Appendix D

Archaeological Assessment

Insite Heritage Pty Ltd
PO Box 98
Wangi Wangi NSW 2267
Ph/Fax 02 49755 818
insite@idl.net.au

Aboriginal & Historical Archaeological Assessment

Land Off George Booth Drive, Edgeworth

Report to:
***Geo*Link Pty Ltd**
July 2008

Table of Contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

List of Plates

Executive Summary

Insite Heritage Pty Ltd was commissioned by GeoLink Pty Ltd on behalf of Lake Macquarie City Council to conduct an Aboriginal and historical archaeological assessment of land off George Booth Drive Edgeworth, as part of a Local Environmental Study (LES) for the subject area in accordance with Section 57 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The aim of the assessment was to identify and record any areas of heritage potential which may be impacted by future development and to recommend appropriate management strategies for their preservation.

The Aboriginal archaeological assessment identified one scared tree located in the southern portion of the study area. No other sites were identified by the survey although visibility was significantly hindered by surface disturbance and vegetation. It is recommended that future design protect the tree to ensure its preservation within future development.

The historical archaeological assessment concentrated on the portion of the former tramline to West Wallsend which forms part of the northern boundary of the study area. The survey identified a small portion of the remnant embankment of the tramline along the northern boundary. No other historic items were identified by the survey.

It is recommended that the portion of the tramline embankment be conserved, or incorporated into adaptive reuse, for example, as part of a cycle path in any future development proposals.

The authors of this report are Angela Besant and Elizabeth Wyatt of Insite Heritage Pty Ltd.

1.0 Project Overview

1.1 Location

The study area comprises of approximately 95ha of land situated off George Booth Drive, Edgeworth, Parish of Teralba, County of Northumberland (see Figure 1 below). The study area encompasses Lots 88 DP 755262 and Lot 107 DP 100048 owned by Hammersmith Management Pty Ltd, Part Lots 6 and 7 DP4677 owned by private land owners and Lot 17 DP849003 owned by the State Transit Authority.

1.2 Community Consultation

A letter providing details of the project was sent to DECC (Department of Environment & Climate Change), Office of the Registrar and NSW Native Title Services in order to identify any Aboriginal stakeholder groups who may have an interest in the project. A letter of invitation of registration in the project was sent to Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council, Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation. Following a response from DECC who supplied the stakeholder list for the Hunter Valley, letters of invitation to register were also sent to Mimagen Wajaar Pty Ltd.

The project brief supplied by Lake Macquarie City Council stipulated that the archaeological survey was to be conducted with a representative from Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council. Copies of the draft report will be forwarded to the registered community groups for their review and comment.

1.3 Purpose of the LES

Council has received a rezoning proposal for the study area and has resolved to prepare a draft amendment to the Lake Macquarie Local Environmental Plan 2004 to accommodate urban development and conservation.

In compliance with Section 57 and 61 of the EP&A Act 1979, the LES will be used to inform the preparation of the draft Local Environmental Plan for the study area.

The subject site is currently zoned 10 Investigation and is located to the south of the proposed Pambulong Town Centre. The purpose of the LES is to determine the most appropriate land uses for the site.

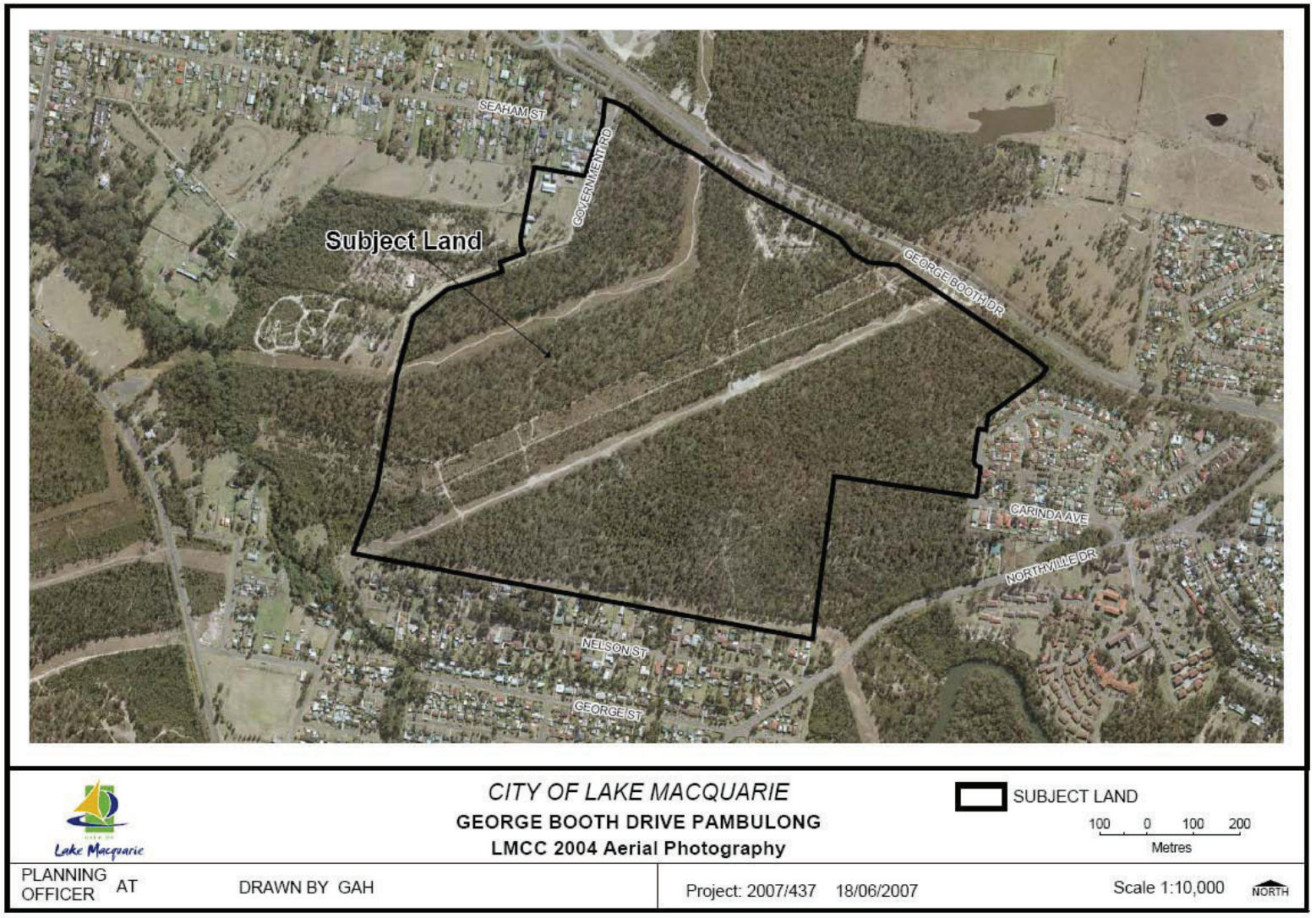


Figure 1 Location of Study Area (courtesy LMCC).

1.4 Environmental Context

Geology & Soils
The study area is located within the Killingworth (Erosional) and Cockle Creek (Alluvial) Soil Landscapes (Matthei 1995:132). The underlying geology of the Killingworth Soil Landscape comprises of Permian coals, tuffs, conglomerates, sandstones and shales of the Newcastle Coal Measures. Soils are characterised by shallow to moderately deep, well to imperfectly drained Yellow Podzolic Soils, yellow Soloths and Gleyed Podzolic Soils with gleyed Soloths on crests and hill slopes and shallow well drained Structured Loams, Bleached Loams and Lithosols on some crests (Matthei 1995: 132).

The underlying geology of the Cockle Creek Soil Landscape comprise of Quaternary alluvial sediments derived from sandstone, siltstone, conglomerate, shale and tuff of the upper catchments (Matthei 1995:167). The soils comprise of deep imperfectly to poorly drained yellow Soloths and Yellow Podzolic Soils on floodplains, deep, moderately well to poorly drained Yellow Earths and Grey Earths on delta and fan deposits with deep imperfectly drained to well drained Yellow Podzolic Soils (Matthei 1995:167).

Landform & Topography
Topography of the Killingworth Soil Landscape comprises of rolling low hills to hills with slope gradients 3-20%, local relief 30-100m and elevations from 50-160m. Crests are noted as being generally broad with long sideslopes grading into narrow drainage lines (Matthei 1995:132).

The Cockle Creek Soil Landscape is characterised by Alluvial flats and fans and drainage plains. Slope gradients range from 0-2% on floodplains and less than 5% on alluvial fans and drainage plains with elevations from <1-50m and local relief <1m (Matthei 1995:167).

Vegetation
Vegetation within the Killingworth Soil Landscape is described by Matthei (1995) as largely uncleared open forest with some open woodland. Dominant tree species are *Eucalyptus maculate* (spotted gum), *Eucalyptus eugenioides* (thin-leaved stringy bark), *Eucalyptus umbra* (bastard mahogany), *Eucalyptus fibrosa* (broad-leaved ironbark) and *Eucalyptus paniculata* (grey ironbark) (Matthei 1995:132).

On Upper Cockle Creek vegetation consisting of uncleared open forest. Common species include *Eucalyptus robusta* (swamp mahogany), *Eucalyptus umbra* (bastard mahogany), *Eucalyptus amplifolia* (cabbage gum) and *Eucalyptus deanei* (mountain blue gum). *Melaleuca* spp. (paperbark) occurs as understory on poorly drained floodplain deposits (Matthei 1995:167).

Hydrology

Slatey Creek lies approximately 100m from the south western corner of the study area. The western arm of upper Cockle Creek lies approximately 300m east of the eastern boundary of the study area. The topographic map does not indicate any drainage channels within the study area as it is largely comprised of a broad hill.

2.0 Indigenous Archaeological Assessment

2.1 Regional Indigenous Archaeological Context

Aboriginal occupation within the Central Lowlands of the Lower Hunter Valley occurred over 20,000 years ago. Koettig (1986) recorded a date of 20,200 BP from a hearth at Glennies Creek to the north of Branxton. An Aboriginal site on the Liverpool Plains has been dated to at least 19,000 BP (Gorecki *et al,* 1984). The majority of dated sites within the Hunter Valley are less than 4,000 years old (Brayshaw, 1994).

The local Aboriginal population were able to exploit a wide range of subsistence resources. Lake Macquarie and the wetlands and of the region provided abundant supplies of fish, eels, water fowl and floral species. Raw materials, locally sourced, of wood, bark, plant fibres, stone and shell were utilised to manufacture tools and other items of necessity.

