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CLEVELAND HOUSE CLEVELAND NEW SOUTH WALES

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

DRAFT REPORT

NEWQUEST PROPERTY PTY LTD

23 September 2021



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Austral Archaeology (Austral) has been commissioned by Newquest Property Pty Ltd (Newquest) to undertake a Historical Archaeological Assessment (HAA) for the proposed development associated with Cleveland House, located at 273-275 Cleveland Road, Cleveland, New South Wales (NSW).

The study area consists of an area surrounding the original homestead, 'Cleveland House', located within part of Lot 1, DP194419, and it is in the Wollongong City Council Local Government Area (LGA).

The purpose of this historical archaeological assessment is to assess the potential impact from the development on the significance of any archaeological values that may be present within or in the vicinity of the study area. The report will provide suitable management recommendations should impacts to archaeological values be anticipated.

It is recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) prepared by Austral (Austral Archaeology 2021).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Cleveland House, the study area, is located within the original Portion 59, Parish of Kembla, that formed part of an early land grant of 600 acres issued to George Paul in 1833. In 1841, Maurice Fitzgerald built Cleveland House on a sub-divided area of the original land grant and sold 145 acres of the property in 1841. The property changed both owners and tenants on several occasions until 1888 when it was purchased by Maurice Madden, who was a prominent member of the local community and resided at Cleveland House, operating the farm as a dairy until his death in 1909. Madden was one of the founding directors of the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company Limited which produced and processed milk for the local and Sydney markets.

The study area remained in operation as a farm until recent times and Cleveland House was a residence until 1976. A modern house, also known as Cleveland, is located within this same portion

IDENTIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL VALUES

It is concluded that there are varying degrees of historical heritage values and archaeological potential and sensitivity within the study area owing to its continued occupation since at least 1841; its association with Maurice Madden, a prominent local figure in the latter part of the 19th century; and its successful operation as a dairy farm for well over 100 years. Cleveland House is locally significant and archaeological remains are likely to be found within the curtilage of the house and out-buildings. Archaeological remains of interest are from several different phases of occupation relating to early Colonial settlement followed by the development of the property as a dairy farm.

The proposed development consists of a range of activities that may impact on the potential archaeological remains within the study area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To mitigate the harm documented in this assessment, it is recommended that:

- 1) The Conservation Strategies outlined in the CMS be adopted (Austral Archaeology 2021);
- 2) The client takes steps to refine those strategies to consider any constraints that were not taken into account in this report;
- 3) Prior to any development works commencing in the wider area, temporary signage and fencing should be erected to ensure that no archaeological resources are inadvertently damaged. Personnel involved in any works in the vicinity of Cleveland House should be briefed as to its heritage values, their responsibilities and how heritage resources are to be managed.
- 4) Should it be determined that sub-surface works are required within the curtilage of Cleveland House and outbuildings, archaeological investigations in advance or during the proposed works will be required. Depending on the location and extent of such works, test excavations and/or a more comprehensive archaeological excavation may be required. If

any of the above situations arise, an excavation permit issued pursuant to Section 140 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* must be obtained prior to any excavation commencing.

- 5) If historical archaeological relics not assessed or anticipated by this report are found during any works, all works in the immediate vicinity are to cease immediately. A qualified archaeologist is to be contacted to assess the situation and consult with the Heritage NSW regarding the most appropriate course of action.
- 6) If Aboriginal archaeological material or deposits are encountered during earthworks, all works affecting that material or deposits must cease immediately to allow an archaeologist to make an assessment of the find. The archaeologist may need to consult with Heritage NSW and the relevant Aboriginal stakeholders regarding the find. Section 89A of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* requires that the Heritage NSW must be notified of any Aboriginal objects discovered within a reasonable time.
- 7) Should the actual development be altered significantly from the proposed concept design, then a reassessment of the heritage/archaeological impact may be required. This includes any impacts not explicitly stated.
- 8) A copy of this assessment should be lodged by the proponent in the local history section of the local library, and in the library maintained by Heritage NSW.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd (Austral) has been commissioned by Newquest Property Pty Ltd (the proponent) to prepare a Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) for Cleveland House, located at 273-275 Cleveland Road, Cleveland, New South Wales (NSW).

The study area consists of an area surrounding the original homestead, 'Cleveland House', located within part of Lot 1, DP194419, and it is in the Wollongong City Council Local Government Area (LGA).

The location of the study area is shown in Figure 1.1, Figure 1.2 and Figure 1.3.

1.1 METHODOLOGY

The methodology supporting this report involved a period of research to locate additional background material and to prepare a synthesis of the historical research to reflect better and understand the historical context of the study area.

The report is underpinned by the philosophy of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the *Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013* (Burra Charter), the practices and guidelines of the Heritage NSW and the requirements of the *Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009* (Wollongong LEP) and *Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009* (Wollongong DCP).

1.2 ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this historical heritage assessment is to assess the potential impact from the development on the significance of any heritage values that may be present within or in the vicinity of the study area. The report will provide suitable management recommendations should impacts to heritage values be anticipated.

The objectives of this report are to:

- Identify any potential historical archaeological values within or in the vicinity of the study area;
- Produce an archaeological predictive model and sensitivity map to guide any management decisions regarding the study area;
- Make a statement of significance regarding any historical heritage values that may be impacted by the proposed development;
- Assess the impact of the proposed works on any identified heritage values; and
- Make appropriate management and mitigation recommendations.

1.3 PROJECT TEAM AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was managed by Alexander Beben (Director, Austral). The assessment was authored by Chris Carter (Archaeologist, Sub-consultant). William Andrews (Archaeologist, Austral) prepared all GIS mapping in this report. David Marcus (Director, Austral) reviewed the draft report and provided input into the management recommendations.

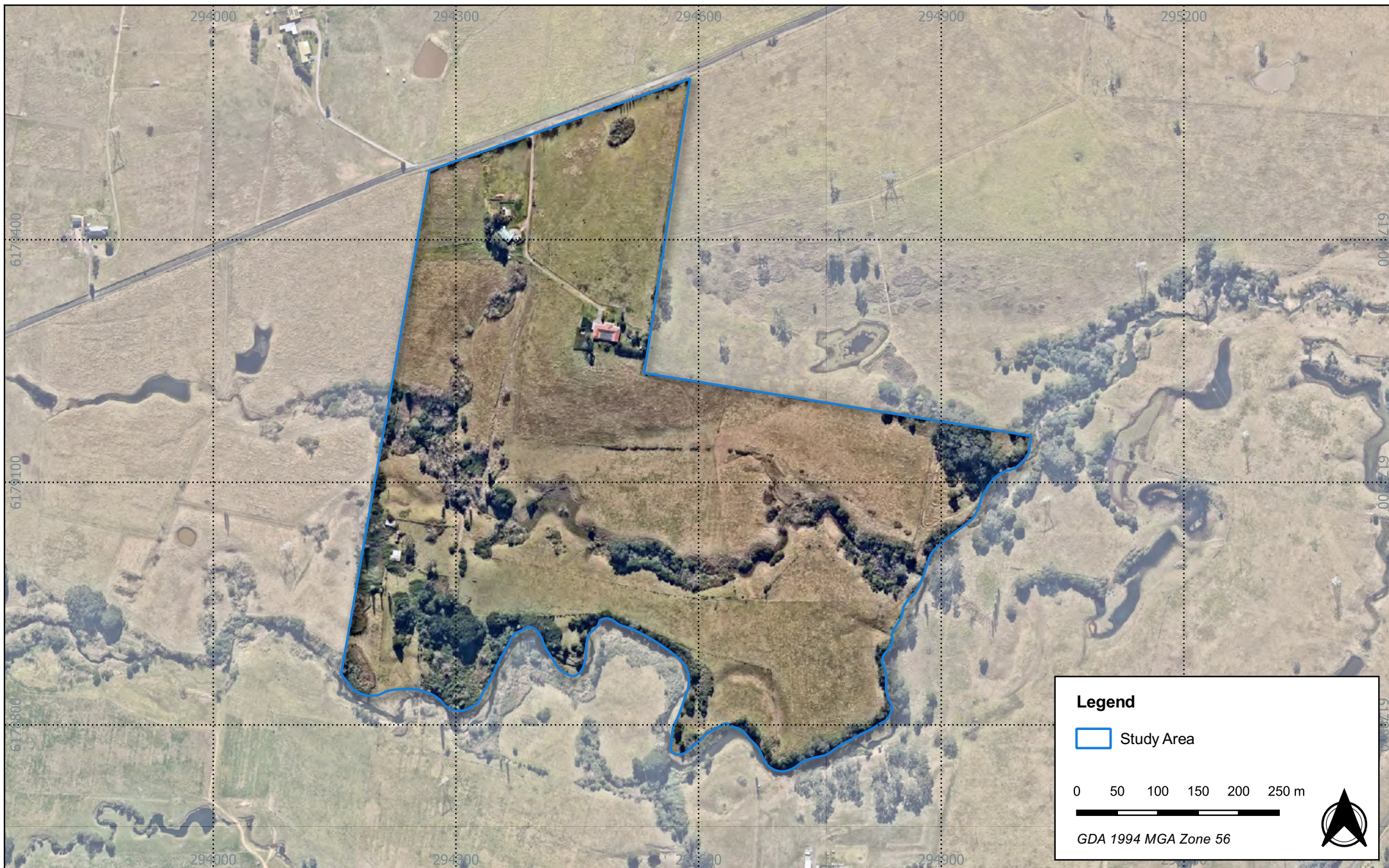


Figure 1.2 Detailed aerial imagery of the study area

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: Nearmap

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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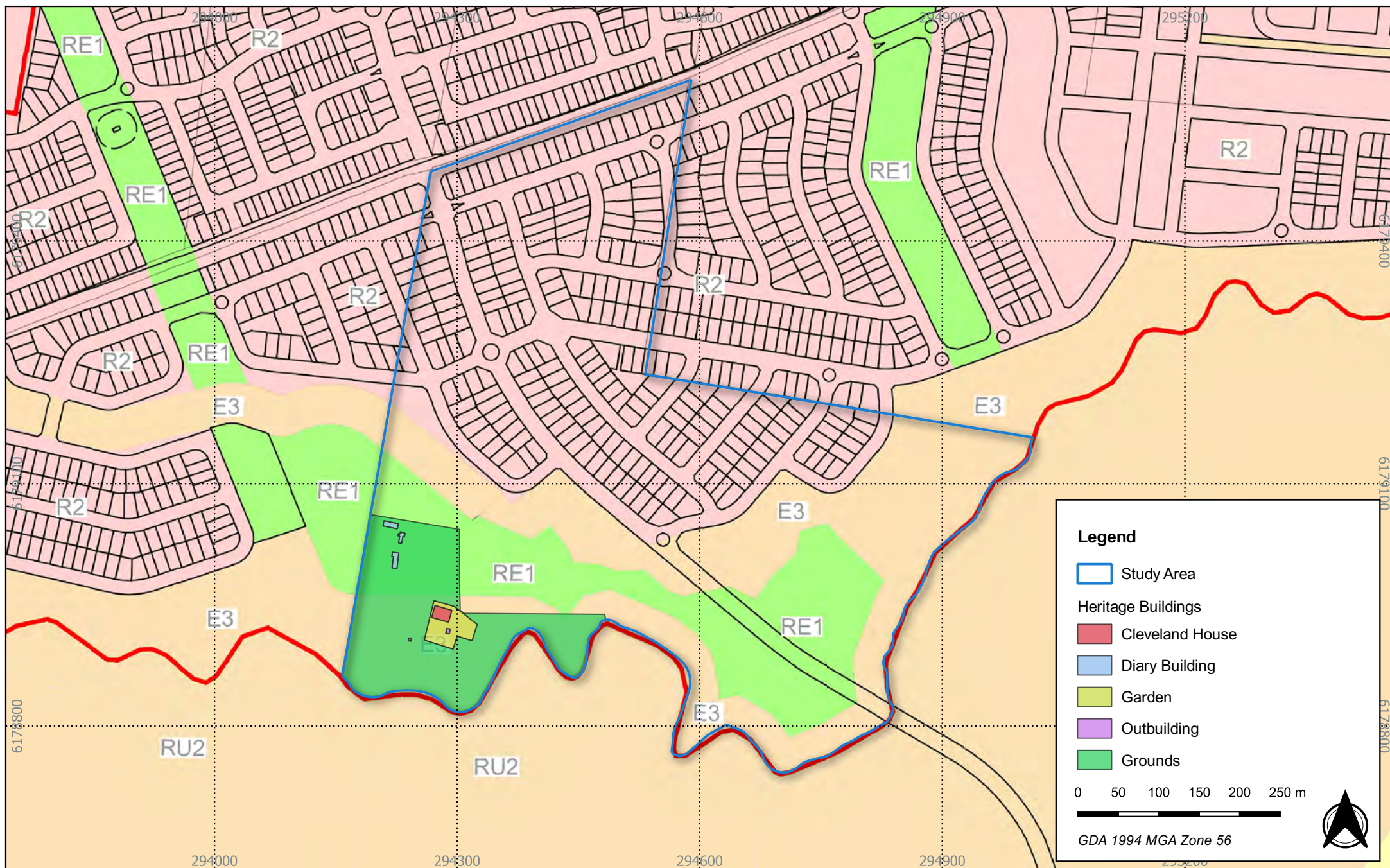


Figure 1.3 Plan of proposed development showing the location of the study area

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: 164-19P

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-21



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1.4 LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

This assessment includes an assessment of archaeological values to support the wider development application being made by the proponent. The report must be read in conjunction with the CMS also prepared for this project (Austral Archaeology 2021). It does not include an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage that may be present within the study area.

