heritage value.</p> <p><i>The store has been built and extended over the years and is of no aesthetic value. Concern that including it in the heritage Conservation area concern would affect financial viability.</i></p> <p><i>The store does not relate to Nip welsh Park or Community Hall as it is separated by a road.</i></p> <p><i>Support for Nip Welsh Park , Surf Club and Community Hall as having a heritage link.</i></p>	<p><b>Submission-</b></p> <p>objection to inclusion of store in the Heritage conservation Area but support for community facilities precinct.</p>	1/12/2019
31	Marlene Harper	72 Main Street	WOOLI	5066314	<p><i>Objection to inclusion of 72 Main Street, Wooli as a building of heritage value in Wooli. The house does not display a specific historical architectural design to identify the house as being of heritage value removes the opportunity to renovate or extend it in the future and a financial setback.</i></p> <p><i>Cost of maintaining and upgrading the dwelling. Retired with limited income and heritage listing would impose undue hardship</i></p> <p><i>Many houses have already been renovated, extended, rebuilt and no longer look like the original structures.</i> community consultation was inadequate. Property owners were not notified directly. only three public meetings. other issues of beach erosion.</p> <p><b>Comments. The</b> advertising of study was as outlined in report. Public workshops were not possible in every locality within the Ulmarra Nymboida study area and were constrained by study budget. A Heritage Conservation Area does not prevent renovations and sympathetic alterations and would assist in planning controls to maintain the scale and character of buildings and spaces within this precinct and ensure that development is appropriate to these values. There are no requirements to maintain asbestos for example in repairs and suitable replacement no asbestos fibre cement sheet is readily available as outlined in submission</p>	<p><b>Submission- objection to HCA and inclusion of property.</b></p>	24/12/2019
32	Terry Tibbett	Mt Remarkable Gold Mine	DALMORTON	5066317	<p>Phone call- Corrections needed to Inventory Sheet. Existing heritage item. <b>Corrections and updates.</b> SHI amended. Will meet 12/11/2019</p> <p>Revolution Metals did not proceed and did not get exploration permit. All activity up in January to add more information. ceased 1941.</p>		
33	Stan	43 Riverside Dr	WOOLI	5066314	<p>Phone call- Concerned about ability to redevelop if it is declared a Conservation Area. <b>General Enquiry</b></p> <p>Discussed suitability of materials and built character. Will write in.</p>		18/12/2019

34	Katherine Carleton		DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	<p><i>No objection to the inclusion of the open space THE COMMON at Diggers Camp. Suggestion that some houses are not heritage and better examples exist that those featured. Photos also sent in.</i></p> <p><i>The open space of Diggers Camp is our common heritage. The common should be protected from future development. It is one of the last remaining coastal parks that has not been corrupted by development allowing the peace of raw coastal nature to sing to the senses of all visitors on Diggers Headland.</i></p> <p><i>the houses at Diggers pale into insignificance with most owners planting trees to obscure their presence. A large percentage of houses were relocated to Diggers Camp. Concerned that two pictured in the inventory are considered to hold more heritage value than any others. Request that the photo is replaced with one of The Common and use examples of houses which do not have enclosed verandahs. Concern that heritage conservation area may impose restrictions. Generally considered that the houses have little impact on what the village is about but the Open space is the communal heritage worthy of protection.</i></p>	<b>Submission- Supportive of the Common to be included.</b>	10.12.2019
35	Lance Blemmings- President /Secretary of Diggers Headland Ratepayers and Friends Association Inc.	17 Miners St	DIGGERS CAMP	5066312	<p>Comments on inventory sheet and suggestion of additions.</p> <p><i>Emphasis on the use of Diggers Headland as a camping ground.</i></p> <p><i>Lack of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage inclusion-ACKNOWLEDGED- but did not form part of the study brief and relics are protected by NPWS and Heritage Act provisions. Statement of Significance should include Aboriginal, fauna and flora which are key aspects of Diggers Headland. Also declare the typical holiday cottages post war are predominantly cladded with fibrolite.</i></p> <p><i>Would be pleased to offer considerable amount of independent documented history on Diggers Headland which would be of worthwhile assistance to the project.</i></p>	<b>Submission - Supportive</b> of protection of values but would like to see wider remit of values. Although Aboriginal heritage is not within this project brief but can be included in the Statement of significance for the area	23/12/2-10
36	Susan Ariell	3860 Armidale Road	NYMBOIDA	5066189	<p><i>I am in favour of the barns being protected and support the findings of the Heritage Study.</i></p>	<b>Submission supportive</b>	23/12/2019