2.2 Ethnography

The study area is a part of the country of the Pambalong peoples of the Awabakal Tribe and in general terms bounded by the southbank of the Hunter River, the Sugarloaf Mountains, Lake Macquarie and Newcastle West. The Pambalong peoples would have had access to a variety of environments including Lake Macquarie (salt water), the Hunter River (tidal zone), the mountains to the south west and the large Hexham Swamp (estuarine) adjacent to the study area.

L. E. Threlkeld was a missionary who established a Mission initially on the eastern side of Lake Macquarie and subsequently to the western side of Lake Macquarie in 1824. Threlkeld maintained records of the Aboriginal peoples in this area, documenting 'observations' which serve as one of the few records of Aboriginal culture in this period. Threlkeld was one of the 'new breed' of missionary trained in the period after 1815 when observation based information was espoused as the valid method of documenting unfamiliar cultures (Gunson 1974). The documentation of Awabakal language, clan territories, kinship and mythology, by Threlkeld, has produced some of the best ethnohistory in the early 19th Century (Gunson 1974, Mulvaney 1992).

The Pambalong clan were based around Hexham Swamp adjoining the Five Islands clan who inhabited the western side of Lake Macquarie and whom also extended

west to the Sugarloaf ranges. The Five Islands Clan, Pambalong Clan and Ash Island Clan combined to form the Awabakal-Sugarloaf Tribe.

The information recorded by Threlkeld shows the adaptation of tradition methods to new materials, for example the replacement of stone barbs on war spears with barbs of glass.

“The battle -spear .....[has] pieces of sharp quartz stuck along the hard wood joint on one side so as to resemble the teeth of a saw. The march of intellect directed the blacks, latterly, to use fragments of broken glass-bottles instead of quartz, thus inflicting fearfully lacerated wounds with the deadly weapon” (Threlkeld in Gunson ed.1995:67).

A culinary example of this adaptive process is the preparation of corn. Threlkeld describes the Aboriginal people cooking Indian corn by stripping the corn from the cob and stirring the grain into a fire from which the logs had been removed to leave the ashes. The process is described as:

“ in very little time they swell, burst with a small report and jump out of the hot embers, and a white flour like substance is seen emitted from the heart of the grain through the crack, caused by the parching heat, and being very sweet to the taste, the blacks are very fond of the description of parched corn called jumpers. It affords much amusement ot the evening party to watch the leaps of the grain, and listen to the pops of the plump Indian corn” (Threlkeld in Gunson ed. 1975:66-67).

The language recorded by Threlkeld also tells, in part, how Aboriginal people viewed the landscape in which they lived. Lake Macquarie is Nikkinba, nikkin meaning coal and ba - place of. Pittoba is the place from where pipe clay was obtained (unfortunately Threlkeld does not state the location). Pipeclay had an important cultural role in Aboriginal society as it was used, smeared over the head, to signify mourning. Kintirrabin was the name of a small volcano near Redhead about seven kilometres north of the entrance to Lake Macquarie. Threlkeld also refers to Kopurraba another small volcano up the Hunter River, where Kopurra, a red earth was obtained. The red earth was rolled into balls and burnt in a hot fire, which changed the colour to a brilliant red. The earth was then mixed with kangaroo kidney fat and used for body paint. Konakonaba was the place name for a large mountain at the northern extremity of Lake Macquarie (possibly Munibung Hill). The stone known as Konakona, had veins of a yellow substance which was also used as body paint.

Ceremonial areas were located east and west of the study area, at Wallsend and Stockrington. Two types of ceremonial rings are recorded by Threlkeld. The first a Porrobung, the second ring a Yulung, each of which were used for men's ceremonies, including the tooth removal ceremony for young men. Women were not excluded however if they attended and were single they were subject to be 'demanded' after the ceremony by the young men.

Threlkeld noted that his Aboriginal adviser M'Gill whose traditional name was Biraban (Awabakal for sea eagle), may have been '*a knight of the ancient order of the holy Eagle-stones'*. Threlkeld noted that high places were held as sacred, and on elevated ranges there were circular structures of stone, '*5 or 6 feet diameter, and two or three feet high, evidently built.....'*[1]. Tradition held that the structures were built by the Eagle-Hawks, '*a bird of mysterious omen, and much reverence..'* (Miles in Gunson 1974:78). Carved trees frequently demarcated areas of cultural importance such as burial areas and ceremonial sites.

Rev. Threlkeld (Gunson 1974) noted that adults tended to be cremated, while children were buried in relatively shallow graves. In the case of cremation or should soil prove acidic, little or no skeletal remains would be expected. Shallow graves may have limited the degree of preservation of burials while post depositional forces shall have dispersed evidence.

2.3 Local Indigenous Archaeological Context

A review of previous archaeological assessments conducted in proximity to in order to place the study area into an archaeological context.

Mills (2007) conducted an archaeological assessment of land for proposed residential development at Lots 103 and 105 George Booth Drive Edgeworth approximately 500m to the north of the study area. The assessment comprised of approximately 60ha of land predominantly located on ridgeline and slopes, two small drainage channels were present in the western portion of lot 103. The assessment identified five sites, one rock shelter with associated PAD, three possible scarred trees and one isolated flake. The rock shelter was located adjacent to the ephemeral watercourse. Two of the trees were located in paddocks currently used for horse grazing, and were identified as Ironbarks.

[1] Ibid p66.

Kuskie & Clarke (2006) conducted an archaeological survey of land at the Cameron Park Water Reservoir. The study area was approximately 0.5ha in size and lies immediately to the southeast of the intersection of Cameron Park Drive and George Booth Drive. The survey identified one artefact scatter with two concentrations of artefacts. The site was located on a gentle ridge crest south of Cameron Park Dr and east of George Booth Drive and comprised of seven artefacts in total. Both concentrations were located in exposures associated with vehicle tracks. The study area was noted to be highly disturbed. Artefact types recorded included flakes, flake portions, a core and a core fragment. Raw material comprised of red silcrete, pink silcrete, tuff and rhyolite.

McCardle (2004) conducted an archaeological assessment of the Sugar Valley Golf Club, West Wallsend. The site comprised of approximately 16ha of land and is intersected by three tributaries of Slatey Creek. The survey identified one artefact scatter comprising of four mudstone flakes, a mudstone broken flake and two red silcrete broken flakes, an isolated broken silcrete flake, and a large area of PAD (Potential Archaeological Deposit).

Besant (2003) carried out an archaeological survey of land for a proposed residential development at Cameron Park. Three isolated finds (Dunbar 1,2 &3) were identified by the survey, located in eroded exposures adjacent to drainage lines of Cocked Hat Creek. The artefacts were all identified as mudstone flakes, and area of PAD was also recorded in the northern portion of the study area adjacent to Cocked Hat Creek.

Mills (1999) carried out an archaeological survey of land for the proposed Northlakes residential development at Cameron Park. A total of 207 hectares was surveyed over with effective coverage (area with high archaeological visibility) of 4.71 hectares. Three sites, eight isolated finds and six areas of potential archaeological deposit were located. The sites were generally located on the foot slope areas and on creek margins. Six of the eight isolated finds were a red or pink silcrete and two were cream chert. The site NL open site 1, located on the 30m contour, comprised seven silcrete flakes primarily debitage and one flaked piece of fine grained siliceous material. The second open site comprised a broken chert flake and a piece of debitage, and the third contained three pieces of silcrete. The site contents were predominately silcrete.

Visibility of the site was low, generally less than 5%. The artefacts located were found on tracks, eroded below the A soil horizon and were not in-situ. An area of

PAD was identified over the whole Cocked Hat Creek Corridor excluding the sites of two retention basins. Further areas of PAD (2,3,4,5 & 6) were noted to extend from the Cocked Hat Creek corridor at times into the development area. The PAD 2 & 3 comprise raised terrace areas adjacent to Cocked Hat Creek.

2.4 AHIMS Search

A search of the AHIMS (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) register was conducted for a 49km² area surrounding the subject site. A total of sixty eight sites were recorded within the search boundaries (as shown in Figure 2 below). The main site types recorded comprised of Open Campsites/Artefact Scatters, Axe Grinding Grooves and Isolated Artefacts. Areas of PAD (Potential Archaeological Deposit) stone arrangements and scarred trees were also recorded.

Artefacts types recorded include; flakes, producer flakes, bondi point, core, flaked pieces, broken flakes and debitage. Raw material types recorded included; indurated mudstone, mudstone, silcrete, bottle glass, mudstone/chert, FGS, tuff, chert and volcanics.

Table 1 below lists the number of recorded sites by site type.

Table 1Recorded Site Types

Site Type	Number (%)
Artefact Scatter	19 (28%)
Isolated Artefact	30 (44%)
Axe Grinding Groove	13 (19%)
PAD	3 (4.5%)
Scarred Tree	2 (3%)
Stone Arrangement	1 (1.5%)