The results, assessments and judgements contained in this report are constrained by the standard limitations of historical research and by the unpredictability inherent in archaeological zoning from the desktop. Whilst every effort has been made to gain insight to the historical values of the study area, Austral cannot be held accountable for errors or omissions arising from such constraining factors.

1.5 ABBREVIATIONS

The following are common abbreviations that are used within this report:

Burra Charter	Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
DCP	Development Control Plan
EPA Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i>
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
Heritage Act	<i>NSW Heritage Act 1977</i>
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IHO	Interim Heritage Order
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
NHL	National Heritage List
NPW Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
RNE	Register of the National Estate
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Study Area	Cleveland House and immediate surrounds
Wollongong DCP	<i>Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009</i>
Wollongong LEP	<i>Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009</i>

2. STATUTORY CONTEXT

The following section summarises the relevant statutory context, including heritage listings, acts, and environmental planning instruments which are relevant to the study area and its cultural heritage.

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) established the Australian Heritage Council (formerly the Australian Heritage Commission) and provides for the protection of cultural heritage at a national level and items owned or managed by the Commonwealth. The EPBC Act has established two heritage registers:

- Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL): for significant items owned or managed by Commonwealth Government agencies;
- National Heritage List (NHL): for items assessed as being of national cultural significance.

A referral under the EPBC Act that is approved by the Australian Heritage Council is required for works to an item registered on either of these lists to ensure that the item's significance is not impacted upon.

No part of the study area appears on either the CHL or the NHL.

The Australian Heritage Council is also responsible for keeping the Register of the National Estate (RNE). In 2007 the RNE was frozen and no further sites were added to it. For Commonwealth properties, the RNE was superseded by the CHL and NHL lists. The RNE is now retained as an archive of information about more than 13,000 places throughout Australia.

The study area is listed on the RNE (Place ID: 1528).

2.2 NSW HERITAGE ACT 1977

The Heritage Council is the approval authority under the Heritage Act for works to an item on the State Heritage Register (SHR). Section 57(1) of the Heritage Act identifies the need for Heritage Council approval if the work involves the following tasks:

- Demolishing the building or work;
- Damaging or despoiling the place, precinct or land, or any part of the place, precinct or land;
- Moving, damaging or destroying the relic or moveable object;
- Excavating any land for the purpose of exposing or moving the relic;
- Carrying out any development in relation to the land on which the building, work or relic is situated, the land that comprises the place, or land within the precinct;
- Altering the building, work, relic or moveable object;
- Displaying any notice or advertisement on the place, building, work, relic, moveable object or land, or in the precinct; and
- Damaging or destroy any tree or other vegetation on or remove any tree or other vegetation from the place, precinct or land.

Demolition of an SHR item (in whole) is prohibited under the Heritage Act, unless the item constitutes a danger to its occupants or the public. A component of an SHR item may only be demolished if it does not contribute to the significance of the item.

Section 57(1) of the Heritage Act also applies to archaeological remains (such as relics) within an SHR site, and excavation can only proceed subject to approval of a Section 60 application by Heritage NSW.

No part of the study area appears on the SHR.

HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION REGISTER (SECTION 170 REGISTER)

Under Section 170 of the Heritage Act, government instrumentalities must keep a Heritage and Conservation Register (a Section 170 Register) which contains items under the control or ownership of the agency, and which are, or could, be listed as heritage items (of State or local significance). Road reserves within the study area are owned by the Department of Roads and Maritime Services.

No part of the study area appears on any Section 170 Heritage and Conservation registers.

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS

An Environmental Planning Instrument (EPI) is made under the EPA Act. An EPI can be a Development Control Plan (DCP), Local Environmental Plan (LEP) or a State Environmental Planning Policy.

WOLLONGONG LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2009

The current LEP for the study area is the Wollongong LEP. Part 5.10 of the LEP deals with heritage conservation, and subsections (2) and (3) determine whether development consent needs to be granted by Wollongong City Council before any activities occurring which may impact cultural heritage. Heritage items are listed under Schedule 5, Part 1 of the Wollongong LEP.

The study area is listed under the Wollongong LEP as 'House, Cleveland' (Item No. 5950).

WOLLONGONG DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2009

The applicable DCP for the study area is the Wollongong DCP. Chapter E11 of the Wollongong DCP outlines design controls to be implemented when dealing with heritage items in general. Section 14 details requirements for developments in the vicinity of a heritage site and Section 19 the requirements for managing post-European archaeological sites. Section 20 defines Heritage Conservation Areas and outlines general principles of development involving with heritage items.

The study area is not located within a heritage conservation area or streetscape and therefore the infill heritage guidelines are not applicable in this instance.

Chapter D16 details requirements that relate to development within the West Dapto Release Area and Section 8.2 of that chapter defines heritage management principles that apply to the study area.

2.4 SUMMARY OF HERITAGE LISTINGS

Table 2.1 lists the relevant statutory and non-statutory registers, listings and orders, and identifies those in which any part of the site is listed. The location of heritage items in relation to the study area are outlined in Figure 2.1.

Table 2.1 Summary of heritage register listings for the subject study area

Register/Listing	Inclusion	Statutory implications
NHL	No	No
CHL	No	No
RNE	Yes	No
SHR	No	No
Wollongong LEP	Yes	Condition 5.10 of LEP
Wollongong DCP	Yes	Chapter D16, sections 5 and 8, Chapter E11
Register of National Trust (NSW)	No	No

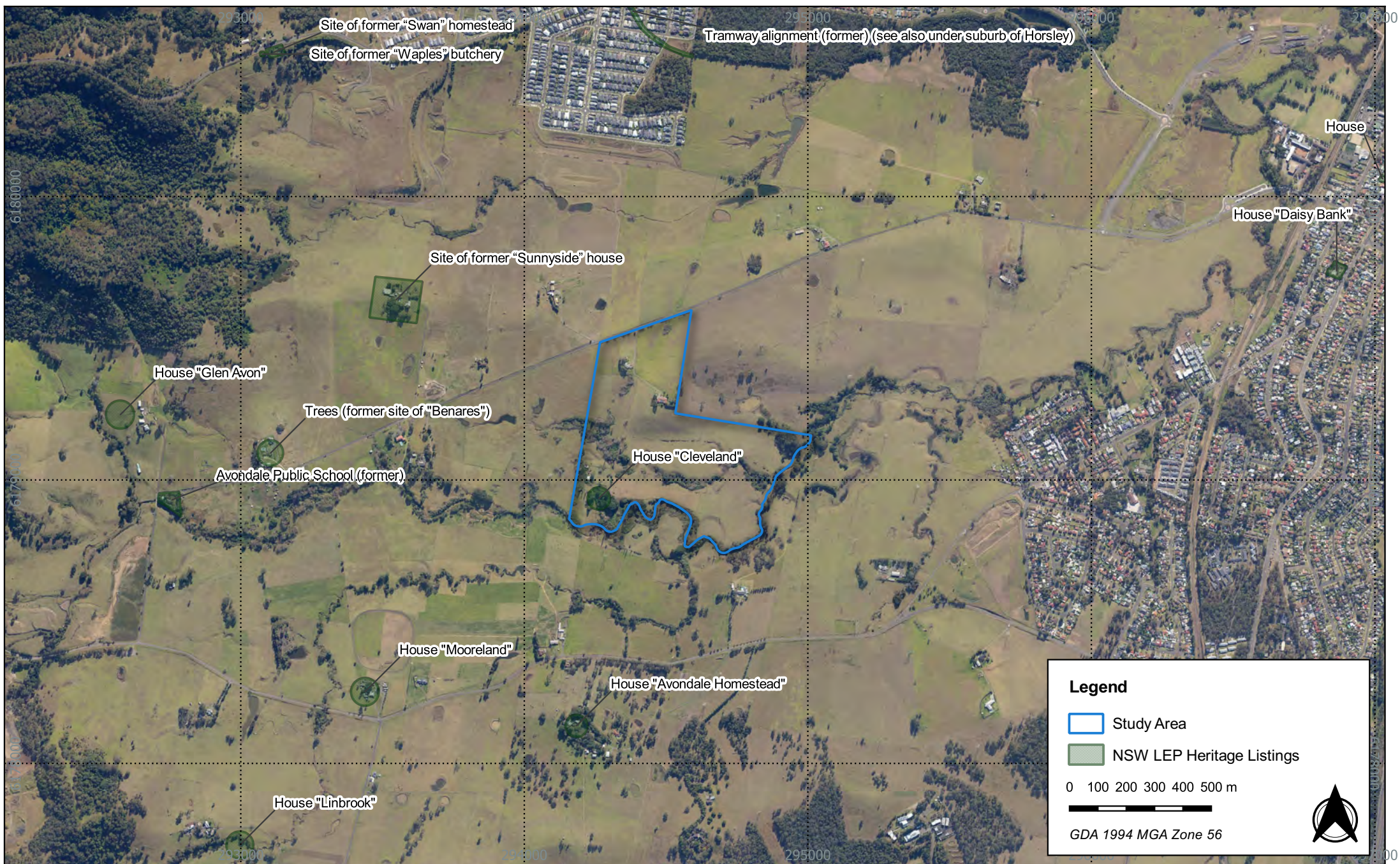


Figure 2.1 Location of heritage items in relation to the study area

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: NSW LPI Aerial; Wollongong LEP

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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3. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The following historical background is designed to contextualise a site-specific history which will aid in the understanding of the heritage values of the study area. This work will provide a useful and concise summary of the history of the study area.

3.1 PRE-EUROPEAN OCCUPATION

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the Illawarra extends back to 18,000 years ago at Bass Point (Bowdler 1977, p.53) and it is likely that Aboriginal groups have been present in the Illawarra region for at least 20,000 years (Organ & Speechley 1997, p.1). The Department of Environment and Conservation's (now the Aboriginal heritage team of the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment) Illawarra Region Aboriginal Heritage Study identified the Dharawal-speaking Wodi group as the Aboriginal custodians of the Illawarra region (DEC 2005). Dharawal people are distinguished as fresh water, bitter water or salt water people depending on whether they occupied the coastal regions, the swamps or the plateaus and inland river valleys (DEC 2005, p.5).

The population density of the Illawarra region prior to 1788 is unknown, though the area was probably one of the most densely populated parts of Australia with 2 to 4 people present per kilometre² (Organ & Speechley 1997, p.1). It has been estimated that in 1820 there were 3,000 Aboriginal people in the Illawarra. This number declined rapidly and the population in Wollongong in 1846 had been reduced to 98 individuals (Organ & Speechley 1997, p.10).

After land grants were issued to settlers in the Illawarra from 1816, Aboriginal people were displaced from traditional lands and food resources were reduced through land clearance and the introduction of European livestock, plants and crops (Organ & Speechley 1997, p.11). All land grants fronted on to fresh water which would have had a huge impact on traditional land use (DEC 2005, p.15). From the 1850s onwards, reports indicate that in the Illawarra, Aboriginal camping and hunting became concentrated along the coast as a result of being pushed to the fringes of their country by European settlement and farming practises (DEC 2005, p.25). Other camps were known to be further inland during the post-contact period. Henry Osborne and his family, who settled along Marshall Mount Creek in 1831, are said to have had good relations with a local Aboriginal family that lived nearby "as it was their custom to camp opposite where the school now stands" (Organ 1990, p.171).

There are no records of large-scale armed resistance from the Aboriginal people of the Illawarra against Europeans, but small-scale resistance including homicide, theft, intimidation and the sabotage of European farming took place in an attempt to drive off the Europeans and also to obtain food once traditional hunting and plant collecting practices had been disrupted by farming (DEC 2005, p.18).

The linguistic and social links between pre-contact populations and present Aboriginal groups were severely impacted by the processes of colonisation, which in turn are obscured by gaps in written and oral histories. The biases of European chroniclers must also be taken into account, alongside the devastating effects of newly introduced European diseases such as influenza and smallpox, social dislocation and the disruption of traditional land use and travel practices by European settlement.

3.2 OVERVIEW OF HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT IN THE ILLAWARRA

The charting and exploration of the Illawarra by Europeans began in 1770, when Lieutenant James Cook sailed the Endeavour along the coast. The land from Port Kembla to Corrimal was drawn by the ship's artist Sidney Parkinson and landmarks named included the Port Kembla headland ('Red Point') and Mount Kembla ('Hat Hill'). In 1796, George Bass and Matthew Flinders landed near Tom Thumb Lagoon, named after their small boat, and explored Lake Illawarra and areas to the west, documenting the first recorded contact with Aboriginal people in the Illawarra. Flinders' journal refers to whites living with Aboriginal people encountered there and it has been suggested these were escaped convicts (McDonald 1976, Organ 1990).