37	Anthony McClure	6 Main Street	WOOLI	5066314	<p>Objection to a Conservation Area for Wooli. <i>Agree with protection of heritage significance and character but object to further bureaucracy governing such. Renovation of 2012 was under substantial restrictions due to sea level encroachment. No mention or guidelines as to the building needing to be visually sympathetic to the history and character of the area. Considers that the proposed HCA would restrict redevelopment of old deteriorating asbestos laden shacks. Over the years Wooli has seen the development of unsympathetic housing which although it meets stipulations about dune proximity, has not been in keeping with the historic nature and appearance of the town. Council has shown poor judgement in the manner it has gone about overseeing the progression of the town. e.g. Restaurant cafe on Riverside Drive, now demolished. Also retreat and closure of beach frontage housing and lack of effort to protect the dunes. Further consultation with the people should be carried out. Comment . Despite its objection to the proposed HCA, the submission acknowledges a history and character to the area and observes that certain new developments have not respected this. Whilst it can not operate retrospectively, the thrust of the proposed HCA is to protect the overall character and would promote any new development to be sympathetic to this context. In any HCA there are places which are contrary to the values and it is not possible to run a boundary in and out of every non contributory property.</i></p>	<b>Submission-objection to HCA but acknowledgement of the history and character of the area.</b>	24/12/2019
38	Joan Kelly	15A Ella Street	REDCLIFFE 4020	whole study	<p>Commend study and support recommendations and next steps. Has role as Museum's Advisor to CVC.</p> <p>After the disastrous consequences of the fires it is important to privilege the importance of local heritage against further /potential losses.</p> <p>I commend and support CVC for this thorough study. Clarence Valley is well known as a key pioneer settlement area in NSW.</p> <p>The study methodology has used existing guidelines and reinforces the professional and procedural accuracy of the findings.</p> <p>Additional potential for education and awareness raising of heritage conservation and support from Council.</p> <p>encourage Community groups such as Lions and Rotary and local historical groups to encourage development of cultural resources in the community.</p> <p>First peoples heritage should also be recognised in the scope of the LEP.</p> <p>Fully support the Recommendations and next steps of the study for Council to endorse the study and place items on the LEP.</p> <p>Further recommend that sites be examined in terms of heritage tourism value to the local economy and to work with local museum staff and community members to develop appropriately themed trails</p>	<b>Submission- Supportive of the study and recommendations.</b>	23/12/2019

39	CVC	CVC	GRAFTON		<p>A range of properties are in Councils ownership and management have been identified in the study and proposed as future heritage items or in HCAs. Feedback from property officer:</p> <p>What are the implications on Council funds in terms of management and maintenance of sites? Some land is subject to Aboriginal Land Claims and Native Title. these stakeholders need to be consulted.</p> <p>Processes in relation to works on heritage items needs to be advised to landowners. Advice of what constraints would be placed on each property to be advised. Comment; Council is already owner of many heritage listed places and is aware of the provisions of the LEP requirements relating to changes and alterations. Property maintenance and open space staff are advised of requirements for prior approvals and of the no fee minor works exemption applications for regular repainting , repairs etc. DA requirements apply for substantial alterations such as complete replacement of verandahs at Regional Gallery or Schaeffer House. Comments that some of the infrastructure on sites is relatively recent does not override the fact that the sites are historically significant and should be appropriately protected. Listing would not impact upon more recent infrastructure elements. The SHI inventory significance assessment outlines the importance of such sites. More recent constructions such as Dundarrabin Community Hall which is purpose built, mud brick, community built and architecturally designed, is socially and aesthetically significant. A minimum age is not a requirement for heritage significance. For example the Sydney Opera House was constructed in 1973 and is now on the World heritage list.</p>	<b>Submission -support and obj/ clarification needed on certain aspects.</b>	16/12/2019
40	Lawrence Historical Society	Lawrence Historical Society	GENERAL	whole study	<p><i>The Lawrence Historical Society fully supports the study recommendations to Clarence Valley Council to undertake the listed actions to complete the Community Based Heritage Study. In particular we support the establishment of a Heritage Committee and that Council continues the annual local heritage fund.</i></p> <p><i>The identification of new heritage places and items increases Council's responsibilities in relation to heritage so the establishment of the heritage Committee in the recommendations will be of major importance.</i></p> <p><i>It is important these places, buildings, objects and their stories are recorded and preserved for our history and future generations.</i></p> <p><i>We look forward to seeing the implementation of the recommendations and increased action in preserving our local history.</i></p>	<b>Submission- supportive</b>	Study findings and recommen 16/01/2020

41	Daryl Harper	72 Main Street	WOOLI	5066314	<p>Objection to a Conservation Area for Wooli (mother's property)72 main Street, same property as submission from Marlene Harper. <i>Objection to broad brush approach and believe that an itemised list of individual properties to be protected both inside and outside of the proposed Conservation Area boundary, should be listed in the final document.</i></p> <p><i>To apply a Heritage Conservation Area to the area highlighted would prejudice owners of properties which do not have any resemblance of the heritage character of those which were included as examples.</i></p> <p>A more in depth study should be done of the Wooli Area and individually list particular properties.</p>	<p><b>Submission objection</b> to HCA Wooli but support for identifying individual properties.</p>	23/01/2020
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END OF SUBMISSIONS AND ENQUIRIES