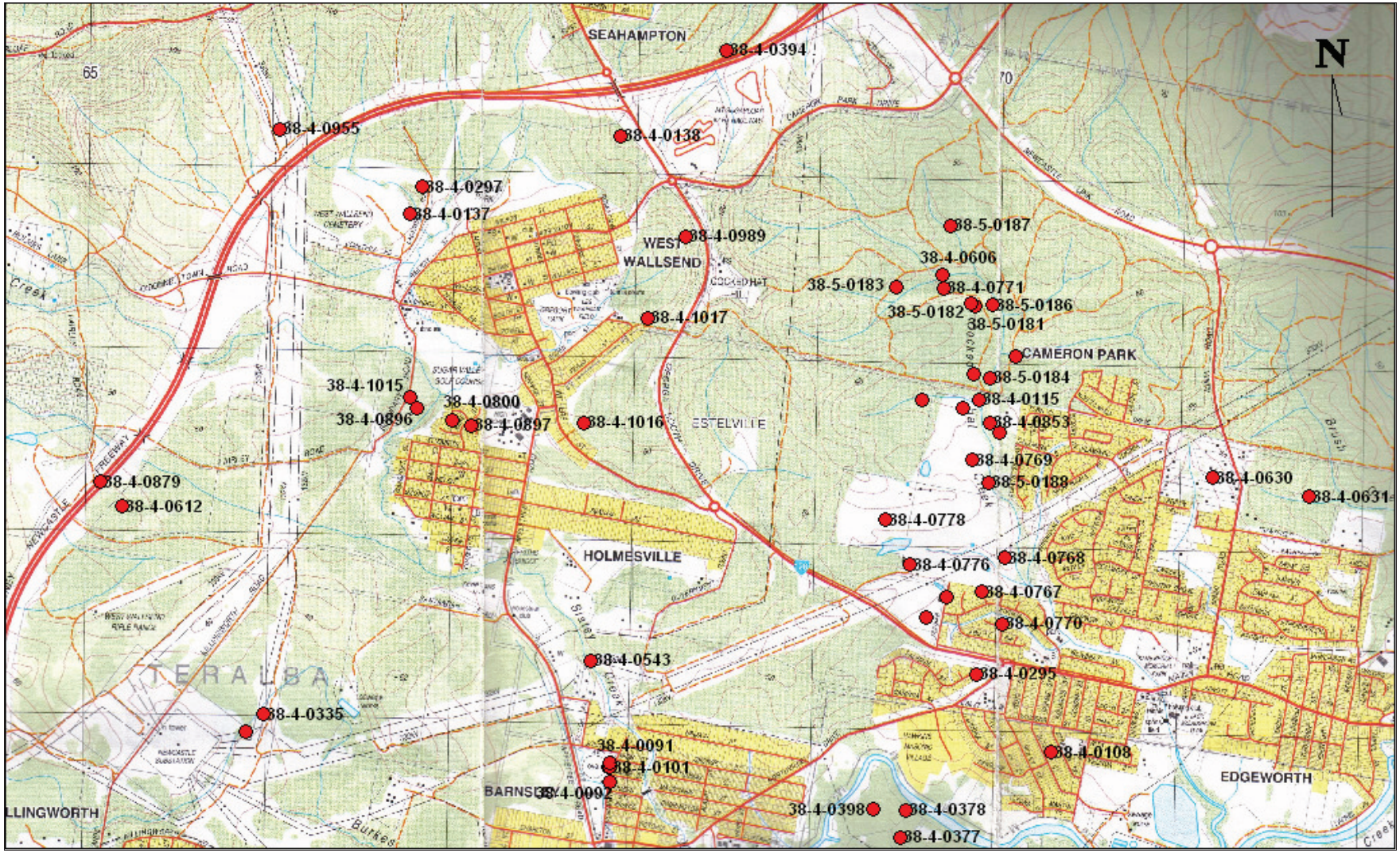


Figure 2 Location of recorded archaeological sites in proximity to the study area.

2.5 Predictive Model of Archaeological Potential

The archaeological record of the Hunter Valley has revealed a distinct site patterning for the region. Previous archaeological investigations have shown that archaeological sites are more prevalent in areas in close proximity to water sources with the number and density of archaeological sites increasing with the permanence of the water resource. Areas surrounding drainage confluences have also been shown to be of importance in the region and potentially contain larger and more complex archaeological sites. River terraces have also been noted to have been favoured areas for Aboriginal encampments. The preference for occupation close to water resources may also lead to the re-deposition of artefacts in alluvial sediments and the exposure of subsurface archaeological material as a result of geomorphological processes.

The study area is located within two main landform types; low spur/ridge line and toe slopes. An analysis of previous studies conducted in proximity to the study area has shown that the most likely site types which may occur are: Open Campsites/Artefact Scatters, Isolated Artefacts and areas of PAD (Potential Archaeological Deposit). Axe Grinding Grooves may be present if suitable rock outcrops occur in drainage channels, although the site is set back from Slatey Creek and an analysis of the topographic map does not indicate any drainage channels within the study area.

2.6 Aboriginal Archaeological Survey

2.6.1 Survey Objective

The aim of the survey was to identify any aboriginal sites of places of significance or areas of potential archaeological deposit which may be impacted by the proposed development. The survey was conducted on the 18th and 19th of June 2008 and was attended by Elizabeth Wyatt of Insite Heritage and representatives from Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council.

2.6.2 Survey Details

Foot surveys were conducted over the study area. Due to visibility and vegetation constraints these were limited to areas of exposure which predominantly consisted of the cleared land under the power easements and the access ways constructed underneath them and numerous bike trails which bisected the study area as well as exposures adjacent to road reserves. In general, visibility across the study area was found to be poor as vegetation and leaf litter significantly hindered visibility in the areas between the track ways. Almost all of the track ways had experienced some erosion with some sections particularly under the power easements heavily eroded. A large disturbed area was also located on the north boundary adjacent to George Booth Drive. The area had been significantly modified; excavations, earthmoving and disturbed by bike trails and dumping.

Due to access constraints the private land adjoining Government Road which forms part of the study area (approximately 1.5ha) was not surveyed. This area was predominantly cleared level land which had been used for grazing.

The details of the areas surveyed are presented below in Table 2.

2.6.3 Survey Results

The survey identified one item, a scared tree, located near the southern boundary of the property. The diameter of the trunk at breast height was approximately 3.3m, species spotted gum. The scar was located approximately 1m above the ground and was 1900mm in length and 530mm in width at its widest point. The thickness of the scar was approximately 80mm. E: 56 368215 N: 6356317 (GDA 94).

The scar was identified as a scarred tree of Aboriginal origin using the criteria outlined by DECC (Long:2005). The tree was considered to be older than 65 years due to its considerable height and the girth of the tree at breast height. The shape of the scar is representative of the forms of Aboriginal scars, although the re growth of

the scar has not been uniform. The dry face of the scar (dead exposed timber which forms on the scar surface) is very dry and weathered indicating that the scar is quite old. The scar overgrowth also appears old as there does not appear to be any young re-growth bark present. Tool marks from the removal of the bark are not visible but may have been covered by the re-growth. There is no evidence of a former branch socket associated with limb loss or evidence of extensive borer holes in the dry face.

Due to the complexity involved in identifying Aboriginal scarred trees it is recommended that a specialist be consulted in order to determine more accurately the age of the tree and the nature of the scar should the tree be impacted by future development.

Table 2 Survey Details

Location	Dimensions/Area (approx m)	Visibility	Archaeological Visibility	Effective Coverage (m²)	Landform	Notes
T1 Government Road	750m x 4-6m	0-60%	0-80%	360	Plain	Both side of road reserve surveyed, some exposure on road embankment on the eastern side. West side of road predominantly grassed verge. Small drainage channel on east side of rd, provided some subsurface exposure. Vegetation on E side of rd thick with little visibility.
T2 Westernmost Power Easement	800m x 2-4m	80-100%	60-80%	1512	Gentle slope	Approx. 25m wide, heavily grassed, 2-4m wide track provided visibility, up to 10m wide in north. Angular fragments of mudstone, petrified wood, plastic fragments also noted.
T3 Track way west from T2 to Government Road	200 x 2.5-3m	80-100%	80%	360	Gentle slope	Track splits at east end into two 2.5-3m wide tracks, both surveyed. Adjacent area heavily vegetated. Track way eroded. One small cockle shell fragment in exposure near Gov. Rd, no other fragments noted.
T4 small track way south of T3	50x 1.5m	0-10%	60%	4.5	Plain – gentle slope	Little exposure
T5 west from T2	150 x 2-3m	50%	80%	150	Lower slope-base of slope	Angular gravels on clay, glass,
T5.1 west from T2 joins T5	20 x 1.5-2m	80%	80%	19.2	Lower slope	Some erosion, glass frag, thin A1 horizon visible, gravels sitting on clay.
T6 west off T2	50 x 1-1.5m	0-10%	10%	0.5	Lower slope	Hindered by leaf litter and grass.
T7 from S of T2 west to Gov. Rd.	100 x2m	0%	0%	96	Base of slope	No track way, through vegetation, no visibility.
T8 easternmost transmission easement	1200 x 8m	80-90%	80-40%	4608	Top of spur – gentle slope	Easement approx. 25m two track ways approx 3-4m wide. Large exposure top of hill, from top of hill track joins approx 5m wide, 2m exposure on E side of track also surveyed. Track heavily eroded in parts.
T9 Easement north of Nelson St.	900 x 4-1.5m	30-60%	80%	576	Gentle slope	Visibility hindered by grass, imported fill also noted at base of transmission tower.
T10 north from east end of T9	300 x 2m	60%	60-80%	252	Lower slope	Outcrops of coarse sandstone noted, visibility hindered by leaf litter etc.
T11 track W from Carinda Ave	250 x 2m	40%	80%	160	Mid slope – spur top	Crossed small creekline running E from top of spur with small sandstone outcrops, no grinding grooves noted

Location	Dimensions/Area (approx m)	Visibility	Archaeological Visibility	Effective Coverage (m²)	Landform	Notes
T12 track bearing 135ºfrom clearing top of spur T8	500 x 2m – 0.5m	50-60%	70%	175	Gentle slope	
T13 west from T9 to T8	250 x 1.5m	80%	80%	240	Base of slope	
T14 track south to T9	200 x 1.5-2	80%	80%	192	Mid slope	Good visibility, track cut into clay.
T15 track west from t9 to T8	100 x 3m	80-100%	60-80%	189	Gentle slope	
T16 parallel to T8	300 x 1.5-2m	70-80%	80%	252	Mid slope	Track eroded
T17 from Nth end T8 parallel to George Booth Dr	250 x 2m	50-80%	60%	210	Lower slope –base of slope	Some sandstone outcrop noted
T18 north eastern boundary	100 x 2m	0%	0%	0	Base of slope	Grassed, no visibility, small drainage line (0.5m wide).
T19 bearing 300-325ºto T8	400 x 2m	50-60%	60%	240	Gentle slope	
T20 exposure under easement south east of T2	950 x 3m	90%	80%	2052	Gentle slop	Exposure either side of track also inspected. Track very eroded in parts.
T21 west from T20 to T2 along SW boundary	150 x 2m	60%	60%	108	Gentle slope	
T22 west from T20 to T2	300 x 1.5m	80-60%	60%	189	Gentle slope	
T23 small path west of T20	100 x 1.5	60-80	70%	73.5	Gentle slope	
T24 small track west T20	150 x 1.5m	80%	60%	108	Gentle slope	
T25 track to large disturbed area north boundary	150 x 2m	80%	80%	192	Gentle slop	Track ended at large disturbed area, landscape heavily modified and disturbed by bike trails and dumping. Landscape excavated to approx. 4m in parts
T26 top of disturbed area west to T2	200 x 2.5-3m	80%	60-80%	280	Gentle slope	