In 1797, the ship 'Sydney Cove' was wrecked in the Bass Strait and survivors made their way along the coast, largely on foot, passing through the Illawarra and making camp at Coalcliff, where a coal seam was discovered and utilised for a camp fire. Upon reaching Sydney, the survivors reported the presence of coal as well as a supposed attack by 'savage natives' near Red Point (McDonald 1976). The discovery of coal led to its investigation by George Bass on a further expedition along the coast in a whaleboat. Bass landed at Kiama and also explored the Shoalhaven River area, making observations on the richness of the land.

Dr Charles Throsby established the first settlement in the Illawarra in 1815, and, with the assistance of Joe Wild and Aboriginal guides, Throsby also cut a cattle track from Appin via Bulli in the same year. The track was in use until 1844 when Captain Westmacott found another route up Bulli Mountain in approximately the same vicinity as the modern-day pass. Throsby established a small cattle station behind South Beach in Wollongong, where an area was cleared for a cattle yard and a stockman's hut was built for Joe Wild, who remained as Throsby's overseer and who was also made constable of the district of Five Islands in 1815 (Osbourne 2000, p.1). The following year, Surveyor-General John Oxley was sent to the Illawarra region to prepare plans for the Crown in preparation for the granting of the rich lands discovered there; Oxley himself became the second person to establish cattle in the area.

The first reference to the name 'Wollongong' was in 1826 in a report on the cedar industry written by Oxley. In 1834, the township of Wollongong was laid out by Oxley on the property owned by Charles Throsby Smith. Early employment in the district was primarily timber getting and land clearing for farming. According to the 1828 census, 42% of those in work were employed in agriculture. By the 1830's a few farms had been established in the Illawarra. Surplus produce was taken to the bay at Wollongong and shipped to Sydney in small vessels.

In 1826 Governor Darling defined the settled districts and the 'Limits of Location' within 19 counties and these were mapped by Major Mitchell in 1834 (Perry 1957). The study area is located within the County of Camden, which formed one of the 19 counties (Figure 3.1).

As settlements were established, the locals appealed to the government to improve services to the area, particularly through an improved road network. In 1844, a group of local farmers including Henry Osborne, George Brown, James King and Cornelius Wholohan petitioned Governor Bourke for funds to build roads (Cousins 1948, p.92). As a result, Governor Bourke visited the area in April of that year and, a few months later, Major Mitchell was sent out to survey the area for roads and government services. Cornelius Wholohan later became the licensee of a local hotel and named it the 'Governor Bourke' to honour his deeds and assistance to the area (Cousins 1948, p.190).

In 1849, James Shoobert opened the first coal mine in the Illawarra at Mt Keira. From this point on, coal mining began to develop as the major primary industry of the northern Illawarra. The developing coal industry had a major impact on trade at Wollongong Harbour. The increase that the coal industry brought to the harbour was a major incentive for improvements that commenced in 1861. Work began on the construction of Wollongong Harbour in 1837 and the first stage was completed in 1844. A rail connection to Sydney was completed in 1888 and the double rail line came in 1892.



Figure 3.1 The limits of Location as defined by the Nineteen Counties (Mitchell Library Map Collection)

3.3 DEVELOPMENT OF CLEVELAND

The earliest grant within the locality of Cleveland occurred in 1817, when George Molle was granted land by Governor Macquarie on 11 September 1817 (Lindsay 1994, p.19). This was a modest grant of 300 acres.

Six hundred acres was also granted to George W Paul on 1 May 1833 (McDonald 1976, p.77). This property was listed as Portion 59, Parish of Kembla, and the homestead that became known as 'Cleveland' was built on this block. Other early grants in the area included ER Stack (300 acres in 1837) and J. Blanch (200 acres in 1839).

Cleveland did not develop as a village or town but rather as a collection of rural properties. Dapto, located a few kilometres to the east of Cleveland, was the closest town and provided the necessary services.

By 1850, the private town of Dapto was well-established with a semblance of an ordered layout. A Presbyterian school was completed and established in 1851. By 1871, the town of Dapto included the hotel, operated at that time by George Osborne, the mill, the school and the Central Illawarra Municipal Council chambers plus a large store owned by K McKenzie, which included the post office. A public school operated briefly in 1852 but was not permanently established until August 1875 (Cousins 1948, p.26).

Dapto was quick to become an important agricultural region in the Illawarra by the mid-19th century. After an unsuccessful attempt at wheat growing in the 1850s, farmers in the area embraced the dairy industry. Henry Osborne had a good herd of cattle in the 1840s and was one of the developers of early dairying in the Illawarra (Secomb 1999, p.64).

The arrival of the railway in the 1887 forced the town to shift from its original site near Mullet Creek to a new location adjacent to the platform, with the original settlement taking the name of Brownsville while the name of Dapto migrated to the new location (Reynolds 2002, p.87). Figure 3.3 contains an excerpt from a parish map showing the relationship of the study area to the township of Dapto. The study area is located within Portion 59 (Parish of Kembla) in the lower left section of the figure. The locality of Cleveland is not shown on this map and more than likely related to the locality in the vicinity of the homestead that had become known as 'Cleveland'. The suburb of 'Cleveland' was not gazetted until 2005 (NSW Govt. Gazette, 5 August, 2005).

The late 1890s was a boom period in Dapto. The smelting works were in full operation by 1899 and were prosperous over the next few years. They treated lead, silver, zinc, copper and gold from Broken Hill, Zeehan, Mount Morgan and Western Australia. At one stage, the smelting works in Dapto employed 500 men and was the largest industry for employment in the district. In 1905, the smelting works closed due to a lack of ore from Western Australia and subsequently the company was re-structured and began to shift its works to Port Kembla (O'Malley 1950).

The closure of the smelting works in 1905 transformed Dapto back into a quiet rural village. However, Dapto boomed again from the 1950s onwards as many new subdivisions were opened up in the vicinity and the population steadily grew. As the population of Dapto increased during the mid- to late 20th century, numerous public buildings were erected, including large shopping centres, hotels, schools and libraries (Secomb 1999, p.64). This suburban expansion continues today.

The locality known as Cleveland has remained essentially farmland since initial European settlement, with the main South Coast railway line and Mullet Creek seemingly barriers to urban encroachment. However, the 1970s saw the wider agricultural area in which Cleveland resides become the focus for planning for the urban expansion of the City of Wollongong.



Figure 3.2 County of Camden, 1848

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

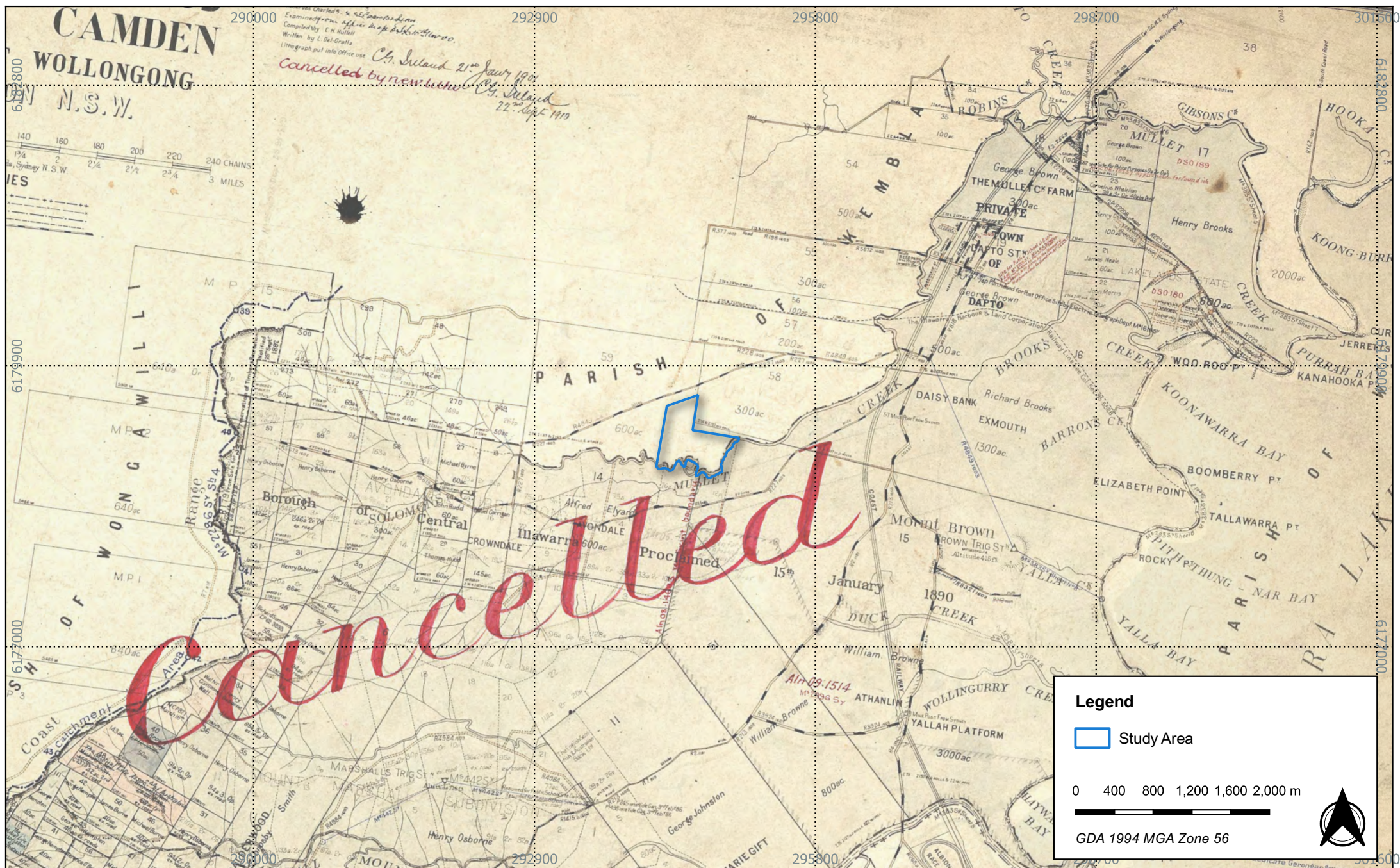


Figure 3.3 Excerpt from Parish of Calderwood Map 5th Ed. 1901

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: NSW HLRV

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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3.4 SITE SPECIFIC HISTORY

The landscape surrounding the locality of Cleveland comprises low-lying, mostly cleared, alluvial lowlands and floodplain adjacent to Mullet Creek and its tributaries, together with an undulating midland valley and rural landscape with stands of forest vegetation surrounding homesteads, along drainage lines and on low hills (Wollongong City Council, 1995: p. 27).

The homestead known as Cleveland House stands within the original 600 acre grant (Portion 59, Parish of Kembla) made in 1833 to George William Paul, a Sydney merchant who had disposed of his land even before the grant was issued (Ali 1980, McDonald 1976, p.77). The house was reportedly built in 1841 by Maurice Fitzgerald, a local settler.

A series of subdivisions and conveyances then followed. In February 1841 Maurice Fitzgerald bought 300 acres for £150 and in May sold 145 acres for £800, which suggests the house could have been built in the interval (*Illawarra Historical Society Bulletin*, 1 February 1995, p. 5). A painting of Cleveland House dated to 1847 shows the original buildings (Figure 3.4).



Figure 3.4 1847 Sketch of Cleveland House (Source: NLA Collection)

The owners of Cleveland House changed regularly and many were absentee landlords. The owner after Fitzgerald was Hercules Watt, who held the property for a short time before he sold it to Cornelius Wholohan, who in turn mortgaged it to Thomas Jessett (McDonald 1976, p.77). Jessett exercised his power of sale when Wholohan died (Cornelius Wholohan drowned in Mullet Creek in April, 1838) “for a suspiciously low price and in a suspiciously short time, to a purchaser who sold back to him before the year was out” (McDonald 1976, p. 77). Thomas Wholohan (Cornelius’ son) bought an equity suit to convert the mortgage and, after protracted proceedings, in 1853 Jessett was ousted from his seemingly ill-gotten estate. Thomas Wholohan promptly sold the property to William Speer, who sold it in 1856 to William Howe. Howe only lived for a further 2 years and the property was left to a succession of tenants including Mr King Barton, who was Governor FitzRoy’s former private secretary (McDonald 1976, p.77). Messrs Gibson and Thomson were tenants in 1873 when the property was advertised for sale and described as “...the choicest dairy farm in Illawarra” (*Illawarra Mercury*, 29 August, 1873).

