



### **Biosis offices**

#### **New South Wales**

### **Albury**

Phone: (02) 6069 9200 Email: albury@biosis.com.au

#### Gosford

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: gosford@biosis.com.au

#### Newcastle

Phone: (02) 4911 4040 Email: newcastle@biosis.com.au

### **Sydney**

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: <a href="mailto:sydney@biosis.com.au">sydney@biosis.com.au</a>

### **Western Sydney**

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: sydney@biosis.com.au

### Wollongong

Phone: (02) 4201 1090

Email: wollongong@biosis.com.au

# Victoria

### **Ballarat**

Phone: (03) 5304 4250 Email: ballarat@biosis.com.au

### Melbourne

### Document information

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Prepared by:	Ashley Bridge Nathan Windram
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Biosis gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the following people and organisations in undertaking this study:

Gyde Consulting: Lucy Langley

Biosis staff involved in this project were:

- Mathew Smith & Bronte Baonza (assistance in the field)
- Henri Liswoyo (mapping)



Phone: (03) 8686 4800

Email: melbourne@biosis.com.au

### Wangaratta

Phone: (03) 5718 6900

Email: wangaratta@biosis.com.au

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work.

We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past and present and honour their connection to Country and ongoing contribution to society.

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# **Summary**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) was commissioned by Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) (the applicant) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed rezoning of approximately 71 hectares of land for residential purposes along Morgan Road, Belrose, New South Wales (NSW) (the study area) (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The study area is located approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale CBD (Figure 2). It encompasses approximately 71 hectares of private land and the following Lot and DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 945 DP 752038

- Lot 944 DP 752038
- Lot 948 DP 752038
- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038

- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038
- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 1 and Part Lot 2 DP 1242330

The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west. The study area has no immediately adjacent development and is bounded on all sides by vegetation, aside for the western boundary which comprises Morgan Road. Lot 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 982 DP752038 and Snake Creek form a part of the sites southern boundary and Lot 1, 2 DP1157499, Lot 21 DP771910, Lot 192 DP752038, Lot 2671 DP752038 and Lot 2649 DP752038 which form a part of the northern boundary (Figure 2).

Sydney North Planning Panel is the planning proposal authority and will assess the planning proposal to help them determine if the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, including Aboriginal cultural heritage.

### Consultation

The Aboriginal community was consulted regarding the heritage management of the project throughout its lifespan. Consultation has been undertaken as per the process outlined in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements) (Appendix 1). The



appropriate government bodies were notified, and advertisements placed in the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper (15 February 2024), which resulted in the following Aboriginal organisations registering their interest (Table 1):

Table 1 List of registered Aboriginal parties and group contact

No.	Organisation	Contact person
1	A1 Indigenous Services	Carolyn Hickey
2	Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	Amanda Hickey
3	Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	Jennifer Beale
4	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Justine Coplin
5	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll
6	Goobah Development Pty Ltd (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Basil Smith
7	Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	Tracey Howie
8	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan
9	Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	Nathan Moran
10	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Ryan Johnson
11	Ngambaa Cultural Connections	Kaarina Slater
12	Scott Franks on behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd	Scott Franks
13	Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH Value by using 3D Laser and Drone Technology	Thomas Dahlstrom

A search conducted by the Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* was requested; however, no response was received. A search conducted by the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) listed no Registered Native Title Claims, Unregistered Claimant Applications or Registered Indigenous Land Use Agreements within the study area.

Upon registration (Appendix 2), the Aboriginal parties were invited to provide their knowledge on the study area and feedback on the proposal provided in the methodology and sampling strategy (Appendix 3). The response from Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group identified the entire area as an area of concern and significance. Responses from the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) are included in Appendix 4. Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation, A1 Indigenous Services and Amanda Hickey Cultural Services each expressed support for the methodology, while the remaining groups did not provide comment.

Site officers from elected RAPs participated in the field investigation and provided comment on the study area with regard to the proposal. It was recommended by representatives of the MLALC that an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) be sought to install deterrence measures (fencing) to protect existing Aboriginal sites against mountain bikers who have caused disturbances within the study area and Aboriginal sites previously.

The final stage of consultation involved the distribution of the completed draft ACHA to RAPs (Appendix 4) for the purpose of review. This process began on 11 June 2024 with the window for response remaining open for 28 days, finalizing on 9 July 2024. Overall responses favoured the recommendations made in the ACHA.



The outcome of the consultation process is that the RAPs considered the study area to have a high level of cultural significance, although that significance was not clearly defined, and specific examples were not provided. The results of the consultation process are included in this document Appendix 1.

The recommendations that resulted from the consultation process are provided below.

### Results

The ACHA assessment undertook background research for the proposed study area. Key considerations arising from the background research include:

- The area is underlain by the Hawkesbury Sandstone formation and includes suitable sandstone
  exposures and overhangs. These features are considered conductive to rock shelter sites and
  grinding grooves.
- The study area contains three previously recorded Aboriginal sites. These are all rock engraving sites. Sufficient sandstone outcrops are present and may contain further engravings.
- Two registered Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area: Moon Rock; and Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site.

There are 111 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered with the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) register, both within the study area as well as in the vicinity.

Biosis undertook an archaeological survey on 22 and 23 May 2024. AHIMS 45-6-1219/Belrose and Morgan Road 1 and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 were located during the archaeological survey. However, AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 was not located. No further unrecorded Aboriginal heritage sites were identified within the study area. The remainder of the study area has been assessed as holding low archaeological potential.

## **Management recommendations**

It is recommended that during the planning proposal stage of the project the following recommendation be followed to ensure protection of existing sites within the study areas over a long period of time:

### **Recommendation 1: Continued consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties**

It is recommended that Gyde Consulting continue to inform these groups about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project. This recommendation is in keeping with the consultation requirements.

# **Recommendation 2: Further assessment warranted along creek lines**

As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials.



# **Recommendation 3: Development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan**

It is recommended a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) be developed in order to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This will identify management processes to be implemented for the treatment of Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unanticipated finds protocols and a heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works.

The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project. Once the project progresses into the Development Application stage, the following is recommended:

# **Recommendation 4: Application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit**

Damage to the AHIMS sites within the study area was observed during the archaeological survey. In accordance with discussions with MLALC, it is recommended that a permanent deterrent be installed to prevent further unauthorised access to the engraving sites. It is recommended that the MLALC apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to perform ground penetrative works associated with installation of protective fencing around areas of sandstone containing the AHIMS sites within the study area as part of the future proposed development.

### The AHIP should be for a term of two years.

# Recommendation 5: No further archaeological assessment required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to hold low potential for further archaeological sites. In the event that unexpected finds, including human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 4 and 5 below.

### Recommendation 6: Stop works provision - Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.



# Recommendation 7: Stop work provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

- 1. **Discovery:** If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.
- 2. Notification: Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under Section146 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act).



# **Glossary**

ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ADDA	Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
AR	Archaeological Report
Biosis	Biosis Pty Ltd
ВР	Before Present
Consultation requirements	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010
Cth DCCEEW	Australian Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (now Heritage NSW)
DP	Deposited Plan
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
GDA	Geocentric Datum of Australia
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
MGA	Map Grid of Australia
MLALC	Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
NHL	National Heritage List
NNTT	National Native Title Tribunal
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW	New South Wales
NSW DCCEEW	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
NTSCORP	Native Title Services Corporation
PAD	Potential Archaeological Deposit
RAPs	Registered Aboriginal Parties
REF	Review of Environmental Factors



REP	Regional Environmental Plan
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
The Code	Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW



# **Contents**

Sum	mary		III
	Cons	sultation	iii
	Resu	ılts	iii
	Man	agement recommendations	iii
Glos	sary		vi
Cont	tents		viii
1	Intro	oduction	1
	1.1	Project background	1
	1.2	Study area	1
	1.3	Proposed development	1
	1.4	Planning approvals	2
	1.5	Restricted and confidential information	2
	1.6	Aboriginal cultural heritage	3
		1.6.1 General description	3
		1.6.2 Tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage	
		1.6.3 Intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage  1.6.4 Statutory	
		1.6.5 Values	
2	Stud	ly area context	7
	2.1	Topography and hydrology	7
	2.2	Soil landscapes	8
	2.3	Climate and rainfall	9
	2.4	Landscape resources	10
	2.5	European land use history	10
3	Abo	riginal cultural heritage context	14
	3.1	Ethnohistory	14
	3.2	Aboriginal heritage located in the study area	20
	3.3	Interpretation of past Aboriginal land use	22
4	Abo	riginal community consultation	25
	4.1	Stage 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest	25
		4.1.1 Identification of relevant Aboriginal stakeholders	
		4.1.2 Public notice	
	4.5	4.1.3 Registration of Aboriginal parties	
	4.2	Stage 2: Presentation of information about the proposed project	
	4.3	Stage 3: Gathering information about cultural significance	
		4.3.1 Archaeological assessment methodology information pack	27



		4.3.2 Information gathered during fieldwork	28
	4.4	Stage 4: Review of draft ACHA report	28
5	Aboriginal cultural significance assessment		
	5.1	Introduction to the assessment process	29
	5.2	Cultural (social significance) values	30
	5.3	Historic values	31
	5.4	Archaeological (scientific significance) values	31
	5.5	Aesthetic values	31
	5.6	Statement of significance	31
		<ul> <li>5.6.1 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1</li> <li>5.6.2 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2</li> <li>5.6.3 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3</li> </ul>	32
6	Deve	lopment limitations and mitigation measures	34
	6.1	Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage	34
	6.2	Ecologically Sustainable Development	34
	6.3	Avoiding harm to Aboriginal heritage	35
		<ul> <li>6.3.1 Avoidance of identified Aboriginal sites</li></ul>	36 36 36
7	Poco	mmendations	
-		3	
		S	
	ndix 1		
Appe		e 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest	
	Juge	Step 1: Identification of Aboriginal people/parties with an interest in the proposed study	
		area	
		Step 3: Registration of interest.	
	Stage	e 2 and 3: Presentation of information about the proposed project and gathering information about cultural significance	47
		Step 1: Provision of project information pack and methodology pack	
	Stage	2 4: Review of draft report	
	0.	Step 1: Provision of draft report for review	



Appendix 2	Stage 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest	51
Appendix 3 gathering in	Stage 2 and 3: Presentation of information about the proposed project and information about cultural significance	52
Appendix 4	Stage 4: Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report	53
Appendix 5	Archaeological report	54
Tables		
Table 1	List of registered Aboriginal parties and group contact	ii
Table 2	List of registered Aboriginal parties	27
Table 3	Significance assessment criteria	32
Table 4	Significance assessment criteria	33
Table 5	Significance assessment criteria	33
Figures		
Figure 1	Location of the study area	5
Figure 2	Study area detail	6
Figure 3	Aboriginal sites within the vicinity of the study area	24
Photos		
Photo 1	Illustrated Master Plan (Cox Architecture 2022 in Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 2022)	2
Photo 2	Diagram showing Strahler stream order (Ritter, Kochel, & Miller 1995, p. 151)	8
Photo 3	Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1943 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	12
Photo 4	Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1970 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	12
Photo 5	Aerial photography of the study area dated to 1982 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	13
Photo 6	Aerial photography of the study area dated to 2005 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	13
Photo 7	AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)	20
Photo 8	AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)	21
Photo 9	AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)	22



# 1 Introduction

# 1.1 Project background

Biosis has been commissioned by Gyde on behalf of MLALC to undertake an ACHA for the proposed rezoning of approximately 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose NSW (Figure 1).

This report details the investigation, consultation and assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage undertaken for the study area. The Archaeological Report (AR) in Appendix 5 details the findings of the archaeological investigations conducted as part of the ACHA. As required under Section 2.3 of the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010b) (the Code), the AR provides evidence about the material traces of Aboriginal land use to support the conclusions and management recommendations in the ACHA.

Sydney North Planning Panel is the consent authority and will assess the planning proposal to help them determine if the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, including Aboriginal cultural heritage.

# 1.2 Study area

The study area is located approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale CBD (Figure 2). It encompasses approximately 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot and DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 945 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038
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- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038

- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038
- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 1 and Part Lot 2 DP 1242330



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
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The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west. The study area has no immediately adjacent development and is bounded on all sides by vegetation, aside for the western boundary which comprises Morgan Road. Lot 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 982 DP752038 and Snake Creek form a part of the sites southern boundary and Lot 1, 2 DP1157499, Lot 21 DP771910, Lot 192 DP752038, Lot 2671 DP752038 and Lot 2649 DP752038 which form a part of the northern boundary (Figure 2).

# 1.3 Proposed development

The development intended by the planning proposal involves the amending of local planning controls in order to zone 450 new residential dwellings, as well as a new cultural community centre and the protection of Aboriginal heritage sites. The planning proposal aims to ensure development outcomes will align with traditional indigenous 'Caring for Country' practices and relevant 'Connecting with Country' and 'Designing with Country' strategies (Government Architect NSW 2023).





Photo 1 Illustrated Master Plan (Cox Architecture 2022 in Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 2022)

# 1.4 Planning approvals

The proposed development will be assessed against Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 NSW (EP&A Act). Other relevant legislation and planning instruments that will inform this assessment include:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NPW Act.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

# 1.5 Restricted and confidential information

Appendix 1 in the AR (Appendix 5) contains AHIMS information which is confidential and not to be made public. This is clearly marked on the title page for the Attachment.



# 1.6 Aboriginal cultural heritage

### 1.6.1 General description

According to Allen and O'Connell (2003), Aboriginal people have inhabited the Australian continent for the last 50,000 years. New evidence out of the Northern Territory has pushed this date back with the Malakanunja II rock shelter dated at around 65,000 years before present (BP) (Clarkson et al. 2017). In NSW, according to Bowler et al. (2003), Aboriginal people have occupied the land for over 42,000 years.

Without being part of the Aboriginal culture and the productions of this culture, it is not possible for non-Aboriginal people to fully understand the meaning of site, objects and places to Aboriginal people – only to move closer towards understanding this meaning with the help of the Aboriginal community. Similarly, definitions of Aboriginal culture and cultural heritage without this involvement constitute outsider interpretations.

With this preface Aboriginal cultural heritage broadly refers to things that relate to Aboriginal culture and hold cultural meaning and significance to Aboriginal people (DECCW 2010a, p. 3). There is an understanding in Aboriginal culture that everything is interconnected. In essence Aboriginal cultural heritage can be viewed as potentially encompassing any part of the physical and/or mental landscape, that is, 'Country' (DECCW 2010a, p. iii).

Aboriginal people's interpretation of cultural value is based on their 'traditions, observance, lore, customs, beliefs and history' (DECCW 2010a, p. 3). The things associated with Aboriginal cultural heritage are continually and actively being defined by Aboriginal people (DECCW 2010a, p. 3). These things can be associated with traditional, historical or contemporary Aboriginal culture (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).

### 1.6.2 Tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage

Three categories of tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage may be defined:

- Things that have been observably modified by Aboriginal people.
- Things that may have been modified by Aboriginal people, but no discernible traces of that activity remain.
- Things never physically modified by Aboriginal people (but associated with Dreamtime Ancestors who shaped those things).

# 1.6.3 Intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage

Examples of intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage would include memories of stories and 'ways of doing', which would include language and ceremonies (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).

### 1.6.4 Statutory

Currently Aboriginal cultural heritage, as statutorily defined by the NPW Act, consists of objects and places which are protected under Part 6 of the NPW Act.

Aboriginal objects are defined as:



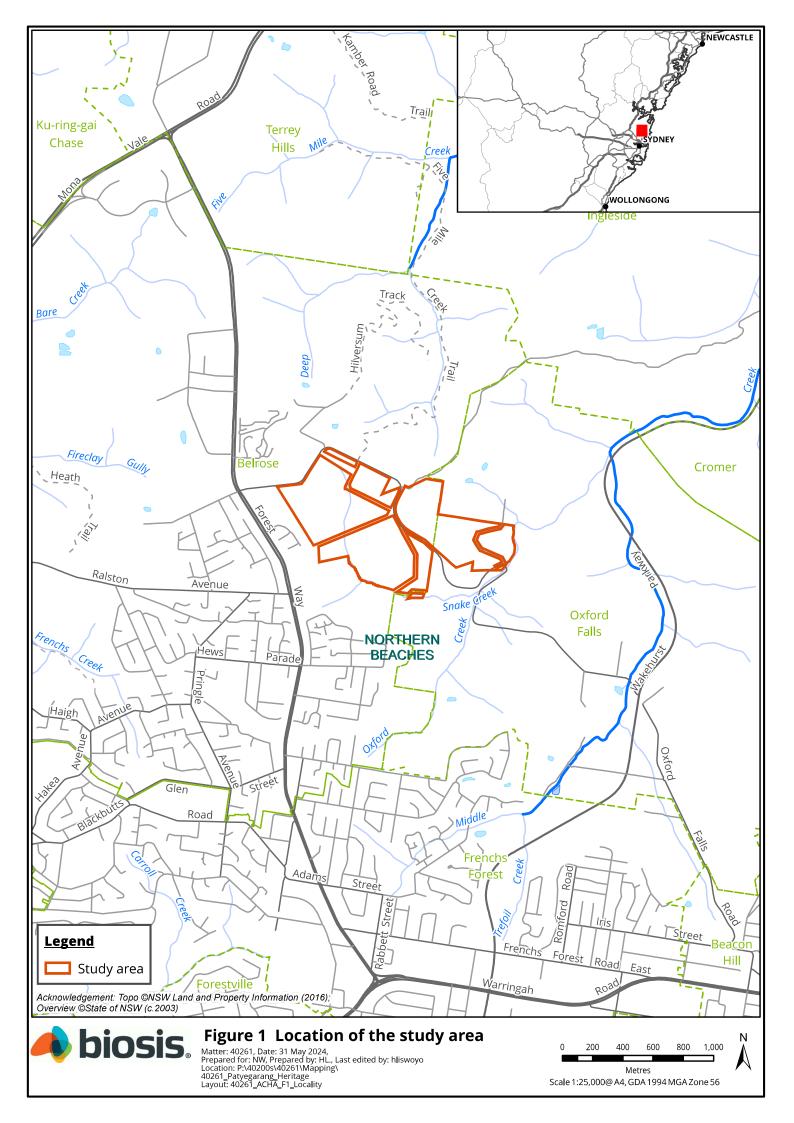
any deposit, object or material evidence...relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises NSW, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains

Aboriginal places are defined as a place that is or was of special Aboriginal cultural significance. Places are declared under Section 84 of the NPW Act.

### **1.6.5 Values**

Aboriginal cultural heritage is valued by Aboriginal people as it is used to define their identity as both individuals and as part of a group (DECCW 2010a, p. iii). More specifically it is used:

- To provide a:
  - 'Connection and sense of belonging to Country' (DECCW 2010a, p. iii).
  - Link between the present and the past (DECCW 2010a, p. iii).
- As a learning tool to teach Aboriginal culture to younger Aboriginal generations and the general public (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).
- As further evidence of Aboriginal occupation prior to European settlement for people who do not understand the magnitude to which Aboriginal people occupied the continent (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).







# 2 Study area context

This section discusses the study area in regard to its landscape, environmental and Aboriginal cultural heritage context. This section should be read in conjunction with the AR attached in Appendix 5. The background research has been undertaken in accordance with the Code.

# 2.1 Topography and hydrology

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses (Appendix 5). The formation ranges in thickness from 34-240 metres, and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone is important to Aboriginal peoples for both occupation, tool production, art and ceremonial activities. This is evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites. Sydney's sandstone landscape is comprised largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

Topographically, the study area sits at its lowest, 36 meters above sea level, and at its highest altitude, 138 meters above sea level. The study area is primarily comprised of steep simple slopes, with several benches taking shape towards the southern portion of the study area, an open depression where Snake Creek transects the study area, as well as a crest forming in a central position towards the northern portion of the study area.

Stream order and topography is recognised as a factor which helps the development of predictive modelling in Aboriginal archaeology in the Cumberland Plain. Predictive models which have been developed for the region have a tendency to favour permanent water courses as the locations of complex sites that have been continuously occupied, as they would have been more likely to provide a stable source of water and by extension other resources which would have been used by Aboriginal groups (JMCHM 2000, p. 19). The stream order system used for this assessment was originally developed by Strahler (1952). It functions by adding two streams of equal order at their confluence to form a higher order stream, as shown in Photo 2. As stream order increases, so does the likelihood that the stream would be a perennial source of water.



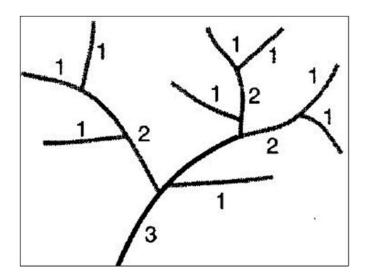


Photo 2 Diagram showing Strahler stream order (Ritter, Kochel, & Miller 1995, p. 151)

The study area features Snake Creek, a first order non-perennial watercourse, which meanders through the study area from west to east via an open depression landform. Snake Creek feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non-perennial watercourse that runs north to south on the eastern boundary of the study area (Appendix 5). Oxford Creek in turn feeds Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse 824 metres northeast of the study area and a tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon, 3.2 kilometres to the east, which runs into the Tasman Sea. The presence of both perennial and non-perennial water sources indicates that Aboriginal people would likely have utilised these places for both water and the aquatic and terrestrial resources drawn there.

# 2.2 Soil landscapes

Soil landscapes have distinct morphological and topological characteristics that result in specific archaeological potential. They are defined by a combination of soils, topography, vegetation and weathering conditions. Soil landscapes are essentially terrain units that provide a useful way to summarise archaeological potential and exposure.

The study area is divided into five separate soil landscapes (Appendix 5) These include the Hawkesbury, Lambert, Hornsby, Gymea and Oxford falls landscapes. These soil landscapes are summarised below.

The Oxford Falls soil landscape is present in a small extent of the southern-central portion of the study area. The Oxford Falls soil landscape is characterised by hanging valleys generally 100-1000 meters wide underlaid by Hawkesbury Sandstone, with moderately inclined (5-15%) slopes. Wide sandstone benches are occasionally found on side slopes with associated rock outcrops and low scarps. Soils are moderately deep to deep (50-150 centimetres) earth sands, yellow earths and silicious sands on slopes, with deep (>200 centimetres) leached sands, podzols and grey earths on valley floors. This soil landscape is fluvial, meaning it is prone to flooding which decreases the likelihood of long-term occupation, an extensive or repetitive flood event may also negatively affect the condition of Aboriginal sites.

The Hornsby soil landscape exists in a small portion of the south-east corner of the study area. It is characterized by gently undulating rises to steep low hills on deeply weathered basaltic breecia (rock formed from angular gravel and boulder-sized clasts cemented together in a matrix). Topography of this soil landscape is distinguished by gently inclined valley floors surrounded by steep, colluvial sideslopes. Slope gradients range from 3-65%. Soils are deep (150-300 centimetres) yellow podzolic soils on upper and



midslopes, yellow brown earths and red podzolic soils on sandstone colluvium, yellow podzolic soils on volcanic breccia, deep (>200 centimetres) structured loams in drainage lines. This soil is considered to be residual, which, due to their age and slow accumulation, have reasonable potential to contain archaeological deposits in an open context. Occupational evidence here may include stone artefacts or scarred trees.

The Hawkesbury soil landscape is present across the majority of the study area and is characterised as a colluvial soil landscape. The Hawkesbury soil landscape features shallow discontinuous lithosols/siliceous sands greater than 50 centimetres associated with rock outcrops, earthy sands, yellow earths and some locally deep sands on the inside of benches and along joints and fractures. Localised yellow and red podzolic soils associated with shale lenses, siliceous sands and secondary yellow earths occur along drainage lines (Bannerman & Hazelton 1990). The colluvial nature of this soil landscape indicates vulnerability to mass movement events, with soil consisting of mass movement debris. This may both protect archaeological deposits by burying them deeper, or conversely, soil movement may result in higher levels of subsurface disturbance.

The Lambert soil landscape is present across the northern boundary of the study area and is considered to be erosional. The Lambert soil landscape is characterized by undulating rises to rolling hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with elevation between 6–610 meters. Broad ridges with gently to moderately inclined sideslopes with sandstone bedrock which outcrops as wide as 10-100 meters. Soils consist of shallow to moderately deep (25-<100 centimetres) well drained brown and yellow othic tensols and brown kandosols, shallow (25-<50 centimetres) well-drained Leptic Rudosols and moderately deep (50–100 centimetres) imperfectly drained brown kurosols. Erosional soil landscapes are vulnerable to movement events in shallow soils, which result in poor preservation of the archaeological record; land clearance can lead to higher levels of erosion.

The Gymea soil landscape makes up the final soil landscape in the study area and occupies the western boundary and is an erosional soil type. It is features undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with local relief of 20–80 meters and slopes of 10–25%. Sideslopes with narrow to wide outcropping sandstone rock benches between 10–100 meters which often form broken scarps of <5 meters. Shallow to moderately deep (30–100 centimetre) yellow earths, and earthy sands on crests and inside of benches, shallow (<20 centimetre) siliceous sands on leading edges of benches, localised gleyed podzolic soils and yellow podzolic soils on shale lenses, shallow to moderately deep (<100 centimetres) siliceous sands and leaches sands along drainage lines. As an erosional soil, the Gymea soil landscape likewise implies vulnerability to movement events in shallow soils.

Further details regarding the soil landscapes located within the study area can be found in Appendix 5.

### 2.3 Climate and rainfall

The study area is located within the Sydney Basin Bioregion, which covers an area between Batemans Bay and Nelson Bay, and as far west as Mudgee (Figure 1).

The Sydney Basin Bioregion is subject to a temperate climate, it maintains warm summers with no dry season. Rainfall is known to occur year-round, varying based on the altitude and distance from the coast (DPIE 2016).

The highest mean maximum temperature for the study area was during January and was recorded as 26.7 degrees Celsius. It was recorded at its lowest during July at 16.4 degrees Celsius. The highest mean minimum temperate was recorded during January and reached 18.5 degrees Celsius. The lowest was recorded during July and reached 7.8 degrees Celsius. The highest mean rainfall was recorded during March at 177.5 millimetres, the lowest was recorded during May at 74.1 millimetres. This data was provided by the Terrey



Hills AWS weather station (Site number: 066059) approximately 2 kilometres from the study area (Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology 2024).

The dramatically shifting temperate and rainfall extremes indicate that the study area may not have been a prime position for long term occupation as resources and comfort may have varied across the years. Locations with more reliable conditions may appear more attractive in comparison to the study area.

# 2.4 Landscape resources

The study area is known to contain a wide variety of vegetation, including Angiosperms such as: Red Bloodwood *Corymbia gummifera*; Scribbly Gum *Eucalyptus haemastoma*; Heath Leaved Banksia *Banksia ericifolia*; Saw Bankia *B. serrata*; Wiry Panic *Entolassia stricta*; and the Sugar Gum *Angophora costata*. Gymnosperms present include the Pine *Podocarpus spinulosus*, Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* and Barrawang *Macrozamia communis*.

Faunal resources in the study area include mammalian species such as: Swamp Wallaby Wallabia bicolor, Bush Rat Rattus fuscipes, Common Brushtail Possum Trichosurus vulpecula, Common Ringtail Possum Pseudocheirus peregrinus, Short-beaked Echidna Tachyglossus aculeatus, Eastern-Pygmy-possum Cercartetus nanus and the Sugar glider Petaurus breviceps. Avian species include the Silvereye Zosterops lateralis, Wild Turkey Alectura lathami, Kookaburra Dacelo (Dacelo) novaeguineae, Sulpher-crested Cockatoo Cacatua (Cacatua) galerita, Rainbow Lorikeet Trichoglossus haematodus and the Australian Magpie Gymnorhina tibicen. Reptiles present include the: Lace Monitor Varanus vairus; Eastern Blue-tongue Tiliqua scincoides; Red-bellied Black Snake Pseudechis porphyriacus; and the Diamond Python Morelia spilota. Aquatic species include the Cox Gudgeon Gobiomorphus coxii, River Eel Anguilla reinhardtii, Sydney Crayfish Euastacus spinifer, Western Yabbie Cherax destructor, and the Semaphore Crab Heloecius cordiformis.

Plant resources were used in a variety of ways. Fibres were twisted into string which was used for many purposes including the weaving of nets, baskets and fishing lines. String was also used for personal adornment. Bark from eucalypts was used in the provision of shelter; a large sheet of bark being propped against a stick to form a gunyah (Attenbrow 2002, p. 105). Swamp Oak bark could be used for the making of canoes, and Smooth-barked Apple for the making of baskets and bowls.

As well as being important food sources, animal products were also used for tool making and fashioning a myriad of utilitarian and ceremonial items. For example, tail sinews are known to have been used to make fastening cord, while 'bone points', which would have functioned as awls or piercers, are often an abundant part of the archaeological record. Animals such as Brush-tailed Possums, were highly prized for their fur, with possum skin cloaks worn fastened over one shoulder and under the other (Attenbrow 2002, p. 107).

# 2.5 European land use history

Aerial imagery taken during 1943 displays the study area covered in mature vegetation, with no land clearance visible. However, small pathways are visible crossing into the central northern extent, southern extent and western extent, beginning from the established Forest Way (Photo 3). Imagery dated to 1970 displays minor development in the study area, with numerous additional pathways branching off of Morgan Road, which crosses north to south through the centre of the study area. This is a sealed road with sand strewn pathways leading to clearings in an otherwise closed woodland (Photo 4). Photography from 1982 presents the study area having undergone development, with land clearance present surrounding pathways towards the western extent as well as in the south-central portion. Construction has taken place towards the northern extent, with a structure present off Morgan Road; this includes an in-ground pool facilitating the



need for sub-surface work (Photo 5), although outside the study area boundary the infrastructure installation may have impacted the stratigraphy of the study area. The final aerial image of the study area dated to 2005 presents little change in terms of development, however evidence of bushfire place appears in the north east extent of the study area, with discolouration present surrounding the numerous pathways and reaching up to properties towards the north and east (Photo 6).



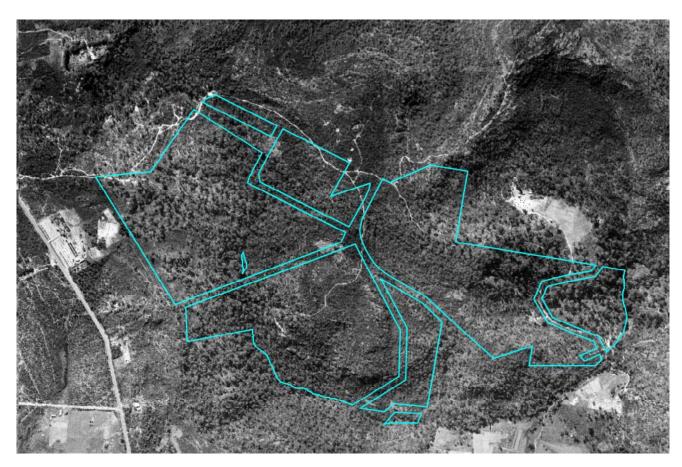


Photo 3 Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1943 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)

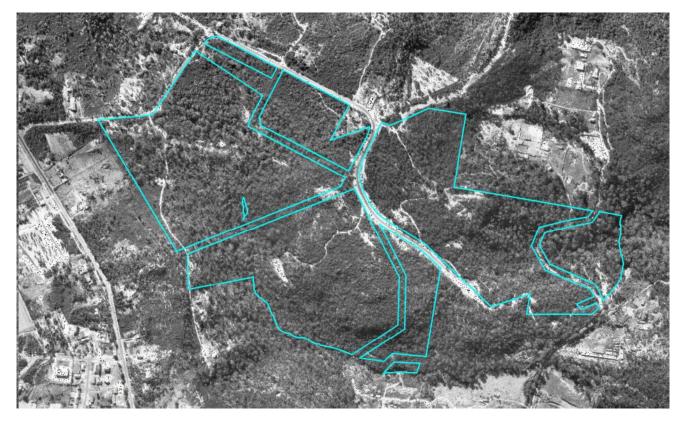


Photo 4 Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1970 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)





Photo 5 Aerial photography of the study area dated to 1982 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)



Photo 6 Aerial photography of the study area dated to 2005 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)



# 3 Aboriginal cultural heritage context

# 3.1 Ethnohistory

Our knowledge of the social organisation and languages of Aboriginal people prior to European contact is, to a large extent, reliant on documents written by European people. Such documents contain the inherent bias of the class and cultures of these authors; however, they can be used in conjunction with archaeological information in order to gain a picture of Aboriginal life in the region. The majority of this information was gathered during the late-19th century, taking place in already affected communities where significant disruptions to the pre-existing societies had taken place (Turbet 2001).