Location	Dimensions/Area (approx m)	Visibility	Archaeological Visibility	Effective Coverage (m²)	Landform	Notes
T27 Parallel to George Booth Dr	300 x 2-2.5m	80%	50%	300	Gentle slope	Arch. Visibility heavily eroded and disturbed trackway. Lots of rubbished dumped in vicinity. Area north side of tram way embankment also inspected, good exposure.
T28 track from T8 to T20	100 x 2m	80%	80%	128	Gentle slope	Eroded, disturbed
T29 track west from T8	50 x 1-2m	90%	60%	27	Gentle slope	Disturbed
T30 transmission line E to T20	650 x 1.5-2m	20-60%	30%	87.75	Gentle slope	
T31, 32, 33, 34 small tracks between T8 & T20	200 x 1.5	0-50%	20-50%	22.5	Gentle slope	
T35 track way down to south west boundary	200 x 2-2.5m	50%	40-50%	80	Mid slope-base of slope	Change in vegetation to paperbark dominated vegetation, approx 100m to Slatey Ck. Ant mounds adjacent to track also provided additional exposure.
T 36 from T35 NW to T20	100 x 1-1.5m	0-50%	50%	12.5	Base of slope	No track way little visibility.
			Total Effective Coverage	**13256.45**		**Effective Coverage as percentage of study area: 1.4%**

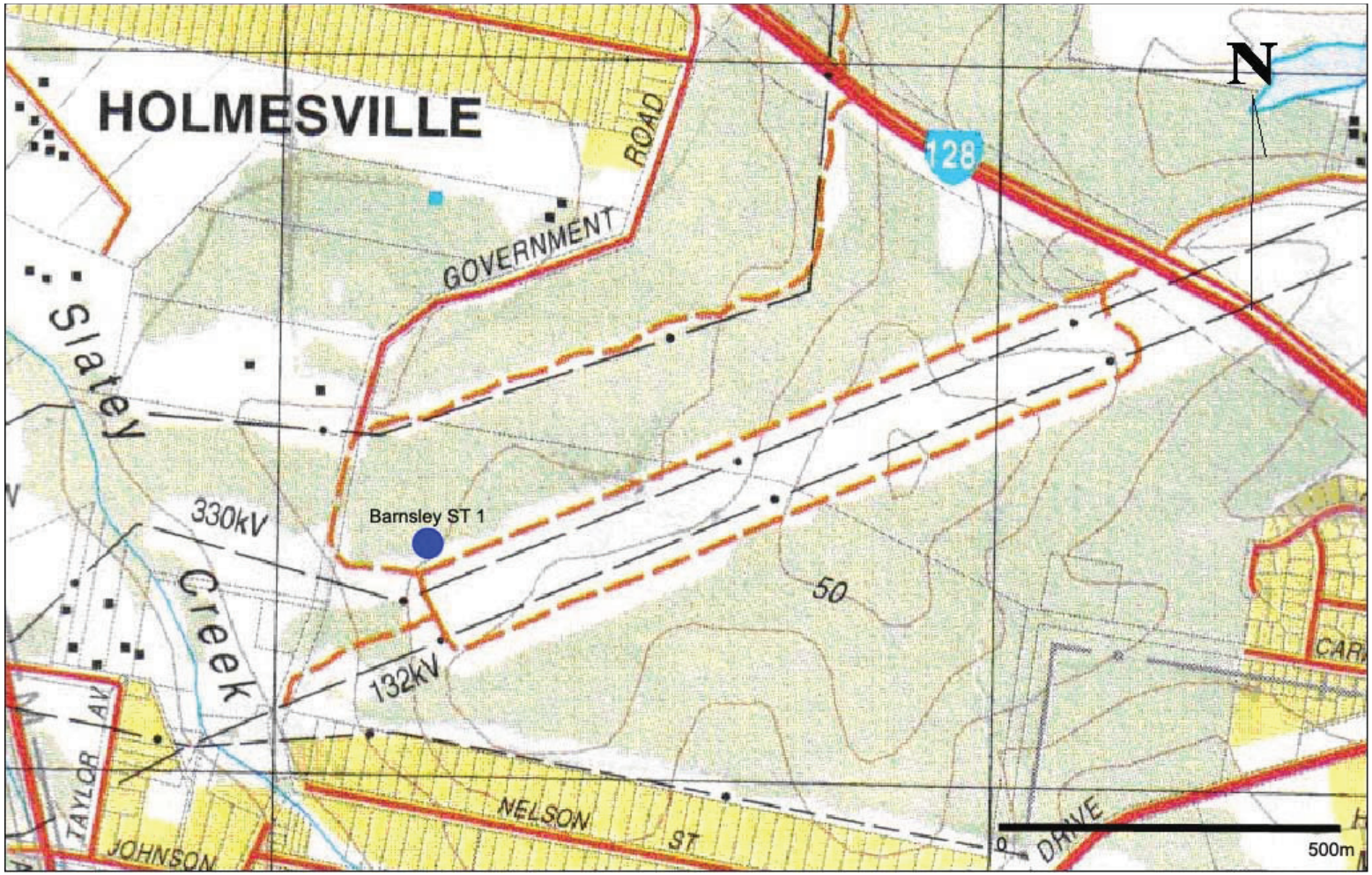


Figure 3 Location of scarred tree (Wallsend 9232-3S 1:25000 Topographic Map 2nd Ed)

2.7 Significance Criteria

The basic processes of assessing significance for items of heritage are outlined by *The Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance: the Burra Charter* (amended 1999) and its associated *Guidelines*. Sites may be significant according to several criteria, including scientific or archaeological significance, significance to Aboriginal people, aesthetic value, the degree to which a site is representative of archaeological and/or cultural type, and value as an educational resource. In New South Wales the nature of significance relates to historic, aesthetic, social, scientific, cultural or educational criteria and sites are also assessed on the degree to which they exhibit rare or representative characteristics of their type, or whether they exhibit historic or cultural connections.

SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

In order to determine scientific significance it is necessary to first place sites within a local and regional context. This process enables the assessment of any individual site in terms of merit against other sites of similar nature within similar contexts.

PUBLIC SIGNIFICANCE

The sites are assessed in terms of their educational value, to enhance community knowledge and appreciation of cultural heritage.

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Generally, all sites are of significance to the Aboriginal people. It has been recognised however that with the widespread nature of site distribution, sites will eventually be impacted upon by development. It is however necessary to conserve where possible sites which are of high significance to the community.

REPRESENTATIVE SIGNIFICANCE

Site significance is rated low, medium and high. The significance of individual sites is determined by factors such as representativeness, rarity, and the sites potential to add scientific data to what is known about past human occupation of the Australian continent. Conservation outcomes are determined by comparison of a site's qualities with known sites in the region that have been protected.

2.8 Significance Assessment

The significance of the identified potential scarred tree is considered to be of moderate significance against the scientific criteria due to the difficulty in identifying scarred trees.

Two scarred trees have been identified by a survey to the south west of the study area (see Section 2.3 above). These trees were considered to be possible scarred trees, which includes scars which are possibly the result of human activity but difficult to distinguished if they are the result of Aboriginal, European or natural processes. Both trees were recorded as appearing to be relatively recent in age. Axe marks were also present on the upper and lower sections of one of the trees which were considered to be not consistent with Aboriginal bark removal patterns.

In comparison with other indigenous cultures, it is believed that bark was of greatest importance to the Aboriginal peoples of the forested sections of eastern Australia (Long 2005). The bark was used in a variety of activities including but not limited to use in shelter construction, watercraft and weapon/tool manufacture.

Scarred trees were apparently a common feature of the 19th century landscape, but due to subsequent land clearing practices and natural processes have greatly diminished in numbers.

Scarred trees are of high cultural significance to Aboriginal people. For a cultural assessment please refer to the community reports in Appendix D.

3.0 Historical Assessment

3.1 Historical Background

Cocked Hat Creek was the initial name given Edgeworth during the 1870s to early 1880s. From 1885 to 1960 it was known as Young Wallsend until it was renamed in named Edgeworth in honour of the geologist W.T Edgeworth David (Nilsen ed 1985:44). Early industries in Edgeworth included the Young Wallsend Coal Company which was established in 1887. The mine was closed in 1915 due to issues with gas and flooding (Nilsen 1985:44). Holmesville was named after early land holder Joseph Holmes who was granted 100 acres of land west of Apple Tree Road in 1895. Early industries in the suburb included farming and coal mining (Nilsen 1985:58).

A parish map from 1897 shows the subject site as being located within the land owned by the West Wallsend Coal Company. This is still the case on a 1937 Parish Map. This map also shows a small allotment, Portion 88, located on the southern boundary of the study area, marked as the site of the old Barnsley Public School.

Barnsley Public School

Nilsen (1985:15) notes that Barnsley's first public school was opened on 15 December 1865 on property owned by Duncan Cherry. Parish map records show that Duncan Cherry owned Portions 41 and 56 located to the south of the study area. The building used as the temporary school was a slab building with a sunken earthen floor which was used until April 1971 when it was destroyed by flooding (BPSC 1965:6)[2].

In June 1866 the local Patrons of the school made an application for a grant of two acres for the school site on land located approximately 560 yards (approx 500m) west of Salty Creek School (now known as Edgeworth Heights). The application was granted in June 1866 but was not gazetted until May 1968 (BPSC 1965:6). It is this site that is located within the study area.

In 1876 an application was made by the newly formed Local School Boars to the Council of Education for funding to allow for the construction of new slab building on this site; however no progress was made over the following three years (BPSC 1965:6). In 1869 the construction of a weather board school was approved by the Council of Education, however just prior to the commencement of the building works an application was made by the Local Board for a new site for the school. The

[2] Barnsley Public School Centenary 1865-1965: Souvenir Programme

proposed new site was to be located on two acres of crown land which was boarded by Flaggy Creek to the south and Government Road to the east. This proposal was not endorsed by the residents of Cocked Hat Creek who complained of the extra distance their children would be required to travel, the potential for flooding on the school site and the land clearing in preparation for building works which had already been undertaken. In May 1871 the new site at Flaggy Creek was approved by the Secretary of Lands as it was deemed more suitable due to the changes in population distribution in Barnsley and its reliable water source of which the initial site was lacking. Building commenced and the new school was opened in May 1872 (BPSC 1965:8). Over the following years the school closed numerous times due to enrolment shortages. Enrolments however increased in the 1890s and by the early 1900s the school was moved to its current site due to increasing enrolments, difficulty in crossing Flaggy Creek and deteriorating buildings at the Flaggy Creek site (BPSC 1965:8).

As the historical sources note, the only activities carried out on Lot 88 DP 755266 were land clearing in preparation for building works, it is considered that no items of historical significance relating to the school will be located in the study area.

West Wallsend Steam Tram Line

A portion of the West Wallsend Steam Tram Line traverses the northern boundary of the study area. The item is listed on the Lake Macquarie City Council's (LMCC) Local Environmental Plan (LEP) as item RT-01. The item is listed as very high local significance; high regional significance and moderate state significance on LMCC Heritage Study (see Appendix C for extract).