The Cleveland property was again advertised for sale on 30 October 1888. The property was described as being:

[the] well known as CLEVELAND FARM, containing 145 acres (more or less), of Excellent Fertile Soil, a large portion of which is Rich Brush Land, bounded by a never-failing Creek

and a Deep Water Hole that will supply more than sufficient water to irrigate the whole area of the Estate. The land is all fenced, cleared, and sown down with artificial grasses, and is noted as one of the Best Dairying Farms in Illawarra. Brick Cottage, Dairy, Barn, Stockyard, Orchard, etc. (Illawarra Mercury, 30 Oct. 1888).

The property was purchased by Mr Maurice Madden for £2,610 (McDonald 1976, p.77).

Madden continued to operate the property as a dairy and in 1900 was one of the founders (and an early director) of the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company Limited (*Australian Town and Country Journal*, 30 Oct. 1912). This company was formed to collect and process milk produced from the surrounding area for both the local and Sydney market. The company was formed as a genuine co-operative and all milk suppliers had to be shareholders in the company.

By 1901, the Madden family were of sufficient standing within the community to hold a picnic on the banks of Mullet Creek and invited over 300 guests, providing them with refreshments for lunch and afternoon tea and allowing time for “sports and amusements” between times (*Illawarra Mercury*, 30 Nov. 1901). In a similar vein, a ‘social’ was held at Cleveland House in September 1906 to raise funds for the Roman Catholic bazaar (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus*, 22 Sept. 1906). The social attracted over 100 guests and “...refreshments were provided by various ladies, and in every way the affair was a most enjoyable one”.

Cleveland Farm secured 3rd prize for farms within the South Coast region (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus*, 14 March 1908). An article in the local newspaper described the property entered in the competition that was sponsored the *Sydney Mail and Herald*. A description published during the judging of the competition stated that:

...it is a picture! The flats are a brilliant green, due to the recent rain, and as clean as a bowling green. That is due to hard, solid work. The paddocks are broken by willows and other trees, which mark the winding, course, of the stream running through them. A neat stone house, surrounded by a white fence, white gates, sheds, bails, outbuildings, stand boldly out against a vivid green background. And everywhere are beautiful shelter trees. Nor is this pleasing prospect the work of unaided nature. During the eighteen years he has had' the property, Mr.Madden has planted almost every tree on the place, except the indigenous ones, and these he has left in clumps with wise foresight. All the improvements have been erected by him, and there is not a panel of fencing that does not come under this category. And the fencing is by far the best known on the coast. ... The dairy is sweet and wholesome, with its tiled floor and limed walls. Over all the outbuildings wherever possible, lofts have been erected. ... There is a good home at 'Cleveland' -a neat little vegetable garden, plenty of tanks, and everywhere signs of hard toil and ingenuity. (Illawarra Mercury, 14 Feb. 1908).

A judge in that competition described the Cleveland farm as “the cleanest and best kept farm” but as “his stock [were] of such poor quality” he could not have been awarded a higher place (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus*, 14 March, 1908).

Maurice Madden died in 1909 (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus*, 16 Jan. 1909). In his death notice, Madden was described as a “native of the district and highly esteemed” and “one of the most successful farmers in Illawarra”. His wife, Annie Madden, sold the property in 1912 along with all the household furniture, dairy equipment, dairy herd and sundry items (*Illawarra Mercury*, 12 Nov. 1912). Mrs Madden moved to Sydney and died on 12 May 1937 (*The Catholic Press*, 20 May 1937). Her obituary stated that she and her late husband previously ran Cleveland farm and were “...well and favourably known on the South Coast, and closely connected with the leading families of old Illawarra”.

D'Arcy Dunster purchased Cleveland in 1921 from RJ Wilson (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus*, 29 April, 1921). Dunster owned the property until 1974 when he sold it to the Dapto Pastoral Company. He was able to continue to reside on the property until his death in 1976 and the house has been empty since that time (Ali 1980). Registered development on the farm includes dwelling additions in 1960 and 1993.

The Dapto Pastoral Company also purchased the land on the southern side of Mullet Creek in 1974. These southern portions were originally part of ‘Avondale’, a property located within a parcel of land that was granted to Alfred Elyard in 1834. Avondale Homestead is located 800 metres south of Cleveland House and is also listed on the Wollongong LEP (Item No. 5916).

3.5 DESCRIPTION OF THE HOMESTEAD

Cleveland House was constructed in early Victorian Georgian style and is a brick house with corrugated metal, hipped roof. The brickwork is in Flemish bond and the bullnose verandah roof has a 2-way curve. There are 5 pairs of French doors on the front elevation. The house was described as possessing “architectural interest, charm and atmosphere” (McDonald 1976, p.77).

The house is associated with several outbuildings that were constructed as the property developed. The house is also surrounded by plantings within a curtilage delineated by a fence line and is situated 135 metres north of Mullet Creek. Cleveland House has been derelict for some time, with a newer dwelling (also known as ‘Cleveland’) built approximately 360 metres to the north-east on top of a low hill.

Cleveland House is located within a lot of DP194419, which forms part of a larger conglomeration of portions that the proponent plans to develop for housing. Figure 1.3 contains a plan of the proposed development. The location of Cleveland House is marked on that figure and, as the proposal stands, is contained within an area set aside for ‘public recreation’.

Aerial photographs display changes to the layout of the study area through the more recent past, with the earliest image dating from 1948. The curtilage of the study area may be defined as an irregular area following a fence line that runs north from the banks of Mullet Creek to a point slightly to the north-east of the house before taking a line west, then north and west again to enclose the dairy sheds and eventually returning to Mullet Creek. Figure 3.5 contains an excerpt from the 1961 aerial image of the study area.

In the most recent image, Cleveland House is not visible at all, being completely enveloped by trees and shrubbery. The spread of vegetation can be clearly seen via the series of aerial images, with the house becoming more obscured through time. The 1961 image clearly shows the outline of the house along with at least 2 detached out-buildings that are associated with it. A further 3 out-buildings are located approximately 75 metres to the north-west of the house and are most likely associated with dairying. The 1961 image also shows an enclosed yard to the south of house and this area may have contained a kitchen garden and orchard (as described in earlier reports). The slope between this garden and Mullet Creek appears to have been cleared and is a well-maintained area. The most recent image shows this area largely overgrown with vegetation. Lantana may be the most intrusive plant growing over the house and surrounding areas.

The range of aerial imagery does show some change through time in relation to the layout of the dairy sheds – relating to the series of 3 buildings enclosed within a fenced area. Such a comparison only extends from 1961 until 2018 but does show that alterations have taken place.

The northern building was built on an axis running roughly east/west and was a relatively narrow, rectangular structure with a gable roof (based on the 1961 image). The most recent image shows that this building was mostly likely replaced prior to the 1977 aerial image.

The central building was built on an axis running roughly north/south and again was a relatively narrow, rectangular structure with a gable roof (based on 1961 image). This building does not appear to have been altered significantly since that time however there are minor structural changes evident (Figure 3.5, Figure 3.6 & Figure 3.7).

The southern building was built on an axis running roughly north/south and again was a relatively narrow, rectangular structure with a gable roof (based on 1961 image) and was also replaced by 1993 (Figure 3.6). The more recent building appears to have been built in 2 parts with a rectangular, gabled shed clad with corrugated steel on an east/west axis being extended to the north by an adjoining lean-to structure, also clad with corrugated steel.

The comparison between the 1961 and 2018 images also shows alteration to the layout of the yards associated with the dairy, most evident immediately following the construction of these features after the time of the 1987 aerial but before the 1993 aerial photograph (Figure 3.6). The 1961 image shows a rectangular yard to the east of the central building with a smaller set of yards linking this building to the larger yard. This is likely to have been a holding yard for stock prior to milking. The central building may have been the milking shed. However, these yards had become derelict and were no longer visible by the time of the 1993 aerial (Figure 3.6). By 1993, a new configuration of fences had been constructed, including the construction of a yard area to the south of the larger shed, and a round yard, approximately 10 metres in diameter, approximately 8 metres to the east of the shed. This appears to suggest that the buildings were used to stable horses during this period.

The RNE included a brief description of the garden and noted: "Mature plantings include Hoop Pines, Cypress, Bunya Pine, Poplars, Coral Trees, Norfolk Pine, Eucalypts and remnant garden hedges covering sections of post and wire, and timber picket fencing". This entry most likely dates from 1980 when it was placed on the Register. The SHI records that the "house is derelict and garden is overgrown", which is presumably dated to 2015 when the listing was last updated (SHI # 2700019).