There is some confusion relating to group names, which can be explained by the use of differing terminologies in early historical references. Language groups were not the main political or social units in Aboriginal life. Instead, land custodianship and ownership centred on the smaller named groups that comprised the broader language grouping. There is some variation in the terminology used to categorise these smaller groups; the terms used by Attenbrow (2002) will be used here.

At the time of European arrival, the Aboriginal peoples of Sydney functioned within a complex system of relationships, customs, rituals, beliefs and mutual obligations. It is estimated there were at least two dozen clans in the Sydney region, likely containing 25-60 people each, with ancestral relationships through their fathers. Clans were named after their lands, highlighting the importance of connection to country. Different clans were also distinguished by hair styles, body decoration, weapons and tools and also the techniques used to create those items. The coastal Aboriginal people of Sydney held strong relationships with other coastal groups north and south of Sydney, with less involvement with the inland Aboriginal peoples of the greater Sydney area (Irish 2017, pp. 17–9, Karskens 2009, p. 42, Attenbrow 2010, p. 28); this area has been termed the Affiliated Coastal Zone by Irish (2017), and which spans from around Port Stephens in the north to Shoalhaven in the south, and extending into the Southern Highlands.

A variety of studies of the language groupings that made up the greater Sydney region have been summarised by Attenbrow (2002). She suggests the coastal Guringai language group, which extended from the Sydney Peninsular to Port Jackson and Botany Bay, were a separate tribal group to the inland Dharug group. The boundaries of the language group lands are not always precise and many cultural customs relating to land use and responsibilities for Country mean boundaries are 'blurred' zones and can change over time (Attenbrow 2002, p. 29). The Guringai people lived on the coastal strip to as far west as Mangrove Creek. The Guringai's territory also extended from Port Jackson in the south to Lake Macquarie in the north.

Attenbrow (2002) discusses the inconsistencies in defining the Guringai area due to language similarities with surrounding groups. John Fraser placed the Guringai area along the coast between Macleay and Hastings River in the north, Bulli in the south and extending inland to the Great Dividing Range. Fraser identified this area by grouping similar language groups together (Attenbrow 2002). Arthur Capell also combined language groups locating Guringai to be from north of Port Jackson, east of Lane Cove River to the coast, and north to Tuggerah Lake merging with Awaba (Attenbrow 2002). Anne Ross argued that Guringai was a completely separate language to those Fraser and Capell grouped them with, placing Guringai on the Sydney peninsula and north of Port Jackson (Attenbrow 2002). More recently there has been debate around the use of the term 'Guringai' being used to describe the larger language group which covers the geographical area of the Central Coast and northern Sydney. Like other language groups, sub-dialects or sub-groups have been noted by



Mathews (1897, p. 1), such as Wannungine and Darrook. As with other regions in NSW it is likely the boundaries of the Aboriginal groups in this region were highly mobile and subject to change.

Ethnographic evidence from early colonial settlers suggest that large Aboriginal communities of extended families exploited marine, terrestrial and riparian environments. Coastal peoples north of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta River used plant foods such as yams from the river plains and other plant food such as the flowers of Banksias and pounded roots of ferns. Kangaroos, wallabies, possums, koalas, bandicoots, dingos, wombats, echidnas, fruit bats and other smaller mammals such as rats and mice, were among the wide range of animals that were available to Aboriginal hunters (Attenbrow 2002, p. 70).

The toolkit of coastal peoples north of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta River consisted of the stone headed hatchet slung from a string belt. Complex traps were built to hunt birds and large nets were used for hunting kangaroos (Curby 2001). Trade in various goods is well documented in parts of south-eastern Australia. Items such as axe heads, wooden implements, coastal shell goods, hair string and lumps of resin or beeswax for hafting were typical trade items. The study area is located west of what is considered to be a coastal wildlife corridor from Dee Why Lagoon to Narrabeen Lagoon, crossing the Long Reef rock platform and around the Collaroy Plateau escarpment. This wildlife corridor featured marine and bird life as well as terrestrial wildlife, with migratory shorebirds visiting each year to feed on marine life. Aboriginal people who camped at Narrabeen Lagoon hunted in this corridor until the government began issuing land grants in the area around 1814 (Miller 2011). The higher ground of the nearby Collaroy Plateau was used for educational and ceremonial purposes (Foley 2001, cited by Read 2011).

Most early European colonial observations focused on the fishing practices of coastal peoples north of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta River, noting that the majority of their diet consisted of fish (Conyers 1990, p. 13). Watkin Tench noted his opinion that the Cammeraygal people (North Sydney area) held the best fishing areas within Port Jackson. He recorded that women made and used fishing lines (kurrajong cabbage tree bark, flax, animal fur or grasses) and turban shell hooks (burra), catching fish from canoes (nowie), while men made spears, wooden tools and wooden weapons, spearing fish from the shore. It has been noted that women were seen fishing from their nowie in the harbour until at least the 1820s, which is also when they stop appearing in European artworks. A party of Russian visitors in 1820 recorded that a group of north shore Aboriginal people visited their camp at Kirribilli; subsequently, the women went to fish and the men made fishing implements. Sometimes, to attract fish to their location, food, shellfish and sea urchins were thrown into the water (Hoskins 2019, pp. 12, 19, Irish 2017, p. 12, Karskens 2009, pp. 40, 352, 437, 439). In particular, Tench observed that 'the fish hooks are chopped with stone out a particular shell, and afterwards rubbed until they become smooth...considering the quickness with which they are finished the excellence of the work, if it be inspected, is admirable' (Tench 1979, p. 284). Collins also noted that women sang together as they fished, keeping time with the paddles as they rowed (Karskens 2009, p. 404). A 19th century engraving, most likely a copy of artwork made during an 1802 visit by the French to Sydney Harbour, shows a man holding a four-pronged fishing spear and a shield, and also has white clay body markings and a head cloth; Hoskins (2019, p. 13) states that the spear is typical of those spears used by Harbour peoples, while the body markings, head cloth, decoration and shape of the shield are also characteristic of coastal peoples. Some of the species caught include leatherjacket, snapper and bream, as well as rock oysters, clams, cockles and mussels. Evidence of these meals are seen in the shell middens which dot the coastal and estuarine areas of northern Sydney (Hoskins 2019, p. 12).

In addition to the *burra* being a sophisticated tool, its development and use is thought to have enabled women to hold more social and economic importance in their communities; areas where the *burra* was adopted saw women holding more of a role in society and rituals, whereas others, for example in Newcastle, men dominated these areas of life (Karskens 2009, pp. 406–7). *Burra* were also used as part of personal



adornment along with other shells and fish jaws. As part of a ceremonial practice known as *malgun*, two joints were removed from the left little finger of young girls, which is believed to have helped the wrapping of fishing line around their hand. Others have suggested it was a sign of marriage promise (Irish 2017, p. 16, Karskens 2009, p. 38).

Regarding non-marine resources, there are fewer colonial records of what Sydney coastal Aboriginal people used. David Collins observed that a number of flora items were used by the Aboriginal people dwelling in the harbour area. These include berries, fern-roots and yams, different types of banksia flowers and occasionally honey. While this is not an exhaustive list, it does highlight the importance of the foreshore to those groups who resided in its vicinity (Hoskins 2019, p. 12, Attenbrow 2010, p. 77). The strategy of burning vegetation was used in winter and early spring, particularly in dry periods to flush out animals, while women continued to fish during these seasons. Similarly, in winter, roots and yams were collected and consumed more than in the warmer months (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 70, 79). Archaeological evidence suggests that the importance of land animals and plants was underestimated by the early colonial writers; hunting and gathering plants and small animals took place within wooded areas, and was therefore less visible than those activities on the water or foreshore, so fewer observations would have been made (Attenbrow 2010, p. 74).

Land management through burning activities also took place on the northern side of the harbour. An early written record of this was made by Hunter in August 1791 during an episode of bushfires around Sydney, who noted that 'some natives were likewise burning the ground on the north side of the harbour, opposite the settlement', that this was also a constant task undertaken when the weather was dry (Hunter, p.361, cited by Hoskins 2019, p. 12). Hoskins (2019, p. 12) suggests that, rather than 'firestick farming', whereby land is burned to create new growth and which created the inland pasture-like landscapes the European colonialists encountered, burning on the steep slopes and rocky terrain of the northern shore was likely done to reduce undergrowth and prevent large fires, as well as enable easy travel through these areas.

Although the archaeological record would suggest that Aboriginal groups mostly relied on rock shelters as sites for habitation, early observations by those such as Tench and Fabian Bellinghausen (Conyers 1990, pp. 16–7) show that bark huts (often referred to as 'wigwams') and wind breaks were utilised for camp sites, with rock shelters being more heavily relied on in poor weather. Many of these structures were noted for their location close to water or shoreline, assumed because of their convenience to cook caught fish and other marine resources. Family groups may have camped in a single location from a few days up to several weeks, for a single night on their travel to a particular resource or ceremonial location, or even just for a short period of time during the day while they gathered food, water and materials. Campfires were established at the mouth of the huts or rockshelters, with Tench noting that the fire would warm the rockshelter stone (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 47, 105).

Early colonial records generally do not comment on the spiritual lives, religion or beliefs of the Aboriginal people they interacted with, which would have been considerably different to those held by Europeans. There was also colonial suppression of these beliefs by restricting public gatherings, while others may have chosen not to share information. Equally, information may not have been passed down to younger generations before knowledge holders died of disease, natural causes or warfare. As a result, it is difficult to be certain of the beliefs of those clans within the Sydney region specifically; much of what is known is inferred from information provided by clans outside of this area, as it is believed that people living along the NSW coast from Port Macquarie to the Victorian border held similar cultural beliefs and practices (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 126–7). One example of an early observation is from one of the 1820 Russian visitors, scientist IM Siminov, of a group of Aboriginal people feasting, eating mussels and fish cooked over a fire, as well as dancing and singing, in a clearing within Kirribilli. Siminov noted that their faces and bodies were painted with 'patches of red ochre...their music consisted of the sound of two small sticks, which the single musician beat time with,



and of his loud voice as he sang a dissonant song. The dancers stood before him in a single line. They jumped at each blow of the sticks, and hummed: prrs, prrs, prrs.' (in Barratt 1981, cited by Hoskins 2019, p. 21). References to rituals or events generally conform to these kinds of descriptions. However, later writers in the mid- and late-19th century were able to record information passed to them from Aboriginal people who lived in the Sydney region and those immediately adjacent (Attenbrow 2010, p. 15).

Using information provided by people of the Darginung, Dharawal, Awabagal and Yuin language groups, Attenbrow (2010, pp. 127–42) has attempted to provide a picture of the beliefs, totems, rites and ceremonies of the coastal and hinterland Aboriginal peoples of Sydney; these are summarised in the following paragraphs. All aspects of life are/were associated with religious practices and beliefs, including: relationships between people and the environment and also between males and females; living arrangements, hunting, food gathering and foods that can be eaten; designs on implements and weapons; and body adornments. Fertility and rites of passage, in particular puberty and death, were key themes around which religion revolved. Stories and rituals, both of which are part of the Dreaming, were expressions of spiritual belief and religion, associated with emblems and symbols, music, song and dance. Singing and dancing were part of everyday life as well as special ceremonial or imitation events. As is noted above, women sang as they fished and rowed on the water, but songs were also sung when people were sick. A number of corrobborees were recorded in the early years of European colonisation, where men and women painted themselves in white ochre designs (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 127, 138).

Different groups had different rites and stories, which were linked with ancestral and spirits and their totemic forms. Collins recorded comments from some individuals who states that they went 'on or beyond the great water' or 'to the clouds', while Bennelong told Europeans that people came from the clouds also, coming down as small children and hovering in the tops and branches of trees. In the Port Jackson area, a *Karadji* was a person who performed rites, initiation ceremonies and also performed healing works. Collins also noted what he called superstitions: never cook fish at night or else the wind would not rise; evil followed the sighting of a shooting star; and never whistle under a rock lest it fall upon them (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 127–8).

Within south-eastern Australia, there is a common belief in a supreme creative being, named and presented differently in various regions; to the north and south of Sydney, Baiame and Daramulan are used. Totemic creatures also played an important role, providing a link for individuals to the Dreaming, nature, aspects of their life (including marriage partners), wider social organisation and the practices used for ensuring sustainability of animal and plant supplies. Through their association with Baiame and Daramulan, many totemic creatures are an essential component of the rituals and beliefs associated with initiation ceremonies. As an example, some of the animals associated with the Darginung people include the diamond snake, wallaroo, grey kangaroo, wombat, black snake, wallaby, possum, native bee, bandicoot, emu, eagle-hawk and stingray. Unfortunately, the relationships between totem creatures, Baiame, Daramulan and other supernatural beings is not clear for the Sydney region. However, prominent Aboriginal people referred to in early colonial records often were noted as having several names, as well as totemic names. Collins was told that children were named after things that were constantly around them during their first 4-6 weeks. Totems among the Darginung people were inherited through the female line, while Yuin boys were told of two of their totem names at an initiation ceremony. In other places, totemic creatures followed gender lines, with treecreepers/nightjars for women and bats and emu wrens for men. There is also a belief in supernatural beings with powers which took many different forms, and usually malevolent. At night, people would stay close around the fire for both warmth and because it deterred spirits (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 128–31).

Initiation ceremonies were held for both male and female Aboriginal people, and were one way in which information was passed from elders to younger people. There are numerous colonial reports of initiation ceremonies for boys and men. One type of ceremony was to ensure the transition from childhood to



adulthood, and involved the removal of one or two upper right front teeth. Scarification was also used for both men and women to show what stage the person had reached in their life; this was witnessed by early colonial Europeans and recorded, noting that pieces of broken shell were used. Cammeraygal men were recorded as using both of these ceremonial practices, with one event at Farm Cove in early 1795 recorded in detail by Thomas Watling. There were a number of different rituals and rites that were undertaken by both men and boys which would enable their passing from boyhood into manhood and perform the duties required of a man, such as hunting and combat, and introduced them to spiritual law and beliefs. This particular ceremony took place in an area cleared of grass and tree stumps. Oral histories recorded from other neighbouring regions note the presence of earthen mounds, rings and embankments connecting paths within the grounds, stone circles or cairns, and mounded and cut earthen figures. It has also been suggested that ceremonies may have taken place in locations featuring painted or engraved figures on rock platforms or rockshelters; these figures may have been Baiame, Daranulan, images of initiated males or new initiatives, ancestral beings or animal composite figures associated with the Rainbow Serpent from the Dreaming. Other kinds of rites and customs included nasal septum piercing, which may have denoted status, and malgun (noted above), specifically for young girls. Ritual combats also took place around Port Jackson into the early-to mid-19th century and were recorded, with the purpose of punishing wrongdoers or as retribution or revenge; these mostly involved harming the target, but sometimes escalated to death (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 131-8).

Beliefs about death are also considerable. Death was often considered to have been caused by a malevolent being, by sorcery, an enemy of the deceased person, or by negligence of another, and rarely considered to be a natural event. As a result, the guilty person(s) had to be identified and punished or avenged, often ending in ritual combat. The dead and graves were feared, with rituals undertaken to ensure that the dead person's spirit did not remain to disturb the living. Campsites where someone had died were often abandoned. People who had certain relationships with the dead were often subjected to food restrictions, and their name could not be spoken, with those with the same name having to relinquish it and use one of their other names. Burial practices recorded by early colonial writers include Tench and Collins included burial and cremation followed by burial; the method used may have depended upon the person's age and/or status. For example, a child who had died of smallpox was buried in a sandy grave lined with grass and covered by an earth mound. A young adult was buried on his side with head pointing north-west in his canoe with some grave goods with vegetation laid around and over the grave. Barangaroo was cremated with several personal items in a funeral pyre, her head facing north, with the remains interred in a mound formed by bark and timber logs. Those attending funerals painted their bodies, with women covering themselves in ashes, while there were also feasts and games. In other parts of south-eastern Australia, carved trees have also been connected with burials, some of which were recorded in the late-19th century near Narellan and Picton. The scale of the smallpox epidemic in 1789 meant that traditional burial practices could not be undertaken for everyone, with many people being simply left; many Aboriginal people who died were buried by the Europeans. It is thought that traditional burial practices continued around Port Jackson into at least the 1820s, but fewer instances of cremations over time were noted. In the Sydney harbour area, many burials have been found in middens located in the open and in rock shelters (Attenbrow 2010, pp. 139-42).

As is stated above, different Aboriginal clans could be identified through the clothing, adornments and hair treatments they used. Attenbrow (2010, pp. 107–11) provides a summary of observations from various sources which provide general descriptions without attributing them to particular clans. Governor Phillip observed that bark cloaks were commonly used as protection from the rain, but also used as a blanket or shelter during sleep. Within the Port Jackson area, Aboriginal people wore their hair loose, but matted, while children had fish bones and animals fastened to their hair from a young age. Bands were often worn around the arms, waist, neck and head. Arm bands made from animal fur were called *nooroonniel*, while some headbands were also made of fur from possums and other animals. Men who had been initiated wore waistbands, from which tools and weapons could be hung. Girls wore a *barrin* which held a skirt made of



twisted possum or kangaroo threads until puberty or had a husband. Necklaces and pendants were worn by both men and women, with women wearing shellfish hooks; some necklaces were made of segments of reeds or grass, and called *gweé-rang*. While nose-bones were worn by both men and women, they were commonly worn by men; to make the hole in the nose septum, a procedure called *gnahnoong* was undertaken on both boys and girls. The small leg bone of a kangaroo was usually used, sharpened to a point, but also reeds and sticks. Men and women also had raised scars (cicatrices); for men, scarification was part of male initiation and indicated the stages of initiation he had undertaken. Red, white and sometimes yellow body paint was worn by men, women and children on certain occasions including ceremonies and corroborees, burials and combats. White was worn for initiations and more peaceful events, and red was worn for war-like activities, while at funerals both were used as well as wood ash. While some Aboriginal people adopted elements of European clothing during the early colonial period, usually as gifts or payment for work, many people continued to wear traditional clothing, ornaments and body decoration, sometimes in tandem with these new items.

In 1788, Governor Phillip was on a reconnaissance mission around Port Jackson when he noticed a group of Aboriginal people at Manly (Egan 1999, p. 10). Phillip wrote of the encounter that twenty of the men "waded into the water unarmed" and approached his boats, observing with great curiosity and "their confidence and manly behaviour made me give the name of Manly Cove to this place" (Egan 1999, p. 10).

The arrival of Europeans had a rapid and dramatic effect on the people of the Sydney Basin. Even so, evidence of the continued presence of Aboriginal people, despite the disruptions to prior lifestyle, is also recorded and historically significant throughout the region. As in many places competition for land and resources and cultural differences led to conflict; this happened rapidly within the region following European settlement.

Relationships between coastal Aboriginal people and Europeans were largely self-managed until 1810, with no policy from the colonial government, which only intervened in particular situations. Aboriginal women developed mutually beneficial friendships with European people also, including both men and women from the convict and officer groups, and also became important go-betweens in cross-cultural communication. As part of this liaison, women were significant for the development of pidgin language unique to the Sydney area which was a mix of English and local Aboriginal words (Karskens 2009, pp. 410-3). Europeans considered the coastal part of Sydney outside of the Tank Stream valley (the current Sydney CBD area) as being 'rocky, sandy and barren', and therefore of little agricultural use. As a result, there fewer violent incidents between the two by the early 1810s in comparison to the Cumberland Plain, for example. However, following the arrival of Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1809, a number of government actions were taken from 1814 as part of 'civilising' the Aboriginal people of Sydney and ordering their society under a European ideology (Irish 2017, p. 28). In addition to a 'Native Institution' for Aboriginal children in Parramatta which ran from 1815-1830, Macquarie also established a system whereby 'the Natives should be Divided into Distinct Tribes, according to the Several Districts they usually reside in: - and that each Tribe should elect its own Chief...' (Macquarie 1814). This allowed for the regrouped bands within clans to be recorded into the administrative system of the colonial government. Macquarie encouraged groups to settle in places near to where they often resided or held existing connections. Later Governors made annual distributions of blankets to Aboriginal people in a number of locations across Sydney (Irish 2017, pp. 29-31).



# 3.2 Aboriginal heritage located in the study area

The archaeological assessment of the study area identified the following Aboriginal sites in the study area:

- AHIMS 45-6-1219/ Morgan Road 1.
- AHIMS 45-6-2196/ Morgan Road 2.
- AHIMS 45-6-2197/ Morgan Road 3.

The AR attached in Appendix 5 provides details for Aboriginal sites identified during the archaeological assessment and shown on Figure 3. A brief description of each site is provided below.

### **AHIMS 45-6-1219/ Morgan Road 1**

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide (2.43 metres long by 1.37 metres wide), with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo 7). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a 'culture heroes path, eg Biamie', but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

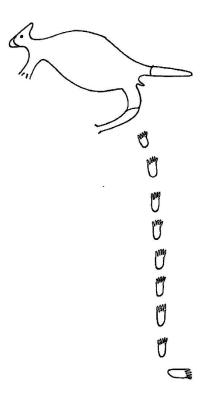


Photo 7 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)



### **AHIMS 45-6-2196/ Morgan Road 2**

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 8). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length (1.98 metres), with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet (21.95 metres) south-east.

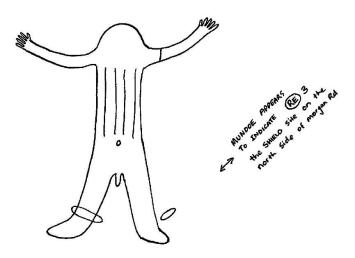


Photo 8 AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)



### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/ Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 9). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

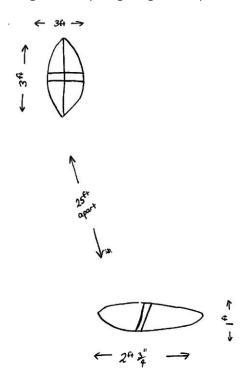


Photo 9 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

# 3.3 Interpretation of past Aboriginal land use

The study area comprises numerous steep simple slopes with several benches, as well as numerous first and second order non-perennial water courses which intersect throughout. Background research indicated that the study area is located atop the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit commonly associated with sandstone outcroppings and overhangs which can be used to form grinding grooves near watercourses and rock shelter sites where sufficient cover is afforded. The study area is underlain by five separate soil landscapes each with a characteristic likely to influence any potential archaeological material. The major soil landscape is the Hawkesbury soil landscape which displays colluvial attributes, including vulnerability to mass movement events which is likely to both bury and protect deep deposits, while disturbing shallow deposits.

A review of historical sources and aerials show that the study area has been lightly developed, with numerous unsealed pathways forming across it since the 1940s, bringing with it minor amounts of vegetation clearance. To the north of the study area structures have been constructed, bringing in sub surface infrastructure necessary to support habitation. Large portions of the study area did not display observable disturbances lower levels of disturbance implies a higher probability of potential archaeological deposits surviving. Large swaths of the study area appear to have been subject to bushfire which has a devastating effect on mature vegetation in the area, likely destroying any modified or scarred trees present.



Previous archaeological predictive modelling developed by Therin (2007) indicated that 'while the majority of the sites in the area are located in proximity to the shoreline, this is not to say that areas away from the shore were not used by Aboriginal people. Terrestrial flora and fauna were also important in the Aboriginal diet' (Therin 2007, p. 11). The study area is transected by Snake Creek, a first-order stream which runs through the western portion of the study area and continues in close proximity to the south and eastern boundaries of the study area. Oxford Creek, a second-order stream, bounds the eastern portion of the study area. The availability of water and associated resources increases the likelihood that the study area would have been more consistently utilised.

Evidence of previous occupation of the study area is demonstrated by the presence of three rock engraving sites recorded: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo); AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man); and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. These sites, the study area and wider vicinity are all considered to fall within the Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, described as 'one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia' and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (AHC 2020).

In addition, two Aboriginal Places are located within 3 kilometres of the study area. Moon Rock and the Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site are both extensive sites that further indicate intensive occupation of the local area, and increase the likelihood that additional archaeological sites or material will be present in the wider area. The study area may have been employed as part of a transitory route between significant places, connecting the three AHIMS sites within the study area to other cultural sites. The study area would likely also have been an area for resource gathering during periods where environmental conditions afforded plentiful fauna and flora associated with the non-perennial watercourses in the vicinity.

The presence of sophisticated engravings depicting ceremony implies a deep connection to culture. These sites indicate that the study area would have hosted past Aboriginal populations as part of a wider regional cultural context. However, other physical evidence of these activities may not have been preserved.



# 4 Aboriginal community consultation

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken in compliance with the consultation requirements as detailed below. A consultation log of all communications with RAPs is provided in Appendix 1.

# 4.1 Stage 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

#### 4.1.1 Identification of relevant Aboriginal stakeholders

In accordance with the consultation guidelines, Biosis notified the following bodies regarding the proposal:

- Northen Beaches Council.
- Heritage NSW, NSW Department of Environment and Heritage.
- NSW Native Title Services Corporation Limited (NTSCORP Limited).
- Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 of Aboriginal Owners.
- NNTT.
- Greater Sydney Local Land Services.
- MLALC.

A list of known Aboriginal stakeholders in the Belrose region was provided by Heritage NSW (a copy of this is provided in Appendix 2 and include:

- A1 Indigenous Services
- Amanda Hickey Cultural Services
- Aragung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Assessments
- Biamanga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation
- Bilinga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Darug Boorooberongal Elders Aboriginal Corporation
- Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation
- Dharug (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Eric Keidge
- Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation
- Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples)

- B.H. Heritage Consultants
- Badu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation
- Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation
- Cullendulla (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments
- Dharug Ngurra Aboriginal Corporation
- Didge Ngunawal Clan
- DJMD Consultancy
- Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
- Gulaga
- Gunyuu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)



- Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation
- Jerringong (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Julia Narayan
- Munyunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Mura Indigenous Corporation (icn:8991)
- Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation
- Nundagurri (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Pemulwuy (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Thauaira
- Waawaar Awaa Aboriginal Corporation
- Wailwan Aboriginal Group
- Walbunja (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Wullung (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Wurrumay Pty Ltd
- Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corporation

- Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group
- MLALC
- Minnamunnung
- Murramarang (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Murrumbul (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Ngambaa Cultural Connections
- Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH value by using 3D Laser and Drone technology
- Thoorga Nura
- Scott Franks on the behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd
- Walgalu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Wingikara (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
- Wori Wooilywa
- RAW Cultural Healing
- Guthers Aboriginal Corporation
- Gadu CHTS
- Mura Gadi Aboriginal Corporation

A search conducted by the Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW) was requested but no response was received. A search conducted by the NNTT listed no Registered Native Title Claims, Unregistered Claimant Applications or Registered Indigenous Land Use Agreements within the study area.

#### 4.1.2 Public notice

In accordance with the consultation guidelines, a public notification was placed in the *Daily Telegraph* (15 February 2024).

The advertisement invited Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge to register their interest in a process of community consultation to provide assistance in determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or places in the vicinity of the study area. The closing date for registration in the public notice was 29 February 2024.

A copy of the public notice is provided in Appendix 2.

#### 4.1.3 Registration of Aboriginal parties

Aboriginal groups identified in Section 4.1.1 were sent a letter on 15 February 2024 inviting them to register their interest in a process of community consultation to provide assistance in determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or places in the vicinity of the study area. In response to the letters and public notice, a total of 13 groups registered their interest in the project. Responses to registration from Aboriginal parties



are provided in Appendix 3. A full list of Aboriginal parties who registered for consultation is provided in Table 2.

Table 2 List of registered Aboriginal parties

No.	Organisation	Contact person
1	A1 Indigenous Services	Carolyn Hickey
2	Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	Amanda Hickey
3	Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	Jennifer Beale
4	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Justine Coplin
5	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll
6	Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Basil Smith
7	Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	Tracey Howie
8	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan
9	MLALC	Jacqueline Gibbs, Jordan Marr, Rowena Welsh and Nathan Moran
10	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Ryan Johnson
11	Ngambaa Cultural Connections	Kaarina Slater
12	Scott Franks on the behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd	Scott Franks
13	Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH Value by using 3D Laser and Drone Technology	Thomas Dahlstrom

## 4.2 Stage 2: Presentation of information about the proposed project

On 11 March 2024 Biosis provided RAPs with details about the proposed development works (project information pack). A copy of the project information pack is provided in Appendix 3.

# 4.3 Stage 3: Gathering information about cultural significance

#### 4.3.1 Archaeological assessment methodology information pack

On 11 March 2024, Biosis provided each RAP with a copy of the project methodology pack outlining the proposed ACHA process and methodology for this project. RAPs were given 28 days to review and provide feedback on the proposed methodology. A copy of the project methodology pack is provided in Appendix 3.

Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation replied on 12 March 2024:

I have read the project information and ACHA project methodology for the above project, and I endorse the recommendations made.

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services replied on 18 March 2024:

...AHCS supports the methodology...

A1 Indigenous Services replied on 19 March 2024:



I have reviewed the document and support the information and methodology.

Kamilaroi-Yankuntjatjara Working Group responded on 15 April 2024:

The study area is highly significant and sensitive to our people, we recommend further investigations.

MLALC provided notification on 11 March 2024 that the correspondence would be passed on, but no further communication was received.

#### 4.3.2 Information gathered during fieldwork

No further information was gathered during fieldwork aside from the mention by MLALC representatives of installing permanent deterrents to protect the engraving sites from unauthorized public access.

# 4.4 Stage 4: Review of draft ACHA report

On 11 June 2024, Biosis provided each RAP with a copy of the draft ACHA and AR to allow them an opportunity review the draft reports and provide feedback and comments on the assessment and recommendations. RAPs were given 28 days to review and provide feedback.

MLALC responded on 11 June 2024:

...thank you for providing present draft version of the ACHA for the Patyegarang project proposal.

Kamilaroi-Yankuntjatjara Working Group responded on 14 June 2024:

...we would like to agree and support your recommendations.

Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation replied on 20 June 2024:

...I endorse the recommendations.

Amanda Hickey Cultural Services replied on 26 June 2024:

... AHCS supports the ACHA / AR



# 5 Aboriginal cultural significance assessment

The two main values addressed when assessing the significance of Aboriginal sites are cultural values to the Aboriginal community and archaeological (scientific) values. This report will assess the cultural values of Aboriginal sites in the study area. Details of the scientific significance assessment of Aboriginal sites in the study area are provided in Appendix 5.

# 5.1 Introduction to the assessment process

Heritage assessment criteria in NSW fall broadly within the significance values outlined in the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) *Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (Australia ICOMOS 2013a) (the Burra Charter). This approach to heritage has been adopted by cultural heritage managers and government agencies as the set of guidelines for best practice heritage management in Australia. These values are provided as background and include:

- Historical significance (evolution and association) refers to historic values and encompasses the history
  of aesthetics, science and society, and therefore to a large extent underlies all of the terms set out in this
  section. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, a historic
  figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any
  given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or
  where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive.
  However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless
  of subsequent treatment.
- Aesthetic significance (Scenic/architectural qualities, creative accomplishment) refers to the sensory, scenic, architectural and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with social values and may include consideration of form, scale, colour, texture, and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use.
- Social significance (contemporary community esteem) refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical or
  contemporary associations and attachment that the place or area has for the present-day community.
  Places of social significance have associations with contemporary community identity. These places can
  have associations with tragic or warmly remembered experiences, periods or events. Communities can
  experience a sense of loss should a place of social significance be damaged or destroyed. These aspects
  of heritage significance can only be determined through consultative processes with local communities.
- **Scientific significance** (Archaeological, industrial, educational, research potential and scientific significance values) refers to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its archaeological and/or other technical aspects. Assessment of scientific value is often based on the likely research potential of the area, place or object and will consider the importance of the data involved, its rarity, quality or representativeness, and the degree to which it may contribute further substantial information.

The cultural and archaeological significance of Aboriginal and historic sites and places is assessed on the basis of the significance values outlined above. As well as the Burra Charter significance values guidelines, various government agencies have developed formal criteria and guidelines that have application when assessing the significance of heritage places within NSW. Of primary interest are guidelines prepared by the Australian Government, Heritage NSW, and the DCCEEW. The relevant sections of these guidelines are presented below.



These guidelines state that an area may contain evidence and associations which demonstrate one or any combination of the Burra Charter significance values outlined above in reference to Aboriginal heritage. Reference to each of the values should be made when evaluating archaeological and cultural significance for Aboriginal sites and places.