Planning of the route by the NSWG Railways & Tramways began in 1896 as a result of public pressure. The route was to extend from the current terminus at Plattsburg to West Wallsend. Continual lobbying by the community for the project occurred from 1900-1906 with approval for the project granted by Public Works in 1907 (Andrews Neil 2005).

Construction of the West Wallsend Steam Tram Line commenced in April 1909 and opened on the 19th December 1910. The tram route passed through the early mining suburbs of West Wallsend, Holmesville and Edgeworth and provided a daily transport link to Newcastle. The 25km route from West Wallsend to Newcastle was reportedly the longest tram route in NSW, and the longest city to suburb route in Australia (Suters et al 1992, Andrews Neil 2005).

This route was the last steam tram route to operate in Newcastle. Electrification of all the Newcastle tram lines occurred in 1929 with the exception of the West Wallsend and Speers Point lines (Andrews Neil 2005). It was one of the last steam tram services to run in NSW. The last service ran on 2nd November 1930 when it was replaced by a motor bus (Suters et al 1992). In 1932 the permanent closure of the Speers Point and West Wallsend tramways was approved by the Transport Commissioners due to 'operational losses' caused by the increase in private services and the effects of the Great Depression. This was followed by the lifting of the sleepers from the tram line in 1937 (Andrews Neil 2005).

The route of the tram line can be seen in the 1937 Parish Map (see Figure 5 below) and the plan of the route provided in LMCC's Heritage Study (Figure 6).

Andrews Neil (2005) were commissioned to compile a Plan of Management for the remnants of the West Wallsend Steam tram Line located within Lot 104 DP 1000408 George Both Drive for a the proposed Pambulong Forest residential development. This allotment is located on immediately opposite the study area, on the northern side of George Booth Drive.

The assessment identified an approximately 450m section of the tram line and is considered to be the only remaining intact portion of the tram line. The remnant section comprises of a raised earthen mound approximately 1m in height with an over laying layer of ballast. No removable items such as sleeper pegs, rails, nails or signals were identified (Andrews Neil 2005).

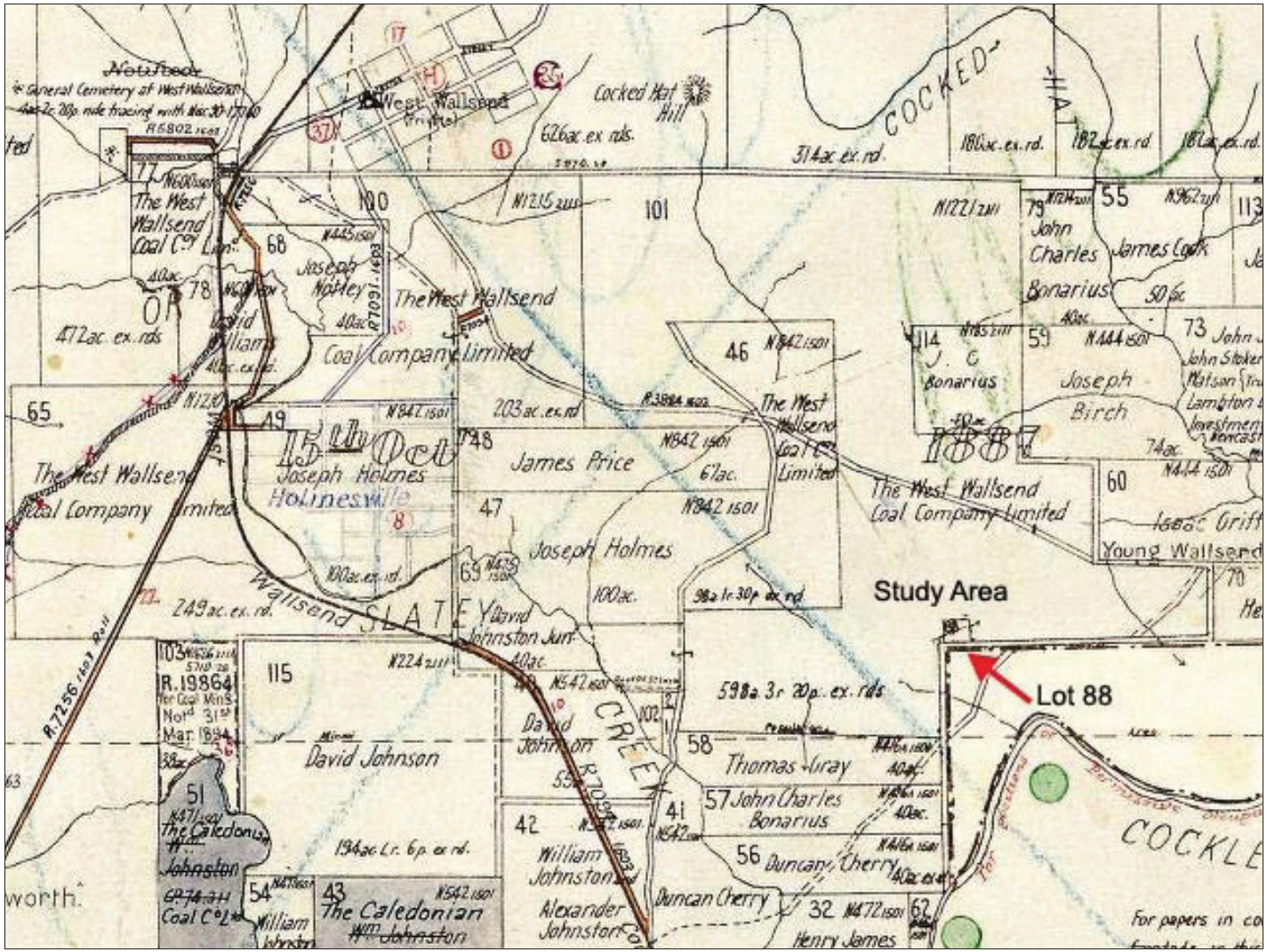


Figure 4 1897 Parish map of Teralba showing the study area as being part of the portion owned by the Young Wallsend Coal Co. The small Portion 88 (DP 755266) also shown.

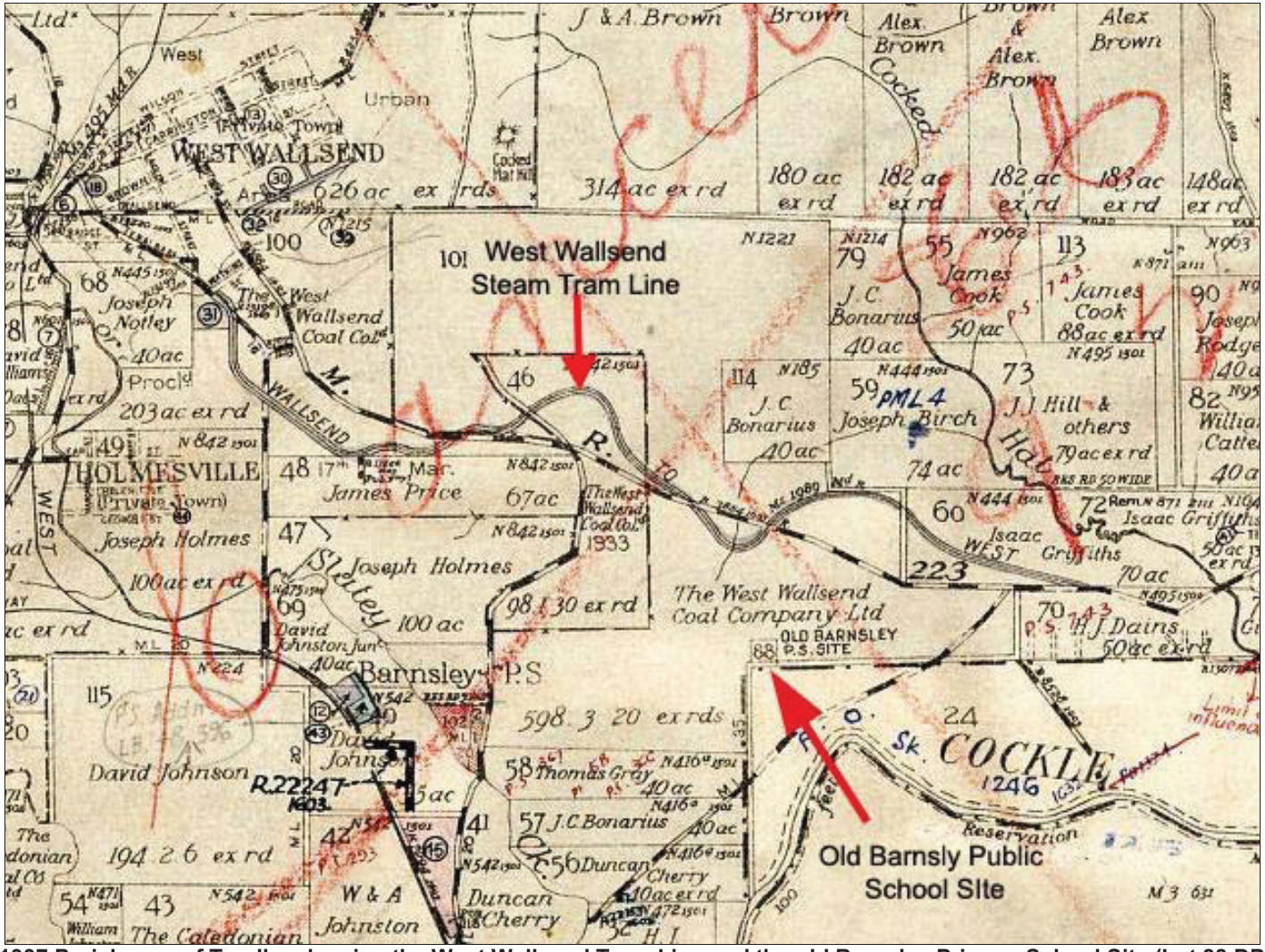


Figure 5 1937 Parish map of Teralba showing the West Wallsend Tram Line and the old Barnsley Primary School Site (Lot 88 DP 755266).