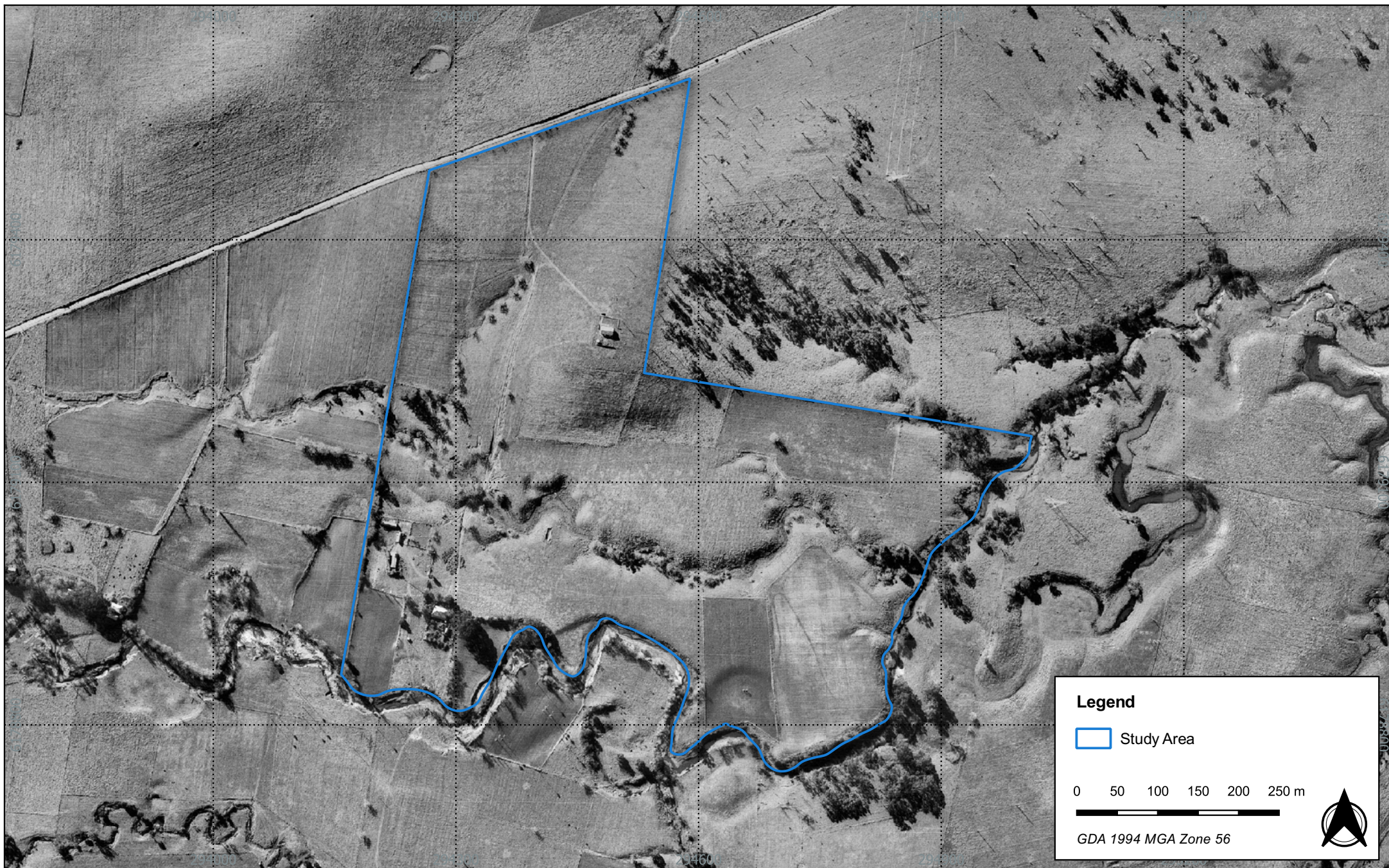


Figure 3.5 1961 Historic aerial imagery

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: Lands Imagery

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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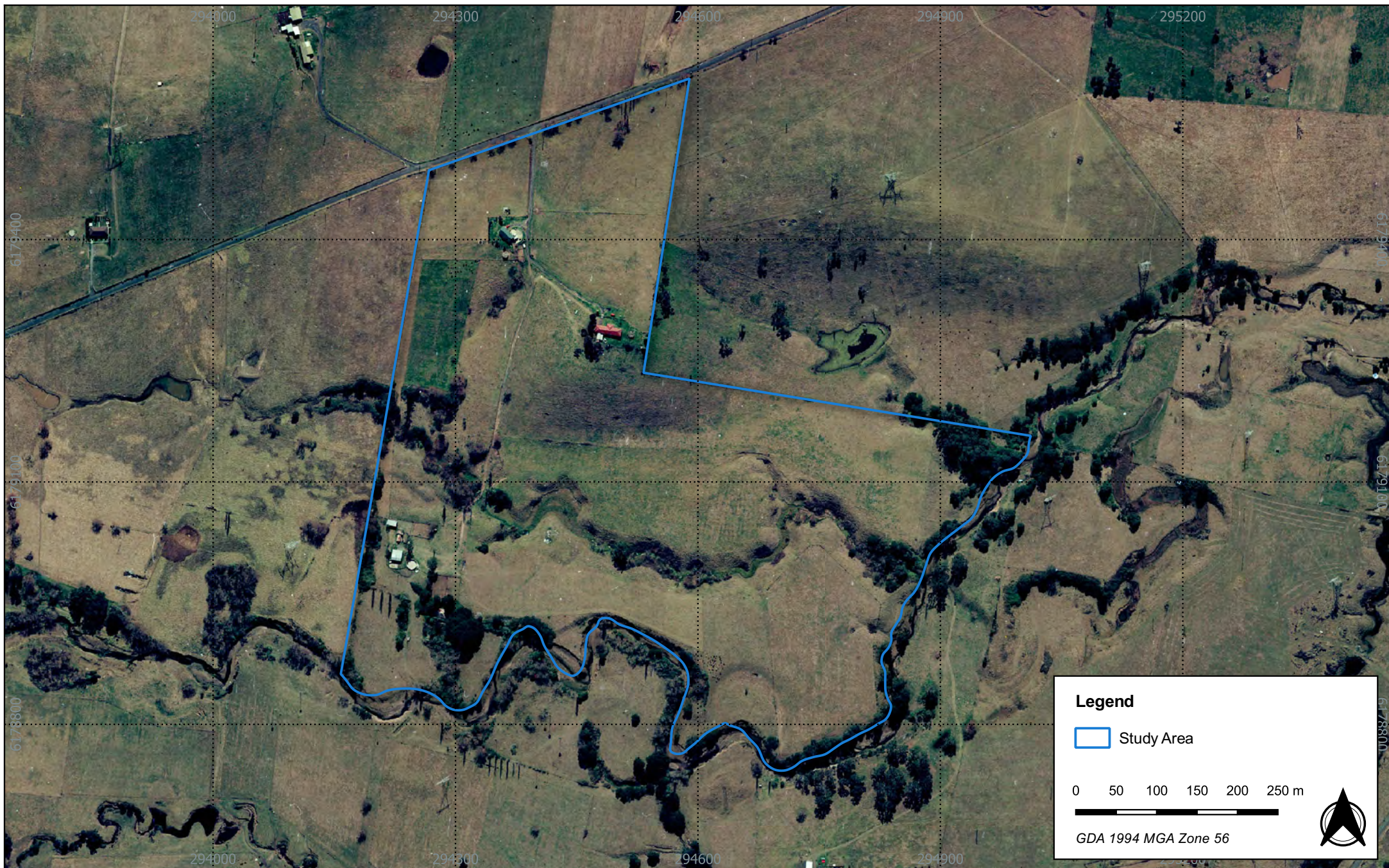


Figure 3.6 1993 Historic aerial imagery

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: BHP Air Imagery

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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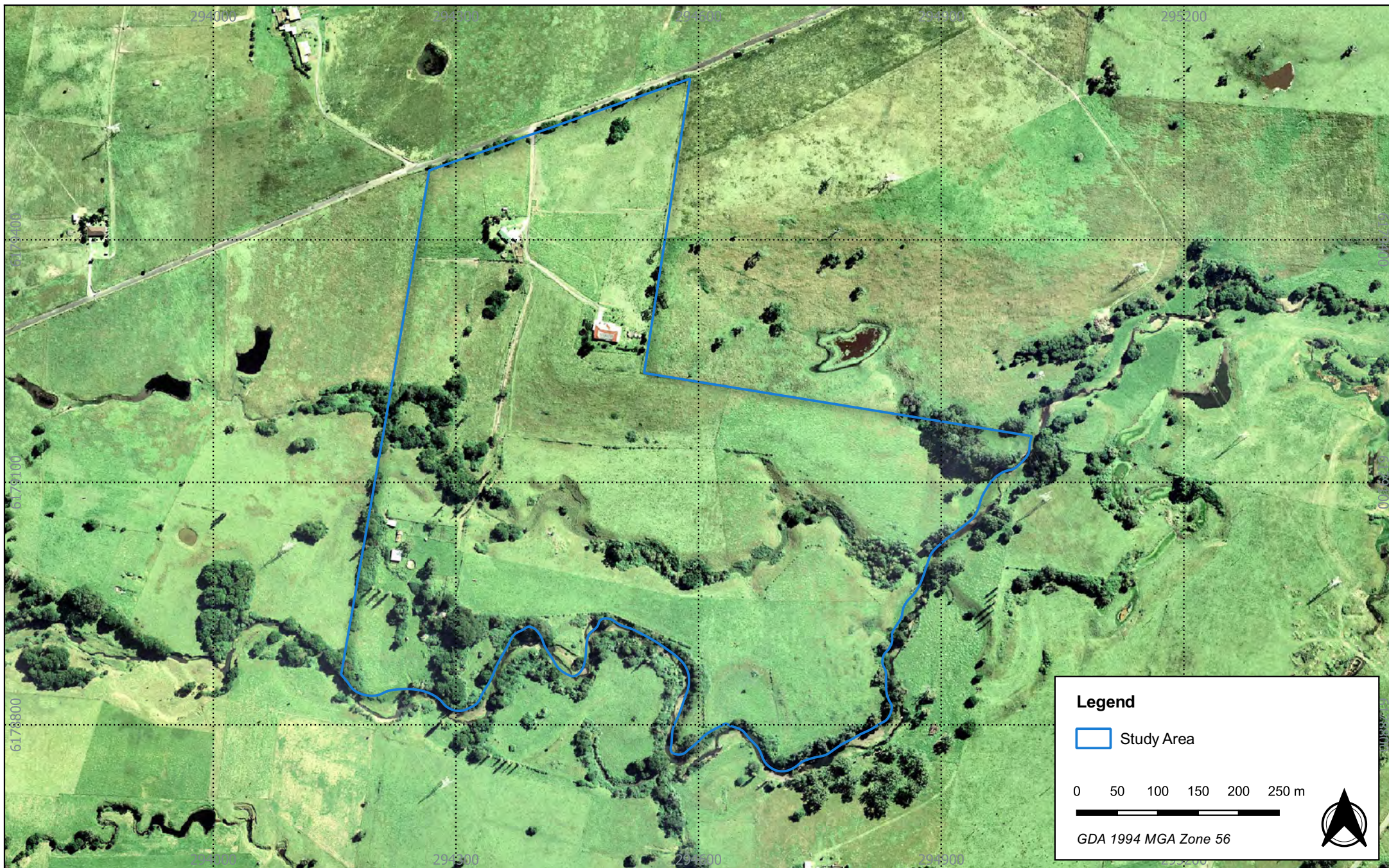


Figure 3.7 2002 Historic aerial imagery

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: HATCH Imagery

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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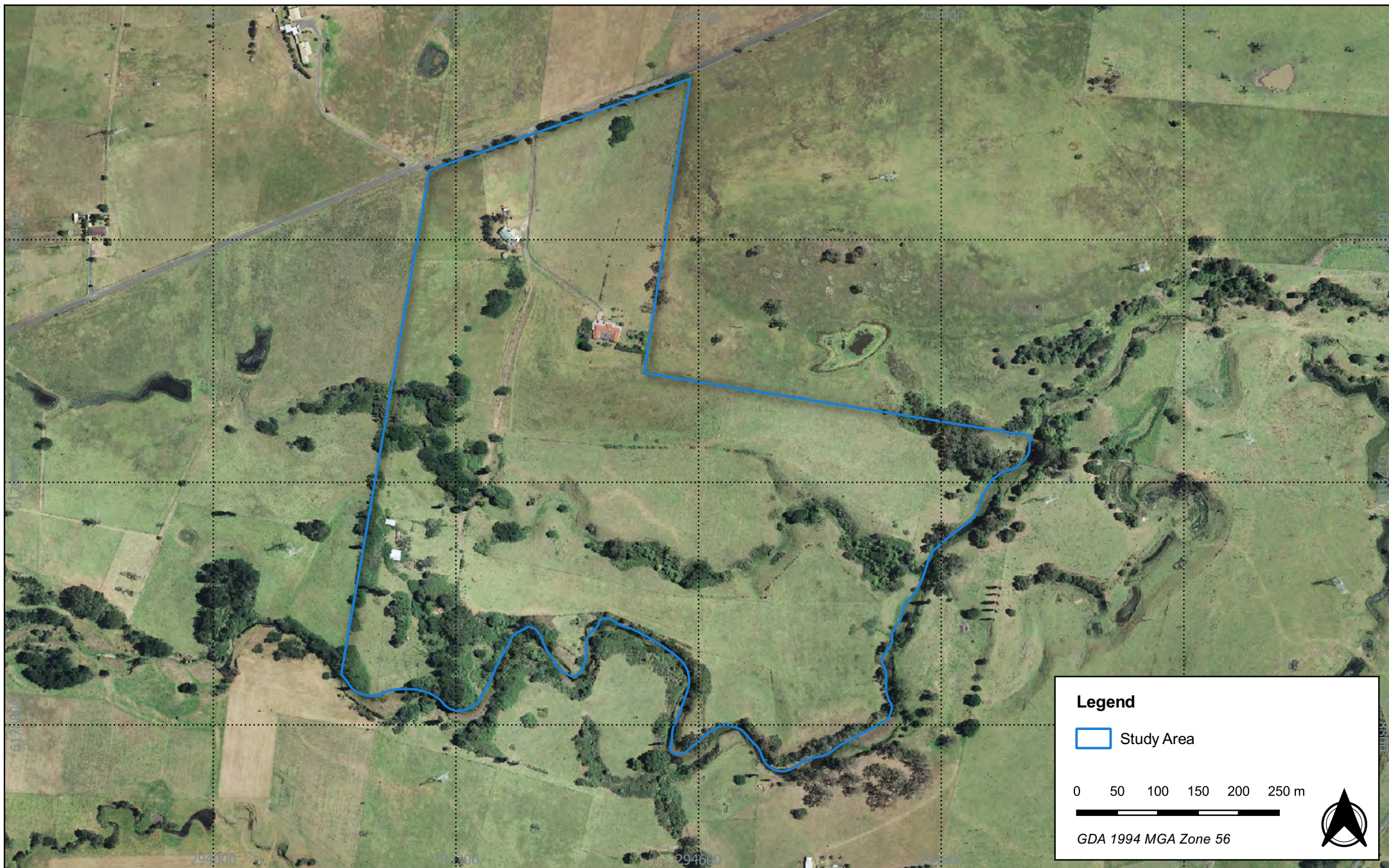


Figure 3.8 2009 Historic aerial imagery

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: NSW LPI

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-16



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3.6 CHRONOLOGY OF THE STUDY AREA

Based on the historical background presented, it is possible to summarise the chronology of the study area. This is presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Summary of chronological events relating to the study area

Phase	Summary	Date range
1	Land alienation – 600 acres granted to George Paul. Leased by absentee landlords.	1833-1841
2	Subdivided into 300 acres portion, purchased by Maurice Fitzgerald	1841
3	Further subdivided into 145 acres portion. Various lessees and irregular ownership.	1841-1888
4	Purchased by Mr Maurice Madden and developed as a dairy.	1888-1909
5	Operated as a dairy by Mr D'arcy Dunster	1921-1974
6	Part of larger pastoral operation owned by Dapto Pastoral Co.	1974-

4. PREDICTIVE STATEMENTS

An assessment of archaeological potential usually considers the historic sequence of occupation in comparison to the structures that are currently extant, as well as the impact that the more recent constructions and works would have had on the earlier occupation phases and, as such, the likely intactness of the archaeological resource. This, in turn, is tied in with the extent to which a site may contribute knowledge not available from other sources to current themes in historical archaeology and related disciplines.

Regarding the assessment of the study area, the archaeological potential depends upon the anticipated likelihood for the survival of buried structural fabric and cultural deposits as well as an estimation of archaeological integrity. Structural fabric refers to what is generally regarded as building or civil engineering remnants. Cultural deposits refer to archaeological deposits, i.e. deposited sediments containing artefacts *et cetera*.

Having analysed the historical evidence in the previous chapters, the following section presents a summary of the potential for a physical archaeological resource to be present in the study area, that is, its archaeological sensitivity/potential.

The following predictive model draws on the areas of known archaeological sensitivity. As a general rule of archaeology, sites first redeveloped in either the 19th or early 20th century can also retain evidence of occupation from previous periods. It is also widespread that such evidence can be recovered even when sites have been redeveloped or disturbed by modern construction activity. Based on the detailed background history, the following general predictive statements can be made:

- The study area is likely to contain archaeological evidence that can be partitioned into 4 distinct categories of use:
 - Pastoral activities, particularly those relating to dairying;
 - Domestic activities relating to the resident property owner and family;
 - Social activities relative to events held within the study area;
 - Actions of the residents to ameliorate their surrounds to suit their own taste such as a functional and decorative garden, decorative embellishments to the house and surrounds.