In addition to the previously outlined heritage values, the Heritage NSW *Guidelines to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011) also specify the importance of considering cultural landscapes when determining and assessing Aboriginal heritage values. The principle behind a cultural landscape is that 'the significance of individual features is derived from their inter-relatedness within the cultural landscape'. This means that sites or places cannot be 'assessed in isolation' but must be considered as parts of the wider cultural landscape. Hence the site or place will possibly have values derived from its association with other sites and places. By investigating the associations between sites, places, and (for example) natural resources in the cultural landscape the stories behind the features can be told. The context of the cultural landscape can unlock 'better understanding of the cultural meaning and importance' of sites and places.

Although other values may be considered – such as educational or tourism values – the two principal values that are likely to be addressed in consideration of Aboriginal sites and places are the cultural/social significance to Aboriginal people and their archaeological or scientific significance to archaeologists and the Aboriginal community. The determinations of archaeological and cultural significance for sites and places should then be expressed as statements of significance that preface a concise discussion of the contributing factors to Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.

# 5.2 Cultural (social significance) values

Cultural or social significance refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical and/or contemporary associations and values attached to a place or objects by Aboriginal people. Aboriginal cultural heritage is broadly valued by Aboriginal people as it is used to define their identity as both individuals and as part of a group (DECCW 2010a, p. iii). More specifically it provides:

- A 'connection and sense of belonging to Country' (DECCW 2010a, p. iii).
- A link between the present and the past (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).
- A learning tool to teach Aboriginal culture to younger Aboriginal generations and the general public (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).
- Further evidence of Aboriginal occupation prior to European settlement for people who do not understand the magnitude to which Aboriginal people occupied the continent (DECCW 2010a, p. 3).

It is acknowledged that Aboriginal people are the primary determiners of the cultural significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage. During consultation the following information was provided by RAPs in regard to the cultural values of the study area.

- MLALC provided comment on the state of the study area and the engraving sites located therein having been subject to damage caused by mountain bikers. It was mentioned that an AHIP would be desirable to install permanent deterrents to protect the sandstone benches from further harm, with low impact fencing installed in the meantime.
- Kamilaroi-Yankuntjatjara Working Group responded to Stage 2 and 3 consultation stating that the study area was highly significant and sensitive, and wished to recommend further investigation.



No further comments regarding cultural significance were received as part of Stage 4 consultation.

#### 5.3 Historic values

Historic significance refers to associations a place or object may have with a historically important person, event, phase or activity to the Aboriginal and other communities. The study area is not known to have any historic associations.

# 5.4 Archaeological (scientific significance) values

An archaeological scientific assessment was undertaken for the study area and is presented in detail as part of the attached AR (Appendix 5).

#### 5.5 Aesthetic values

There is a diverse yet accessible literature regarding the identification of aesthetic values and determining aesthetic significance (Burke & Smith 2004, pp. 248–9). It is generally agreed that aesthetic values are an important part of cultural heritage significance; however, they are dependent on an individual's sensory response, which means determining aesthetic value is fraught with difficulty, and should be applied on a case-by-case basis as it is not always a value applicable to archaeological sites. However, when dealing with some types of sites aesthetic values and landscape context are an important consideration. The question 'does the place have a relationship between its parts and the setting which reinforces the quality of both', while originally proposed in an architectural context (Kerr 2013, p. 15), is relevant also for many sites in a local setting—such as in forests, deserts, or coastlines, where there is often an important relationship between cultural sites and the natural environment, which contribute to the values of a 'sense of place'.

The study area is relatively undisturbed and is a typical example of the Sydney basin bioregion in its natural context. The landscape of the study area is closely linked with Aboriginal cultural values and provides a context for Aboriginal sites that gives a strong sense of place. The limited amount of vegetation clearance and other development surrounding the study area indicates that the aesthetic values have experienced little alteration from the original landscape, and therefore has high aesthetic value.

# 5.6 Statement of significance

The significance of sites was assessed in accordance with the following criteria:

- Requirements of the Code.
- The Burra Charter.
- Guide to Investigating and Reporting on Aboriginal Heritage (OEH 2011).

The combined use of these guidelines is widely considered to represent the best practice for assessments of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The identification and assessment of cultural heritage values includes the four values of the Burra Charter: social, historical, scientific and aesthetic values. The resultant statements of significance have been constructed for the study area based on the significance ranking criteria assessed in Table 3, Table 4 and Table 5.



#### 5.6.1 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The site covered an area of approximately 8 feet long by 4.5 feet (1.37m) wide. The images depicted include a kangaroo with nine large footprints leading to it. The kangaroo is male with markings on its face, tail and hind legs. Art sites both engraved and painted are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 kilometre radius, making it a common site type. The site was in good condition but is continuously disturbed by members of the community using bikes and riding over the outcrop as well as general erosion. However, the engraving may have links to cultural beliefs through the Great Spirit and Creator Biamie. Therefore, the site may contribute further information about Aboriginal occupation and belief in the local region. The site has no known association with historical events or personage, resulting in a low historical ranking. Aesthetically, the site ranks highly due to the relatively undisturbed surroundings. The site also ranks highly from a cultural perspective as it may directly relate to local belief, and consultation has revealed that the study area has high cultural importance to the RAPs. The archaeological significance has been assessed as moderate.

Table 3 Significance assessment criteria

Site name	Criteria	Ranking
AHIMS 45-6-	Cultural – May relate directly to local belief	High
1219/Morgan Road 1	Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.	Low
	Scientific – the site possesses some archaeological values.	Moderate
	Aesthetic – The surrounding area has suffered minimally from disturbance	High

# 5.6.2 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The site covered an area of approximately 6.5 feet (1.98m) in length. The engraving depicts a man in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, and two mundoes across his legs and nearby footprint engravings. This site is located 72 feet (21.94m) north-west of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 and may be related in context. Art sites, both engraved and painted, are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 kilometre radius, making it a common site type. The site type was unable to be relocated and therefore comments regarding its condition are not possible. The engraving may have links to cultural and ceremonial practices. Therefore, the site may contribute further information about Aboriginal occupation and belief in the local region, as well as consultation revealing high cultural significance for the RAPs, cultural significance ranking has been set to high. There is no historical association with the site, indicating a low ranking. Aesthetically, the site is relatively undisturbed and surrounded by nature. The archaeological significance has been assessed as moderate.



Table 4 Significance assessment criteria

Site name	Criteria	Ranking
AHIMS 45-6-	Cultural – May relate directly to past ceremonial practices	High
2196/Morgan Road 2	Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.	Low
	Scientific – the site possesses some archaeological values.	Moderate
	Aesthetic – The surrounding area has suffered minimally from disturbance	High

#### 5.6.3 Statement of significance for AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The engraving depicts two shields. However, upon the time of the original recording moss covered the surrounding sandstone. Further engravings may be present but are still unaccounted for. It should be noted that this engraving has received damage from recent activities. Art sites, both engraved and painted, are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 kilometre radius, making it a common site type. The site was in poor condition due to erosion as well as being disturbed by members of the public. The engraving may have links to Aboriginal material culture; however, the site is not considered to contain further information about Aboriginal occupation in the local region. Culturally the site may relate to a depiction of material culture, with consultation revealing the area as having high cultural significance for the RAPs, therefore maintaining a high ranking, no known historical associations are known for the site, leading to a low ranking. Aesthetically, the surrounding area and the engraving itself has suffered disturbances, leading to a moderate aesthetic ranking. The archaeological significance has been assessed as low.

Table 5 Significance assessment criteria

Site name	Criteria	Ranking
AHIMS 45-6-	Cultural – A depiction of material culture	Moderate
2197/Morgan Road 3	Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.	Low
	Scientific – the site possesses some archaeological values.	Low
	Aesthetic – The surrounding area has suffered from disturbance	Moderate



# 6 Development limitations and mitigation measures

Within the study area, there are three recorded Aboriginal sites that may be subject to harm. It is expected that the potential of harm to Aboriginal archaeological sites from development in the study area ranges from low to high. Strategies to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal heritage in the study area are discussed below.

Although the scope of works thus far include a subdivision of the study area with no direct physical impact, future development may negatively impact the engraving sites, particularly if protection is not afforded to the sandstone rock outcrops which host them.

# 6.1 Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage

The current proposed works, that being a subdivision of the study area, may not physically impact the recorded sites. Future works to develop the study area may impact the study area in the following ways:

 Earthworks and clearing may damage previously unidentified archaeological sites or objects within the study area.

If left unmitigated, this activity has the potential to completely remove or disturb archaeological deposits and Aboriginal objects.

Presently the study area is unmanaged, with the project intending to assist with managing pedestrian and other impacts to existing sites.

# 6.2 Ecologically Sustainable Development

One of the primary aims of the NPW Act is the 'conservation of objects places and features ... of cultural value within the landscape, including ... places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people ...' ((s.2A(1)(b)(i)). The *Operational Policy: Protecting Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Version 2)* (DECC NSW 2011) provides guidance to proponents in term of 1.1 Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD).

ESD has been defined in Part 3, 6. (2) Objective of the Authority of the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991* (NSW). This outlines that the ESD requires the integration of economic and environmental considerations (including cultural heritage) in the decision-making process. In regard to Aboriginal cultural heritage, ESD can be achieved by applying the principle of intergenerational equity and the precautionary principle.

#### Intergenerational equity

The principle of intergenerational equity states that the present generation should make every effort to ensure the health, diversity and productivity of the environment – which includes cultural heritage – for the benefit of future generations.

In terms of Aboriginal cultural heritage, intergenerational equity can be considered in terms of the 'cumulative impacts' of any proposal to Aboriginal objects and places. For example, if few Aboriginal objects and places remain in a region (because of harm authorised under previous AHIPs), fewer



opportunities remain for future generations of Aboriginal people to enjoy the cultural benefits of those Aboriginal objects and places.

Information about the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values associated with the Aboriginal objects and places proposed to be harmed will be relevant to the consideration of intergenerational equity and an understanding of the cumulative impacts of a proposal.

Where there is uncertainty, the precautionary principle should also be followed (see below).

#### The precautionary principle

The precautionary principle states that the lack of full scientific certainty about the threat of harm should not be used as a reason for not taking measures to prevent harm from occurring.

In applying the precautionary principle, decisions should be guided by:

- a careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment (which includes cultural heritage)
- an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options. The precautionary principle is relevant to OEH consideration of potential harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage where:
- the proposal involves a risk of serious or irreversible harm to Aboriginal objects or places or to the value of those objects or places, and
- there is a lot of uncertainty about the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the Aboriginal objects or places proposed to be harmed.

Where this is the case, a precautionary approach should be taken and all cost-effective measures implemented to prevent or reduce harm to the Aboriginal objects/place. This assessment has allowed for further research to be conducted for the study area. The findings of this report can be used to provide context regarding the AHIMS sites located within the study area, and the wider cultural landscape. This produces a record for future generations to reference.

# 6.3 Avoiding harm to Aboriginal heritage

Harm can be avoided to all Aboriginal sites within the study area as a part of the proposed works. Ideally heritage management involves conservation of sites through the preservation and conservation of fabric and context within a framework of 'doing as much as necessary, as little as possible' (Australia ICOMOS 2013b).

#### 6.3.1 Avoidance of identified Aboriginal sites

Avoidance of impact to archaeological and cultural heritage sites through the design of the development is the primary mitigation and management strategy, and should be implemented where practicable.

Due the large size of the study area limited design modifications would be required to effectively cut the sandstone rock outcrops from the path of harm.



#### 6.3.2 Further assessment warranted along creek line

6.3.3 As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials. Application for an AHIP to install a permanent deterrent to site incursions

Through conversation with surveying Aboriginal site officers from MLALC it was suggested that an AHIP application be undertaken to allow for the installation of deterrents, such as permanent fencing, to prevent further unauthorised visitation to the engraving sites located within the study area, and the larger sandstone rock outcrops which host them. During this application process, low impact fencing may be installed to reduce access. An AHIP application must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

#### 6.3.4 Development of a cultural heritage management plan

A CHMP should be developed to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This document will identify how to properly manage Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unexpected finds protocols and a heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works. The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

## 6.3.5 No further work required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to host low potential for further archaeological materials. In the event that unexpected finds, including human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 5 below.

#### 6.3.6 Stop works provision - Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the NPW Act. This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.

#### 6.3.7 Stop works provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

 Discovery: If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.



2. **Notification:** Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under s.146 of the Heritage Act.



# 7 Recommendations

The recommendations below respond specifically to the wishes of the RAPs. Recommendations regarding the archaeological value of the site, and the subsequent management of Aboriginal cultural heritage is provided in the archaeological report (Appendix 5).

It is recommended that during the early stages of the project the following recommendation be followed to ensure protection of existing sites within the study areas over a long period of time:

#### **Recommendation 1: Continued consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties**

It is recommended that Gyde Consulting continue to inform these groups about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project. This recommendation is in keeping with the consultation requirements.

#### **Recommendation 2: Further assessment warranted along creek lines**

As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials.Recommendation 3: Development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan

It is recommended a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) be developed in order to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This will identify management processes to be implemented for the treatment of Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unanticipated finds protocols and a heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works.

The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project.

Once the project progresses into the Development Application stage, the following is recommended:

#### **Recommendation 4: Application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit**

Damage to the AHIMS sites within the study area was observed during the archaeological survey. In accordance with discussions with MLALC, it is recommended that a permanent deterrent be installed to prevent further unauthorised access to the engraving sites. It is recommended that the MLALC apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to perform ground penetrative works associated with installation of protective fencing around areas of sandstone containing the AHIMS sites within the study area as part of the future proposed development.

## The AHIP should be for a term of two years.

# Recommendation 5: No further archaeological assessment required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to hold low potential for further archaeological sites. In the event that unexpected finds, including



human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 4 and 5 below.

## **Recommendation 6: Stop works provision - Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects**

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.

## Recommendation 7: Stop work provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

- 3. **Discovery:** If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.
- 4. Notification: Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under Section146 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act).



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# **Appendices**



# Appendix 1 Consultation log

# Stage 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

## Step 1: Identification of Aboriginal people/parties with an interest in the proposed study area.

Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	31/01/2024 - Email	07/02/2024 - Email	Confirmed the LALC involvement going forward and included email addresses for LALC staff.
Heritage NSW Parramatta Office	31/01/2024 - Email	07/02/2024 - Email	Attached list of known stakeholders.
Native Title Services CORP Limited	31/01/2024 - Email	-	-
National Native Title Tribunal	31/01/2024 - Email	31/01/2024 - Email	No results returned from search
Office of the Registrar, Department of Aboriginal Affairs	31/01/2024 - Email	-	-
Greater Sydney Local Land Services	31/01/2024 - Email	-	-
Northern Beaches Council	31/01/2024 - Email	05/02/2024 - Email	Was unable to provide names of stakeholders

# **Step 2: Public advertisement**

The public notice was published in the *Daily Telegraph* on 15 February 2024. A copy of the advertisement is provided in Appendix 2.

## Step 3: Registration of interest.

The registration period ran from 15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024. Leeway was given to Aboriginal parties/groups who provided responses shortly after the close of this period and they have been registered as Aboriginal parties for consultation.

Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
A1 Indigenous Services	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	26/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	Registered
Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	15/02/2024 – Email	20/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	Registered



Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of	Response details
, and the second	"	response	
Aragung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Assessments	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Biamanga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Bilinga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Darug Boorooberongal Elders Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	16/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Dharug (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Eric Keidge	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	16/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	Registered
Jerringong (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Julia Narayan	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Munyunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Mura Indigenous Corporation (icn:8991)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Nundagurri (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Pemulwuy (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Thauaira	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Waawaar Awaa Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-



Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of	Response details
		response	
Wailwan Aboriginal Group	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Walbunja (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Wullung (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Wurrumay Pty Ltd	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
B.H. Heritage Consultants	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Badu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	26/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Cullendulla (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Dharug Ngurra Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Didge Ngunawal Clan	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	Registered
DJMD Consultancy	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Gulaga	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Gunyuu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	Registered
MLALC	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Minnamunnung	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Murramarang (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-
Murrumbul (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 <b>–</b> Email	-	-



Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
Ngambaa Cultural Connections	15/02/2024 – Email	27/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH value by using 3D Laser and Drone technology	15/02/2024 – Email	15/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Thoorga Nura	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Scott Franks on the behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd	15/02/2024 – Email	15/02/2024 – Email	Registered
Walgalu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Wingikara (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Wori Wooilywa	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
RAW Cultural Healing	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Guthers Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Gadu chts	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-
Mura Gadi Aboriginal Corporation	15/02/2024 – Email	-	-

# Stage 2 and 3: Presentation of information about the proposed project and gathering information about cultural significance

# **Step 1: Provision of project information pack and methodology pack**

A copy of the information and methodology pack is provided in Appendix 3 and a copy of the covering email is provided following.

No.	Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
1	A1 Indigenous Services	11/03/2024 - Email	19/03/2024 - Email	"I have reviewed the document and support the information and Methodology"
2	Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	11/03/2024 - Email	18/03/2024 - Email	"AHCS supports the methodology if you need anything please



No.	Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
				don't hesitate to contact me."
3	Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	11/03/2024 - Email	-	-
4	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	11/03/2024 – Email	-	-
5	Didge Ngunawal Clan	11/03/2024 – Email	-	-
6	Goobah Development Pty Ltd (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	11/03/2024 – Email	-	-
7	Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	11/03/2024 – Email	-	-
8	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	11/03/2024 - Email	15/04/2024 – Email	"The study area is highly significant and sensitive to our people, we recommend further investigations."
9	MLALC	11/03/2024 – Email	11/03/2024 – Email	"I have passed this over to our culture and heritage team who will be in contact"
10	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	11/03/2024 - Email	12/03/2024 - Email	"I have read the project information and ACHA project methodology for the above project, and I endorse the recommendations made."
11	Ngambaa Cultural Connections	11/03/2024 - Email	-	
12	Scott Franks on behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd	11/03/2024 - Email	-	
13	Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH Value by using 3D Laser and Drone Technology	11/03/2024 - Email	-	-



# **Step 2: Field survey**

No.	Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
9	MLALC	15/04/2024 – Phone	16/04/2024 – Email	"I can lock in both Monday the 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday the 23 <sup>rd</sup> with our Male Ranger team."
10	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	16/04/2024 – Email	21/04/2024 – Email	Replied with signed copy of services agreement

# **Stage 4: Review of draft report**

# **Step 1: Provision of draft report for review**

No.	Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
1	A1 Indigenous Services	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
2	Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	Email 11/06/2024	Email 26/06/2024	"AHCS supports the ACHA / AR"
3	Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
4	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
5	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
6	Goobah Development Pty Ltd (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
7	Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
8	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Email 11/06/2024	Email 14/06/2024	"we would like to agree and support your recommendations".
9	MLALC	Email 11/06/2024	Email 11/06/2024	"thank you for providing present draft version of the



No.	Organisation contacted	Date and type of contact	Date and type of response	Response details
				ACHA for the Patyegarang project proposal".
10	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Email 11/06/2024	Email 20/06/2024	"l endorse the recommendations".
11	Ngambaa Cultural Connections	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
12	Scott Franks on behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd	Email 11/06/2024	-	-
13	Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH Value by using 3D Laser and Drone Technology	Email 11/06/2024	-	-



# Appendix 2 Stage 1: Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

From: Nathan Windram

To: Subject: council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:23:16 AM

wednesday, 31 January 2024 image207673.png image209867.png image520303.png image392798.png image885483.png Northern Beaches Council.pdf

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards	
Nathan	
Nathan Windram	
Heritage Consultant	
0429 019 163	
(02) 4201 1057	
NWindram@biosis.com.au	
www.biosis.com.au	
	1
?	

#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

From: <u>Nathan Windram</u>

To: Geospatial Search Requests

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Geospatial search request

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 10:03:00 AM

 Attachments:
 40261.Stage.1.1.Geospatial.Search.1.DFT0.20240124.docx

 40261.Stage.1.1.Geospatial.Search.2.DFT0.20240124.docx

Good morning, please find attached two geospatial search requests – both are for the same project. Would it be possible to have these searches actioned prior to the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024?

Kind regards Nathan From: Nathan Windram
To: LLS GS Service Mailbox
Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, I

Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:22:34 AM

wednesday, 31 January image966674.png image369447.png image407302.png image767796.png image422823.png Greater Sydney LLS.pdf

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work.

We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

From: Nathan Windram Nathan Moran

To: Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to LALC

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:56:24 AM

image348907.png image873457.png image661832.png image138794.png image104564.png

image104564.png (40261) MLALC Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1 Notification.pdf

#### Good morning Nathan,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kiliu regarus	
Nathan	
Nathan Windram	
Heritage Consultant	
0429 019 163	
(02) 4201 1057	
NWindram@biosis.com.au	
www.biosis.com.au	
2	

#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

From: Nathan Windram

To: Subject: Enquiries
(40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:20:23 AM

Date:

image207771.png image597549.png image883713.png image023416.png image583133.png NNTT.pdf

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards	
Nathan	
Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant	
0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au	
2	

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From: Nathan Windram To: Subject:

"information@ntscorp.com.au" (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:21:04 AM

image050423.png image795158.png image850084.png image152468.png image686717.png NTSC.pdf

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

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Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant	
0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au	
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 From:
 Nathan Windram

 To:
 OFH HD Heritage Mailbox

 Subject:
 (40261) Petyegarang, Bei

Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:18:22 AM

image017751.png image632746.png image171243.png image508533.png image575422.png Heritage NSW.pdf

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From: Nathan Windram

To: Subject: "adminofficer@oralra.nsw.gov.au" (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:21:54 AM

wednesday, 31 January 20 image811678.png image302476.png image226470.png image295019.png image639003.png Office of the Registrar.pdf

#### Good morning,

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CEO Nathan Moran Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Dear Nathan

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment — Notification to Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council

Our Ref: Matter: 40261

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (the applicant) to inform the Patyegarang project. This project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose, within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.* 

Biosis is assisting Gyde with consultation with the Aboriginal community to inform the ACHA. Consultation with the Aboriginal community for this assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010) (consultation requirements).

The purpose of the Aboriginal community consultation is to provide sufficient information for the assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage values and to assist Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) in their consideration and determination of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP), if required. The project will be undertaken in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

As per Section 4.1 of the consultation requirements, Biosis wish to invite the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to register an interest in the project, noting that they are also the applicant for the project. Biosis is also seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by **5:00PM 14 February 2024** it would be greatly appreciated.

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 (a) of the consultation requirements, please note that the relevant Gyde contact for this project is:

Gyde Consulting 02 9068 7500 community@gyde.com.au



All correspondence regarding provision of names and contact details of Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to the study area should be provided in writing by **5:00PM 14 February 2024** to:

### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla, NSW 2505 nwindram@biosis.com.au

If you have any queries regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on (02) 4201 1090.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Greater Sydney Local Land Services PO Box 600 Wyong NSW 2259

To whom it may concern

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment — Notification to Agencies

Our Ref: Matter: 40261

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) (the applicant) to inform the Patyegarang project. This project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose, within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet Level 6, 10 Valentine Ave Parramatta NSW 2124

To whom it may concern

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment — Notification to Agencies

Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



National Native Title Tribunal GPO Box 9973 Sydney NSW 2001

To whom it may concern

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment — Notification to Agencies

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Northern Beaches Council PO Box 82 Manly NSW 1655

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**Native Title Services Corporation** PO Box 2105 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

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Office of te Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 PO Box 5068 Parramatta NSW 2124

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

From: OEH HD Heritage Mailbox
To: Nathan Windram
Subject: Automated Response

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:18:49 AM

Attachments: <u>image003.png</u> <u>image002.png</u>

#### Heritage Act 1977 – s139(4) Exceptions

Heritage NSW no longer accepts s139(4) applications as the new archaeological exceptions process is now live. Information on the new process, including how to self-assess your works may be found here s139(4)Exceptions - Self Assessment.

### Heritage Management System (HMS) is now live

HMS is a new digital system for lodging Heritage Act applications and searching heritage information. Go to the Heritage NSW website for more information and to access the <a href="Heritage Management System">Heritage Management System</a>

#### **Applications and Section 170 notifications**

If you have submitted an application under the Heritage Act 1977 or the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, or a section 170 notification, it will first be reviewed for completeness and then allocated to the appropriate assessment team or officer. An officer will contact you if any additional information is required. The completeness check is generally completed within 7-14 business days.

We aim to process applications or notifications within the timeframes below:

Application/Notification type	Timeframe
	(Commences once an application or notification is
	complete)
Planning Proposals	21 days
Section 140 Permits	
Section 4.55 Modifications	
Integrated Development	If advertised: 21 days following receipt of submissions, or
Applications	advice there were no submissions,
	or
	If not advertised: 40 days
Section 60 Application (fast	21 days
track)	
Section 60 Applications	40 days (or 60 days if advertised)
(standard/ major works)	
Section 90 Aboriginal Heritage	60 days
Impact Permit (AHIP)	
Section 170 notifications – local	14 days
heritage items	
Section 170 notifications – state	40 days
heritage/SHR items	
Section 170 registers and	As advised/ negotiated with an agency's single point of
heritage asset management	contact
strategies	

#### Nominations for listing under the Heritage Act 1977 (State Heritage Register)

A completed nomination form must accompany your application. The application form is available on our website (Nominate listing on the state heritage register). SHR Nominations are considered by the State Heritage Register Committee who will decide whether the nomination

will proceed to the next stage of assessment.

Nominations for Aboriginal Place listings under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 Nominations are allocated to the relevant team within 2 business days. An officer will contact you if any additional information is required. The Aboriginal Place proposal form is available on our website: Nominating an aboriginal place

### Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Conservation and Repatriation

Programs supported by Heritage NSW include the ACH Conservation and Repatriation of Aboriginal ancestors and objects. This work is managed by staff located across NSW. Enquiries into these programs are sent to the relevant team within 2 business days. Please send any enquiries to <a href="heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au">heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au</a> and one of our staff will respond to you directly. Please advise us of any requests to modify our projects or timeframes to better accommodate your needs.

Please visit our website at <u>Heritage NSW</u> for further information.

Sincerely,

Customer Concierge Team.

Heritage NSW.

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water T (02 9873 8500 E Heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy St Parramatta NSW 2150

Working days Monday to Friday, 09:00am - 05:00pm



# Website Facebook Instagram LinkedIn

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information.

If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately.

Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment, Energy and Science.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

From: Enquiries
To: Nathan Windram

**Subject:** Automatic reply from NNTT

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:21:01 AM

Thank you for emailing the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT).

We will forward your message to the most appropriate team, and you will be contacted by them directly.

Our offices are open 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday.

If your enquiry is urgent, please contact NNTT on (07) 3052 4040 during those hours.

For further information, please visit <a href="www.nntt.gov.au">www.nntt.gov.au</a>.

From: Council Northernbeaches Mailbox

To: <u>Nathan Windram</u>

Subject: Automatic reply: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:23:34 AM

Thank you for contacting Northern Beaches Council.

We aim to respond to all emails within 10 working days.

If your matter is urgent or if you are reporting an emergency or situation that may cause harm to animals, people or property, please call us 24/7 on 1300 434 434.

You can also report an issue or request a service through our Online Customer Service Portal. There is also lots of information available on our website.

Read our Privacy and Personal Information message.

#### Northern Beaches Council

Please consider the environment before printing this email. This email and any materials contained or attached to it ("Contents") may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient contact the sender immediately, delete the communication from your system and destroy any copies. The contents may also be subject to copyright. Any unauthorised copying, disclosure or distribution of the contents is strictly prohibited. Northern Beaches Council makes no implied or express warranty that the integrity of this communication has been maintained. The contents may contain errors, computer viruses or have been subject to interference in transmission. Northern Beaches Council. <a href="Morthern Beaches Council">Northern Beaches Council</a>. <a href="Morthern Beaches Council">Northern Beaches Council</a>. <a href="Morthern Beaches Council">Northern Beaches Council</a>.

# LIST OF ABORIGINAL STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (DPE) HELD BY DPE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE OEH ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPONENTS 2010

The purpose of this letter is to assist you as the proposed applicant in undertaking Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidelines.

The consultation process involves getting the views of, and information from, Aboriginal people and reporting on these. It is not to be confused with other field assessment processes involved in preparing a proposal and an application. Consultation does not include the employment of Aboriginal people to assist in field assessment and/or site monitoring. Aboriginal people may provide services to proponents through a contractual arrangement however, this is separate from consultation. The proponent is not obliged to employ those Aboriginal people registered for consultation. Consultation as per these requirements will continue irrespective of potential or actual employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

In accordance with Clause 60 (10) of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019, where an agreement of the kind listed below specifies or identifies a modified or alternative consultation process for the purposes of Part 6 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, the applicant is to undertake consultation in accordance with the modified or alternative process. The applicable agreements are:

- a) a registered Indigenous Land Use Agreement under the Native Title Act 1993 of the Commonwealth entered into between an Aboriginal community and the State,
- b) a lease entered into under Part 4A of the Act,
- c) an agreement entered into by the Secretary and a board of management reserved under Part4A of the Act that has the consent of Aboriginal owner board members for the land concerned.
- d) an agreement entered into between an Aboriginal community and the Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment.

Where you believe your application is wholly or partially located within an area subject to any of the above agreements, please provide further correspondence (including mapping, if required) detailing the applicable agreement and its relationship to the application area to heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au. Heritage NSW will respond with further advice.

Where the above does not apply, please proceed with consultation in accordance with the Clause 60 (1-9) of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (the "Consultation Requirements"). A copy of the Consultation Requirements can be found on the OEH website at: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/commconsultation/09781ACHconsultreq.pdf.

Under the Consultation Requirements, a proponent is required to provide Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places as relevant to the proposed project area, with an opportunity to be involved in consultation. Section 3.3.1 of the Consultation Requirements states that Aboriginal people who can provide this information are, based on Aboriginal lore and custom, the traditional owners or custodians of the land that is the subject o the proposed project.

The Consultation Requirements also state that:

Traditional owners or custodians with appropriate cultural heritage knowledge to inform decision making who seek to register their interest as an Aboriginal party are those people who:

continue to maintain a deep respect for their ancestral belief system, traditional lore and custom

- recognise their responsibilities and obligations to protect and conserve their culture and heritage and care for their traditional lands or Country
- have the trust of their community, knowledge and understanding of their culture, and permission to speak about it.

This list is provided to proponents in accordance with Clause 60(2)(a)(i) of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 and section 4.1.2 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010.

The stakeholders identified on this list may have an interest in the proposed project area and may hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places.