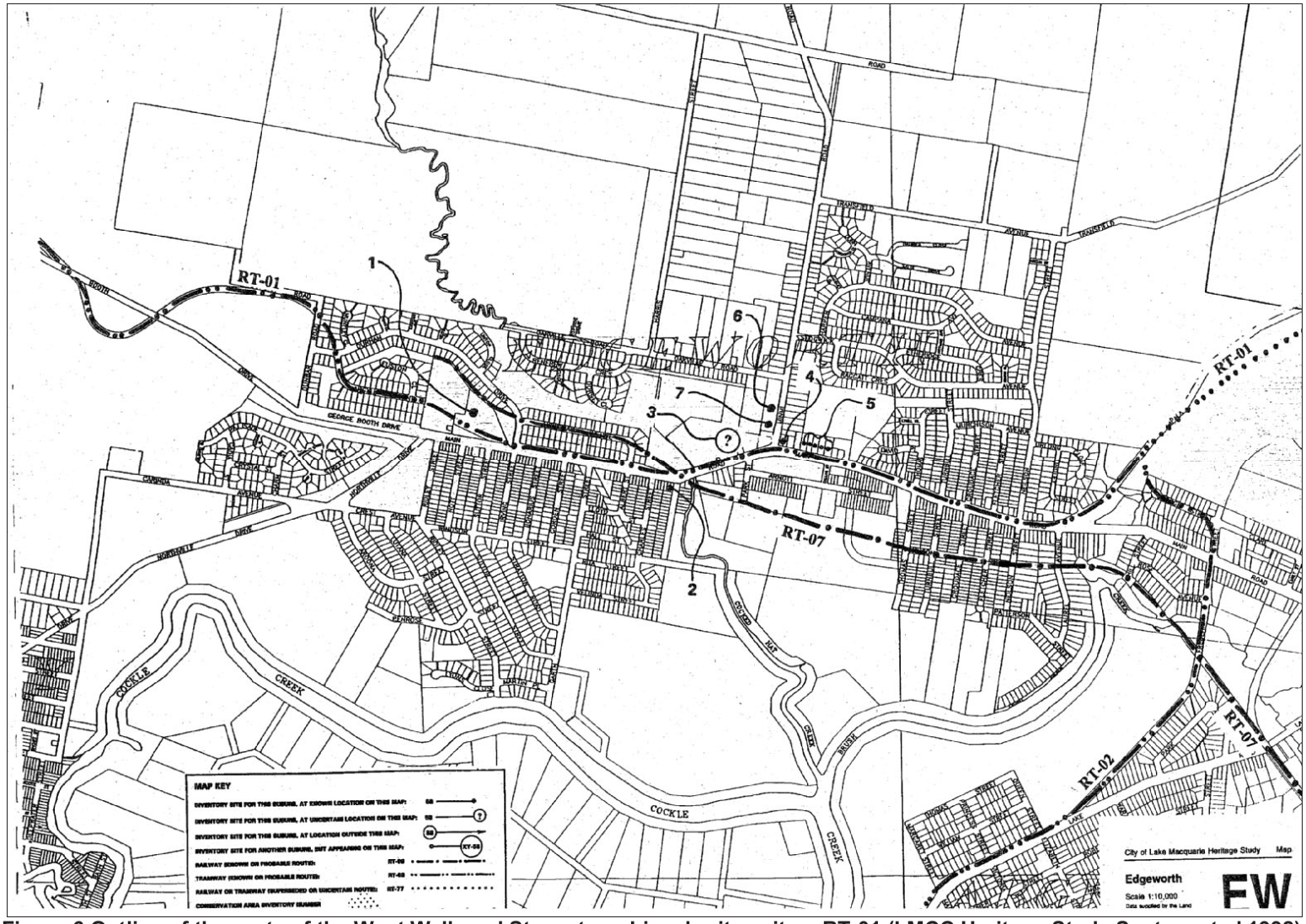


Figure 6 Outline of the route of the West Wallsend Steam tram Line, heritage item RT-01 (LMCC Heritage Study Sueters et al 1992).

3.2 Heritage Register Searches

Australian Heritage Places Inventory

A search of the Australian Heritage Places Inventory (AHPI) for registered items of Commonwealth and State/Territory significance within the Lake Macquarie local governmental area did not identify any listed items within the study area.

State Heritage Register

Lake Macquarie Local Government Area

A search of the NSW State Heritage Inventory (NSW SHI) was conducted for items listed under the NSW Heritage Act (State Heritage Register) and items listed by local councils and shires and state government agencies. The search was conducted for the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area. The search identified one item listed by the Local Government, the West Wallsend Steam Tram Line, located within the study area.

Lake Macquarie City Council Local Environmental Plan

Part of Item RT-01, The West Wallsend Steam Tramline, forms a portion of the northern boundary of the study area (refer to Section 3.1 above and Appendix C for the extract of the heritage study undertaken by LMCC).

No other item listed on council's LEP occurs within the study area.

3.3 Historical Archaeological Assessment

3.3.1 Survey Objectives

The assessment was conducted on the 26 May 2008 and was attended by Michael Parker and Elizabeth Wyatt of Insite Heritage Pty Ltd. The aim of the assessment was to identify if any evidence remained of the former West Wallsend Steam Tramline and to assess its state of preservation and develop appropriate management strategies. According to the historical parish maps and the proposed development plan, the portion of the tram line route which traverses the study area runs for approximately 300m from George Booth Drive, where the power line easement crosses the study area, and veers southwards in an arc before re-crossing George Booth Drive.

3.3.2 Survey Details & Results

A foot survey was conducted in the vicinity of the tramline route along the northern boundary. The survey identified that the embankment for the tramline still remained largely intact in the eastern portion, around the mid section of the arc, for approximately 150m. No evidence remained of the western portion of the tram line which appears to have been 'rubbed out' by extensive disturbance in this part of the study area. The eastern portion adjoining George Booth Drive also appears to have been rubbed out by later activities. A power easement crosses the study area at this point and the area underneath has been cleared and modified.

The area in general was noted to be highly disturbed from construction of the power easement, dumping of large amounts of rubbish and numerous bike trails, jumps, track ways and earth works. The track ways were highly eroded, down to bedrock in places, especially in the western portion of the tram line.

The tramline appears to have been constructed on a raised earth embankment which was topped with a layer of sandstone ballast on which the tracks were laid. No evidence of the tracks were present. A small section of ballast was noted in the eastern section but was highly disturbed, and a small pile of concrete adjacent which may have formed part of the structure.

In the area where the embankment was best preserved no ballast was evident as the top of the embankment was quite disturbed and now forms part of a bike track which has dug into the embankment top. The embankment in this section comprised of a raised earth mound approximately 2-3m in height and approximately 3m in width

which was constructed above a small drainage channel. A cross section of this portion of the line is presented in Appendix B.

4.0 Legislation

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974

The NPW Act (section 90) provides statutory protection for all material evidence of Aboriginal occupation of NSW. Aboriginal places which are areas of cultural significance to the Aboriginal community, are also protected by the 1974 Act (section 84) that states:

The Minister may declare lands to be 'protected archaeological areas' to preserve Aboriginal places and relics; and

It is an offence to disturb or destroy an Aboriginal place or relic without first obtaining written consent from the Director of National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW.

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 requires the obtaining of a Section 87 Permit if a person wishes to excavate land to disturb or discover an Aboriginal object (relic) or disturb or move an Aboriginal object.

A Section 90 Heritage Impact Permit is required if an activity will or is likely to destroy, damage, desecrate or deface and Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place.

A relic is defined as any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to indigenous and non-European habitation of the area that comprises NSW, being habitation both prior to and concurrent with the occupation of that area by persons of European extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains (NPW A s.5(1)).

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT (1979)

The EP&A Act states that environmental impacts are to be considered in land use planning. The term 'environmental impacts' specifically relates to Aboriginal heritage in three parts.

Part III covers planning instruments such as State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPP), Regional Environmental Plans (REP) and Local Environmental Plans (LEP).

The guidelines on the preparation of planning instruments specifically state that Aboriginal heritage should be assessed as an integral part of these studies.

Part IV of the Act determines the way in which consent authorities make decisions regarding development applications. Section 79C (b) states that;

“The impact of development on the natural or built environment should be considered before consent is granted; and”

Part V of the EP&A Act points out that State government agencies which act as determining authorities must also conduct reviews of their own or other agencies activities in terms of impact on the environment. Where these impacts are deemed to be minimal a Review of Environmental Factors is required, although where impacts are greater an EIS would be generated. This part of the Act requires that;

‘any impacts on a locality having aesthetic, anthropological, architectural, cultural, historic, scientific, recreational, scenic or social significance or other special value for present or future generations’ (DUAP 1995) be accounted for.

Section 117(2) Direction 2.3 - Heritage Conservation

Objective – The objective of this direction is to conserve items, areas, objects and places of environmental heritage significance and indigenous heritage significance.

This direction applies to all councils

This direction applies when a council prepares a draft LEP

A draft LEP shall contain provisions that facilitate the conservation of:

items, places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects or precincts of environmental heritage significance to an area, in relation to the hisotircal, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item, area, object or place, identified in a study of the environmental heritage of an area,

Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places that are protected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 iand,*

Aboriginal areas, Aboriginal objects, Aboriginal places or landscapes identified by an Aboriginal heritage survey prepared by or on behalf of an Aboriginal Land Council, Aboriginal body or public authority and provided to the council which identifies the area, object, place or landscape as being of heritage significance to Aboriginal culture and people.

THE HERITAGE ACT OF NSW (1977)

The Heritage Act provides protection to all relics, making it illegal to disturb or excavate land to discover, expose or move a relic, without a permit issued by the NSW Heritage Council. Relics, are defined as deposit, object or material evidence relating to the settlement of the area that comprises fifty or more years old (Heritage Act 1977 s.4(1). Where potential archaeological sites have been identified the proponent must provide an archaeological assessment, notify the Heritage Council of New South Wales and consider comments received and ensure that all necessary excavation permits under the Heritage Act 1977 have been granted.

LAKE MACQUARIE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2004

Part 6 Clause 43 Objective
The objective of this Part is to protect and conserve archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal, natural or European cultural significance. It does this by making provisions that conserve the remaining fabric, relics, settings and views, and evidence of the cultural significance of heritage items and the environment of heritage conservation areas.

Part 6 Clause 51 Development affecting known or potential archaeological sites or relics of European heritage significance

(1) Consent must not be granted for development that will be carried out on an archaeological site or potential archaeological site or a relic that has European heritage significance (whether or not it is also the site of a relic or potential relic of Aboriginal significance) unless the consent authority has considered a heritage impact statement explaining how the proposed development would affect the conservation of the place or site and any relic known or reasonably likely to be located at the place or site.

(2) Except where the proposed development is integrated development, the consent authority must provide a copy of the development application and heritage impact statement to the Heritage Council within 14 days of receipt of the application.

(3) Consent must not be granted to any such application unless the consent authority has taken into consideration any comments received by it from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the application and statement are sent in accordance with subclause (2).

(4) This clause does not apply if the proposed development does not involve disturbance of below ground deposits and the consent authority is of the opinion that the heritage significance of any above ground relics would not be adversely affected by the proposed development.