Each category of use may also be divided into temporal phases beginning with the study area forming part of a larger property in the early 19th century (original land grant) through to being the residence of an individual who was not actively involved in working the property (later use as Dunster residence). This archaeological evidence may be indicative of changes in land use, changes in technology and domestic activities that reflect advancement through the 19th and into the 20th century.

There is a degree of potential that unmarked outbuildings associated with the early phases of farming, including the dairy, milking shed, stables and outhouses, as well as occupational deposits such as yard surfaces and rubbish pits, that may have extended into other parts of the study area. It is likely that outbuildings directly associated with the house, including privies, sheds and meat-safes, may also be evident in the archaeological record. It is therefore considered that there is moderate potential for archaeological remains to be located within in the study area.

It is likely that Cleveland House once had a formalised garden surrounding it. Mature trees delineate that area and while there is little evidence visible, it is likely that archaeological evidence as well as garden beds, fence lines and remains of hedge plants may reveal the layout of the garden. Garden borders may take the form of fixed elements such as tiles or paving. Some sections of a post and rail fence line remain in the vicinity of the house. Evidence of some of the original plant species may also remain living. The 1961 aerial photograph does reveal the outline of a garden and, as the Madden family opened their house to the broader community, it is likely that a formal garden was associated with the house.

Historical records indicate that Cleveland Farm operated as a dairy for much of its working life – from at least the 1870s for a period of over 100 years.

Aerial photographic images show that a building that was probably associated with dairy activities existed in 1961 but had been replaced by the 1970s with a shed that remains in place today (the southern-most of the 3 buildings). The footprint of the earlier building appears to extend beyond that of the newer structure and sub-surface archaeological material may reveal evidence of earlier phases of the farm's operation. Other buildings also appear to have been modified since 1961 (Figure 4.1).

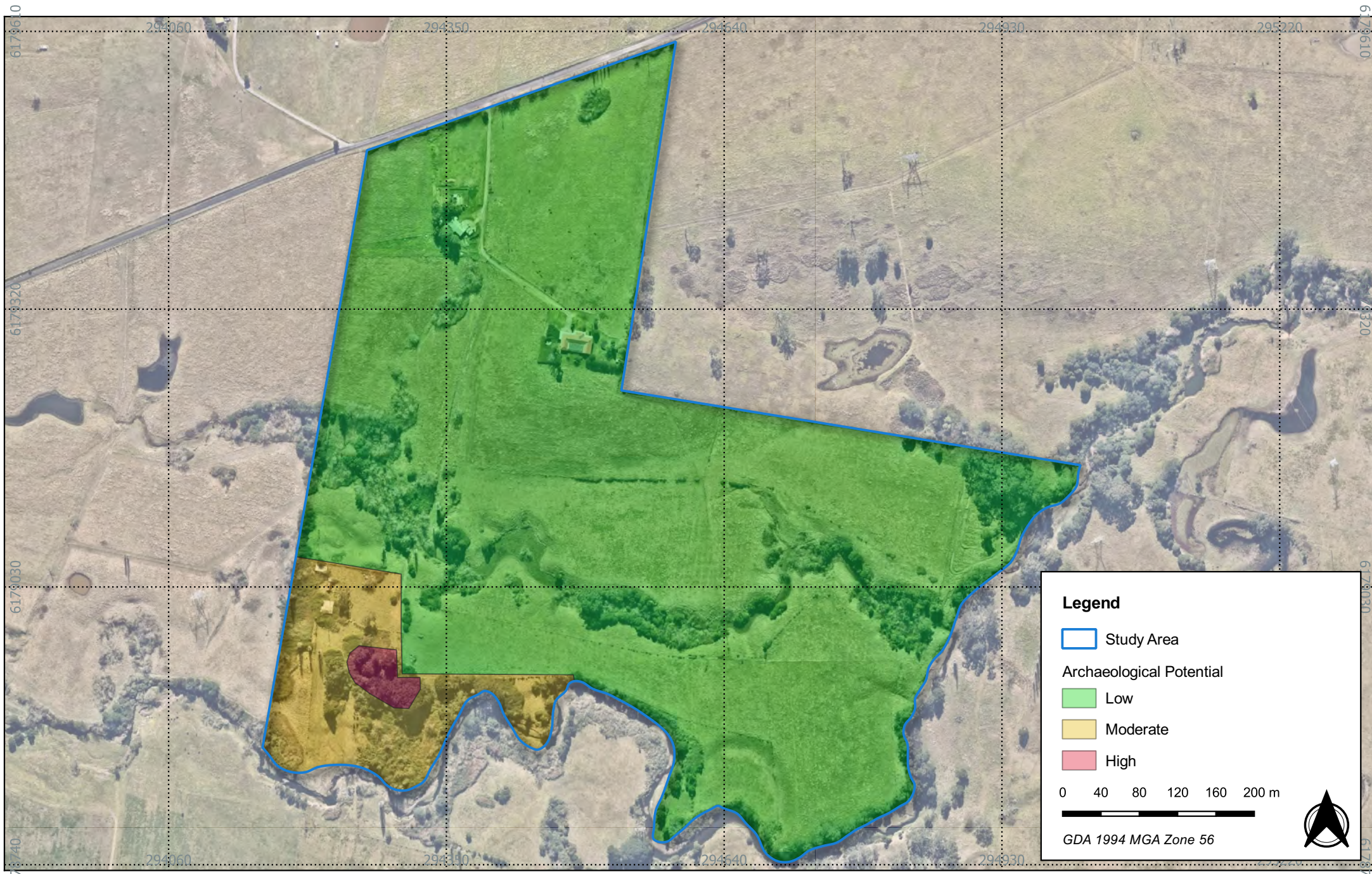


Figure 4.1 Archaeological potential within the study area

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: Nearmap

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-17



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5. SITE INSPECTION

An external inspection of the study area was undertaken on 27 August 2021 by Jasmine Weston (Archaeologist, Austral) and William Andrews (Archaeologist, Austral). The aims of the inspection were to identify heritage items associated with the study area. The inspection was also included establishing a curtilage that may better define areas that may contain items of heritage significance or archaeological potential. This included any known or previously identified heritage items. For the purposes of this assessment, a heritage item is a “place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct” (as per the definition in Part 1 (4) of the Heritage Act).

5.1 DESCRIPTIONS

5.1.1 MAIN HOUSE

Cleveland House is located 90 metres north of Mullet Creek and approximately 600 metres south from Cleveland Road.

The site inspection confirmed that Cleveland House is largely overgrown, particularly by an invasive species of vine (lantana) that has caused significant damage to both the building and grounds (Figure 5.1).



Figure 5.1 View of Cleveland House from the north-east (rear).

The overgrown nature of the surrounds did not allow a comprehensive inspection to be carried out and, as the building itself appears structurally unsound, a detailed internal inspection of the house was not undertaken. As such, a plan of the house was not produced at this time.

The house appears oriented to have the 'front' face the south, toward Mullet Creek. The 'rear' of the house would have been used for access from the north, or from Cleveland Road in more modern times. This location would afford views from French doors and windows across the verandah down the slope toward the creek, over what was a formalised garden. The house can be described as a brick cottage with a hipped roof clad with corrugated metal sheeting. The bricks were laid in a mixture of Flemish and stretcher bond. External walls are 390 millimetres thick. Internal walls are 270 millimetres thick, rendered and finished with a plaster coat. External walls were rendered and painted. The render coat on several sections of walls has dislodged from the wall. Bricks laid in flat arches spanned over external door and window frames.



Figure 5.2 **Cleveland House from south-east.**

The hipped roof was framed with sawn timber. The roof battens are spaced in such a way to suggest that the roof was originally clad with timber or slate shingles and the corrugated metal roof installed later. The ceiling was lined with timber matchboards. It appears that much of the ceiling has been removed (or fallen down) and termite infestation is apparent in several areas. The floor frame used sawn timber overlaid with timber floor-boards, with several areas missing boards.

A verandah, with curved corrugated metal cladding, spanned the front of the house. The deterioration of the building results from several factors including invasive vegetation, natural deterioration, lack of maintenance, and structural damage due to ground movement or failing foundations. However, the most significant issue relates to pilfering and vandalism, as several elements of the building have been removed. Early descriptions indicate that doors, windows and joinery were made of Australian cedar – a material that has some value on the open market. All original doors appear to have been removed along with jambs and frames. Most windows have also been removed. One remaining window has a double hung frame. Timber mouldings including skirting, architraves and picture rails have been removed along with timber mantles above open fireplaces. It appears that the removal of these elements was done without care and, in several cases, resulted in considerable damage to the adjoining fabric. One section of external brick wall and at least 2 internal dividing walls have been removed. Not only have many of the bricks been taken away, but these walls gave structural support to the roof and, as a result, sections of the roof are in danger of collapse. Structural damage is obvious with cracks appearing in several walls.

The deterioration of the roof covering and guttering in some areas has allowed water damage to impact on elements including fascia boards.

The remains of 3 round, corrugated metal tanks are located on brick stands adjacent to the south-west corner of the house. The tanks are in poor condition and have collapsed.



Figure 5.3 Cleveland House - east elevation.



Figure 5.4 Detail of south-east corner of building.



Figure 5.5 Internal view within house.



Figure 5.6 Internal view within house.



Figure 5.7 Internal view within house.



Figure 5.8 Internal view showing roof frame detail.



Figure 5.9 **Structure located south-east of house.**



Figure 5.10 **Structure located south of house.**

A timber-framed shed with gable roof and clad with corrugated metal sheeting is located several metres to the south-east of the house. The floor is paved with concrete. This building is not intact and part of the eastern wall cladding is missing along with sections of timber weatherboards on the northern gable. This building appears to have been constructed in the 20th century and may have been used as a garage as there is an area clear of trees between the shed and a gate located in a fence line to the north of the house.

A small timber framed shed clad with corrugated metal sheeting is also located several metres from the previously mentioned shed. This shed was lined with beaded tongue and grooved timber boards and had a concrete floor. The floor has been at least partially removed.

A collapsed structure, possibly the remains of an outhouse, is lying between the 2 sheds. This building had a roof clad with corrugated metal sheeting and the walls were externally clad with asbestos sheeting. It once stood on a concrete base.

5.1.2 GARDEN

Cleveland House is surrounded by several mature trees including figs (likely Moreton Bay fig), bunya pine, eucalypts, at least one palm and coral trees. Several of these trees are of such a size that suggests they may have been planted shortly after the property was established in the 19th century (note the size of the Moreton Bay figs in Figure 5.11).

The only evidence of a formalised garden consisted of several ceramic garden border tiles that remain *in situ* in an area close to the south-west corner of the house. Much of the area that may have formed the formal and/or kitchen gardens are overgrown with lantana and could not be inspected closely.

Figure 5.11 to Figure 5.13 provide a view of the current condition of the garden. Figure 5.12 and Figure 5.13 are photographs taken from roughly the same position. Note the palm that is visible in both images. The aerial image in Figure 3.5 shows the basic layout of the garden to the south of Cleveland House.



Figure 5.11 View toward Cleveland House from east



Figure 5.12 Historic photograph of Cleveland House showing picket fence and palm (Source: Wollongong City Library P10859).



Figure 5.13 Photograph taken from approximately same position as Figure 5.12.

5.1.3 DAIRY

The area that has been labelled the 'dairy' consists of 3 structures located approximately 75 metres to the north-west of the house.

The first structure, the northern-most, could not be inspected closely as it was overgrown with lantana. It is basic, timber framed structure clad with corrugated metal sheeting (Figure 5.14).



Figure 5.14 Dairy complex - northern structure from the east.

The central structure appears to be the oldest extant structure and consists of a narrow rectangular building with a gable roof clad with corrugated metal sheeting (Figure 5.15). The building is divided into at least 3 sections. It has a concrete floor with a base wall of concrete and timber frames continuing to the roof line. A part of the northern end has walls built of concrete blocks. The southern end wall had a concrete wall to a height of about 1 metre, topped with a timber frame and gable clad with timber weatherboards. A set of yards with post and rail fencing is located adjacent to and to the east of this building. The use of concrete and concrete blocks indicate that this section of the building was built early in the 19th century.

The southern structure is a timber framed shed clad with corrugated metal sheeting (Figure 5.16 and Figure 5.17). This building appears to have been built in at least 3 stages. The first stage consisted of a rectangular, gable ended shed; the second stage had the shed extended approximately 4.2 metres to the north with the addition of a 'lean-to' roof; finally this 'lean-to' roof was later extended another 1.8 metres.

The remains of a round set of yards is located to the south-west of the southern-most building. These yards consist of post and rail perimeter fence and line with a thick rubber matting. This feature is overgrown with lantana and difficult to define. These yards are visible in Figure 5.16.