#### How to use this list

- Contact the organisations/individuals who have indicated an interest in the relevant LGA/s and invite them to register an interest in your project.
- Do not reproduce the attached list in publicly available reports and other documents. Your report should only contain the names of the organisations and individuals who you have invited to register an interest in your project and those who have registered as stakeholders for your project.
- Note that the provision of this Aboriginal stakeholder list does not override a proponent's requirement to also advertise in the local newspaper and to seek from other sources the names of any other Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge as required under clause 60 (2) of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019.
- Please refer to Clause 60 of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 for further information on the requirements of the consultation process.
- If contact details of stakeholders are found to be incorrect or outdated, please contact heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Last updated September 2023

Our reference: doc24/76724

# Patyegarang project

# Morgan Road in Belrose

# Aboriginal Stakeholders – Northern Beaches Local Government Area.

A1 Indigenous Services	Carolyn	cazadirect@live.co	-	0411 650 057	-	10 Marie Pitt	-
_	Hickey	m				Place,	
	_					Glenmore Park,	
						NSW, 2745	
Amanda Hickey Cultural	Amanda	amandahickey@liv	-	0434 480 558	-	57 Gough Steet,	-
Services	Hickey	e.com.au				Emu Plains,	
						NSW, 2750	
Aragung Aboriginal	Jamie	James.eastwood@	(02)	0427 793 334	-	33 Bulolo Drive,	-
<b>Cultural Heritage Site</b>	Eastwood	y7mail.com	9832			Whalan, NSW,	
Assessments			3732			2770	
B.H. Heritage Consultants	Ralph	hamptonralph46@	-	RH: 0435 785 138	-	184 Captain	Nola and Ralph
	Hampton;	gmail.com		NH: 0401 662 531		Cook Drive,	would BOTH like
	Nola	kinghampton77@g				Willmot, 2770,	to be notified of all
	Hampton	mail.com				NSW	projects
						95 Mount	
						Ettalong Road,	
						Umina Beach,	
						2257, NSW	
Badu (Murrin	Karia Lea	baduchts@gmail.c	-	0476 381 207	-	11 Jeffery Place,	-
Clan/Peoples)	Bond	om				Moruya, NSW,	
						2537	
Barking Owl Aboriginal	Mrs Jody	barkingowlcorp@g	-	0426 242 015	-	2-65/69	-
Corporation	Kulakowski	mail.com				Wehlow St. Mt	
	(Director)					Druitt	
Biamanga (Murrin	Seli Storer	biamangachts@g	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)		mail.com					

Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation	James Carroll	jrcarroll888@gmail .com bidjawong@gmail. com	-	0433 224 324	-	22 McKinley Place Cherrybrook NSW 2126	Prefer email contact
Bilinga (Murrin	Simalene	bilingachts@gmail.	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)	Carriage	<u>com</u>					
Butucarbin Aboriginal	Jennifer Beale	butuheritage@gm	(02)9	-	-	PO Box E18,	Preferred contact
Corporation		<u>ail.com</u>	832			Emerton, NSW	via email
			7167			2770	
Cullendulla (Murrin	Corey Smith	cullendullachts@g	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)		mail.com					
Darug Aboriginal Cultural	Gordon	-	(02)	0422 865 831	-	Unit 9, 6	-
Heritage Assessments	Morton		9410			Chapman	
			3665			Avenue,	
						Chatswood,	
						NSW 2067	
Darug Boorooberongal	Paul	paulhand1967@g	-	0456 786 738	-	PO.Box	-
Elders Aboriginal	Hand (chairp	mail.com				14 Doonside	
Corporation	erson)					NSW 2767	
Darug Custodian Aboriginal	Justine Coplin	justinecoplin@opt	-	0414 962 766	-	PO Box 81,	-
Corporation		usnet.com.au				Windsor NSW	
						2756	
Darug Land Observations	Jamie	daruglandobservat	-	0418 494 951	-	PO Box 173,	-
	Workman;	ions@gmail.com		0413 687 279		Ulladulla, NSW	
	Anna					2539	
	Workman;					PO Box 2006	
	Anna O'Hara					Bendelong NSW	
						2539	
Dharug (Murrin	Andrew Bond	dharugchts@gmail	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)		<u>.com</u>					

Dharug Ngurra Aboriginal Corporation	Dirk Schmitt	archaeology@dhar ugngurra.org.au	(02) 9622 4081	-	-	PO Box 441, Blacktown NSW 2148	-
Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll ; Paul Boyd	didgengunawalcla n@yahoo.com.au	-	0426 823 944 ; 0450 616 404	-	33 Carlyle Crescent Cambridge Gardens NSW 2747	-
DJMD Consultancy	Darren Duncan	darrenjohnduncan @gmail.com	-	0410 510 397	-	-	-
Eric Keidge	Eric Keidge	-	-	0431 166 423	-	11 Olsson Close Hornsby Heights NSW 2077	-
Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson; Krystle Carroll	Ginninderra.corp @gmail.com	-	0406 991 221	-	PO BOX 3143 Grose Vale NSW 2754	-
Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Basil Smith	goobahchts@gmai l.com bunjil.smith@gmai l.com	-	0405 995 725	-	66 Grantham Road, Batehaven NSW, 2536	confirm email
Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Caine Carroll	goodradigbee1@o utlook.com	-	0410 974 236	-	1 Morilla Road, East Kurrajong NSW 2758	-
Gulaga	Wendy Smith	gulagachts@gmail. com	-	-	-	-	-
Gunyuu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Kylie Ann Bell	gunyuuchts@gmai l.com	-	-	-	-	-
Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation	Tracey Howie	tilerpaul76@gmail .com, admin@guringai.c om.au	-	M: 0439 242 623 (Primary - Paul Craig) or 0404 182 049 (Secondary - Tracey Howie)	-	PO Box 4061 WYONGAH NSW 2259	-

Jerringong (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Joanne Anne Stewart	jerringong@gmail. com	-	0422 800 184	-	2/10 Burnett Avenue Gerringong NSW 2534	-
Julia Narayan	-	juliaannnarayan20 18@gmail.com	-	0466 304 750	-	-	-
Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan	philipkhan.acn@li ve.com.au	-	0434 545 982	-	78 Forbes Street, Emu Plains, NSW 2750	-
Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	Nathan Moran	officeadmin@metr olalc.org.au	(02) 8394 9666	-	-	PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016	-
Minnamunnung	Aaron Broad	-	-	0402 526 888	-	1 Waratah Avenue, Albion Park Rail NSW 2527	-
Munyunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Kaya Dawn Bell	munyungachts@g mail.com	-	-	-	-	-
Mura Indigenous Corporation (icn:8991)	Phillip Carroll	mura.cultureservic es@gmail.com	-	0447512397	-	66 Montague Street Goulburn 2580	-
Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Darleen Johnson ; Ryan Johnson	murrabidgeemulla ngari@yahoo.com. au	-	0490 051 102 0475 565 517 0497 983 332	-	PO Box 3035 Rouse Hill NSW 2155	-
Murramarang (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Roxanne Smith	murramarangchts @gmail.com	-	-	-	-	-
Murrumbul (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	Mark Henry	murrumbul@gmail .com	-	-	-	-	-

Ngambaa Cultural	Kaarina Slater	ngambaa.culturalc	_		_		_
Connections	Kaarina Siatei	onnections@gmail	_	0421 077 521		Unit 29,11	-
Connections		.com		0421 077 321		Phillip Street St	
		<u>.com</u>				· ·	
						Marys NSW	
New de servici (Na conice	None					2760	
Nundagurri (Murrin	Newton	nundagurri@gmail	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)	Carriage	<u>.com</u>					
Pemulwuy (Murrin	Pemulwuy	pemulwuyd@gmai	-	0425 066 100	-	14 Top Place,	-
Clan/Peoples)	Johnson	<u>l.com</u>				Mt Annan	
Thauaira	Shane	thauairachts@gma	-	-	-	-	-
	Carriage	<u>il.com</u>					
Thomas Dahlstrom Offers	Thomas	gamila_roi@yahoo	-	0403 529 119 Offers ACH	-	1-122 Glebe	-
ACH value by using 3D	Dahlstrom	.com.au		value by using 3D Laser		Point Road	
Laser and Drone				and Drone technology		Glebe NSW	
technology						2037	
Thoorga Nura	John Carriage	thoorganura@gma	_	0401 641 299	-	50B Hilltop	-
	(Chief	il.com				Crescent, Surf	
	Executive	<u></u>				Beach, 2536,	
	Officer)					NSW	
	Officery					INOVV	

Scott Franks on the behalf	Scott Franks	scott@tocomwall.	_	0404 171 544	T -	Po box 145,	-
od the Wonnarua PBC	Scott Hams	com.au		0101 2/2 544		Miranda NSW	
Yarrawalk Pty Ltd		scott@yarrawalk.c				1490	
Tallawaik Fty Ltu						1430	
Manuacy Auros Abayisinal	Dodnou	om.au		DC: 0410590063		15 Dumanuia	
Waawaar Awaa Aboriginal	Rodney	Waawaar.awaa@g	-	RG: 0410580962	-	15 Bungonia	-
Corporation	Gunther Barry	mail.com		BG: 0451 176 473		Street Prestons	
	Gunther					NSW 2170	
Wailwan Aboriginal Group	Philip Boney	waarlan12@outlo	-	0436 483 210	-	-	-
		<u>ok.com</u>					
Walbunja (Murrin	Hika Te	walbunja@gmail.c	-	0402 730 612	-	15 Renee	-
Clan/Peoples)	Kowhai	<u>om</u>				Crescent	
						MORUYA	
						HEADS NSW	
						2537	
Walgalu (Murrin	Ronald	walgaluchts@gmai	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)	Stewart	I.com					
Wingikara (Murrin	Hayley Bell	wingikarachts@gm	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples)		ail.com					
Wori Wooilywa	Daniel	woriwooilywa@g	-	0409 006 216	-	261	-
	Chalker	mail.com				Mockingbird Rd	
						Pheasants Nest	
						NSW 2574	
Wullung (Murrin	Lee-Roy	wullunglb@gmail.c	-	0403 703 942	-	54 Blackwood	-
Clan/Peoples)	James Boota	om				Street,	
						Gerringong,	
						NSW, 2534	
Wurrumay Pty Ltd	Kerrie Slater;	wurrumay31@outl	-	0421 077 521	-	89 Pyramid	-
• •	Vicky Slater	ook.com				Street, Emu	
	,					Plains NSW	
						2750	
Yerramurra (Murrin	Robert Parson	yerramurra@gmail	-	-	-	-	-
Clan/Peoples) and Taste of		.com					
2.2, : Cop.co, a.i.a. : aoto oi	1			l .		1	

Tradition Native Aboriginal Corporation							
RAW Cultural Healing	Raymond Weatherall	RAW.CulturalHeali ng@hotmail.com	0411 962 603	2	Box N74, Campb	ymore NSW 2559 PO elltown North NSW 560	
Guthers Aboriginal Corporation	Trystan Treloar	guthersic@gmail.c om	0450 514 07	6	7 Grazier Crescent Werrington Downs/847		
Gadu chts	Colin Walker  - Chairperson	gaduchts@gmail.c om	0401313978	3	DOW	1137 047	
Mura Gadi Aboriginal Corporation	Tiarna Bird	pathwaysforsearch ing@gmail.com	0439678518	3			

From: Barry Gunther
To: Nathan Windram

**Subject:** Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholder list for Patyegarang project.

**Date:** Tuesday, 6 February 2024 9:48:32 AM

Attachments: Heritage NSW.pdf

Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholder list for Northern Beaches LGA.docx

Hi Nathan,

Please find attached the Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholder list for Patyegarang project.

regards

#### Barry Gunther

Aboriginal Senior Assessment Officer Heritage NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage

Locked bag 5020 Parramatta NSW 2124

Working days Monday to Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay respects to Elders past and present. I also acknowledge all the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff working with NSW Government at this time.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

\_\_\_\_\_

This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information.

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PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

From: **Enquiries** To: Subject: Nathan Windram

RE: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies [SEC=OFFICIAL] Wednesday, 31 January 2024 3:32:56 PM

Date:

image005.png image006.png

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### Good afternoon,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding Register Searches. To enable us to complete the search appropriately and adequately, please forward your request, along with a Geospatial Search Form, to the following email address: GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au

A Geospatial Search Form must accompany your request. Search request forms are available for download from our website

at: <a href="http://www.nntt.gov.au/assistance/Geospatial/Pages/Geospatial\_Searches.aspx">http://www.nntt.gov.au/assistance/Geospatial/Pages/Geospatial\_Searches.aspx</a>

Further information on searching our Registers is available at: http://www.nntt.gov.au/assistance/Pages/Searches-and-providing-Registerinformation.aspx

Cultural Heritage - The existence or otherwise of native title is quite separate to any matters relating to Aboriginal cultural heritage. In NSW, the National Native Title Tribunal has undertaken steps to remove itself from the formal list of sources for information about indigenous groups in development areas.

Kind Regards,

# Tahlia Barba | Support and Project Officer

National Native Title Tribunal | Brisbane

Level 5, Harry Gibbs Commonwealth Law Courts, 119 North Quay, Brisbane QLD 4000

Phone (07) 3052 4040 | Email enquiries@nntt.gov.au



From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 8:20 AM To: Enquiries <Enquiries@nntt.gov.au>

Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

You don't often get email from <a href="mailto:nwindram@biosis.com.au">nwindram@biosis.com.au</a>. <a href="mailto:Learn why this is important">Learn why this is important</a>

Caution: This is an external email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning.

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Nathan

#### **Nathan Windram**

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au



Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

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From: Cultural Heritage 2 To: Cc:

Nathan Moran; Nathan Windram Cultural Heritage; Cultural Officer; Opera

Subject: RE: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to LALC

Friday, 2 February 2024 3:34:22 PM

Attachments: image001.jpg image002.png

image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png

Hi Nathan,

Nathan M, thank you for that. Nathan W, I can confirm that representatives listed below Rowena Welsh-Jarrett, Jacqueline Gibbs (Myself) and Jordan Marr wish to register our interest on behalf of Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Nathan W, please do not hesitate to make contact or get in touch.

Kind Regards, Jacqueline

From: Nathan Moran <nmoran@metrolalc.org.au> Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 10:50 AM To: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>

Cc: Cultural Heritage <culturalheritage@metrolalc.org.au>; Cultural Officer <culturalofficer@metrolalc.org.au>; Cultural Heritage 2 

Subject: RE: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to LALC

Bujari gamarruwa – 'good day' Nathan in the local Gadigal language of place Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) operate from.

Thank you for contacting and providing notification on behalf of Biosis to MLALC regarding the ACHA Stage 1 Consultation for Petyegarang Project at Belrose being completed by Biosis

On behalf of MLALC affirm MLALC verifies its registration with Biosis for the ACHA Stage 1 Consultation for Petyegarang Project.

Affirm and introduce MLALC representatives for this have & are cc on this email, being MLALC Cultural heritage staff,

Rowena Welsh <u>culturalheritage@metrolalc.org.au</u>

Jordan Marr culturalofficer@metrolalc.org.au

Jacqueline Gibbs <u>culturalheritage2@metrolalc.org.au</u>

And confirm have cc MLALC operations and bookings for our administrative processes.

Yours In Unity Nathan Moran Chief Executive Officer



Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC)

Level 2 150 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000 I PO Box 1103, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

B:(02) 8394 9666 I F: (02)8394 9733 I W: www.metrolalc.org.au

marruwa – 'good day' in the local Gadigal language of the Eora Nation

MLALC acknowledge the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the area MLALC operates.

The information contained in this e-mail message and any attached files may be confidential and may contain copyright material of MLALC or third parties. Any unauthorised use, disclosure or copying of this e-mail and/or its attachments is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail and delete all copies of the message and attachments. Before opening or using attachments, please check them for viruses or defects. Our liability is limited to resupplying the e-mail and attached files. Content and views expressed in this e-mail may be those of the sender, and are not necessarily endorsed by MLALC.

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 9:56 AM To: Nathan Moran <nmoran@metrolalc.org.au>

Subject: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to LALC

Good morning Nathan,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163

(02) 4201 1057  NWindram@biosis.com.au  www.biosis.com.au
?

#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

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We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

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Geospatial Search Requests
Nathan Windnes
RE: SR24/130 (40261) Patyegarang Beirose Geospatial search request - SR24/130 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Wednesday, 31 January 2024 1:47:34 PM
Image:001.com
Image:002.com
Image:002.com

#### OFFICIAL

Your ref: 40261 Our ref: SR24/130

Dear Nathan Windram

Thank you for your search request, please find your results below.

#### Search Results

The results provided are based on the information you supplied and are derived from a search of the following Tribunal databases:

- 0. Schedule of Native Title Determination Applications
- 1. Register of Native Title Claims
- 2. Native Title Determinations
- 3. Indigenous Land Use Agreements (Registered and notified)

#### Results for overlapping native title matters in NSW:

Feature ID	Tenure	Cadastre Data As At	Feature Area SqKm		Overlapping Nat	tive Title Feature	9	
1//DP1242330	CROWN	4/05/2023	0.0350	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
1//DP1285945	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0081	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
176//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0075	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
477/700750000	EDEELIOLD.	1/05/0000	0.0005	No overlap	N	0.1		
177//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0065	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
178//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0100	No overlap  NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
170/05/132030	PREEHOLD	4/03/2023	0.0100	No overlap	Name	Category	SqKm	0.00%
189//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0304	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
109//DF 732030	PREEHOLD	4/03/2023	0.0304	No overlap	Name	Category	SqKm	0.00%
190//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0302	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
130//2/132000	TREETICES	4/03/2023	0.0002	No overlap	Nume	outegory	SqKm	0.00%
191//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0311	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
1311151 732000	TREETICES	4/03/2023	0.0011	No overlap	Nume	Outogory	SqKm	0.00%
196//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0358	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
190//DF / 32030	PREEHOLD	4/03/2023	0.0336	No overlap	Name	Category	SqKm	0.00%
197//DP1153773	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0422	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
2//DP1242330	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0290	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
2600//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0238	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
3//DP1242330	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0009	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
89//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0385	No overlap  NNTT File Number	Name	Cotonomi	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
89//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0385	No overlap	Name	Category	SqKm	% Selected Feature
90//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0432	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
30//21 732000	TREETICED	4/03/2023	0.0432	No overlap	Nume	Category	SqKm	0.00%
91//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0440	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
		"""		No overlap			SqKm	0.00%
92//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0677	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			SqKm -	0.00%
93//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0429	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			SqKm -	0.00%
944//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0324	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			SqKm -	0.00%
945//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0303	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			SqKm -	0.00%
946//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0302	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area	% Selected Feature
	1			No overlap			SqKm	0.00%
947//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0294	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
	1			No overlap				0.00%
948//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0413	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
				No overlap			-	0.00%
953//DP752038	FREEHOLD	4/05/2023	0.0226	NNTT File Number	Name	Category	Overlap Area SqKm	% Selected Feature
I				No overlap		1	-	0.00%

For more information about the Tribunal's registers or to search the registers yourself and obtain copies of relevant register extracts, please visit our website.

Information on native title claims and freehold land can also be found on the Tribunal's website here: Native title claims and freehold land

Please note: There may be a delay between a native title determination application being lodged in the Federal Court and its transfer to the Tribunal. As a result, some native title determination applications recently filed with the Federal Court may not appear on the Tribunal's databases.

The search results are based on analysis against external boundaries of applications only. Native title applications commonly contain exclusions clauses which remove areas from within the external boundary. To determine whether the areas described are in fact subject to claim, you need to refer to the "Area covered by claim" section of the relevant Register Extract or Schedule Extract and any maps attached.

#### Search results and the existence of native title

Please note that the enclosed information from the Register of Native Title Claims and/or the Schedule of Applications is **not** confirmation of the existence of native title in this area. This cannot be confirmed until the Federal Court makes a determination that native title does or does not exist in relation to the area. Such determinations are registered on the National Native Title Register.

#### The Tribunal accepts no liability for reliance placed on enclosed information

The enclosed information has been provided in good faith. Use of this information is at your sole risk. The National Native Title Tribunal makes no representation, either express or implied, as to the accuracy or suitability of the information enclosed for any particular purpose and accepts no liability for use of the information or reliance placed on it.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via <a href="mailto:GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au">GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au</a>

Regards

**Geospatial Searches** 

National Native Title Tribunal | Perth

Email: GeospatialSearch@nntt.gov.au | www.nntt.gov.au

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 7:04 AM

To: Geospatial Search Requests < Geospatial Search@NNTT.gov.au>

Subject: SR24/130 - (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Geospatial search request

You don't often get email from nwindram@biosis.com.au. Learn why this is important

Caution: This is an external email. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning, please find attached two geospatial search requests – both are for the same project. Would it be possible to have these searches actioned prior to the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024?

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work.

We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

The information transmitted including attachments is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain copyright material, or information that is confidential or is exempt from disclosure by law. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your computer. The views expressed in this entitle sendal are those of the sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of Biosis Pty Ltd, Biosis Pty Ltd, does not represent that this email is free of errors, viruses or interference. When using email to communicate with Biosis Pty Ltd, access to that information by Biosis Pty Ltd personnel is strictly limited and controlled.

Melinda Scott (Heritage NSW) Nathan Windram

Request #21608 has been updated: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies Subject:

Your request has been updated. To add additional comments, reply to this email.

Hi Nathan

Thank you for contacting Heritage NSW.

Your request has been forwarded to the appropriate department who will contact you directly with a response. The reference number for your enquiry is #21608

Kind regards

Melinda Scott

Heritage NSW

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

T: 02 9873 8500 E: heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

https://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/

Locked Bag 5020, NSW 2124

Monday to Friday, 09:00am - 05:00pm

Website | Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

This email is a service from Heritage NSW . Delivered by Zendesk

#### On 30 January 2024 at 10:18:56 pm UTC, Nathan Windram nwindram@biosis.com.au wrote:

Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Petyegarang Project. The project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council LGA NSW. Biosis is seeking to identify Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the study area and hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the Belrose area. If you could please provide contact details for any such Aboriginal people or organisations by 5:00 PM 14 February 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Nathan

#### **Nathan Windram**

Heritage Consultant

	0429 019 163
	(02) 4201 1057
Ī	NWindram@biosis.com.au
	www.biosis.com.au



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This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information.

If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately.

Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment, Energy and Science.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

From: Heritage NSW
To: Nathan Windram
Cc: Heritagemailbox

**Subject:** Request received 21608: (40261) Petyegarang, Belrose: ACHA Stage 1 Consultation - Notification to Agencies

**Date:** Wednesday, 31 January 2024 9:19:02 AM

Your request 21608 has been received and is being reviewed by our support staff.

To provide additional information, reply to this email.

This email is a service from Heritage NSW . Delivered by **Zendesk** 

From: Nathan Windram
To: admin@guringai.com.au

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:00 AM

Attachments: (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf

### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.

If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards Nathan

To: <u>amandahickey@live.com.au</u>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:01 AM

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <a href="mailto:archaeology@dharugngurra.org.au">archaeology@dharugngurra.org.au</a>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: baduchts@gmail.com

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Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:01 AM

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>barkingowlcorp@gmail.com</u>

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To: <u>biamangachts@gmail.com</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: bidjawong@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram

To: bilingachts@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram
To: bunjil.smith@gmail.com

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: butuheritage@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram

To: "cazadirect@live.com"

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:03 AM

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To: <u>"cullendullachts@gmail.com"</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: "culturalheritage@metrolalc.org.au"

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:03 AM

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To: "culturalheritage2@metrolalc.org.au"

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To: <u>"culturalofficer@metrolalc.org.au"</u>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:04 AM

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>"darrenjohnduncan@gmail.com"</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: "dharugchts@gmail.com"

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To: "didgengunawalclan@yahoo.com.au"

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From: Nathan Windram
To: "gaduchts@gmail.com"

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To: "gamila roi@yahoo.com.au"

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To: <u>"Ginninderra.corp@gmail.com"</u>

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To: "goobahchts@gmail.com"

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:06 AM

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards

Nathan

To: <u>"goodradigbee1@outlook.com"</u>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:06 AM

Attachments: (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf

# Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: "gulagachts@gmail.com"

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:06 AM

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To: <u>"gunyuuchts@gmail.com"</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards

Nathan

From: Nathan Windram
To: "guthersic@gmail.com"

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:06 AM

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To: <u>"hamptonralph46@gmail.com"</u>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:07 AM

Attachments: (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: "James.eastwood@y7mail.com"

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: "jerringong@gmail.com"

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram
To: jrcarroll888@gmail.com

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>juliaannnarayan2018@gmail.com</u>

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:08 AM

Attachments: (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>justinecoplin@optusnet.com.au</u>

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To: <u>kinghampton77@gmail.com</u>

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To: officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au

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To: <u>munyungachts@gmail.com</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>murrabidgeemullangari@yahoo.com.au</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

**To:** <u>mura.cultureservices@gmail.com</u>

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To: <u>murramarangchts@gmail.com</u>

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From: Nathan Windram
To: murrumbul@gmail.com

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <a href="mailto:ngambaa.culturalconnections@gmail.com">ngambaa.culturalconnections@gmail.com</a>

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From: Nathan Windram
To: nundagurri@gmail.com

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**To:** <u>pathwaysforsearching@gmail.com</u>

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

To: <u>paulhand1967@gmail.com</u>

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From: Nathan Windram
To: pemulwuyd@gmail.com

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To: <a href="mailto:philipkhan.acn@live.com.au">philipkhan.acn@live.com.au</a>

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**To:** <u>RAW.CulturalHealing@hotmail.com</u>

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From: Nathan Windram

To: scott@yarrawalk.com.au

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From: Nathan Windram
To: thauairachts@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram
To: thoorganura@gmail.com

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:12 AM

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: tilerpaul76@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram

To: scott@tocomwall.com.au

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From: Nathan Windram
To: waarlan12@outlook.com

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To: Waawaar.awaa@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram
To: walbunja@gmail.com

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From: Nathan Windram

To: "walgaluchts@gmail.com"

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

From: Nathan Windram

To: wingikarachts@gmail.com

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:13 AM

Attachments: (40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf

## Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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From: Nathan Windram
To: woriwooilywa@gmail.com

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:13 AM

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From: Nathan Windram
To: wullunglb@gmail.com

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Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:13 AM

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To: wurrumay31@outlook.com

**Subject:** (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:13 AM

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From: Nathan Windram

To: "yerramurra@gmail.com"

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Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21:13 AM

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15 February 2024

Tracey Howie
Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 4061 WYONGAH NSW 2259

Dear Tracey Howie

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

In accordance with Section 4.1.3(a) of the consultation requirements, please note that the relevant Gyde contact for this project is:



# Gyde Consulting 02 9068 7500 community@gyde.com.au

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If you have any queries regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on (02) 4201 1090.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Amanda Hickey -Amanda Hickey Cultural Services 57 Gough Steet, Emu Plains, NSW, 2750

Dear Amanda Hickey

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Dirk Schmitt Dharug Ngurra Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 441, Blacktown NSW 2148

Dear Dirk Schmitt

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Karia Lea Bond -Badu (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 11 Jeffery Place, Moruya, NSW, 2537

Dear Karia Lea Bond

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Mrs Jody Kulakowski -Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation 2-65/69 Wehlow St. Mt Druitt

-

Dear Mrs Jody Kulakowski

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Seli Storer -Biamanga (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Seli Storer

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Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



James Carroll
Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation
22 McKinley Place Cherrybrook NSW 2126

Dear James Carroll

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Simalene Carriage Bilinga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)

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Dear Simalene Carriage

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Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Basil Smith Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 66 Grantham Road, Batehaven NSW, 2536

Dear Basil Smith

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Jennifer Beale Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation PO Box E18, Emerton, NSW 2770

-

Dear Jennifer Beale

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Carolyn Hickey -A1 Indigenous Services 10 Marie Pitt Place, Glenmore Park, NSW, 2745

Dear Carolyn Hickey

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Nathan Windram



Corey Smith
Cullendulla (Murrin Clan/Peoples)
-

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**Dear Corey Smith** 

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) (the applicant) to inform the Patyegarang project. This project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose, within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by **5:00PM 29 February 2024** to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



Please note that as per Section 4.1.5 of the consultation requirements, the contact details of all registered Aboriginal parties for this project will be forwarded through to Heritage NSW and the Metropolitan LALC. If you do not want your details forwarded on to the Heritage NSW and Metropolitan LALC please notify Biosis at the time of your registration.

If you have any queries regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on (02) 4201 1090.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Rowena Welsh Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Rowena Welsh

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Jacqueline Gibbs Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Jacqueline Gibbs

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Nathan Windram



Jordan Marr Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Jordan Marr

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Darren Duncan -DJMD Consultancy

-

Dear Darren Duncan

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Nathan Windram



Andrew Bond -Dharug (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Andrew Bond

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Paul Boyd Didge Ngunawal Clan 33 Carlyle Crescent Cambridge Gardens NSW 2747

Dear Paul Boyd

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Lillie Carroll Didge Ngunawal Clan 33 Carlyle Crescent Cambridge Gardens NSW 2747

Dear Lillie Carroll

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Nathan Windram



Colin Walker – Chairperson Gadu chts

Dear Colin Walker - Chairperson

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Thomas Dahlstrom Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH value by using 3D Laser and Drone technology
1-122 Glebe Point Road Glebe NSW 2037

**Dear Thomas Dahlstrom** 

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Steven Johnson; Krystle Carroll -Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation PO BOX 3143 Grose Vale NSW 2754

Dear Steven Johnson; Krystle Carroll

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Basil Smith Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 66 Grantham Road, Batehaven NSW, 2536

Dear Basil Smith

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Caine Carroll -Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation 1 Morilla Road, East Kurrajong NSW 2758

Dear Caine Carroll

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Wendy Smith -Gulaga

Dear Wendy Smith

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Kylie Ann Bell -Gunyuu (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Kylie Ann Bell

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by **5:00PM 29 February 2024** to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



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If you have any queries regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on (02) 4201 1090.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Trystan Treloar
Guthers Aboriginal Corporation
7 Grazier Crescent Werrington Downs/847

Dear Trystan Treloar

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Ralph Hampton;
B.H. Heritage Consultants
184 Captain Cook Drive, Willmot, 2770, NSW

Dear Ralph Hampton;

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Jamie Eastwood Aragung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Assessments 33 Bulolo Drive, Whalan, NSW, 2770

Dear Jamie Eastwood

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Joanne Anne Stewart Jerringong (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 2/10 Burnett Avenue Gerringong NSW 2534

Dear Joanne Anne Stewart

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



James Carroll
Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation
22 McKinley Place Cherrybrook NSW 2126

Dear James Carroll

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



15 Februar	v 2024
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Julia Narayan

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Dear -

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Justine Coplin Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 81, Windsor NSW 2756

Dear Justine Coplin

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Nola Hampton B.H. Heritage Consultants 95 Mount Ettalong Road, Umina Beach, 2257, NSW

Dear Nola Hampton

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Kaya Dawn Bell Munyunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

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Dear Kaya Dawn Bell

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Phillip Carroll Mura Indigenous Corporation (icn:8991) 66 Montague Street Goulburn 2580

Dear Phillip Carroll

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Darleen Johnson; Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 3035 Rouse Hill NSW 2155

Dear Darleen Johnson;

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Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Ryan Johnson Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 3035 Rouse Hill NSW 2155

Dear Ryan Johnson

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Roxanne Smith -Murramarang (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Roxanne Smith

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Mark Henry -Murrumbul (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Mark Henry

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#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Kaarina Slater -Ngambaa Cultural Connections

-

Dear Kaarina Slater

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Newton Carriage -Nundagurri (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

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Dear Newton Carriage

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Nathan Moran Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Nathan Moran

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Tiarna Bird Mura Gadi Aboriginal Corporation

Dear Tiarna Bird

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Paul Hand (chairperson)
Darug Boorooberongal Elders Aboriginal Corporation
PO.Box 14 Doonside NSW 2767

Dear Paul Hand (chairperson)

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Nathan Windram



Pemulwuy Johnson -Pemulwuy (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 14 Top Place, Mt Annan

Dear Pemulwuy Johnson

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Phil Khan Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group 78 Forbes Street, Emu Plains, NSW 2750

Dear Phil Khan

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Nathan Windram



Raymond Weatherall
RAW Cultural Healing
8 Rosslyn Dr, Claymore NSW 2559
PO Box N74, Campbelltown North NSW 2560

Dear Raymond Weatherall

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Nathan Windram



Scott Franks
Scott Franks on the behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd
Po box 145, Miranda NSW 1490

Dear Scott Franks

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Shane Carriage -Thauaira

Dear Shane Carriage

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



John Carriage (Chief Executive Officer) -Thoorga Nura 50B Hilltop Crescent, Surf Beach, 2536, NSW

Dear John Carriage (Chief Executive Officer)

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Paul Craig Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 4061 WYONGAH NSW 2259

Dear Paul Craig

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Philip Boney Wailwan Aboriginal Group

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Dear Philip Boney

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by **5:00PM 29 February 2024** to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au



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If you have any queries regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on (02) 4201 1090.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Rodney Gunther Barry Gunther Waawaar Awaa Aboriginal Corporation 15 Bungonia Street Prestons NSW 2170

Dear Rodney Gunther

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) (the applicant) to inform the Patyegarang project. This project involves the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose, within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Hika Te Kowhai Walbunja (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 15 Renee Crescent MORUYA HEADS NSW 2537

Dear Hika Te Kowhai

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Ronald Stewart Walgalu (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

\_

Dear Ronald Stewart

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Hayley Bell Wingikara (Murrin Clan/Peoples) -

Dear Hayley Bell

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Daniel Chalker Wori Wooilywa 261 Mockingbird Rd Pheasants Nest NSW 2574

Dear Daniel Chalker

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram



Lee-Roy James Boota Wullung (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 54 Blackwood Street, Gerringong, NSW, 2534

Dear Lee-Roy James Boota

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Kerrie Slater; Vicky Slater Wurrumay Pty Ltd 89 Pyramid Street, Emu Plains NSW 2750

Dear Kerrie Slater; Vicky Slater

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

**Robert Parson** 

Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corporation

Dear Robert Parson

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Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Unit 29,11 Phillip Street St Marys NSW 2760

Dear

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Eric Keidge -Eric Keidge 11 Olsson Close Hornsby Heights NSW 2077

Dear Eric Keidge

## Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Gordon Morton Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments Unit 9, 6 Chapman Avenue, Chatswood, NSW 2067

**Dear Gordon Morton** 

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant



15 February 2024

Aaron Broad Minnamunnung 1 Waratah Avenue, Albion Park Rail NSW 2527

Dear Aaron Broad

### Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register for Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: Matter: 40261

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Yours sincerely,

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

From: Amanda De Zwart To: Subject: Nathan Windram

Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 12:21:02 PM

ruesday, 20 February image429856.png image802060.png image843054.png image381941.png image627794.png insurance 2024.pdf works comp 2024.pdf

#### Hi Nathan

Thank you so much for your email AHCS would like to Formally register a interest in this project AHCS Holds strong cultural knowledge to the land and holds Cultural knowledge to determine Aboriginal heritage

Attached is my current insurance If you need anything else please let me know

Have a great day

Amanda Hickey AHCS

#### Get Outlook for Android

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:21:00 AM

To: amandahickey@live.com.au <amandahickey@live.com.au> Subject: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.