Part 6 Clause 52 Development in Vicinity of a Heritage Item

(1) Consent must not be granted for development in the vicinity of a heritage item unless the consent authority has considered a heritage impact statement that includes recommendations for the size, shape and scale of, setbacks for, and the materials to be used in, any proposed buildings or works, and for any modification that will reduce the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item.

(2) Development is in the vicinity of a heritage item for the purposes of this clause if, in the opinion of the consent authority, the development:

(a) May have an impact on the setting of a heritage item, for example, by affecting a significant view to or from the item or by overshadowing, or

(b) May undermine or otherwise cause physical damage to a heritage item, or

(c) Will otherwise have any adverse impact on the heritage significance of a heritage item or of any heritage conservation area within which it is situated.

(3) Before granting consent for development to which this clause applies, the consent authority must take into account the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item, on any heritage conservation area within which it is situated and on the visual curtilage and setting of the heritage item.

(4) A heritage impact statement required by this clause should include recommendations for the size, shape and scale of, setbacks for, and the materials to be used in, any proposed buildings or works and details of any modification that would reduce the impact of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item.

Part 6 Clause 47 Assessment of heritage significance

(1) Before granting consent required by this Part, the consent authority must assess the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development will affect the heritage significance of the heritage item or heritage conservation area concerned.

(2) In the case of proposed development that would affect a heritage item, that assessment must include consideration of a heritage impact statement that addresses:

(a) The heritage significance of the item as part of the environmental heritage of Lake Macquarie City local government area,

(b) The impact that the proposed development will have on the heritage significance of the item and its setting, including any landscape or cultural features,

(c) The measures proposed to conserve the heritage significance of the item and its setting,

(d) Whether any archaeological site or potential archaeological site will be adversely affected by the proposed development,

(e) The extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development will affect the form of any historic subdivision.

(3) In the case of proposed development in a heritage conservation area, that assessment must include consideration of a heritage impact statement that addresses the following:

(a) The heritage significance of the heritage conservation area and the contribution which any building, work, relic, tree or place affected by the proposed development makes to this heritage significance,

(b) The impact that the proposed development will have on the heritage significance of the heritage conservation area,

(c) The compatibility of the proposed development with nearby original buildings and the character of the heritage conservation area, taking into account the size, form, scale, orientation, setbacks, materials and detailing of the proposed development,

(d) The measures proposed to conserve the significance of the heritage conservation area and its setting,

(e) Whether any landscape or horticultural features will be affected by the proposed development,

(f) Whether any archaeological site or potential archaeological site will be affected by the proposed development,

(g) The extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development in accordance with the consent will affect any historic subdivision pattern.

LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN (2004)

DCP No. 1 – Volume 1 – Guidelines - Chapter 4 Heritage

The purpose of the guidelines is to provide advice on how to ensure proper management of the City's heritage resources specifically European heritage (Heritage Items, Catherin Hill Bay Conservation Area and Heritage Precincts) identified in DVP no.1

Section 3.0 provides guidelines for heritage items as identified as having individual heritage significance under the LEP 2004.

5.0 Management Recommendations

5.1 Indigenous Archaeology

It is recommended that the identified scared tree (Barnsley ST 1) be preserved from any impacts of future development. This could be achieved by the creation of a buffer zone around the tree to ensure minimal impact or inclusion of tree into an area of open space or conservation corridor.

Due to the complexity involved in identifying Aboriginal scarred trees it is recommended that a specialist be consulted in order to determine more accurately the age of the tree and the nature of the scar should the tree be impacted by future development.

It is also recommended that a conservation order be considered, to preserve the tree from impacts of possible future development. It should be noted that any proposal that would impact on the tree would require approval by the Director General under the *NPW Act 1974*.

5.2 European Heritage

The West Wallsend Steam Tram Line is a listed item (RT 01) on Lake Macquarie City Councils Local Environmental Plan (2004). Although little evidence of the tram line remains in the study area, the initial assessment of the tram line for council's heritage study recommended that the easement should be preserved where it exists and consideration given to the possibility of construction a cycle way along the route.

It is therefore recommended that the portion of the tram line embankment located in the study area be preserved.

The remaining portion of the tram line immediately to the north of study area has been proposed to be incorporated into a shared pedestrian and cycle path as part of the redevelopment of the area (Andrews Neil 2005). The design of the tam line will ensure the preservation of the original tram way formation as much as possible with minimal earthworks and disturbance. Additional management suggestions for the cycle path have included the installation of signage and interpretations along the cycle route (Andrews Neil 2005).

Any future development on the study area may wish to replicate the management strategies developed for the tram way in the adjacent development, thereby providing

consistency in the management and future community use of the remnants of the steam tram line.

As the historical sources indicate that no development, aside from land clearing, occurred on Lot 88 DP 755266, the initial site for Barnsley Public School. It is therefore considered that the lot does not contain any potential for historic archaeological deposits or relics.

6.0 Plates

Photo 1 Government Road, facing south

Photo 2 Exposure in track way T2 easement facing north east

Photo 3 Typical view of vegetation in study area, facing north west.

Photo 4 Track way eastern slope of study area, facing north

Photo 5 Large area of disturbance adjacent to north boundary, facing north west

Photo 6 Scarred tree, facing south.

Photo 7 Embankment of former tram line

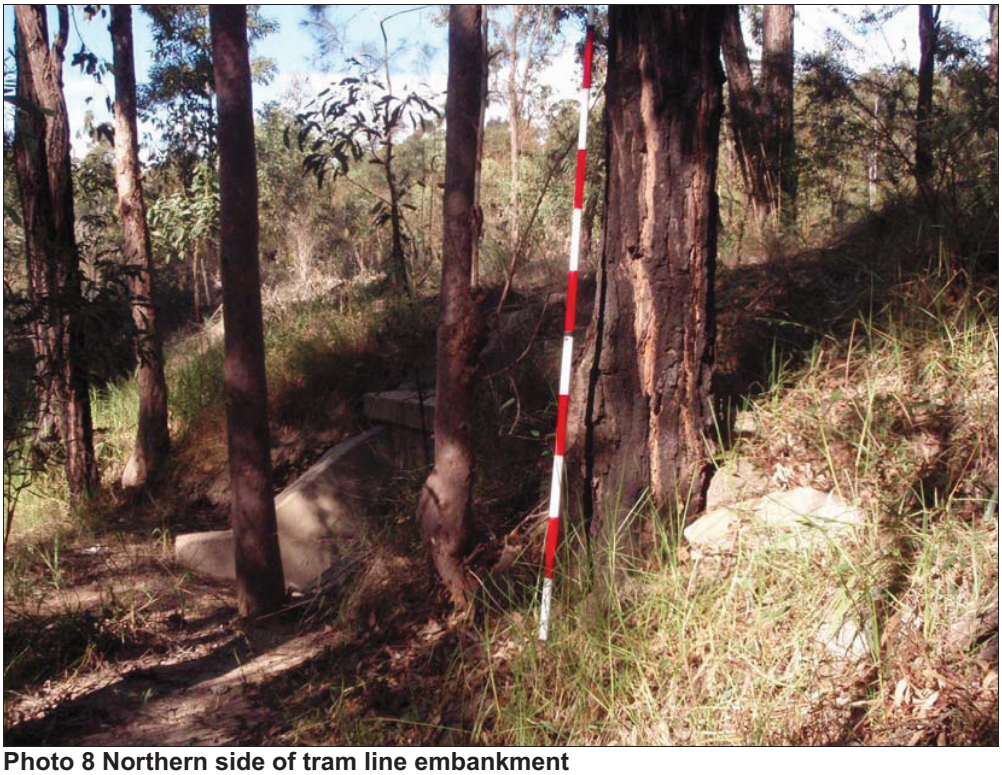


Photo 8 Northern side of tram line embankment

7.0 References

Andrews Neil	2005	*Plan of Management West Wallsend Heritage Tramway.* Unpublished report to Hammersmith Management Pty Ltd.
Besant, A.	2003	*Archaeology Report for Proposed Residential Development Lots 59,79 & 114, Cameron Park.* Unpublished report for Yarraman Developments Pty Ltd.
Brayshaw, H	1994	*Proposed Highway Link F3 Freeway to Branxton – Environmental Impact Statement. Working Paper No. 6. Aboriginal Archaeology.* Report to Connell Wagner.
Gorecki, P, Morton, D.R, Stern,N, Wright,R.V.S.	1984	Coexistence of humans and megafauna in Australia – improved stratified evidence. *Archaeology in Oceania 19:114-119.*
Gunson, N.	1974	*Australian Reminiscences & Papers of L.E. Threlkeld*. Australian Institute of Aboriginal Study Canberra.
Koettig, M.	1986	*Test excavations at six locations along the proposed pipeline route between Singleton and Glennies Creek Dam, Hunter Valley.* Report to the Dept. of Public Works, NSW
Kuskie, P.J & Clarke, E.	2006	*An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment of Hunter Water Corporation's Proposed Cameron Park Water Reservoir*. Unpublished Report to the Department of Commerce.
Long, A	2005	*Aboriginal Scarred Trees in New South Wales. A Field Manual.* Department of Environment & Climate Change.
Matthei, L.E.	1995	*Soil Landscapes of the Newcastle 1:100 000 Sheet.* Department of Land & Water Conservation NSW.
McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd	2004	*Sugar Valley Golf Course Indigenous Archaeological Assessment.*
Mills, R.	1999	*An Aboriginal Heritage Study of a proposed Northlakes residential development at Cameron Park, near Newcastle, NSW.* Report to North Lakes Pty Ltd Belmont.
Mills, R.	2003	*Report to North Lakes Pty Ltd, re impact of proposed sewer carrier main*. Addendum to the archaeological report above.
Mills, R.	2007	*An Indigenous & Non Indigenous Heritage Assessment for a Proposed Residential Development @ lots 103,105 George Booth Drive, Estelville.*
Nilson, L. (eds)	1985	*Lake Macquarie: Past & Present.* Lake Macquarie City Council.
Suters Architects Snell	1993	*City of Lake Macquaire Heritage Study.* Lake Macquarie City Council.
Barnsley Public School	1965	*Barnsley Public School Centenary 1865-1965: Souvenir Programme*
		Wallsend 9232-3S 1:25 000 topographic & Othophoto Map. NSW Department of Land & Property Information.