Figure 5.15 Dairy complex - central structure, view from east.



Figure 5.16 Dairy complex - southern structure, view from east.



Figure 5.17 Dairy complex – internal view of southern structure.

6. HISTORICAL LAND USE MAPPING

6.1 HISTORICAL LAND USE

Following the first European settlement in the 1830s, the land in the region of the study area was gradually cleared of woodland. Stock was introduced to the region, both for beef and dairy herds, and areas were planted to crops. Wheat was generally unsuccessful and dairy farming became an economic mainstay for the area.

The opening of the railway line in 1887 allowed produce to be quickly and easily transported to Sydney thus increasing demand for produce. There was a minerals boom in Dapto when the smelting works opened in the 1890s. This did not have a direct impact on the study area but created more demand for farm products.

This land-use pattern continued relatively unchanged until the 1970s when the suburban developments around Dapto expanded westward toward the study area. This suburban expansion has brought residential development to within 1.5 kilometres of the study area.

In early April 2006, Wollongong City Council endorsed for public exhibition a master plan for the urban development of an area which includes Cleveland, to be staged over 40 years (*Illawarra Mercury*, 4 April 2006, p. 8).

Intended to accommodate 19,000 homes of which 3,666 will be within Cleveland, the anticipated population will be around 55,000. The population will be serviced by more efficient transport corridors constructed to pass over the century-old physical barrier represented by the South Coast railway (*Illawarra Mercury*, 1 April 2006, p. 6).

6.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAPPING

The results of Sections 6 and 5 are depicted in an archaeological sensitivity map (Figure 6.1) that shows the degree of predicted archaeological potential within the study area following site development and forms the basis for the conclusions and management recommendations outlined in Section 9. However, one key point to note is that potential is not equal to significance, and areas of even moderate or high archaeological potential may not actually contain archaeological material which is considered significant (see Section 4). The opposite may also be true in that areas of low potential may contain significant archaeological remains.

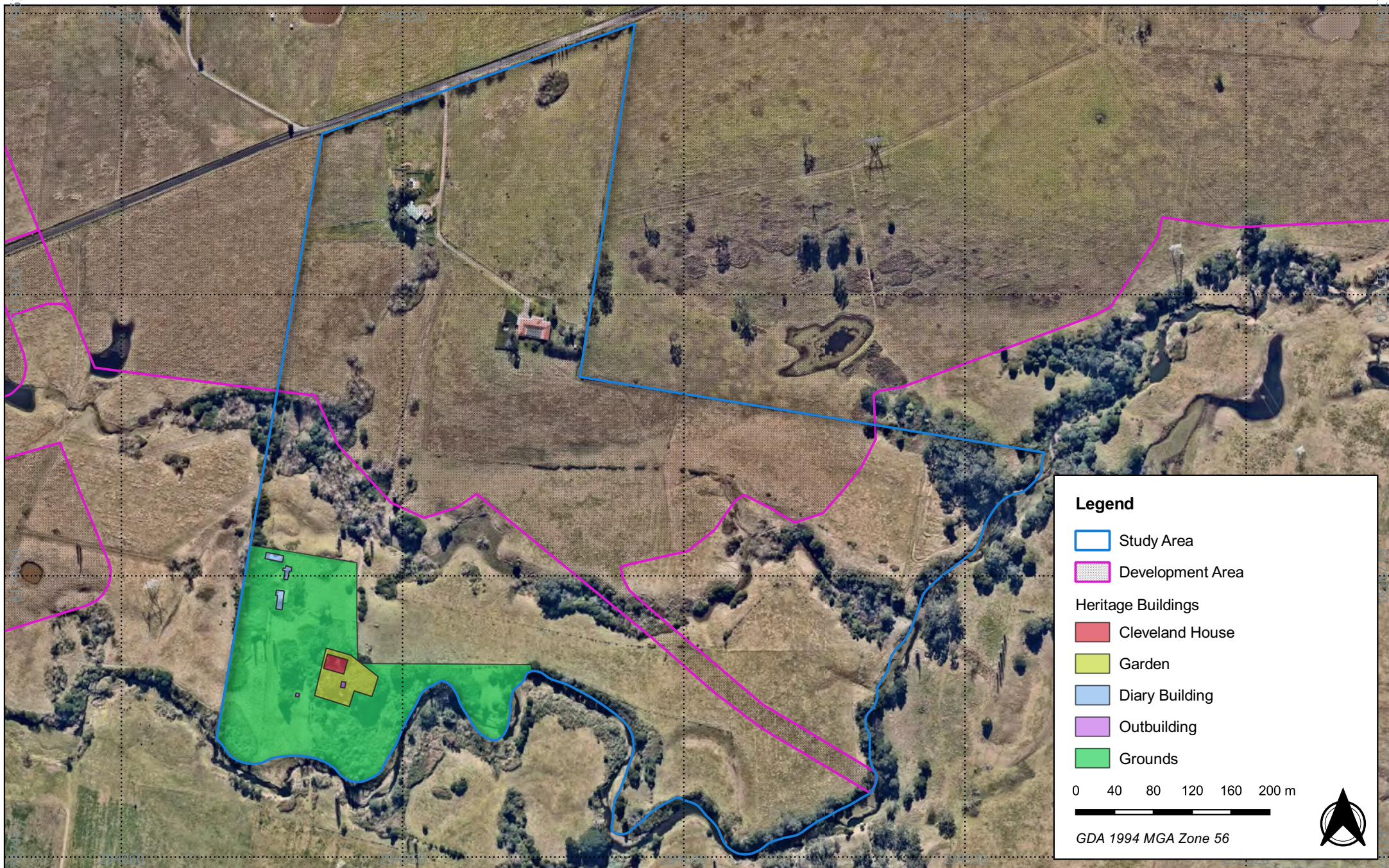


Figure 6.1 Summary of land-use / archaeological sensitivity

21092 - Cleveland House, Cleveland

Source: Nearmap

Drawn by: WA Date: 2021-09-17



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7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An assessment of cultural significance seeks to establish the importance that a place has to the community. The concept of cultural significance is intrinsically tied to the fabric of the place, its history, setting and its relationship to other items in its surrounds and the response it evokes from the community.

The assessment of cultural significance with respect to archaeological sites can present difficulties because the nature and extent of the "relics" are often indeterminate and value judgements therefore need to be made based on potential attributes. The element of judgement can be greatly reduced by historical or other research, as has been completed for the current study. Archaeological deposits and features provide important evidence of the history and settlement of New South Wales. These heritage items may include deposits containing material culture (artefacts) that can be analysed to yield information regarding early urban development that is unavailable from other sources. Archaeological investigations can reveal much about technology, industry, past economic and social conditions and people's lives.

Sites that contain these elements therefore have scientific value that may be of considerable significance when analysed in association with documentary evidence. It is through this potential to reveal information about the past use of a place that archaeological sites have heritage significance.

7.1 BASIS FOR ASSESSMENT

The Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS was formulated in 1979 (revised 1999 and 2013) [Australia ICOMOS 2013], based largely on the Venice Charter (for International Heritage) of 1966. The Burra Charter is the standard adopted by most heritage practitioners in Australia. The Charter divides significance into four categories for the purpose of assessment. They are: Aesthetic, Historical, Scientific/Technical, and Social significance.

The Heritage Council of NSW has established a set of seven criteria to be used in assessing cultural heritage significance in NSW, and specific guidelines have been produced to assist archaeologists in assessing significance for subsurface deposits (Heritage Council of New South Wales 2009; NSW Heritage Office 2001). The Heritage Council's criteria incorporate those of the Burra Charter, but are expanded to include rarity, representative value, and associative value.

In order to determine the significance of a historical site, the Heritage Council have determined that the following seven criteria are to be considered (NSW Heritage Office 2001):

- **Criterion (a):** an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area);
- **Criterion (b):** an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area);
- **Criterion (c):** an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);
- **Criterion (d):** an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (or the local area);
- **Criterion (e):** an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area);
- **Criterion (f):** an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area); and
- **Criterion (g):** an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places or cultural or natural environments (or the local area).

These criteria were designed for use on known or built heritage items, where above ground heritage is both tangible and easily identified. Due to the nature of archaeology being that it is invisible until disturbed, the presence and attributes of archaeological material must be assumed based on the recorded levels of disturbance, known site history and the creation of predictive statements. Ultimately, the actual presence of archaeological material can only ever be framed in terms of the potential for it to be present. The following assessment therefore deals with the built and archaeological potential within the study area in a consolidated manner.

7.2 LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Heritage Act allows for the protection of heritage items of State or local significance. The levels of significance can be defined as:

- Items of State significance are of special interest in a State context. They form an irreplaceable part of the environmental heritage of NSW and must have some connection of association to the State.
- Items of local significance are of special interest to the LGA. They important to the local community and often form an important part of the local identity. Collectively, such items reflect the cultural or natural history of the given area.

7.3 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

The following section addresses the significance of the potential archaeological resource in accordance with the criteria adopted in the Heritage Council's significance guidelines for archaeological deposits (Heritage Council of New South Wales 2009, pp.11–13), using selected questions from the guidelines.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH POTENTIAL (CURRENT NSW HERITAGE CRITERION E)

- To which contexts (historical, archaeological and research-based) is it anticipated that the site will yield important information?

The historical research has indicated that portions of the study area contains a moderate to high potential to contain archaeological deposits. There is moderate potential for archaeological remains of the original outbuildings and occupational deposits to be present within the study area. These archaeological remains would have the potential to answer research questions relating to the establishment and expansion of the farm during the mid-19th century, including evidence of yard surfaces and rubbish pits, as well as outbuildings such as stables and early milking sheds.

- Is the site likely to contain the mixed remains of several occupations and eras, or is it expected that the site has the remains of a single occupation or a short time-period?

The study area is highly likely to contain remains from a range of activities including farming and residential occupation. The evidence is likely to encompass constantly evolving technologies and lifeways covering over a period of at least 150 years that can be attributed to at least 6 owners or tenants. The farm operated as a dairy for a major portion of its continued operation but may have evidence to disclose variations in technology and processing as the dairy industry intensified.

- Is the site rare or representative in terms of the extent, nature, integrity and preservation of the deposits (if known)?

Cleveland House was once a fine example of early Colonial architecture. While its condition has deteriorated, it is still representative of the home of early European settlers in the region. The garden was once well tended and formed part of the residential complex. Horticultural remains may be able to provide a rare glimpse of formal gardens that can be attributed to the late 19th and early 20th century.

- Are there a large number of similar sites?

There are a few similar sites in the region that may be contemporary with Cleveland House. Collectively they contribute to building a broader understanding of the pastoral industry and the individuals involved in the development of the Illawarra region during the 19th century.

- Is this type of site already well-documented in the historical record?

The study area is likely to contain material relating to an industry that is widespread through this region, however few studies have been completed that either detail the dairy industry or relate to local figures who were of a social standing similar to that held by Maurice Madden.

- Is the excavation of this site likely to enhance or duplicate the data set?

Excavation will not only enhance our knowledge of Cleveland but also contribute to the broader understanding of the European settlement and farming activities in this region.

- What is the ability of the archaeological evidence to provide information about a site that could not be derived from any other source and which contributes to the archaeological significance of that site?

The documentary evidence details who lived at, and what activities were carried out at Cleveland Farm, but does not specifically detail where and how that was done. Archaeological evidence may provide a better understanding of the particular industry that was practiced there. Cleveland House was also utilised for social functions and while there is some record of events occurring, there is no record of the specific nature of those activities. If refuse dumps are discovered, this may go some way in highlighting what was consumed at these events and how they may have been served. The domestic routine of the residents may also be better understood via the analysis of their refuse.

As such, the study area meets NSW Heritage Criterion (e) at the local level in this regard.

ASSOCIATIONS WITH INDIVIDUALS, EVENTS OR GROUPS OF HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE (NSW HERITAGE CRITERIA A, B AND D)

- Does the archaeological site link to any NSW Historic Themes? Will the site contain 'relics' and remains which may illustrate a significant pattern in State or local history?

The relevant themes which may be applied solely to the archaeological remains within the study area are listed below in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1 Historical Themes

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Themes
3. Developing local, regional and national economies	Agriculture	Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animals for commercial purposes
4. Building settlements, towns and cities.	Land tenure	Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land.
4. Building settlements, towns and cities.	Accommodation	Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation, specifically housing.
8. Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Domestic life	Activities associated with creating, maintaining, living in and working around houses
9 Marking the phases of life	Persons	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups

- Is the site widely recognised?

The study area was recognised by the Wollongong City Council as having local significance in 1987 and is well known in the area as being historically significant.

- Does the site have symbolic value?

The overall site is symbolic of the importance of dairy farms to the development and growth of farms in the Illawarra, and offers an intact example of the key components of a 19th century farm complex, featuring a homestead, an associated garden, and the dairying infrastructure.

- Is there a community of interest (past or present) which identifies with, and values the specific site?