If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards Nathan

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

(02 NV	29 019 163 2) 4201 1057 Vindram@biosis.com.au w.biosis.com.au
	7

#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

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From: Amanda De Zwart To: Nathan Windram

Subject: Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register.. from AHCS

Date: Tuesday, 27 February 2024 1:22:44 PM

insurance 2024.pdf Attachments:

works comp 2024.pdf

#### Hi Nathan

Tha k you for you email AHCS would like to Formally register a interest in this project. AHCS Holds strong cultural knowledge to the land and holds Cultural knowledge to determine Aboriginal heritage and artefacts Attached is my current insurance If you need anything else please let me know

Have a great day Amanda Hickey AHCS From: Basil Smith To: Subject:

Nathan Windram
Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Friday, 16 February 2024 12:39:39 PM

Date: Attach

image416233.png image768294.png image729445.png image231845.png image344421.png

Please accept this as our registration for the following project at Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose, keep us informed on any further developments.

Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.

If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards
Nathan
Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant
0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au
?

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From: Butucarbin Heritage

Nathan Windram Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Monday, 26 February 2024 10:36:37 PM To: Subject:

Date: Attack

image331733.png image344135.png image964532.png image127391.png image720560.png

Dear Nathan,

On behalf of Butucarbin, I would like to register for this project.

Kind regards, Jenny

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.

If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards Nathan Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant 0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

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Lowanna Gibson Project Manager for Butucarbin Cultural Heritage B.A Archaeology/Anthropology USYD Juris Doctor UTS

 From:
 Carolyn .H

 To:
 Nathan Windram

Subject: Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

**Date:** Monday, 26 February 2024 4:00:51 PM

image472875.png image532134.png image763553.png image784673.png Outlook-vusfgrat.jpg Outlook-dvcg40q.jpg Outlook-ly31213h.png Outlook-ly31213h.png Outlook-hy31213h.png Outlook-hy31213h.png Outlook-hy4125.pdf



Contact: Carolyn Hickey Mobile: 0411650057 Email: Cazadirect@live.com

Address: 10 Marie Pitt Place, Glenmore Park, NSW 2745

ABN: : 20 616 970 327

Hi

Thank you for your email, I would like to register in being involved in all levels of consultation for this project. Including, Meetings, Reports, Sharing Cultural Information, and available Field Work.

About the founder Carolyn Hickey

I am a traditional owner with over 25 years experience in helping preserve Aboriginal cultural heritage on projects.

I hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and values that exist in the project area

I have attached A1 Indigenous Services Insurances

#### When Selecting Groups for Engagement;

Please consider that A1 INDIGENOUS SERVICES is a member of the NSW INDIGENOUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

We carry the NSWICC Assured logo showing that **A1 Indigenous Services** has met National Policy requirements as upheld by the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) for being identified as a **100% First Nations Owned Indigenous Business** That has demonstrated compliance with Government and Industry Regulators.

Kind Regards, Carolyn Hickey

#### A1 INDIGENOUS SERVICES is now a member of the NSW INDIGENOUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A business or enterprise carrying the NSWICC Assured logo has met National Policy requirements as upheld by the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) for being identified as a First Nations Business Owner or Entrepreneur and the business must demonstrate compliance with Government and Industry Regulators.

(Certificate attached) A certificate confirms that the Enterprise listed above has met all requirements of the NSWICC's Assured Program, operating as a100% Aboriginal Owned, Operated and Controlled Business. The NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NSWICC) is the Peak body for Aboriginal Business in New South Wales and a member of the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI)

#### A1 Indigenous Services is 100%, Indigenous Owned Australian Company

which offers a range of services to the construction industry.

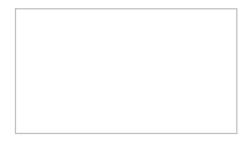
It is our mission to commit to an innovative approach to a better future for Indigenous employment and community.

While improving ways to close the gap in Aboriginal participation in the construction Industry.

Building strength in aboriginal communities and our Indigenous labour force.







?

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:21 AM **To:** cazadirect@live.com <cazadirect@live.com>

Subject: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.

If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163
(02) 4201 1057
NWindram@biosis.com.au
www.biosis.com.au
?

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From: justinecoplin@optusnet.com.au

To: Nathan Windram

Subject:register a interest Patyegarang, BelroseDate:Friday, 16 February 2024 11:52:31 AMAttachments:register a interest Patyegarang, Belrose .pdf

From: Kaarina Slater To: Subject:

Nathan Windram
Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose: Invitation to Register
Tuesday, 27 February 2024 5:41:12 PM Date:

Attach

On behalf of Ngambaa cultural connections I would like to register my expression of interest for the Belrose project. Myself kaarina slater will be the field officer.

Kind regards

Kaarina slater 0432 828 182

On Thu., 15 Feb. 2024, 13:57 Nathan Windram, < NWindram@biosis.com.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Kaarina,
Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.
On behalf of Gyde, Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s)/and or places in the vicinity of the study area to register their interest in the project outlined above.
If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.
Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.
Kind regards
Nathan
P.S. Kaarina when creating your letter Word deleted all of your details except for your address. Sorry for the scuffed letter.
Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant
0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

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We pay our respects to the I raditional Custodians and Elders past, present and Tutture, and nonour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society. The information transmitted including attachments is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain copyright material, or information that is confidential or is exempt from disclosure by law. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your computer. The views expressed in this email are those of the sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of Biosis Pty Ltd. Biosis Pty Ltd does not represent that this email is free of errors, viruses or interference. When using email to communicate with Biosis Pty Ltd, access to that information by Biosis Pty Ltd personnel is strictly limited and controlled.

lilly carroll Nathan Windram

Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Thursday, 15 February 2024 11:39:28 AM

image953959.png image627847.png image069827.png image028178.png

#### Hi Nathan

Dean, they would like to register an interest here in Belrose Patyegarang

Kind regards Paul

On Thursday, February 15, 2024, 11:21 am, Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> wrote:

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards Nathan Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant 0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au ?

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Paul Craig Nathan Windram

Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Thursday, 15 February 2024 1:12:12 PM

Hello Nathan

Thank you for your email and the invitation to register.

I acting on behalf of Guringai Tribal Link would like to register our interest for this project.

Kind Regards Paul Craig On Guringai Country Central Coast NSW. 0439242623

On 15 Feb 2024, at 11:22 am, Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> wrote:

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards

Nathan

#### Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

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<(40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf>

Phil Khan From: To: Subject: Nathan Windram

RE: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 12:15:47 PM

Thursday, 15 February 2024 12:15:47 PM image5/28748,png image600377.png image180377.png image180375.png image180575.png image983792.png r0.2024950CEE247D49554BD53146E1C8E[23275476].gif Public Liability 2024 to 2025.pdf Icare 2024.pdf

Hi Nathan.

Thank you for informing us that Biosis will be involved in an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at Patyegarang, Belrose &, that you are inviting Aboriginal organisations to register, if they wish too be involved in the community consultation process.

As a senior Aboriginal person for the past 51yrs, I actively participate in the protection of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage throughout the Sydney Basin, & particularly throughout Western Sydney, on behalf of Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group I wish to provide to you my organisation's registration of

I wish to be involved & participate in all levels of consultation/project involvement. I wish to attend all meetings, participate in available field work & receive a copy of the report.

I have attached a copy of Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working group's Public Liability Insurance & Workers Compensation certificate. Our RAPS have up to 16yrs Cultural Heritage experience in - field work which involves manual excavation (digging), sieving, identifying artefacts, setting up transits, setting up equipment, packing equipment, site surveys & attending meetings (Focus groups, CwC, interpretation).

Should you wish me to provide further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0434545982 or Stefeanie on 0451068480.

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:21:10 AM

To: philipkhan.acn@live.com.au < philipkhan.acn@live.com.au> Subject: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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If you wish to register your interest, please provide your contact details in writing via post or email by 5:00PM 29 February 2024.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards Nathan Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant 0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www biosis com au

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Scott Franks From: To: Subject: Nathan Windram

Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Thursday, 15 February 2024 1:30:02 PM

Date:

image537702.png image036228.png image874288.png image810042.png image001.png image002.png image003.png

Nathan.

Please register our interest

Regards Scott Franks CFO

Native Title & Environmental Services Consultant

Native title applicant for the PCWP

Yarrawalk Pty Ltd Po box 145 Miranda NSW 1490 **Dharawal Country** 

m: 0404 171544

e: scott@varrawalk.com.au www.yarrawalk.com.au



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From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>

Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 at 11:22 am To: Scott Franks <scott@yarrawalk.com.au>

Subject: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register

Good morning,

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached PDF.

Kind regards

Nathan

**Nathan Windram** 

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057

NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au



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Nathan Windram

Re: (40261) Patyegarang, Belrose Stage 1.2 Invitation to register Thursday, 15 February 2024 9:35:10 PM

#### Hi Nathan

Thank you for the email. I would very much like to be registered as an individual RAP for this self determination assessment Can you please add me to the RAP list and when you get a chance can you confirm my registration.

Have a great Friday and Weekend

Kind regards

Thomas Dahlstrom Cultural Heritage Consultant

On 15 Feb 2024, at 11:21 am, Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> wrote:

#### Good morning,

Biosis is currently undertaking an ACHA for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to inform the Patyegarang project involving the rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose.

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Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 (02) 4201 1057 NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

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<(40261) Patyegarang Belrose Stage 1.2 Stakeholder Invitation.pdf>



# NOTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF ABORIGINAL INTERESTS

Biosis is undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, and possible test excavations, for a Planning Proposal for the Patyegarang project, Belrose NSW, within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area on behalf of Gyde Consulting (*Gyde Consulting 02 9068 7500 community@gyde.com.au*), who are representing the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (the applicant).

Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the vicinity of the above area to register their interest in a process of community consultation.

The purpose of Aboriginal community consultation is to assist Gyde Consulting in preparing an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (if required) and to assist Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) in its assessment of the application. The project will be undertaken in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

To register an interest in this project please contact Nathan Windram (*Email: nwindram@biosis.com.au, Address: 30 Wentworth Street, Port Kembla NSW 2505, Tel: (02) 4201 1090*).

Please note that the name of each group that registers for consultation on this project will be provided to Heritage NSW and the Local Aboriginal Land Council unless the group specifies that they do not want their details released.

**REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 5:00PM, 28 FEBRUARY 2024** 

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**Un-rebutted Affidavit** 

witnessed & autographed by 3 independent witnesses giving

recipients 28 days to rebut. After it went un-rebutted my 3

witnesses each followed up, offering the opportunity of a further 3 days to rebut. Which still went un-rebutted. This

Affidavit was sent to: Yasmin

Catley - Minister for Police,

**Emergency Services, Karen** 

Attorney General, Michael

Department of Communities & Justice, Greg Wells - Chief

Executive Officer Service NSW,

Johnstone - Chief Magistrate.

The Affidavit is available at: https://thepeoplescourtof terraaustralis.org/public-

notices/ All evidence of

Rohan Muscat - Registrar

General, Ben Franklin President of the Legislative Council, His Hon. Judge Peter

Tidball - Secretary of

Jihad Dib - Minister for

Webb APM - Police Commissioner, Michael Daley -

My un-rebutted Affidavit,



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#### **Notices**

**Public Notices** 



#### **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: Invitation to Register Interest**

#### **Proposed Powerhouse Museum Ultimo** Revitalisation

On behalf of Infrastructure NSW (the proponent), Curio Projects (heritage consultants) are commencing Aboriginal community consultation for a proposed development located at Powerhouse Ultimo. The study area is shown below. It is located at 500 Harris Street, Ultimo within the City of Sydney Council LGA



On 4 December 2023, the NSW Government unveiled the revised concept design scheme for the \$250 million revitalisation to the Powerhouse Museum Ultimo that will deliver new exhibition and public spaces, while retaining the 1988 Wran building. The project will involve:

- Site preparation works, including site services and infrastructure works, tree removal, earthworks, remediation and the erection of site protection hoardings and fencing.
- Demolition of some existing structures on the site. Construction and use of a new museum spaces along the
- Harris Street frontage Alterations to the Wran Building spaces to upgrade the
- auditorium and exhibition spaces. Construction of a new public open spaces.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) in accordance with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, and to assist the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure in their consideration and determination of the application.

Community consultation is being undertaken to assist the assessment of cultural significance of the Powerhouse Ultimo study area. This notification is being undertaken in accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the Heritage NSW guidelines Aboriginal cultural haritage requirements for proponents 2010

Curio Projects invite Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation.

The proponent can be contacted via tom@gtkconsulting.com.au but contact via Curio is preferred.

Please note that when you register an interest in this project your details will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, unless you specify that you would not like your details released.

Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 5pm 29 February 2024, via phone, email or mail to:

Rebecca Agius on consultation@curioprojects.com.au or (02) 8014 9800.

Curio Projects, 5 Blackfriars Street, Chippendale NSW 2008

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#### Proposed Optus co-location works at an existing Telstra telecommunications facility located at 1 Lakeshore Drive, Narrabeen NSW 2101 (RFNSA #2101013)

- . The proposal involves the installation of: One (1) new Optus headframe mounted on the existing elstra 30m monopole at an elevation of 26.50m;
- or three (3) new panel antennas (each not more than 2.8m long) mounted on the new headframe at an elevation of 26.50m;

  Three (3) new 64.19 Antenna Integrated Radio Units (AIR) mounted on the new headframe at an elevation of 27.45m
- Three (3) new 3219 Antenna Integrated Radio Units AIR) mounted on the new headframe at an elevation of Six (6) new Remote Radio Units (RRU) mounted behind
- the proposed new antennas at an elevation of 26.50m;
   One (1) new two bay outdoor cabinet installed at ground level adjacent to the existing monopole in the

- ground level adjacent to the existing monopole in the Telstra compound area; and

   Ancillary equipment including, but not limited to, GPS antenna, cabling, cable trays, electrical works, and other associated equipment.

  2. Optus regards the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018

  ("The Determination") based on the description above.

  3. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or comments should be directed to: John Roelandts via
- John Rolandts via optus.submissions@servicestream.com.au or ServiceStream Level 7, 2 King Street, Fortitude Valley OLD 4006 by Wednesday 28 February 2024.

  If you would like to know more about this site, further information can be obtained from www.rfnsa.com.au/2101013

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#### **Public Notice**

Proposed termination of Strata Scheme No 15483 being property situated at 24 Rosebank Street, Darlinghurst NSW 2010.

Notice is given of an intention to apply to the Registrar General for an order terminating the above Strata Scheme and the consequent winding up of the Owners Corporation, pursuant to section 142 of the Strata Schemes Development Act (NSW).

Any person having any claim against the Owners Corporation of the above Strata Scheme or any estate or interest in or claim against any of the lots comprised in the Strata Scheme is required, on or before 6 March, 2024, to send particulars of the estate, interest or claim to Cordato Partners Lawyers Level 5, 49 York Street NSW Sydney 2000.

#### upon request at dq69@me.com **Notification and** Registration of

**Aboriginal Interests** 

service, postage and delivery is available for each individual

Biosis is undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, and possible test excavations, for a Planning Proposal for the Patyegarang project, Belrose NSW, within the Northern Beaches Council Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area on behalf of Gyde Consulting (Gyde Consulting 02 9068 7500

community@gyde.com.au), who are representing the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (the applicant). Biosis invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural

knowledge in determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the vicinity of the above area to register their interest in a process of community consultation. The purpose of Aboriginal community consultation is to assist Gyde Consulting in preparing an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (if required) and to assist Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) in its assessment of the application. The project will be undertaken in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife

Act 1974. To register an interest in this project please contact Nathan Windram (Email: nwindram@biosis.com.au, Address: 30 Wentworth Street, Port Kembla NSW 2505, Tel: (02) 4201 1090). Please note that the name of each group that registers for consultation on this for consultation on this project will be provided to Heritage NSW and the Local Aboriginal Land Council unless the group specifies that they do not want their details released. REGISTRATIONS MUST BE DECLYED BEFORE BE RECEIVED BEFORE 5:00PM, 29 FEBRUARY

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# Appendix 3 Stage 2 and 3: Presentation of information about the proposed project and gathering information about cultural significance

From: Ashley Bridge

To: admin@guringai.com.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:56 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

The attached project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with section 4.2 and section 4.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

From: Ashley Bridge To: Subject:

admin@guringai.com.au 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:55 PM

#### Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards, Ashley **Ashley Bridge** Senior Heritage Consultant 0437 689 734 abridge@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

The contents of this email message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may be the subject of copyright. If you have received this email in error, please do not use it in any way, notify us by return email, destroy all copies and delete it from your systems. It is your responsibility to scan this communication and any files attached (and Biosis does not accept any liability whatsoever) for computer viruses, interference or similar.

From: Ashley Bridge

To: amandahickey@live.com.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:50 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

From: Ashley Bridge

To: <u>bunjil.smith@gmail.com</u>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:55 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

From: Ashley Bridge
To: cazadirect@live.com

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:49 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <u>culturalheritage@metrolalc.org.au</u>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:00 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

The attached project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with section 4.2 and section 4.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <u>culturalheritage2@metrolalc.org.au</u>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:59 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <u>culturalofficer@metrolalc.org.au</u>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:59 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <u>didgengunawalclan@yahoo.com.au</u>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:53 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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To: <u>didgengunawalclan@yahoo.com.au</u>

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**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:52 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: "gamila roi@yahoo.com.au"

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:05 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: goobahchts@gmail.com

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:54 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: justinecoplin@optusnet.com.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:51 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <u>murrabidgeemullangari@yahoo.com.au</u>

**Subject:** 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:02 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: <a href="mailto:ngambaa.culturalconnections@gmail.com">ngambaa.culturalconnections@gmail.com</a>

**Subject:** 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:03 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:01 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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To: Subject: officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au
40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:01 PM

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards, Ashley **Ashley Bridge** Senior Heritage Consultant 0437 689 734 abridge@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au

Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

Biosis acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Traditional Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and future, and honour their connection to the land and ongoing contribution to society.

The contents of this email message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may be the subject of copyright. If you have received this email in error, please do not use it in any way, notify us by return email, destroy all copies and delete it from your systems. It is your responsibility to scan this communication and any files attached (and Biosis does not accept any liability whatsoever) for computer viruses, interference or similar.

To: <a href="mailto:philipkhan.acn@live.com.au">philipkhan.acn@live.com.au</a>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41:58 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

#### Good afternoon,

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The attached project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with section 4.2 and section 4.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: scott@tocomwall.com.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:05 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

To: scott@yarrawalk.com.au

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

**Date:** Monday, 11 March 2024 4:42:04 PM

Attachments: PDFMailer.pdf

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

11 March 2024



Carolyn Hickey
A1 Indigenous Services
10 Marie Pitt Place, Glenmore Park, NSW, 2745

Dear Carolyn

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- \_\_\_\_\_\_
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 945 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038
- Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## Background

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

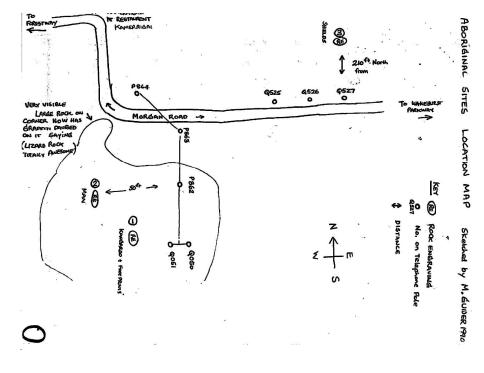


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

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1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

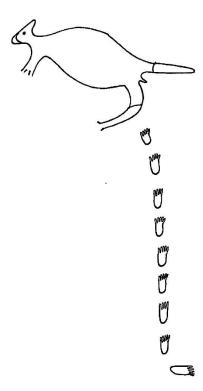
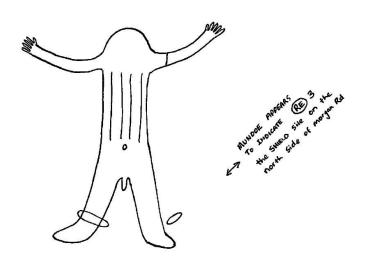


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

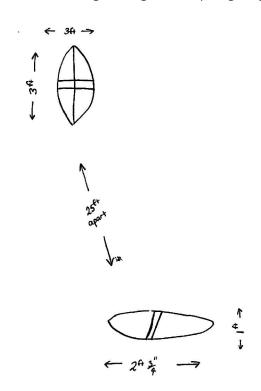


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0226/Belrose (Moon Rock) B, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

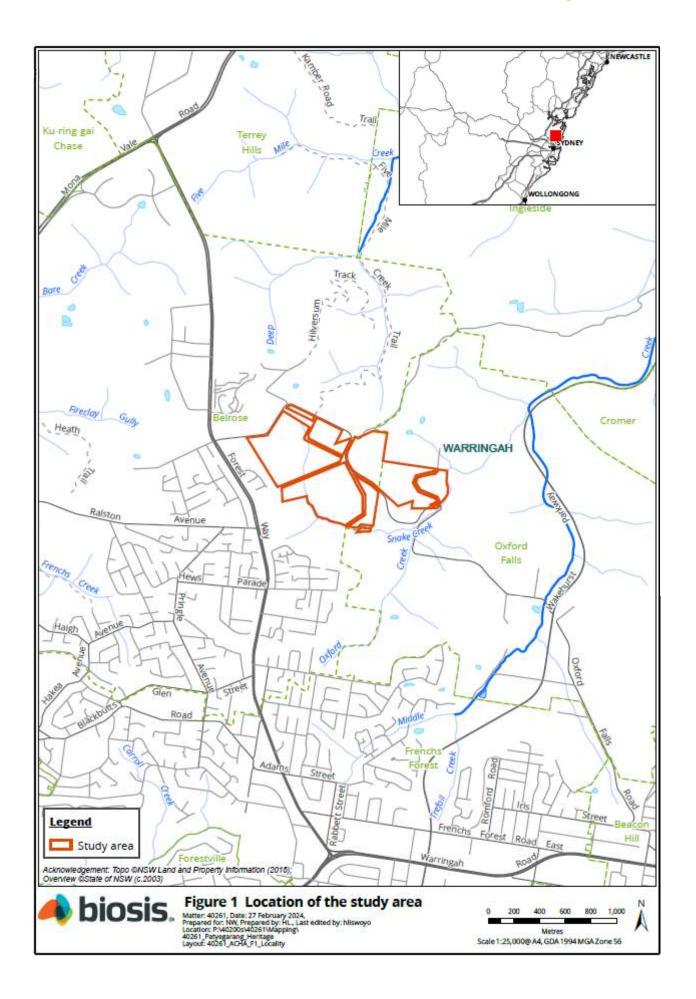
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

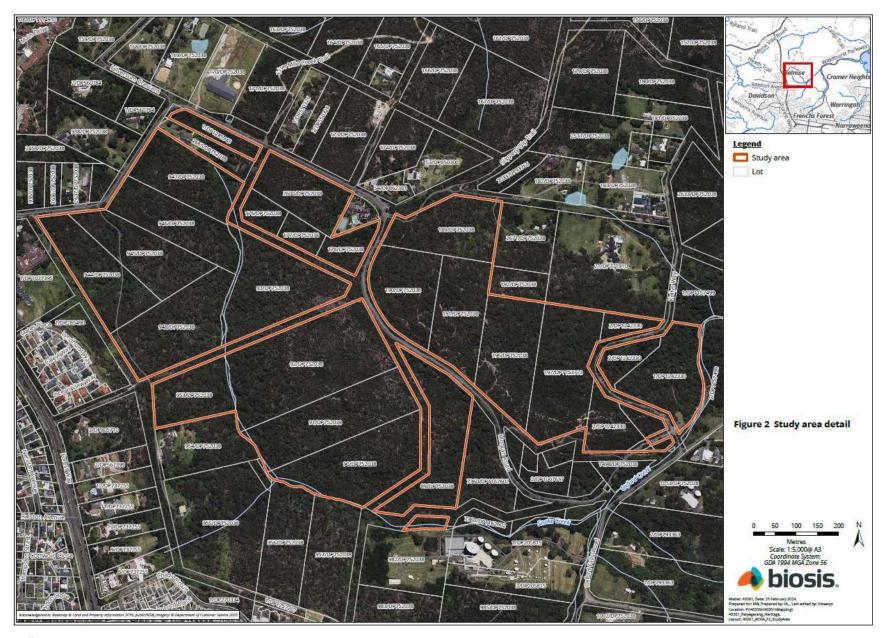
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Amanda Hickey Amanda Hickey Cultural Services 57 Gough Steet, Emu Plains, NSW, 2750

Dear Amanda

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



# Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

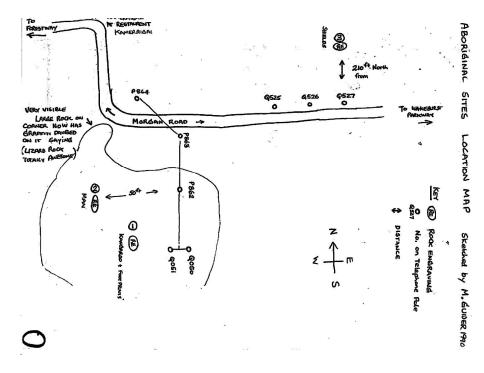


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

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Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



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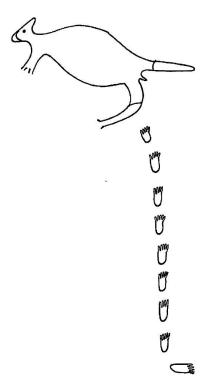
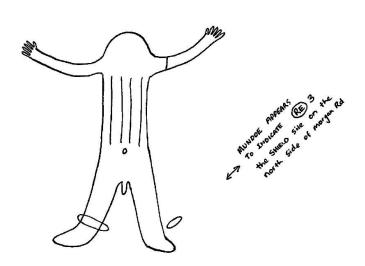


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

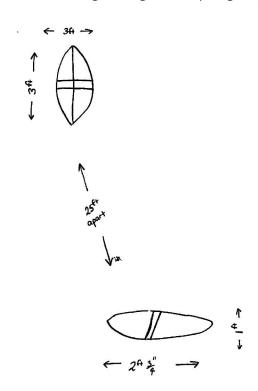


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

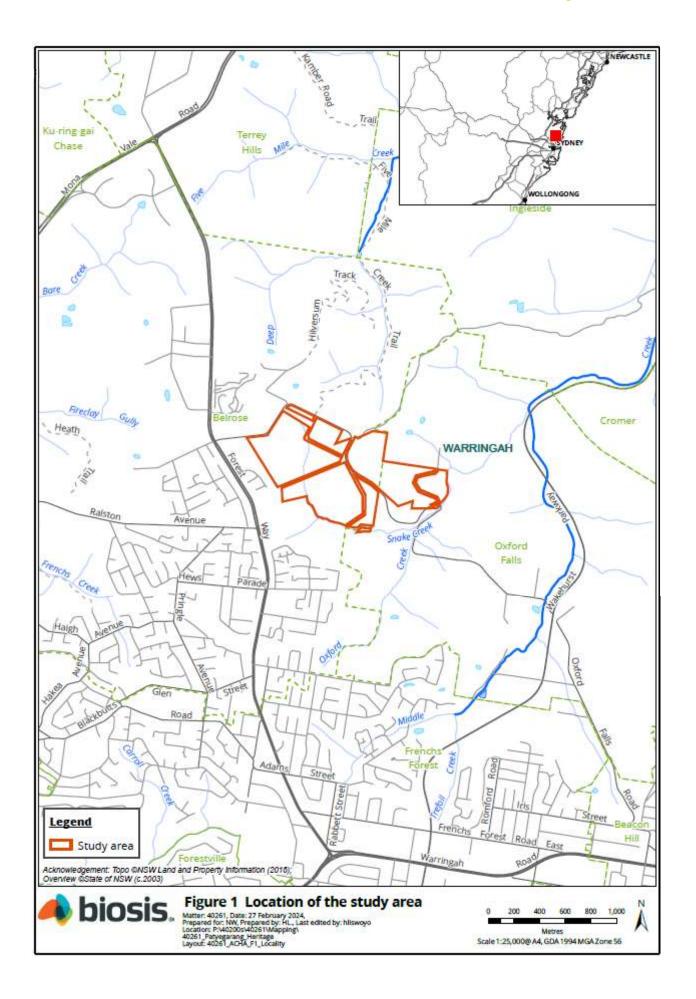
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

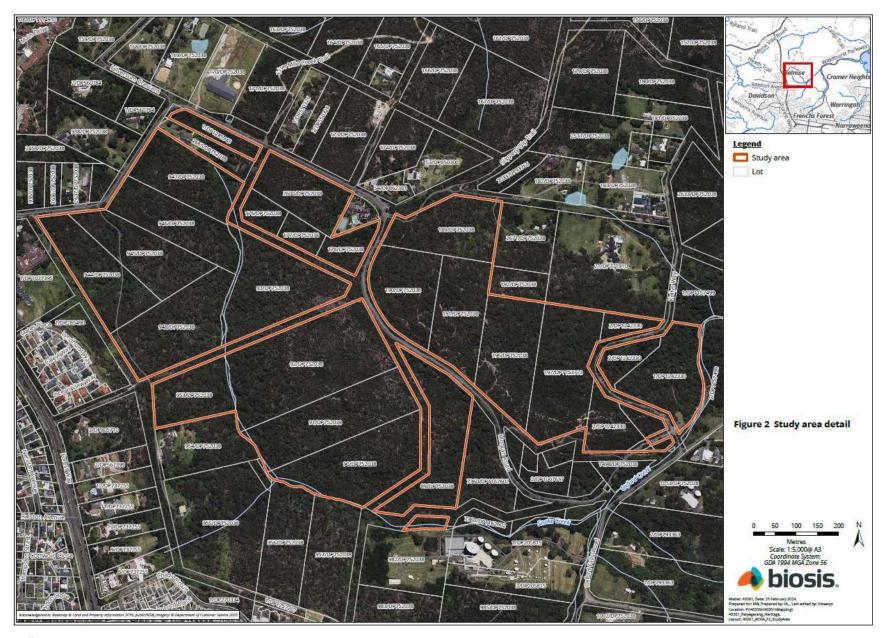
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Jennifer Beale Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation PO Box E18, Emerton, NSW 2770

Dear Jennifer

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

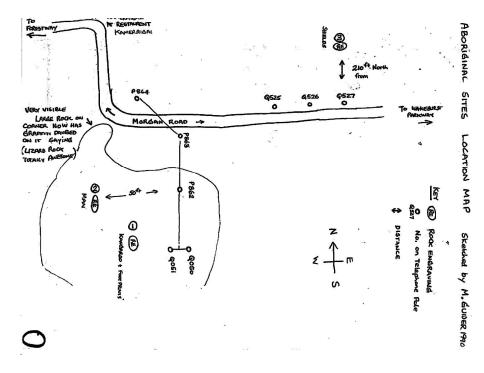


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

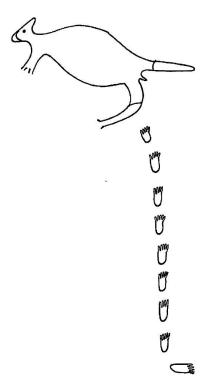
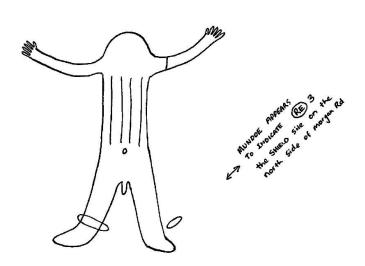


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AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

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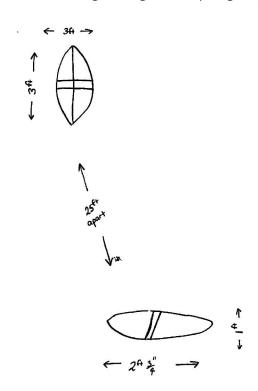