Appendix A – Community Consultation Log

06.05.08
Notification of project sent to:
NSW Native Title Services
Office of the Registrar
Department of Environment & Climate Change
Lake Macquarie City Council

Invitation letters to register interest in the project sent to:
Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council
Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation

12.05.08
Response from Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation registering in the project.

Response from DECC. Hunter Valley Stakeholder list sent. Sent additional registration letter to Mimagen Wajaar 7 Wybalena Close Kilaben Bay.

18.05.08
Response from Shane Frost Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation registering interest in the project.

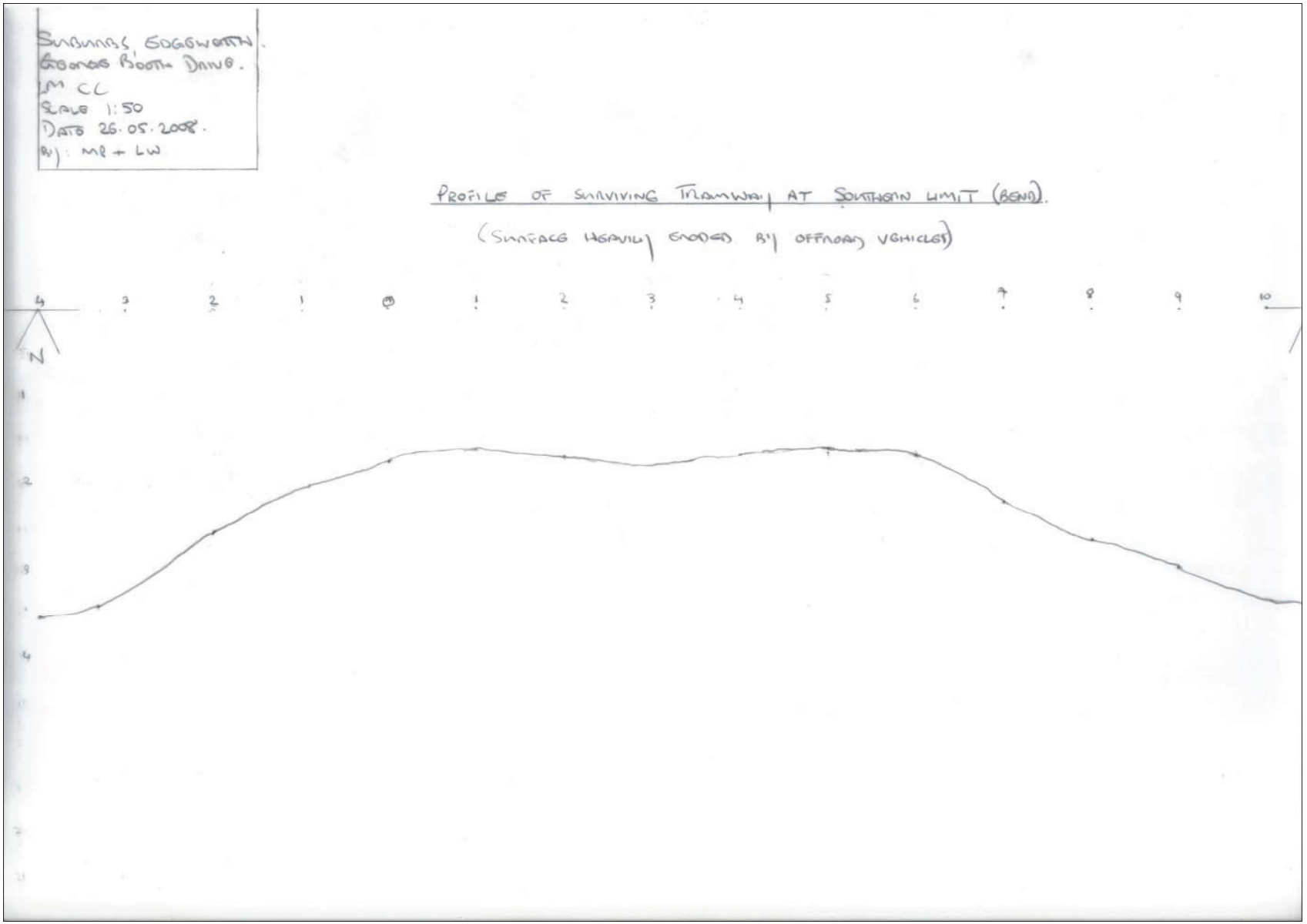
11.07. 2008
Draft copies of the report forwarded to Awabakal LALC, Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corp and Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corp for their review and comment.

15.09.2008
Response to report received from Kerrie Brauer ATOAC via email

September 2008
Contacted ALALC chasing up response to draft report, left message.

26.11.2008
Telephoned ALALC regarding response to draft report, spoke with Cheryl Kitchener who requested another copy of the draft report as they have had some administration changes over the past few months.

Appendix B – Cross Section of Tram Line


SURVEYED EDGEWORTH.
GEORGES BOOTH DRIVE.
MM CL
SCALE 1:50
DATE 26.05.2008.
BY: MP + LW
PROFILE OF SURVIVING TRAMWAY AT SOUTHERN LIMIT (BEND).
(SURFACE HEAVILY ERODED BY OFFROAD VEHICLES)
N

Appendix C – LMCC Heritage Study - Extract

CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY: **WEST WALLSEND STEAM TRAM LINE**	ITEM No. **RT - 01**
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:	
ADDRESS: n/a	S.H.I.P. REF. No.
	DATE INSPECTED: 1991
PARISH: COUNTY: Northumberland	BY: Doring
PRESENT OWNER(S) (Name & Address):	REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: SITE AREA: CURRENT ZONING:
CATEGORY: area/archaeological site SUBCATEGORY: tram line	MAP 1:25000 No. 9232-3-S NAME: WALLSEND GRID: various
HISTORICAL THEMES: S.H.I.P.: LOCAL:	Ref. Nos. for RELATED ITEMS
HISTORICAL PERIOD - BUILT: 1901-1925	USED: 1910 to 1930
BUILDER:	DATE BUILT: 1909 - 1910
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: NSWG Railways & Tramways	
PHOTOGRAPH &/OR SKETCH PLAN (and caption): See Supplementary Sheet 1.	

ITEM No. RT - 01

Suters - Doring - Turner Study (1992-93): ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES or RELICS

CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY **WEST WALLSEND STEAM TRAM LINE** ITEM No. **RT - 01**

KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS:

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS See Supplementary Sheet 2

INTERPRETATION: None yet

CONSERVATION ACTIVITY: None yet. Recommended that railway easement be retained where it still exists, and consideration be given to the development of a cycleway along the route to West Wallsend.

PRESENT USE: disused - the route is mostly vacant land or roadway, except where it passes through the High School grounds.

HISTORICAL NOTES: Tram line construction started April 1909. Service opened 19th December 1910. The tram service was popular & generally uneventful except for a couple of derailments, in one of which the tram driver was killed. The steam tram service lasted until the Depression, and the last tram ran on 2nd November 1930. The tram service was then replaced by a motor bus.

REFERENCES: C&MJ Doring, "Garden Valley Project I.A. Report: 1991", unpub.
W.Wallsend Pub Schl Centenary Comm "'Neath Mt Sugarloaf" Bk.1 1987, pp.62-66.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

HISTORIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )
AESTHETIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )
SOCIAL	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )
SCIENTIFIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )
OTHER	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: From 1910-1930 (when private motor cars were rarities), trams provided residents of West Wallsend, Holmesville & Edgeworth with their main means of daily passenger transport to Newcastle. The service made a great impact on the life of residents of the district, by bringing goods & services of Newcastle within easy reach, & helping overcome the physical isolation of the mining villages. The service helped make West Wallsend the hub of its district. The West Wallsend to Newcastle route (25 km) was reputedly the longest tram route in the state. This was the last Newcastle steam tram route to run, & one of the last steam tram services to operate in NSW (Sutherland-Cronulla closed 1931, Kogarah-Sans Souci closed 1937). The steam trams have a strong nostalgic value, & are still fondly remembered in the district.

RECOMMENDATION: see "Conservation Action" above.
Local Signif.- very high, Regional - high, State - moderate

ITEM No. RT - 01

Suters - Doring - Turner Study (1992-93): ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES or RELICS

Appendix D – Community Reports

ATOAC
Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
P.O.Box 253 Jesmond NSW 2299
Phone: (02) 49156 947
Mobile: 0412866357
Email: klbrauer@bigpond.com
ABN: 90 203 408 309
ICN 4411

15 September 2008

Angela Besant
Archaeologist
Insite Heritage
P.O. Box 98 Wangi Wangi NSW 2267

Re: Comments for the Aboriginal & Heritage Archaeological Assessment Land Off George Booth Drive, Edgeworth.

Dear Angela,

With regard to the Draft Aboriginal & Heritage Archaeological Assessment Land off George Booth Drive Edgeworth, we recognise the evaluation by Insite Heritage appears comprehensive.

The principle vision and aims of the Awabakal People is to protect the cultural heritage of our ancestors. Therefore, any artifacts and/or residual evidence of our people are held in high regard.

There is potential for artifact deposits to occur below the surface and such deposits, although not detectable by surface inspection by Insight and the Local Aboriginal Land Council, they may be uncovered during any excavation.

As stakeholders in the proposed project we recommend that:

- Representatives of the Awabakal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation involvement is desirable during the excavation of exposed features and surfaces to monitor collection of our ancestors artifacts.
- Due to the poor visibility across the study area we recommend that a series of test pits is needed to assess the subsurface deposits with an aim to also assess, identify and characterise the landscape within the proposed development project.
- At this point it may be possible to determine in places the extent, nature and significance of additional Awabakal artifacts.

The district surrounding the Edgeworth region is culturally significant to the Awabakal people who utilised and physical cared for the environment and with the evidence already retrieved and

documented from the region is a reasonable indication that this area was highly utilised by the Awabakal people prior to European settlement.

It was unfortunate that our request on the 29th July 2008 for a copy of the site survey from the Local Aboriginal land Council was not received and hope that our request is still being considered.

With regards to only the Local Aboriginal Land Councils' (LALCS') being involved in the Aboriginal site surveys, we would like to mention that although LALCs may have a "*role in the protection and promotion of culture and heritage in their area*", that role is not exclusively to be carried out by LALCs'. Within all legislations there is a role for the "*consultation of and with TO's with regard to land & cultural heritage*", and at no time is there given to LALCs the *exclusive rights* to talk on behalf of, or to be *exclusively consulted* regarding land & cultural heritage.

We reserve both the right and reluctance to share our cultural heritage with others in respect to aspects of the cultural significance that connects us to our country. It is our belief that those who should not be privy to this cultural knowledge have no rights to it.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,

K. Brauer

Kerrie Brauer
Secretary and Public Officer