Maurice Madden purchased the site in 1888. While it was an operating dairy when he purchased it, he continued improving the farm but his business activities went beyond the farm gate and he was also active in developing the dairy industry both locally and further afield.

- Is the site likely to provide material expression of a particular event or cultural identity?

The site is strongly linked with farming families, and is likely to provide a material expression relating to the various generations of farmers who lived there along with the cattle that formed the basis of their way of life.

- Is the site associated with an important person? (the role of the person in State or local history must be demonstrated/known)

Maurice Madden, who owned Cleveland farm from 1888 until his death in 1909, was well known in the Illawarra region and was active in business (as Director and shareholder of the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Co. Ltd) as well as being the operator of a dairy farm. He was also active within the community including being heavily involved in helping the local church.

- What is the strength of association between the person and the site?

Madden purchased the site in 1888 and lived there until his death in 1909.

- Did the person live or work at the site? During the phase of their career for which they are most recognised? Is that likely to be evident in the archaeology /physical evidence of the site?

As mentioned, Madden resided at Cleveland Farm. During that time, he improved the farm and it is likely that he also improved the house and surrounds, including the gardens. Evidence of the Madden family's occupation of the property is likely to found within the archaeological record. This would be evident in the expansion of the garden, general domestic activities as well as communal activities associated with social events that were reported in local newspapers.

- Did a significant event or discovery take place at the site? Is that evident/or likely to be evident in the archaeology/physical evidence of the site?

Several community events were held at Cleveland Farm with attendees reported to number between 100 and 300. However, it is unknown if any evidence relating to these events are likely to be present.

- Do the archaeological remains have particular associations with individuals, groups and events which may transform mundane places or objects into significant items through the association with important historical occurrences?

Archaeological remains present within the study area are likely to be linked to the Madden family, which includes Maurice, the patriarch who purchased the farm in 1888. His ownership of the farm saw it continue to grow into a significant holding, which tied it into the network of surrounding dairies; a position which was cemented through his involvement in the local co-operative. The site offers an opportunity to examine an intact agricultural landscape associated predominantly with the Madden family, and which incorporates the main farm, the gardens and the dairy. This has potential to escalate the significance of what may be mundane or everyday objects into items associated with important historical occurrences.

As such, the study area meets NSW Heritage criteria (a), (b) and (d) at the local level in this regard.

AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE (NSW HERITAGE CRITERION C)

- Does the site/is the site likely to have aesthetic value?

Cleveland House has been badly damaged and has lost much of its aesthetic significance. Its design and construction detail can still provide information reflecting styles and techniques from the 19th century and moving forward.

- Does the site/is the site likely to embody a distinctive architectural or engineering style or pattern/layout?

The plan of the house can be easily made out as the walls are extant along with the roof frame and cladding. The architectural style and basic construction details can be recorded – it is the finish that may not be accurately determined.

- Does the site demonstrate a technology which is the first or last of its kind?

The site does not demonstrate any technologies which are the first or last of their kind.

- Does the site demonstrate a range of, or change in, technology?

It is likely that the site may demonstrate aspects of change in dairying practices, particularly in the design of yards and dairy sheds. The construction and maintenance of buildings, apart from the house, reflect changes in available building materials and the tools required to use them. Evidence of this change is highly likely to be found at this site.

- Will an archaeological excavation reveal highly intact and legible remains in the form of aesthetically attractive artefacts, aged and worn fabric and remnant structures, which may allow both professionals and the community to connect with the past through tangible physical evidence?

Should archaeological features be located which relate to the farmhouse, its outbuildings or any occupational deposits, they are likely to contain a range of artefacts and other tangible remains that may be used to develop a compact of past activities and lifestyles from this locality. Evidence of change in the design of out-buildings may also exist within the archaeological record, including documenting the known modifications made to various out-buildings over time.

As such, in terms of potential archaeological material, the study area meets Heritage NSW Criterion (c) in this regard at the local level.

ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE THE PAST THROUGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS (NSW HERITAGE CRITERIA A, C, F, AND G)

- Does the site contain well-preserved or rare examples of technologies or occupations which are typical of particular historic periods or eras of particular significance?

Cleveland House was a locally significant property that demonstrates how a well-managed dairy and farm operated during the late 19th and early 20th century. The surrounding garden contains plantings (particularly trees) that date from periods of early occupation and provide an insight into early landscape planning.

- Was it a long-term or short-term use?

This farm was an active dairy for over 140 years, during which time it progressed from providing products to the local community through to sending bulk milk shipments for sale on the Sydney market.

- Does the site demonstrate a short period of occupation and therefore represents only a limited phase of the operations of a site or technology or site? Or does the site reflect occupation over a long period?

The site was occupied for over 140 years and operated as a dairy for much of that time. As such, a relatively focussed pattern of land-use may be evident in the archaeological record and may be able to provide a better understanding of how the dairy industry changed materially through time.

- Does the site demonstrate continuity or change?

While the general focus of activity was relatively continuous, change may be present which is indicative of improved farming techniques and/or technology.

- Are the remains at the site highly intact, legible and readily able to be interpreted?

Cleveland House is in poor condition. Apart from natural deterioration, pilfering and vandalism has resulted in a lot of damage to the fabric of the building. However, the design of the building can still be made out and construction details remain largely intact.

- Do the archaeological remains have an ability to demonstrate how a site was used, what processes occurred, how work was undertaken and the scale of an industrial practice or other historic occupation.

Apart from the extant buildings, archaeological remains that are associated with the house and outbuildings would provide linkage to determine the processes that were employed at the property to make it a successful dairy farm. The buildings alone cannot fully determine what went on there and requires the detail that such remains could provide. There are 2 distinct processes within the study area – the domestic setting surrounding Cleveland House and the buildings that relate to the dairy. The two are connected through the family that operates the farm but function independently and the archaeological record may assist with determining how this occurred.

As such the study area is considered to meet the Heritage NSW criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g) in this regard at the local level.

7.4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cleveland House has significance for the local area for its historical, social, and research values, and for reasons of representativeness. It has significant historical value as one of the oldest surviving rural properties in the West Dapto area. Its aesthetic significance as a fine example of an early Colonial house has diminished due to its condition, which has deteriorated considerably since its inclusion on the SHI. It has social significance as it was once a place of community celebration and owned by a person with prominent standing within the community. The house, garden and attendant outbuildings have historic and research value as it has been a place of economic and social activity for over 150 years and is likely to contain archaeological remains associated with all periods of its occupancy. Extensive deterioration and loss of significant original fabric have reduced its ability to interpret its history to the general public.

Cleveland Homestead remains significant at a local level.

As such, the archaeological resource within the study area is considered to meet the Heritage Significance Criteria (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) at a local level.

8. STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

The purpose of this section is to present a comprehensive assessment of the impacts to the identified archaeological values associated with the study area from the proposed works.

8.1 PROPOSED WORKS

The land surrounding the study area is to be subdivided as part of the ongoing urbanisation of the Cleveland area.

8.2 ASSESSED IMPACTS

The current plan indicates that the portion of the study area where Cleveland House and dairy are situated, has been set aside for 'public recreation'. Thus, it appears that there is no direct impact on the area. However, associated works such as general land clearing, installation of underground services or repairs and adaptive reuse of the many buildings present within the study area may impact on archaeological values.

8.3 PREDICTED IMPACT ON THE POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The following section provides an assessment of each element of the proposed works and whether the task has potential to impact on the identified archaeological resource.

PREDICTED IMPACTS WITH POTENTIAL TO HARM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

Clearance and landscaping of the development area may impact on significant parts of the study area, particularly with any works that require sub-surface installation or surface grading. Removal of invasive vegetal species, such as lantana, may also damage archaeological material located within the plant roots system. Removal of large trees in the vicinity of Cleveland House could also impact on archaeological resources.

PREDICTED IMPACTS WITH LIMITED EFFECT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

As Cleveland House and its immediate surrounds are located within an area set aside for 'Public Recreation', impact would be minimised and limited via appropriate management such as signage, briefings and barriers.

8.4 CONSIDERATION OF HERITAGE VALUES IN THE DESIGN PROCESS

The following questions are taken from the Heritage Division's guidelines to preparing statements of heritage impact (Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs & Planning 1996).

WHAT ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL RESPECT OR ENHANCE THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY AREA?

Overall, the proposed development includes predominantly residential allotments. Some of the development area has been set aside for public recreation and the location of Cleveland House is contained within an area in this category. As such, there is latitude in how the site can be managed.

A CMS has been developed to maintain the heritage values of the site (Austral Archaeology 2021).

WHAT ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL COULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY AREA?

While Cleveland House is contained within an area that is designated 'Public Recreation', unless the policies of the CMS are implemented prior to the development proceeding, the heritage significance could be negatively impacted

HAVE MORE SYMPATHETIC OPTIONS BEEN CONSIDERED AND DISCOUNTED?

Suburban development has been planned in this region since the 1970s. Legislated development control plans are in place to manage heritage items through the provisions of the Wollongong DCP, which require that:

Chapter 11 ECP

16.1 Development Controls

- 1. The demolition or relocation of a heritage building is contrary to the intent of heritage listing and hence, will only be considered as a last resort option in circumstances where the building is considered to no longer be of significance or not capable of repair.*
- 2. Any proposal involving demolition of the external and / or internal fabric of a heritage item will require detailed assessment as to the significance of the affected internal or external fabric of the building as part of the required heritage impact statement. This assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria for ascertaining heritage significance as well as any past Part E – General Controls – Environmental Controls Chapter E11: Heritage Conservation 14 Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 heritage studies pertaining to the item. The heritage impact statement must also include a statement as to the reasons why the building is not considered to meet the heritage criteria and why other options such as adaptive re-use are not feasible.*
- 3. For any proposal involving demolition of a building due to structural integrity issues, the following matters must be addressed in the heritage impact statement or conservation management plan: (a) Comprehensive written and photographic evidence as to the current condition of the building fabric, including the condition of footings, load-bearing walls, building materials, pest infestation, water damage, sub-soil drainage, damage from natural occurrences, and whether it constitutes a danger to the users or occupiers of the building or the public;*
(b) A statement as to the capability of repair, restoration, stabilisation or reconstruction of the heritage building;
(c) A statement outlining what other options have been examined instead of demolition and reasons why these options are not viable; and
(d) A thorough and accurate financial assessment that considers the costs associated with restoration or conservation of the building, compared to alternative development options. The above statements must be prepared by suitably qualified persons such as a conservation architect or structural engineer.
- 4. Any proposal involving demolition or relocation of a heritage item will require the submission of comprehensive diagrammatic and photographic archival recording to Council, prior to the commencement of any demolition or removal works to the heritage item. This will be covered by appropriate conditions of development consent.*

9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 CONCLUSIONS

The heritage values of Cleveland House and its immediate surrounds are locally significant. The proposed development will need to be prudently managed to ensure positive impacts to the Heritage site.

The landscape surrounding Cleveland House and out-buildings are likely to contain archaeological remains that relate to the residents of Cleveland House and their activities. Further evidence is likely to be associated with the out-buildings that formed part of the dairy complex.

Such resources require careful management to comply with the Wollongong DCP, Wollongong LEP and the Heritage Act.

9.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

To mitigate the harm documented in this assessment, it is recommended that:

- 1) This assessment be read in conjunction with the Cleveland House Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) and that:
 - a. The Conservation Strategies outlined in the CMS be adopted;
 - b. The client takes steps to refine those strategies to consider any constraints that were not taken into account in this report.
- 2) Prior to any development works commencing, signage and barriers should be erected/installed to ensure that no archaeological resources are inadvertently damaged. Personnel involved in any works in the vicinity of Cleveland House should be briefed as to its heritage values, their responsibilities and how heritage resources are to be managed.
- 3) Should it be determined that sub-surface works are required within the curtilage of Cleveland House and outbuildings, archaeological monitoring of the works will be required. Depending on the location and extent of such works, test excavations and/or a more comprehensive archaeological excavation may be required. If any of the above situations arise, an excavation permit issued pursuant to Section 140 of the Heritage must be obtained prior to any excavation commencing.
- 4) If historical archaeological relics not assessed or anticipated by this report are found during any works, all works in the immediate vicinity are to cease immediately. A qualified archaeologist is to be contacted to assess the situation and consult with the Heritage NSW regarding the most appropriate course of action.
- 5) If Aboriginal archaeological material or deposits are encountered during earthworks, all works affecting that material or deposits must cease immediately to allow an archaeologist to make an assessment of the find. The archaeologist may need to consult with Heritage NSW and the relevant Aboriginal stakeholders regarding the find. Section 89A of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* requires that the Heritage NSW must be notified of any Aboriginal objects discovered within a reasonable time.
- 6) Should the actual development be altered significantly from the proposed concept design, then a reassessment of the heritage/archaeological impact may be required. This includes any impacts not explicitly stated.
- 7) A copy of this assessment should be lodged by the proponent in the local history section of the local library, and in the library maintained by Heritage NSW.

10. REFERENCES

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