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study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

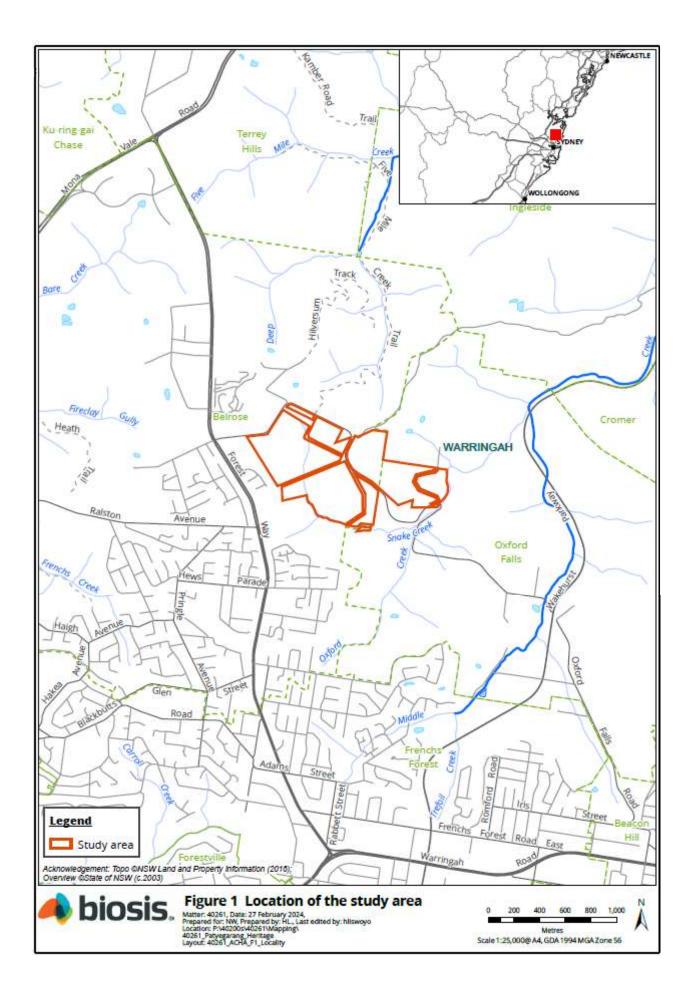
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

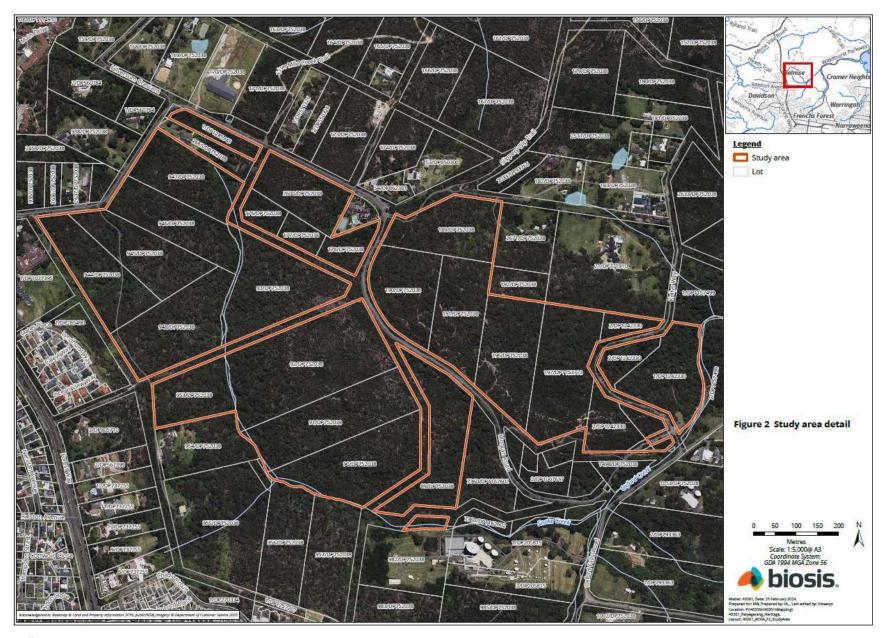
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Justine Coplin
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 81, Windsor NSW 2756

Dear Justine

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

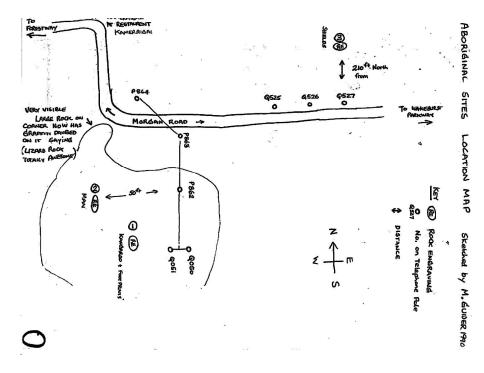


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

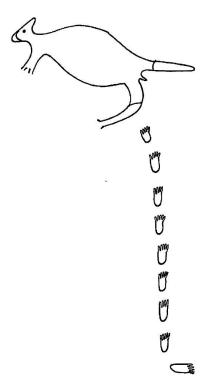
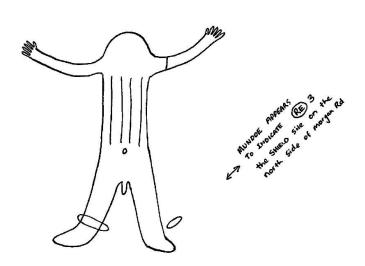


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

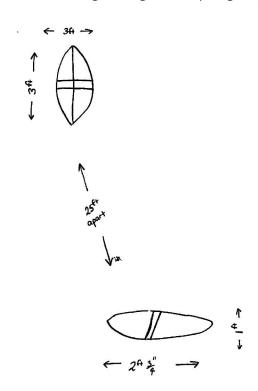


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

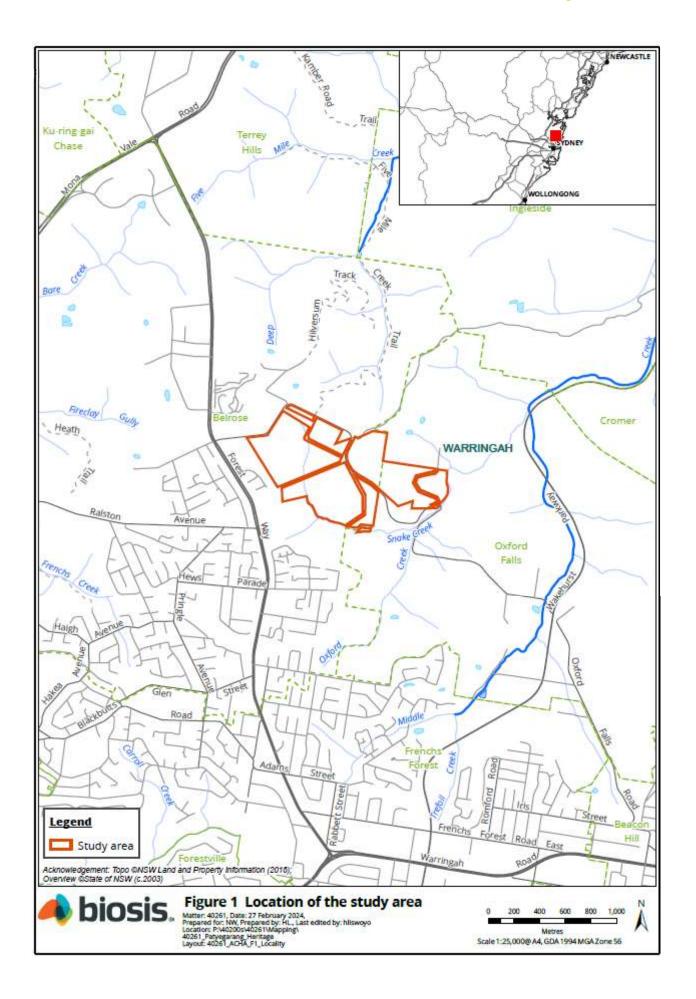
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

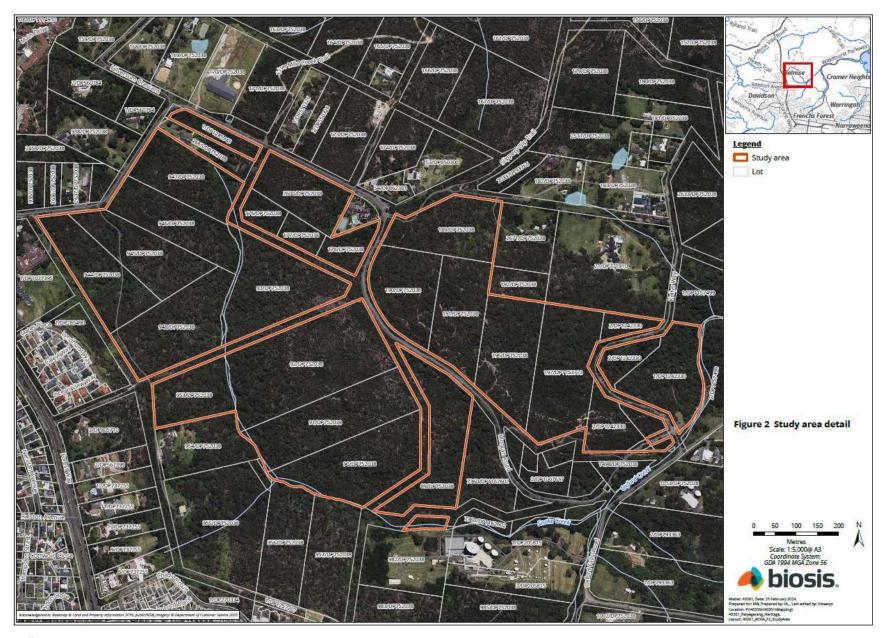
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Lillie Carroll
Didge Ngunawal Clan
33 Carlyle Crescent Cambridge Gardens NSW 2747

Dear Lillie

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

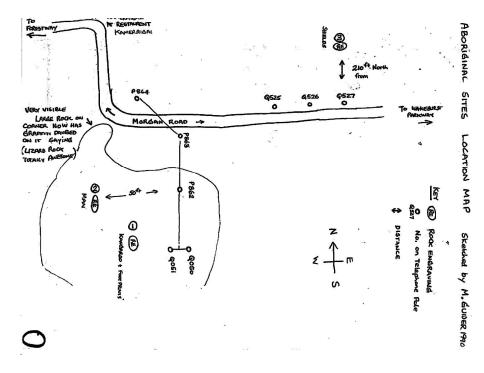


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

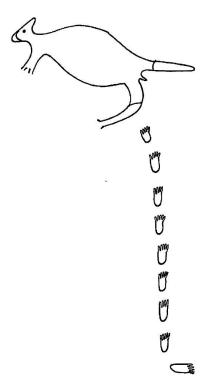
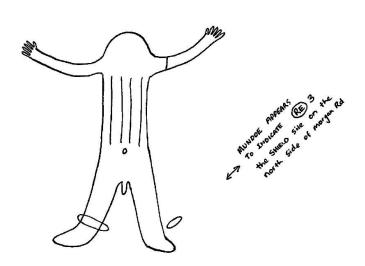


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

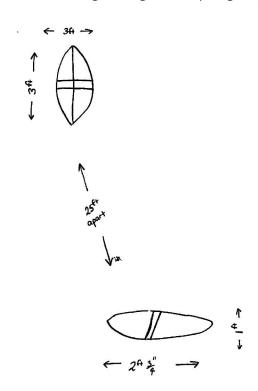


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

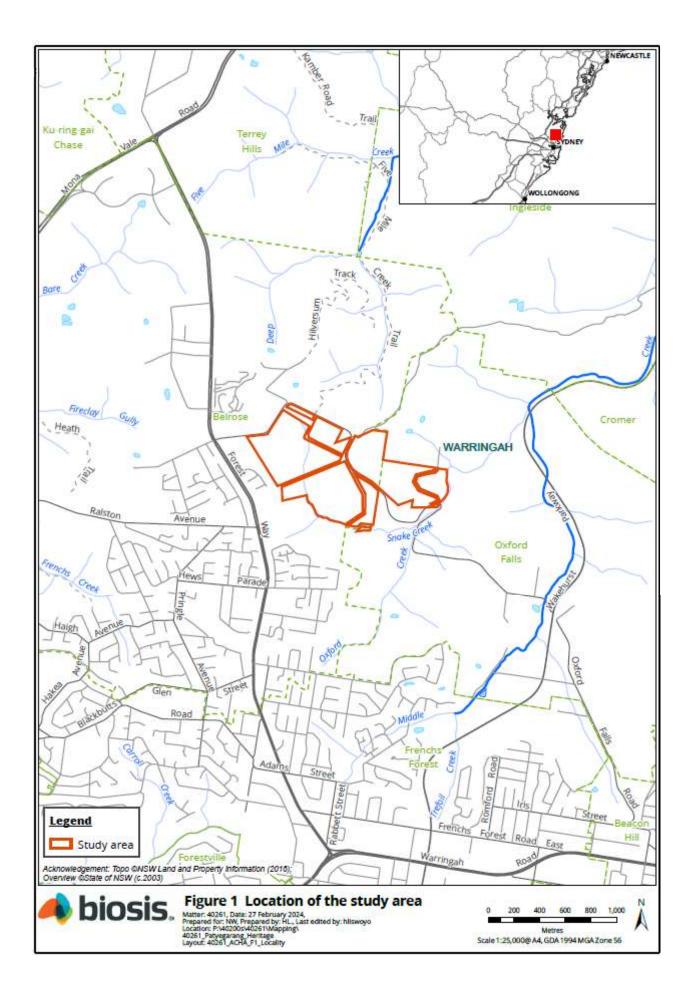
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

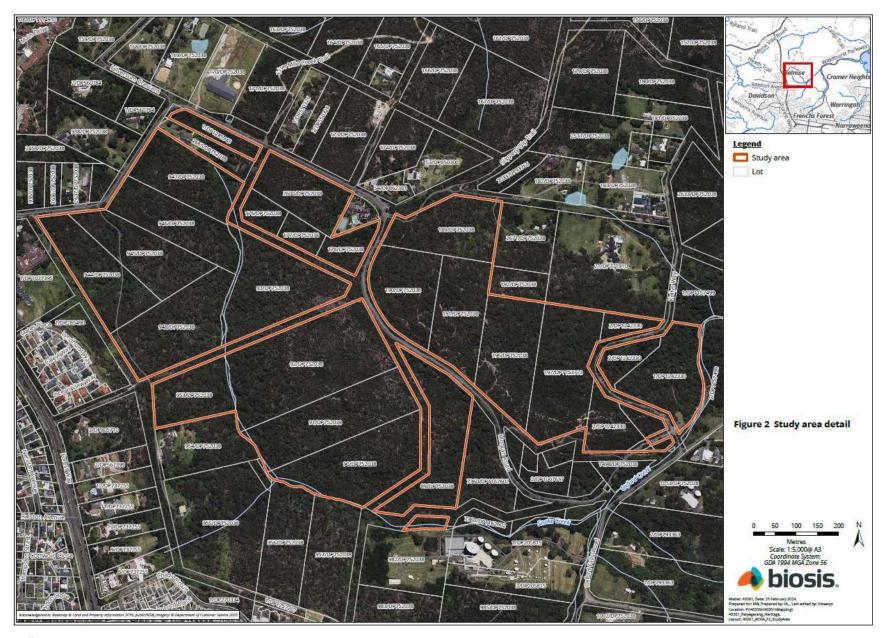
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Paul Boyd Didge Ngunawal Clan 33 Carlyle Crescent Cambridge Gardens NSW 2747

Dear Paul

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

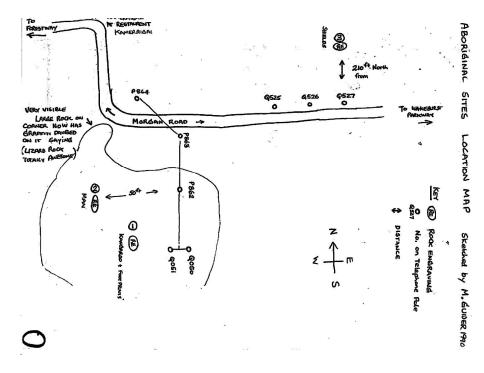


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

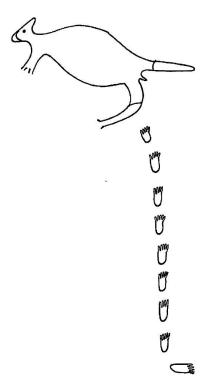
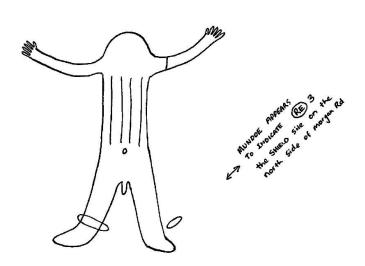


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

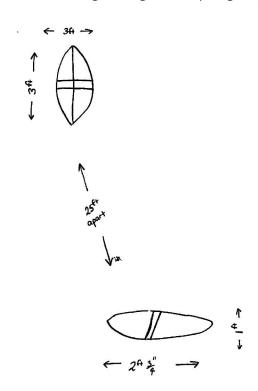


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

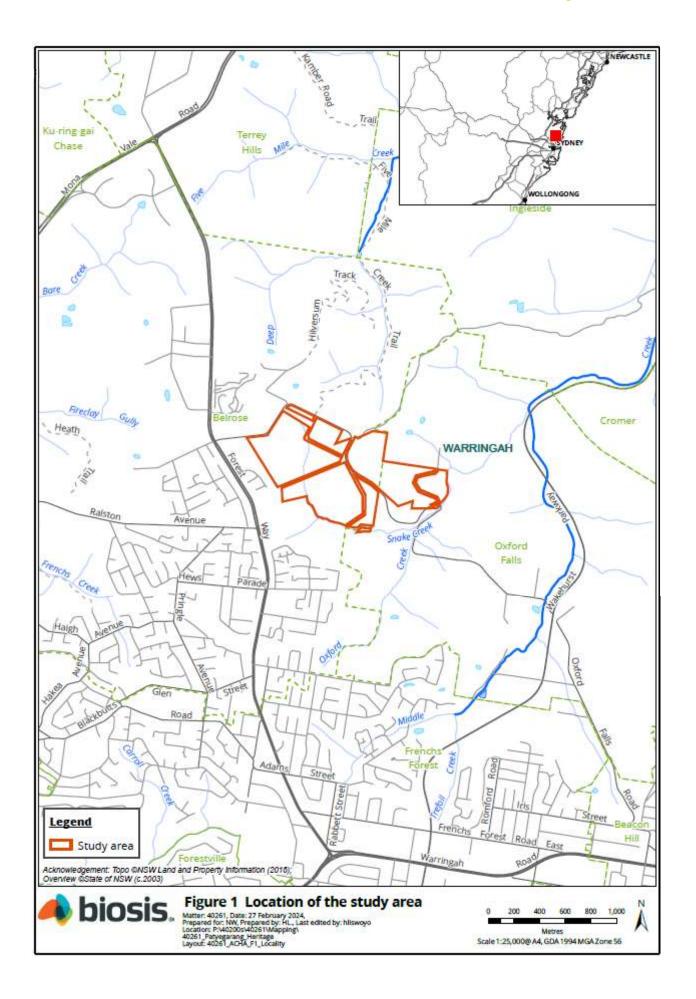
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

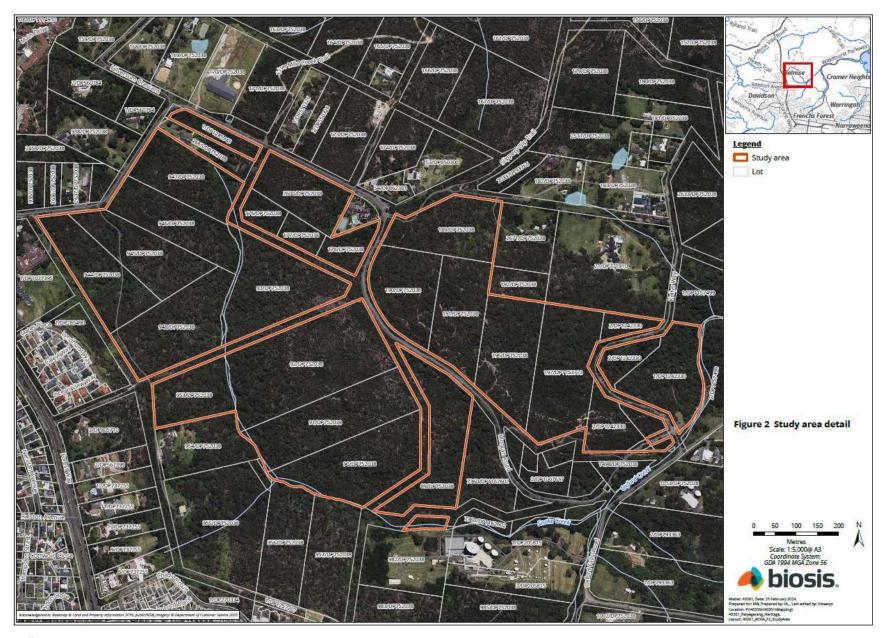
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Basil Smith Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 66 Grantham Road, Batehaven NSW, 2536

Dear Basil

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

• Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

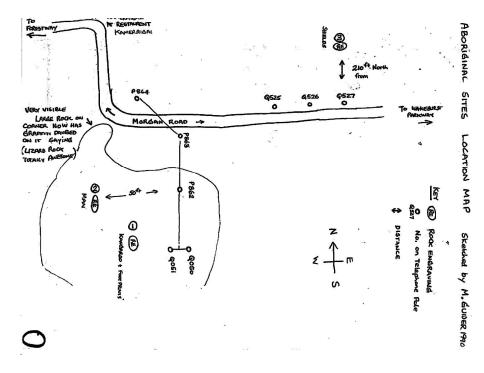


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

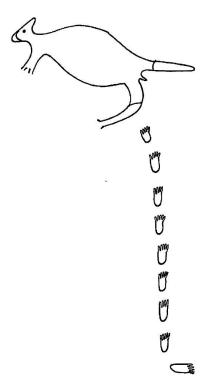
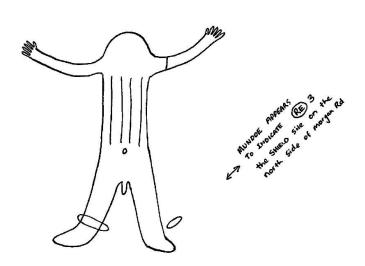


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

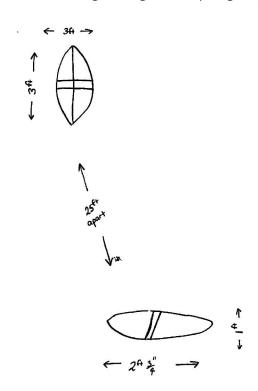


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

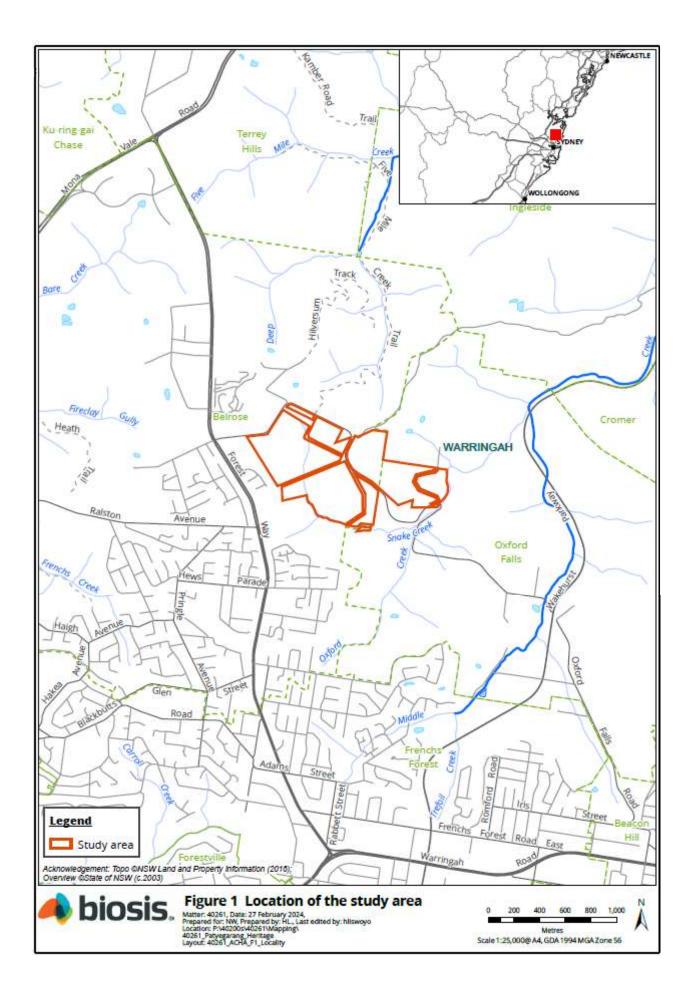
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

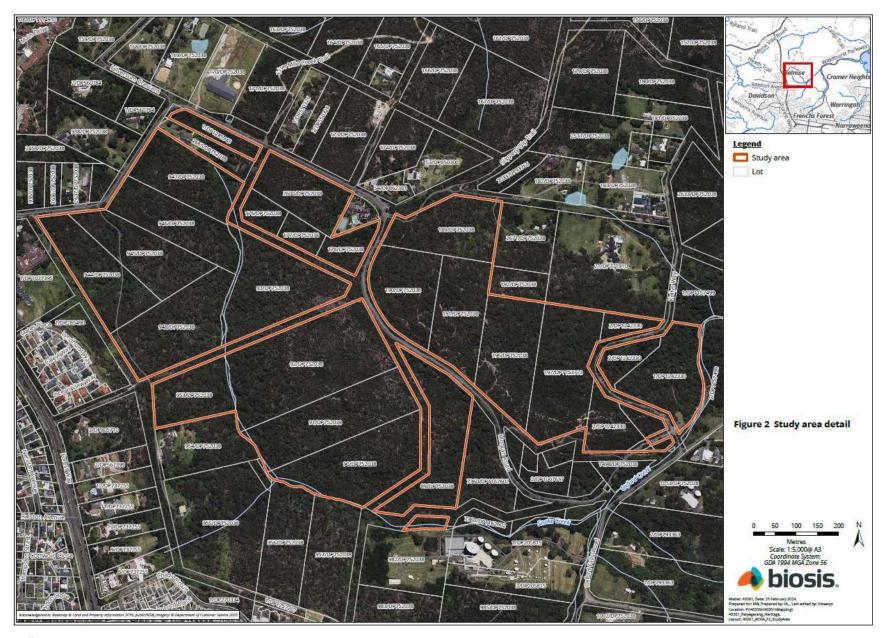
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Basil Smith Goobah Development PTY LTD (Murrin Clan/Peoples) 66 Grantham Road, Batehaven NSW, 2536

Dear Basil

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

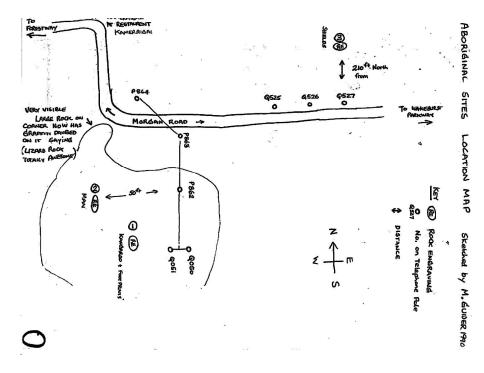


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

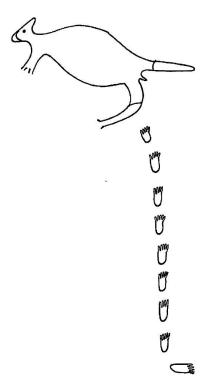
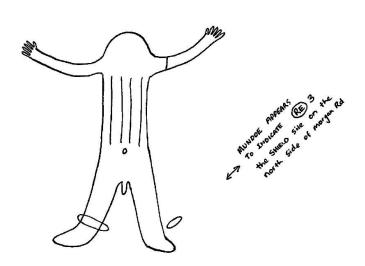


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

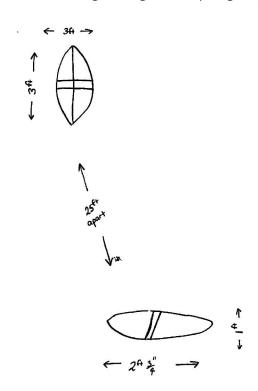


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

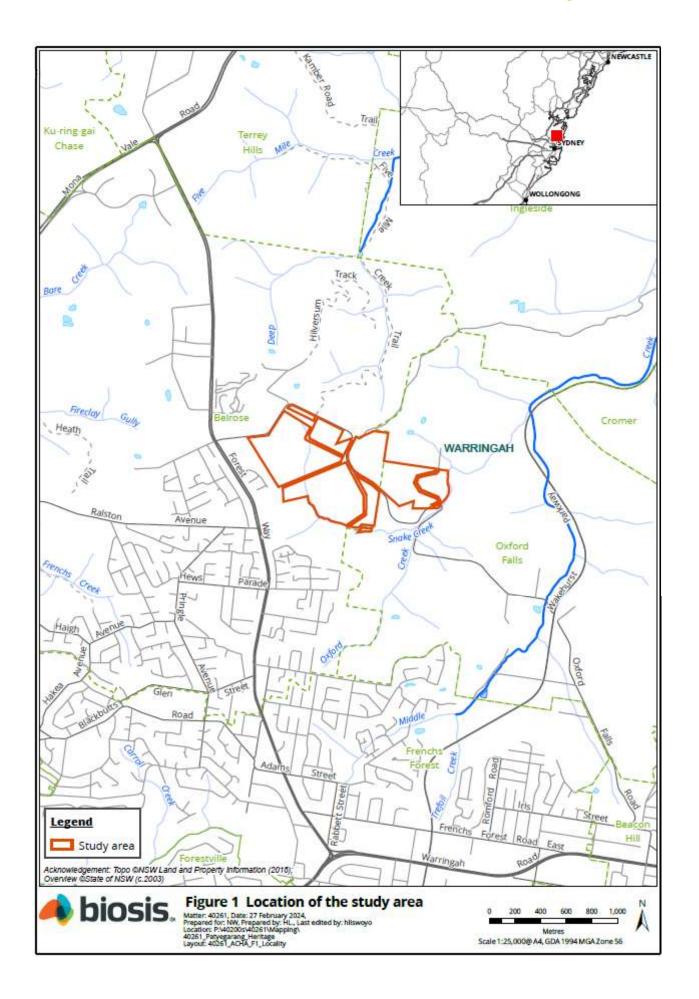
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

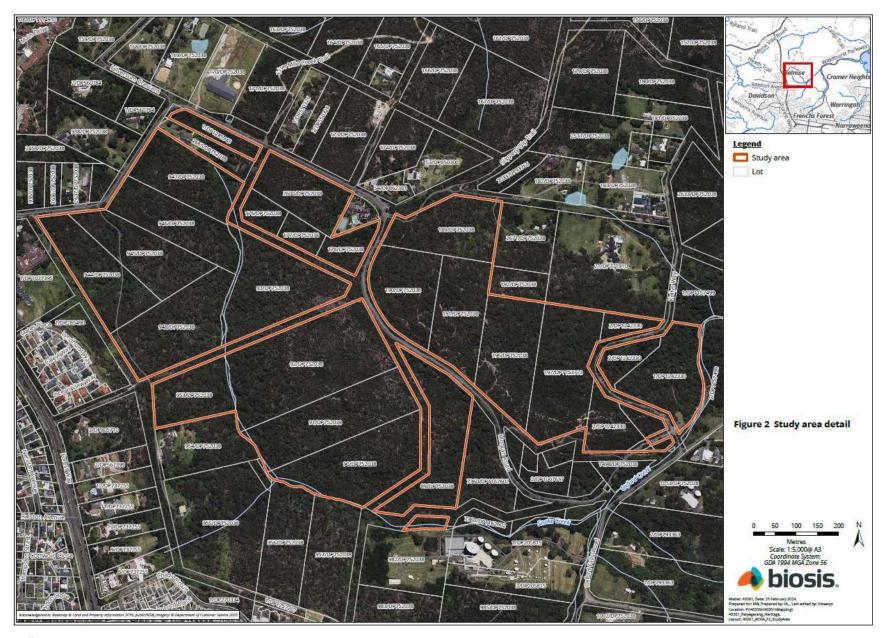
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Tracey Howie
Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 4061 WYONGAH NSW 2259

**Dear Tracey** 

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

• Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

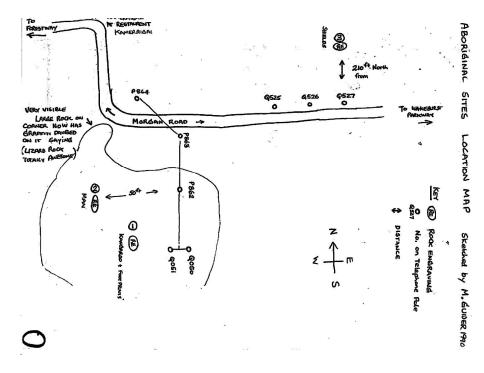


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

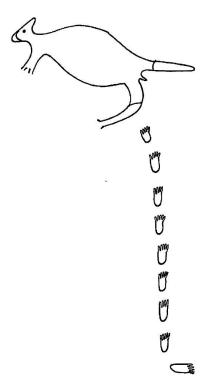
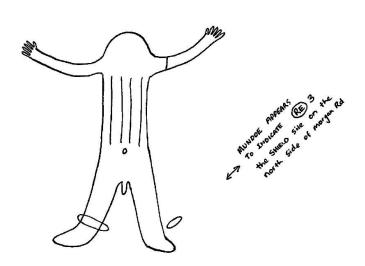


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

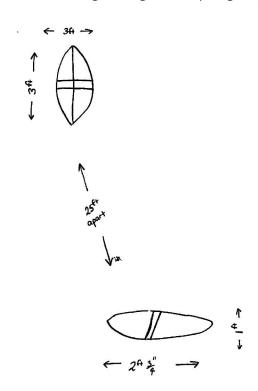


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

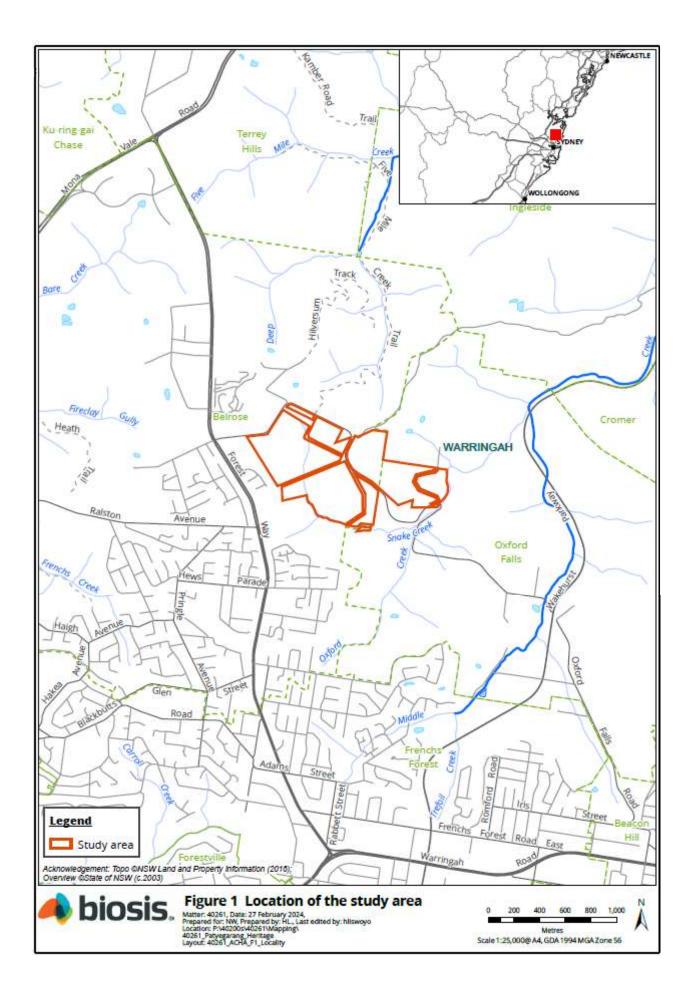
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

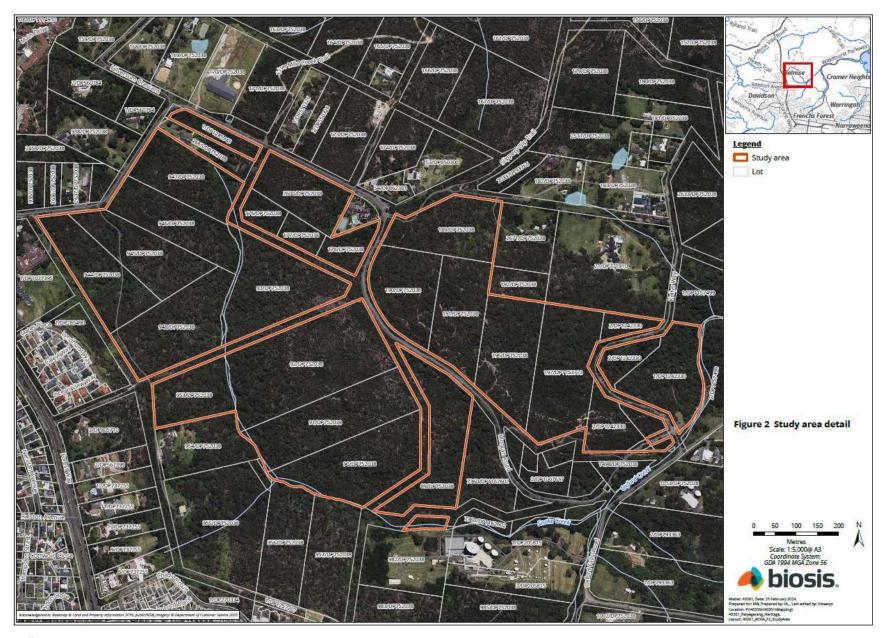
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

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- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

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#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

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If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Paul Craig Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 4061 WYONGAH NSW 2259

Dear Paul

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



# Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

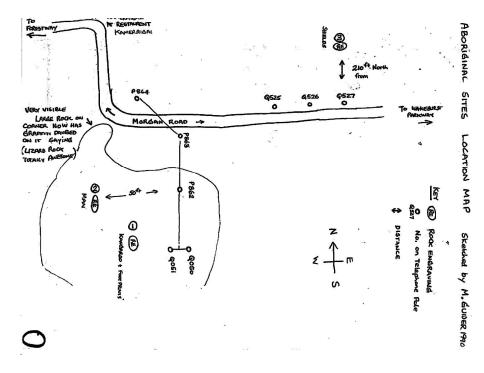


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

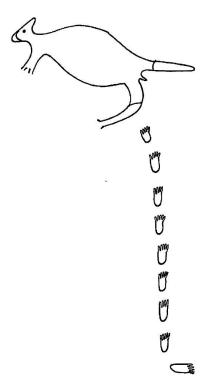
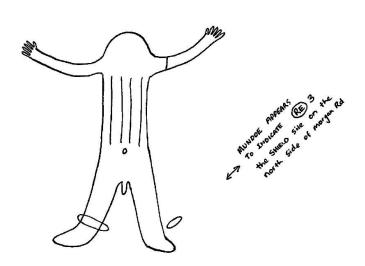


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

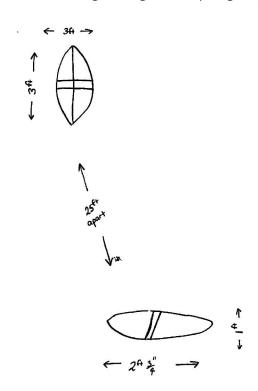


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

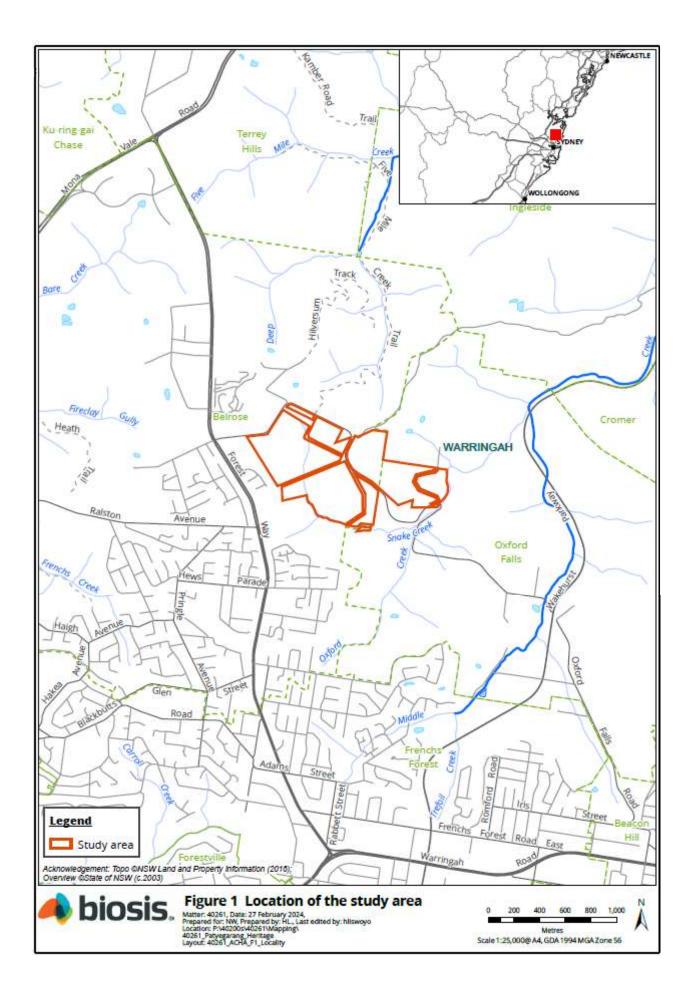
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

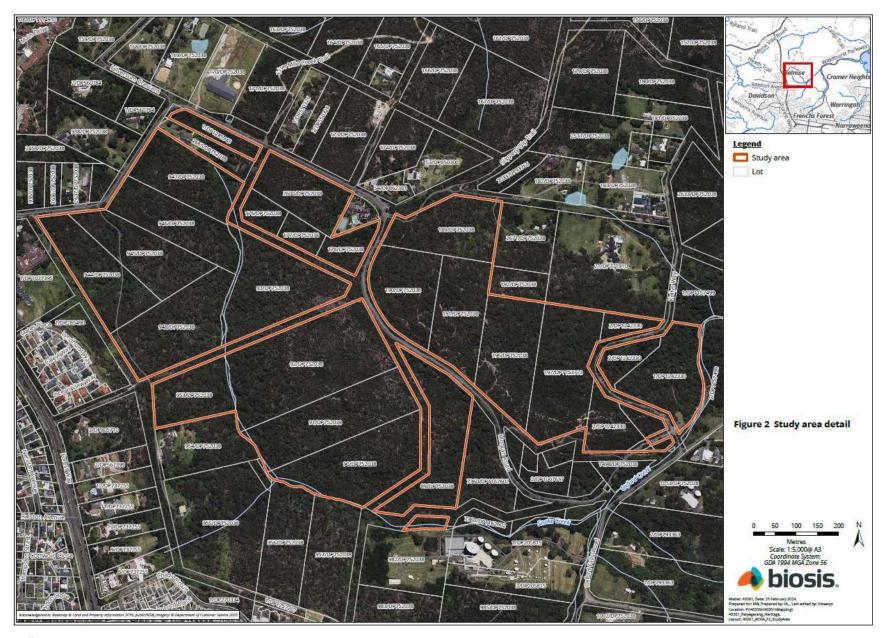
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
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- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
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- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.* 

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Phil Khan Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group 78 Forbes Street, Emu Plains, NSW 2750

Dear Phil

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

• Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

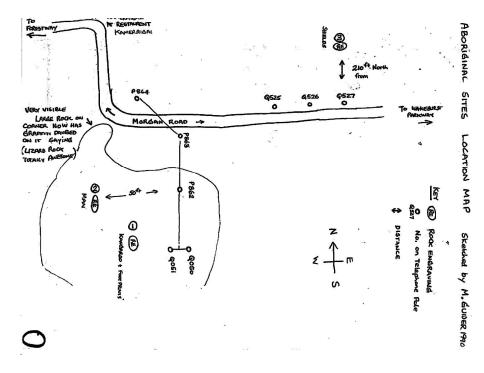


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

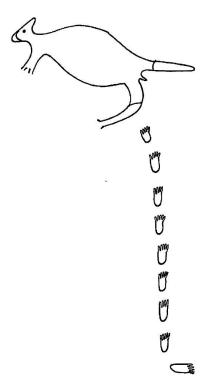
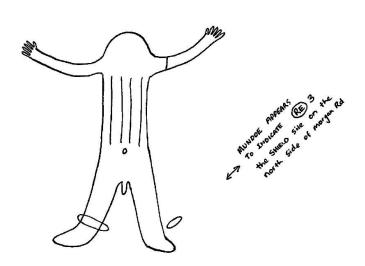


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

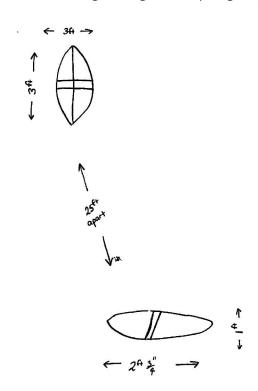


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

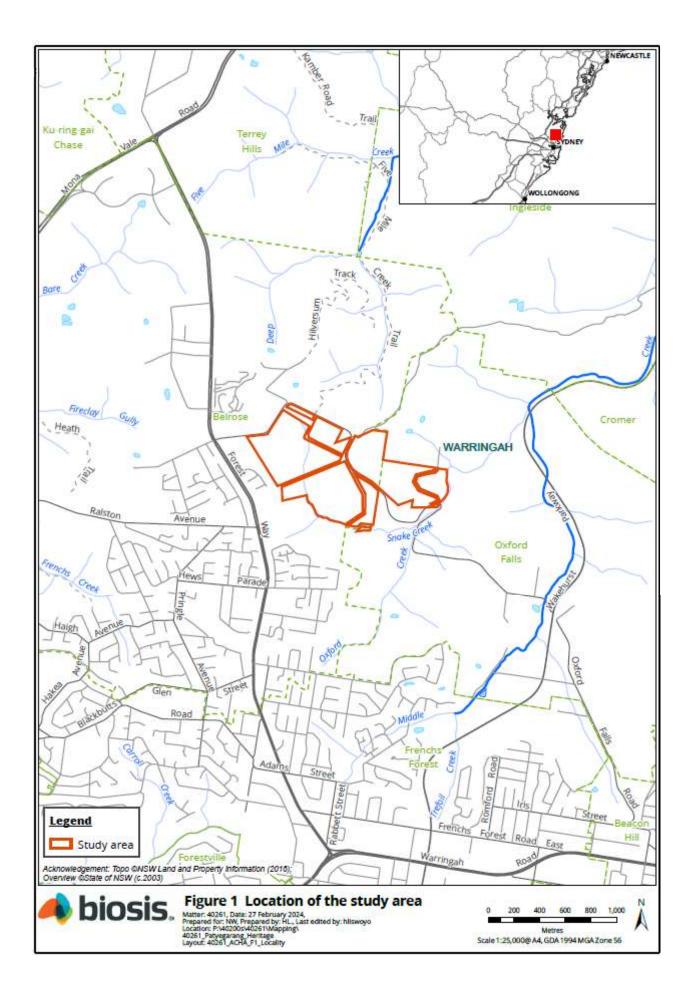
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

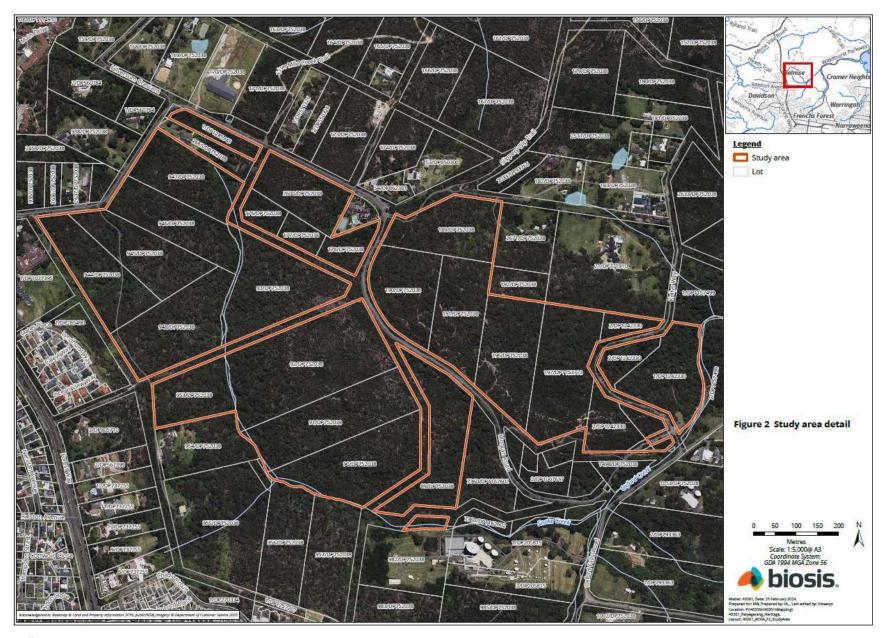
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
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The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

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The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.* 

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Jacqueline Gibbs Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Jacqueline

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



# Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

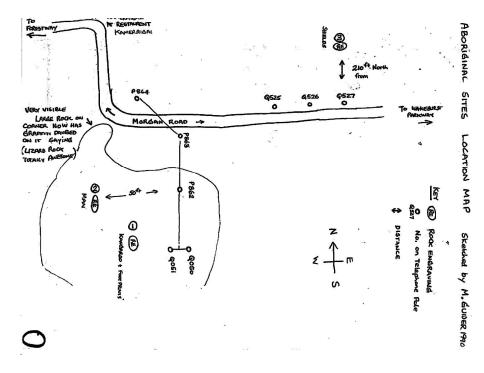


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

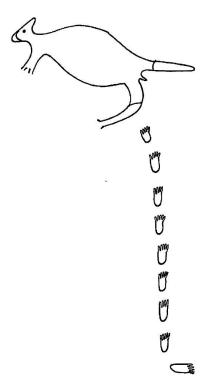
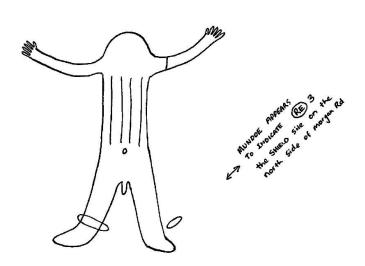


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

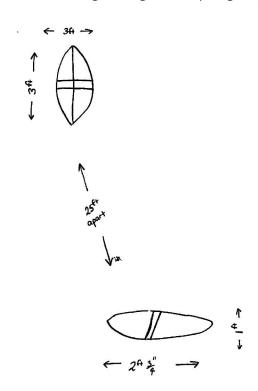


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

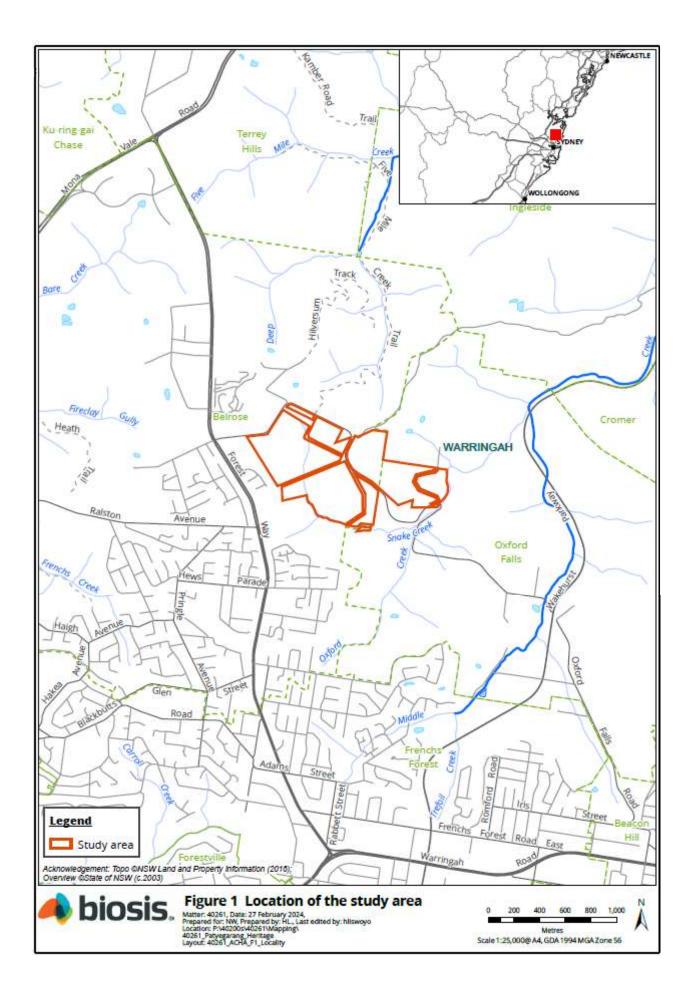
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

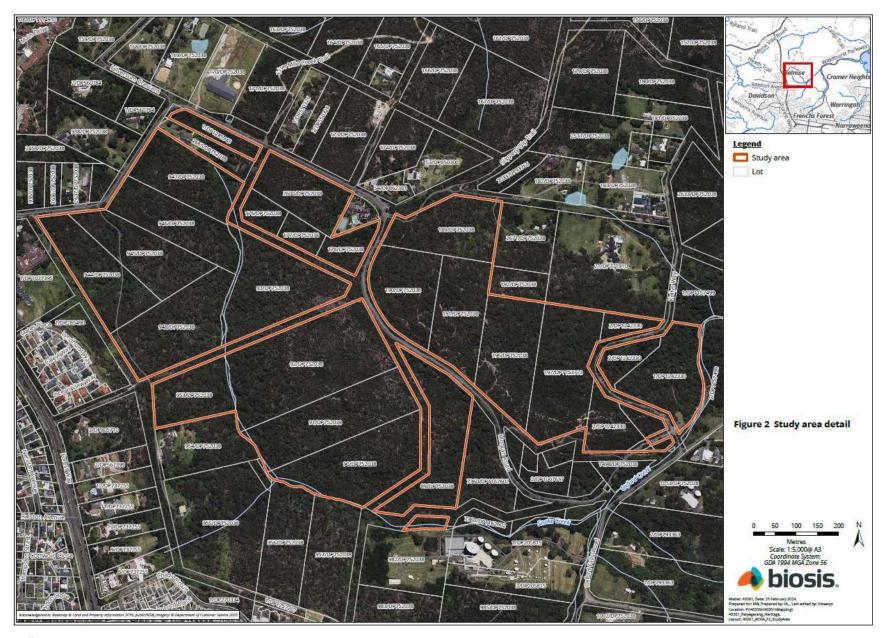
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

# The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

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Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Jordan Marr Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Jordan

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

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Please address feedback to:

### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



# Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

# The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

# Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
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- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

# **Background**

### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

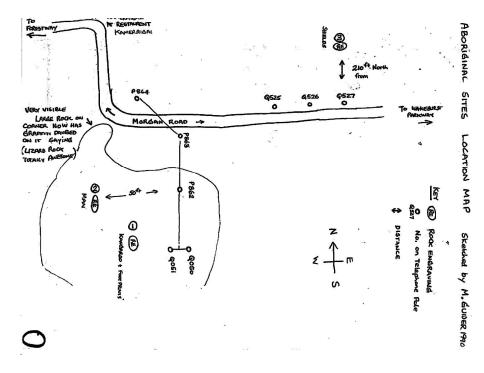


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

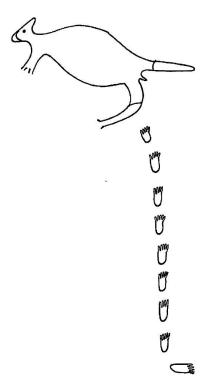
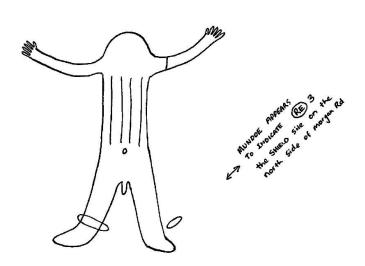


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

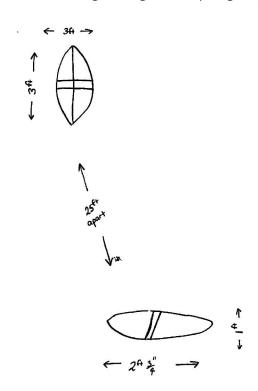


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



# Responsibilities and roles

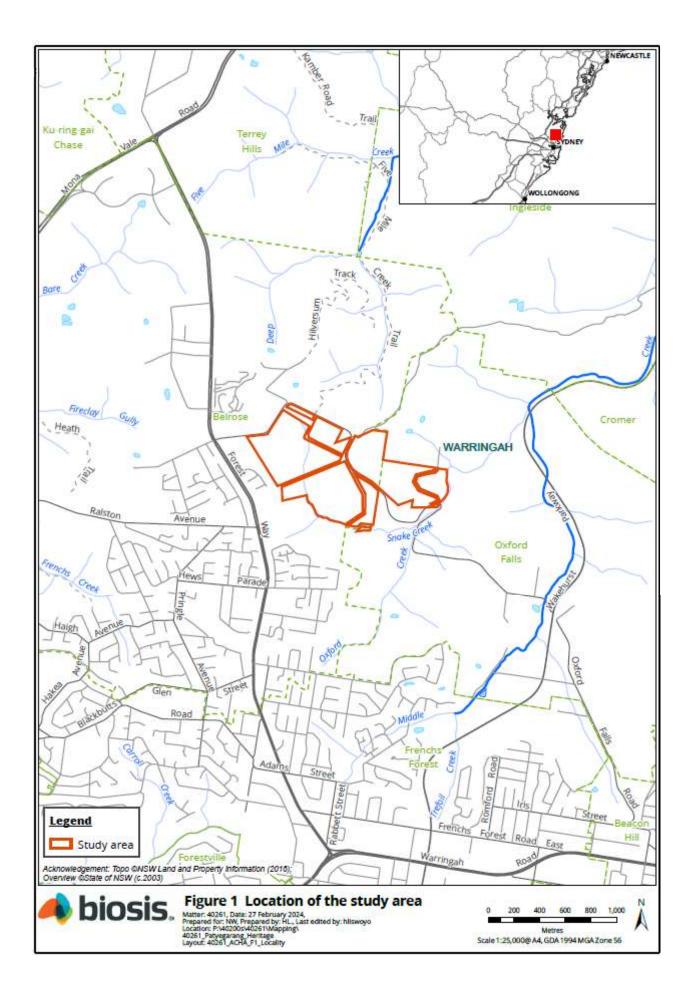
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

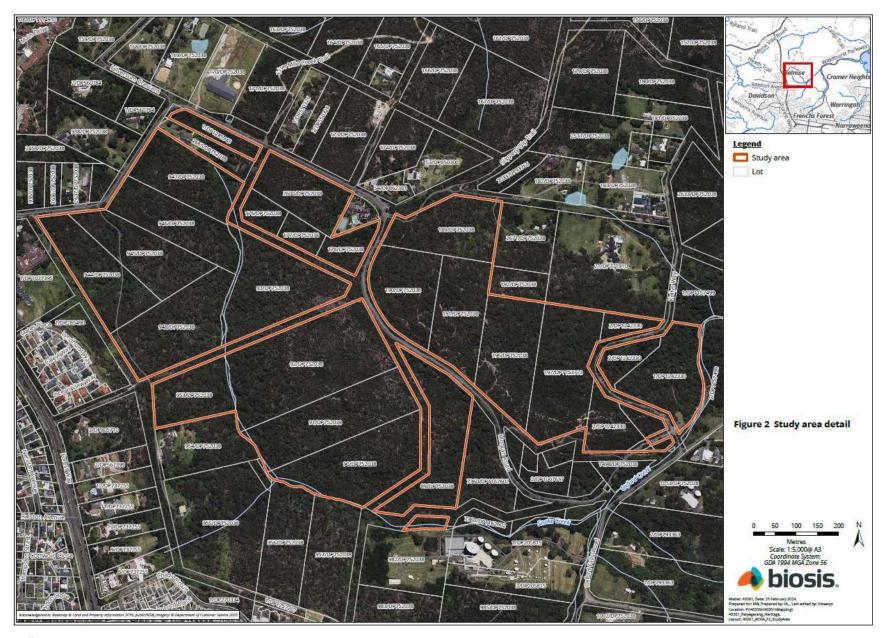
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

# **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

# **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

# **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

# **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

# The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Rowena Welsh Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Rowena

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



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- Parish of Manly Cove.
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The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

# **Background**

### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

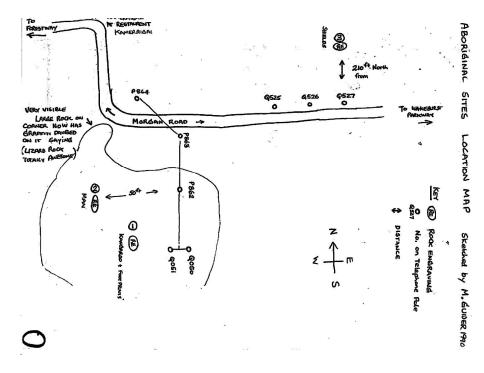


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

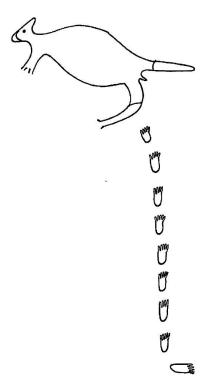
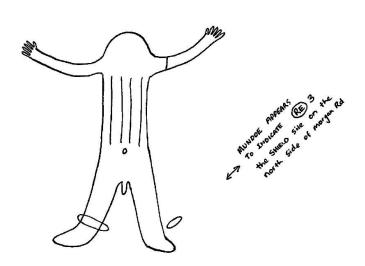


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

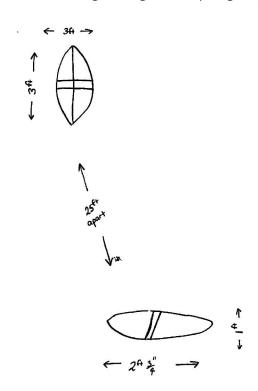


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



# Responsibilities and roles

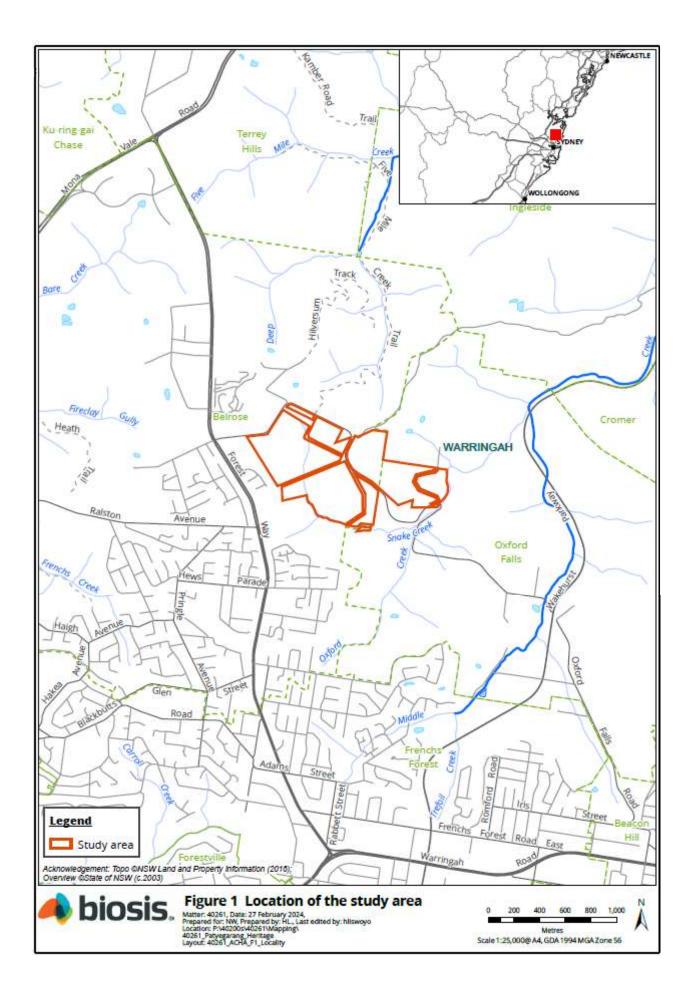
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

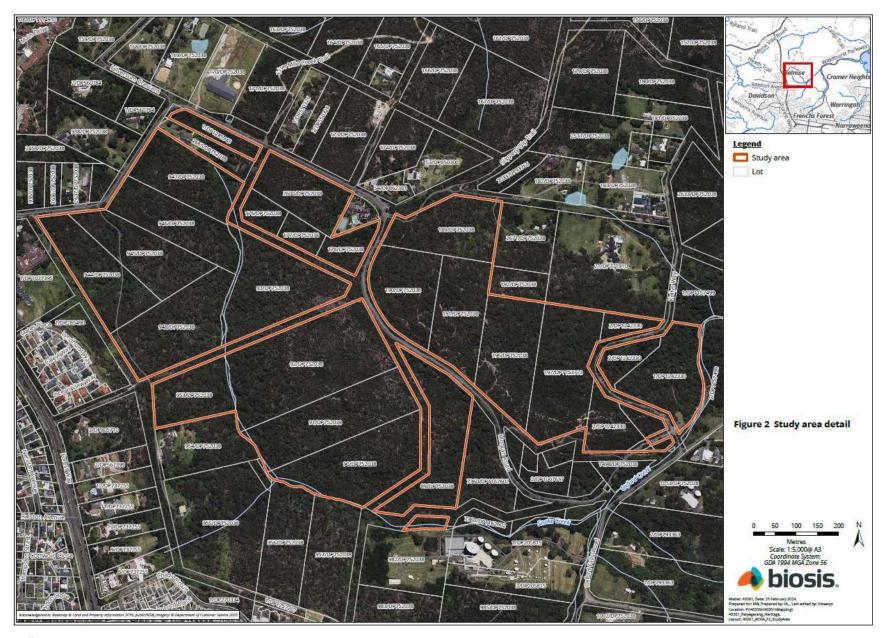
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







# Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

# **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

# **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

# **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

# **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

# The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Nathan Moran Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council PO Box 1103 Strawberry Hills NSW 2016

Dear Nathan

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

• Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

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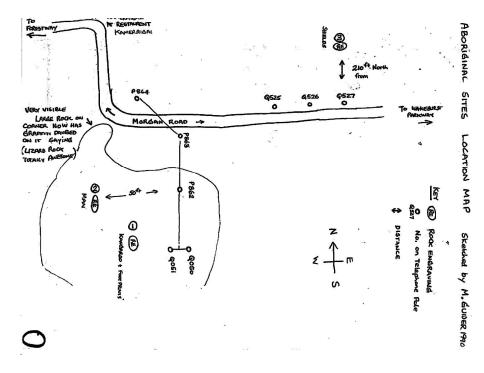


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1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

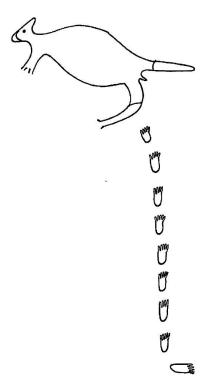
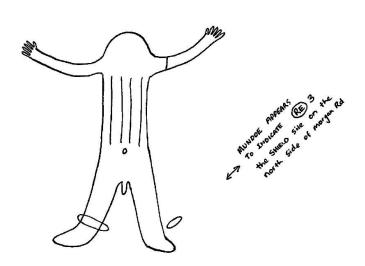


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

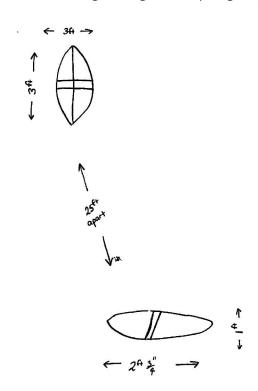


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

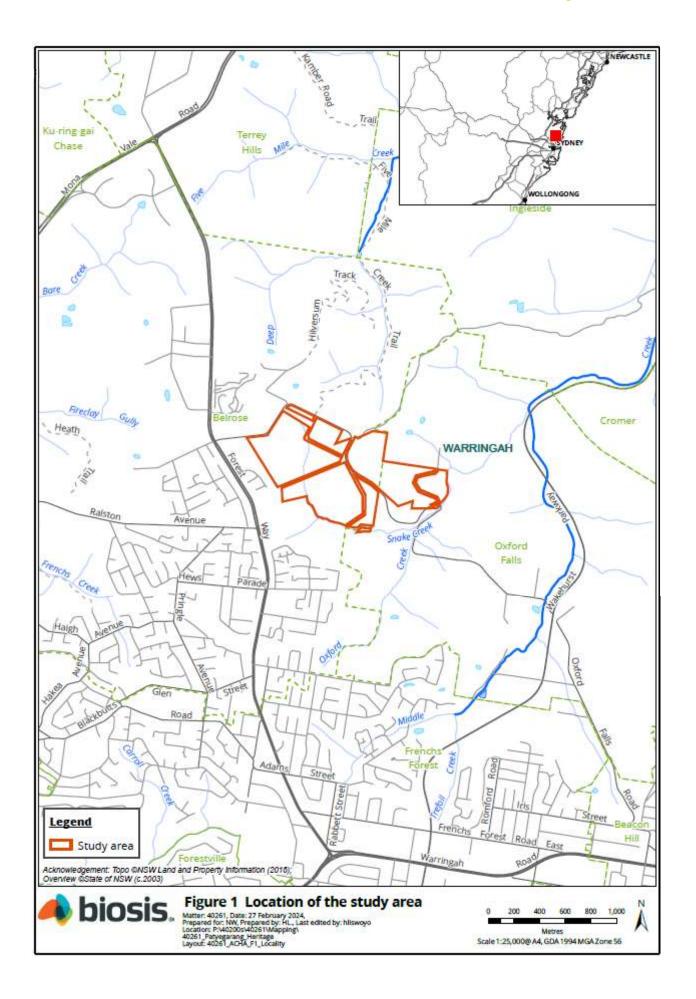
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

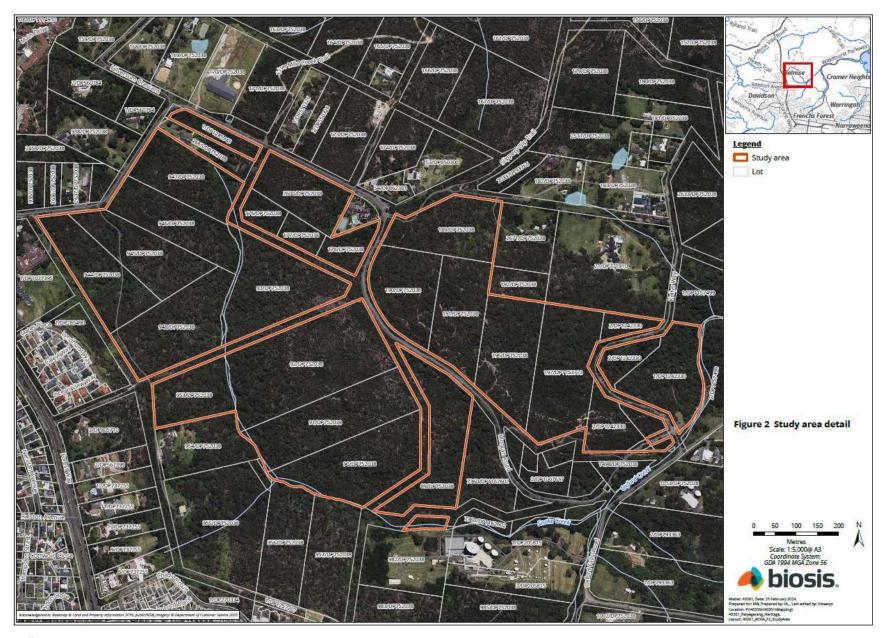
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Ryan Johnson Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 3035 Rouse Hill NSW 2155

Dear Ryan

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

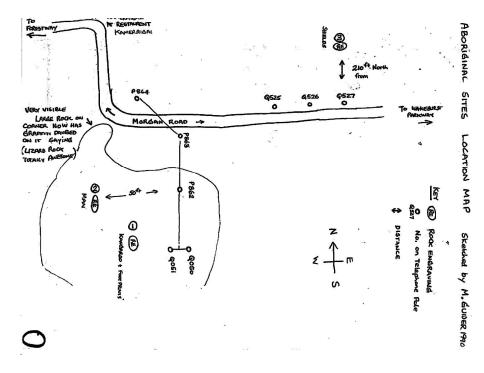


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

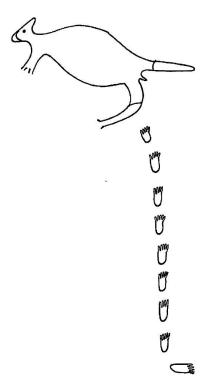
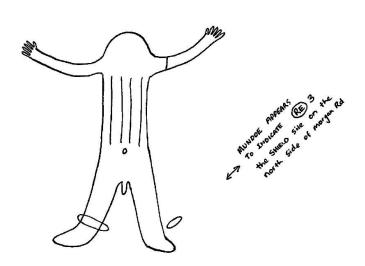


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

## AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

## **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

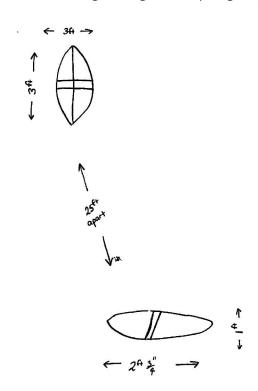


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

## **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

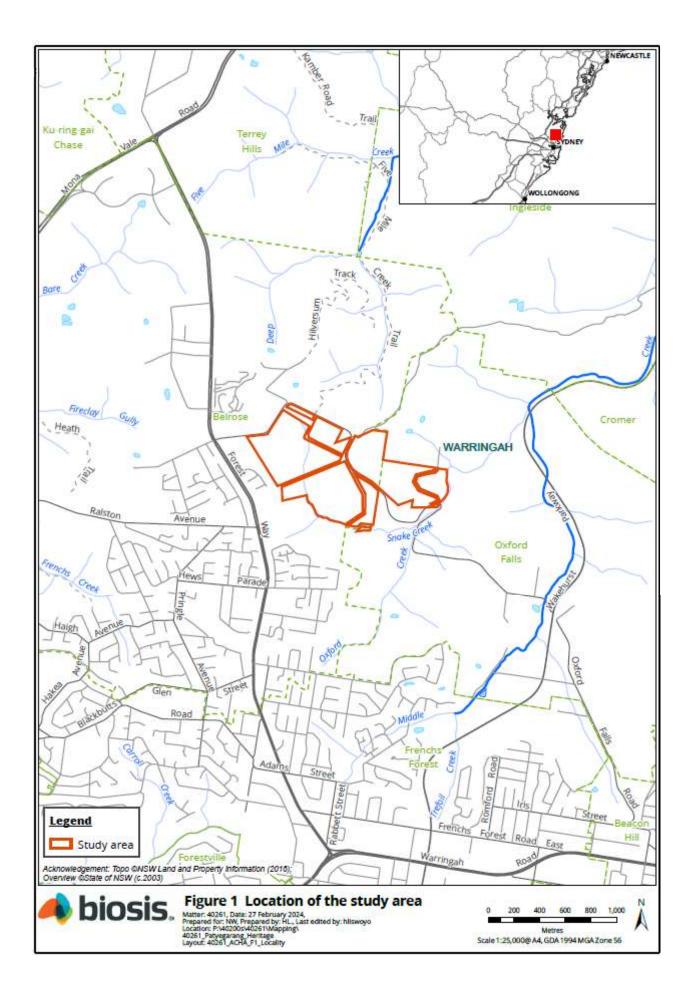
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

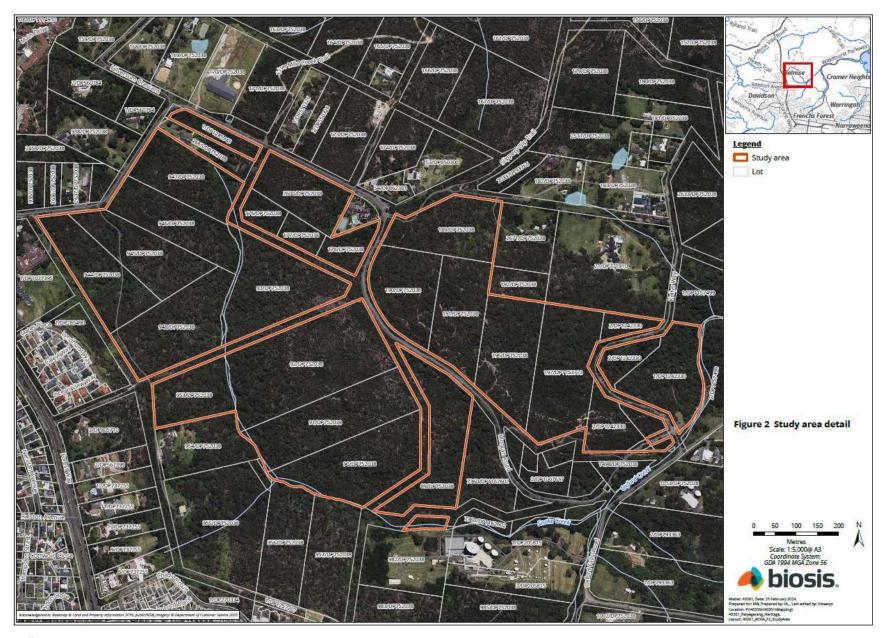
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

## **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

## Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Kaarina Slater Ngambaa Cultural Connections

Dear Kaarina

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 - Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

• Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

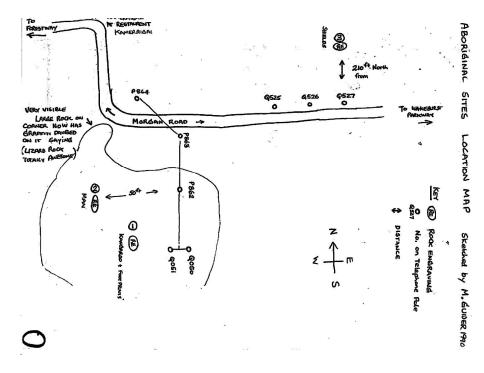


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

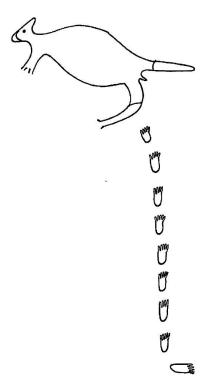
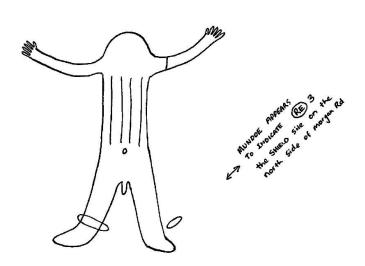


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

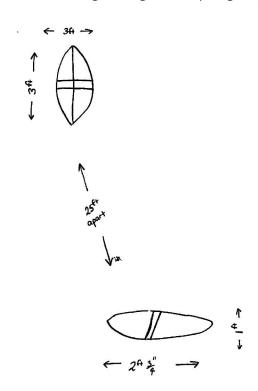


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

### **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

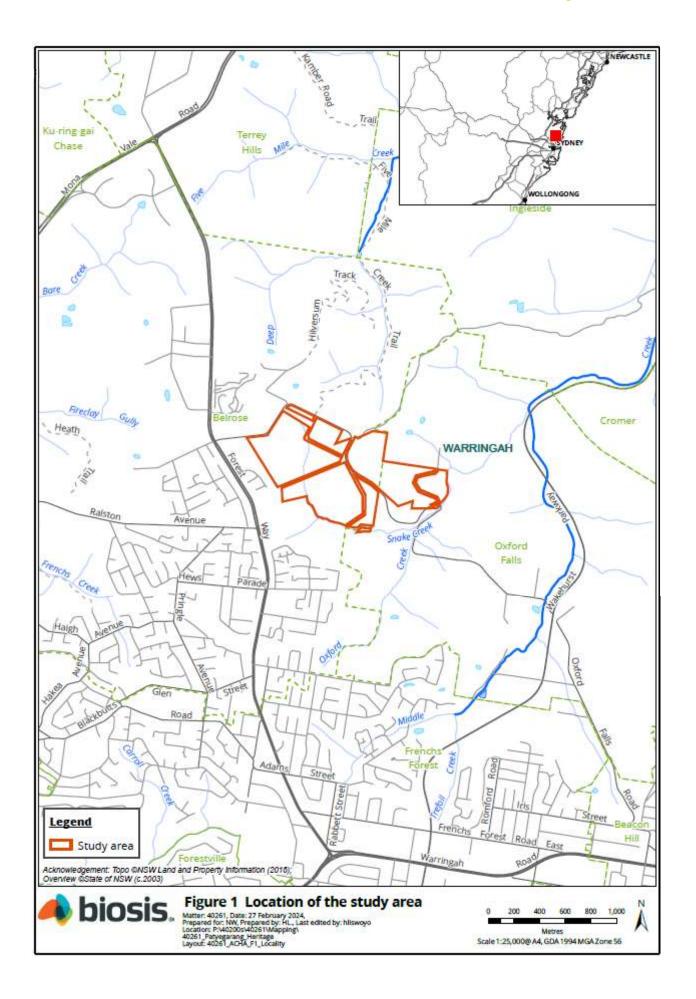
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

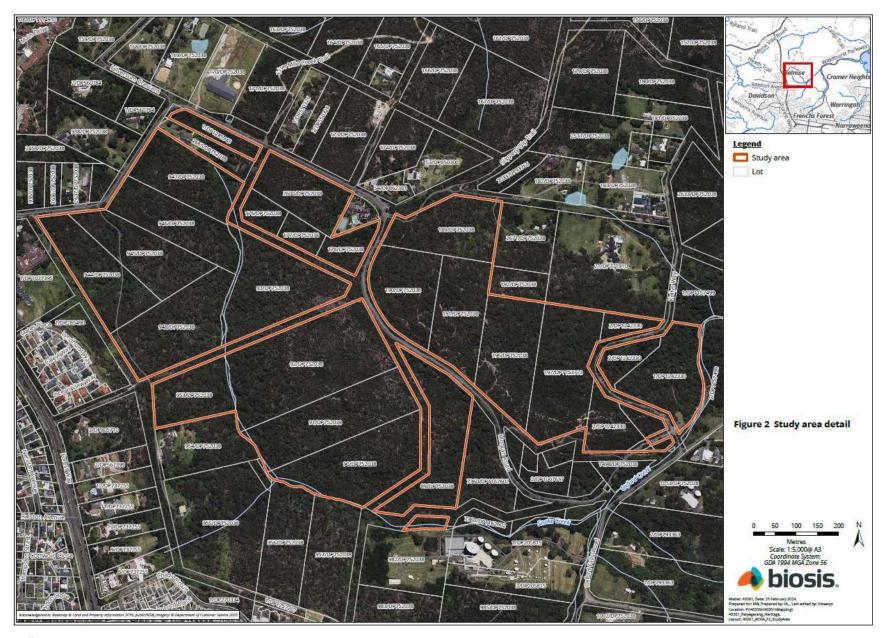
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

#### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Scott Franks
Scott Franks on the behalf od the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd
Po box 145, Miranda NSW 1490

**Dear Scott** 

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

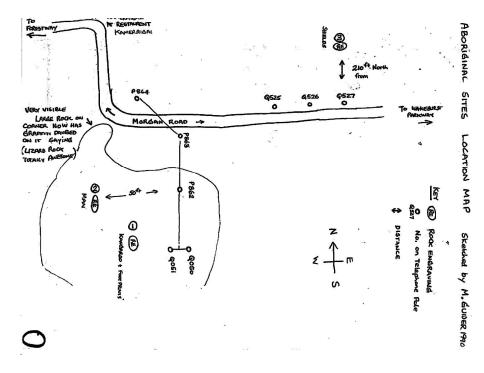


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

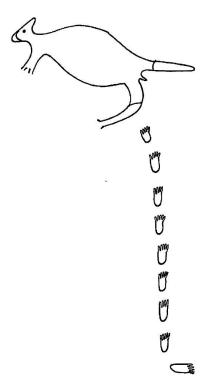
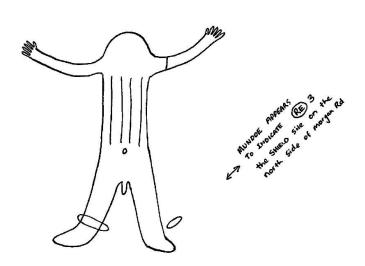


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

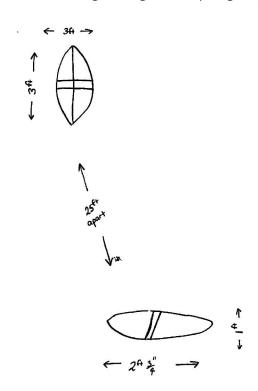


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

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The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

### **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

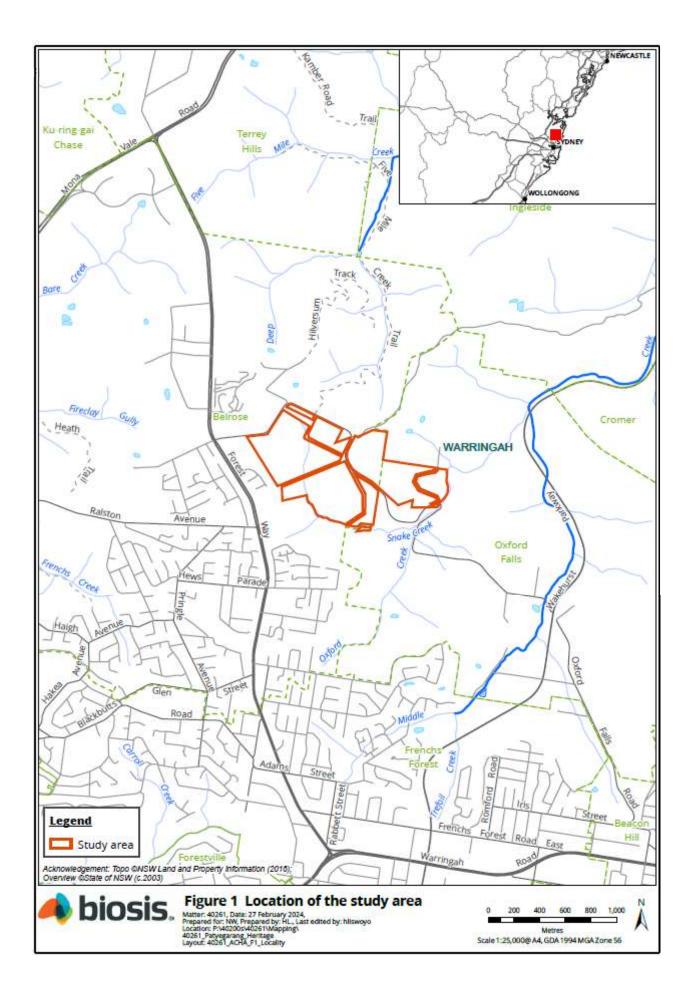
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

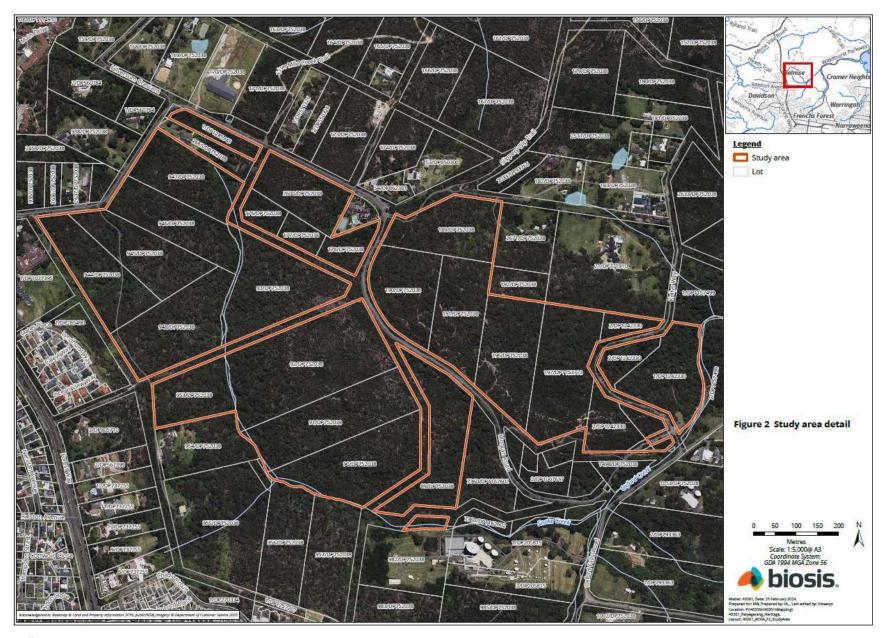
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

## **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

#### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

## The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning*, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Scott Franks
Scott Franks on the behalf of the Wonnarua PBC Yarrawalk Pty Ltd
Po box 145, Miranda NSW 1490

**Dear Scott** 

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

## The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

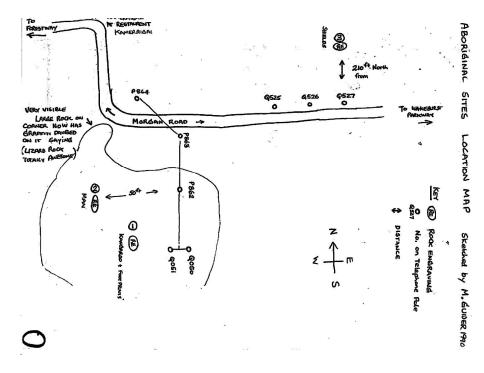


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

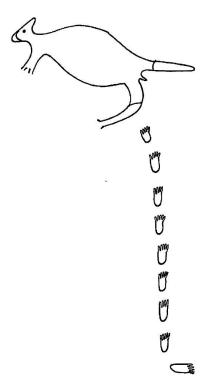
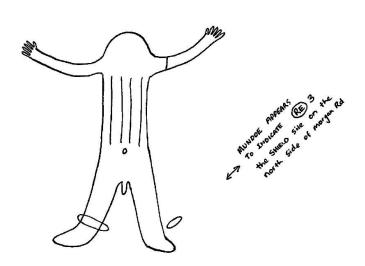


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

#### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

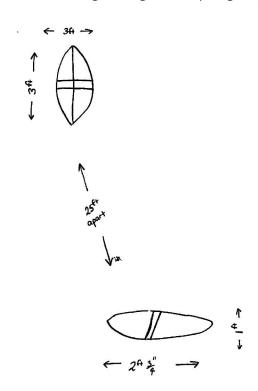


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

#### **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	ТВС	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	ТВС



## Responsibilities and roles

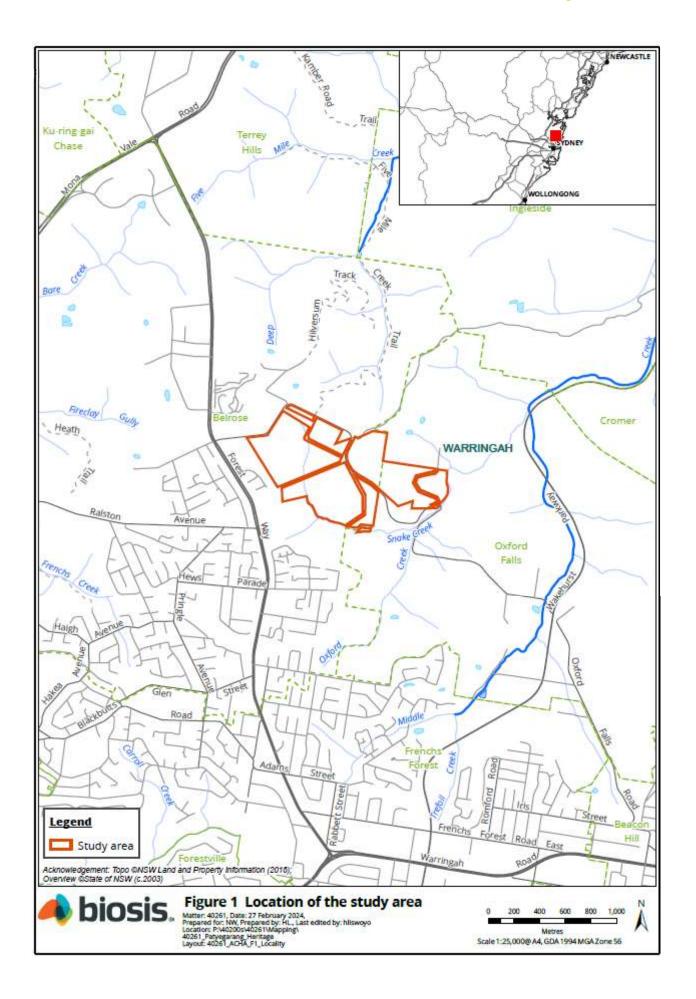
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

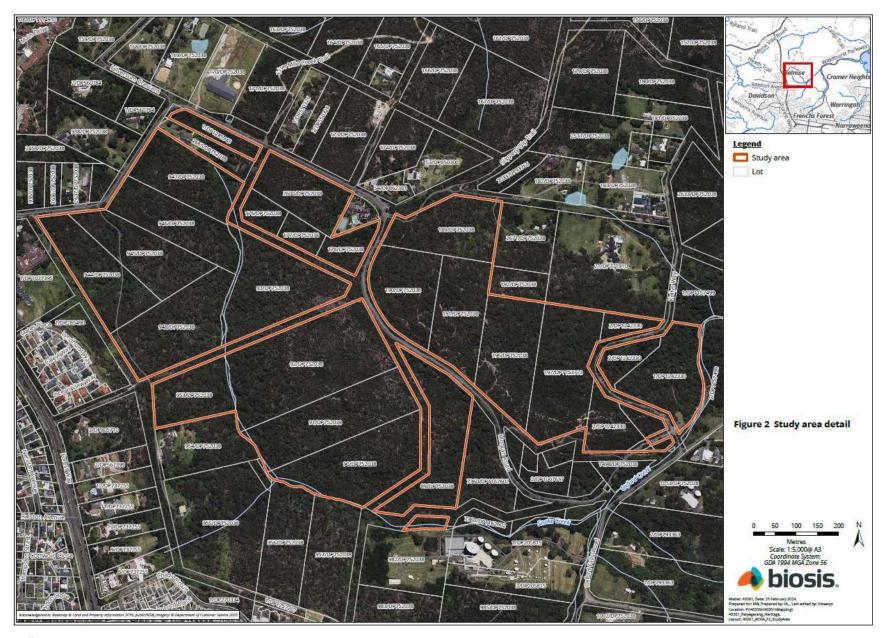
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

### **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

#### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not."(DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

### The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.* 

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

11 March 2024



Thomas Dahlstrom
Thomas Dahlstrom Offers ACH value by using 3D Laser and Drone technology
1-122 Glebe Point Road Glebe NSW 2037

**Dear Thomas** 

# Patyegarang, Belrose: Stage 2 and 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation Our Ref: 40261

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) to inform the rezoning of 71 hectares of land located along Morgan Road in Belrose within the Northern Beaches Council Local Government Area (LGA), New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The project is to be assessed as a Planning Proposal under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The purpose of the ACHA is to identify any Aboriginal heritage values within the study area and determine the impacts the planning proposal will have on these values. The ACHA will also assist Gyde in developing any future development plans in order to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal heritage values. The following project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with Section 4.2 and Section 4.3 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by **5pm 8 April 2024** either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

#### **Nathan Windram**

Biosis Pty Ltd 30 Wentworth Street Port Kembla nwindram@biosis.com.au

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Windram Heritage Consultant



## Stage 2 – Project information

The aim of the stage 2 document is to provide Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) with information about the scope of the project, and the proposed cultural heritage assessment process, and to seek their feedback on the project.

### The project

Gyde is in the process of preparing a planning proposal in accordance with:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act).
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

Biosis has been engaged by Gyde to undertake the ACHA to support the planning proposal. The ACHA will be prepared in accordance with the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011). It includes an Archaeological Report (AR) prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) (the Code) and consultation with Aboriginal community in accordance with the consultation requirements. The ACHA will inform Gyde of any potential for the project to impact on or expose Aboriginal objects or sites. Biosis will provide recommendations based on the outcomes of the ACHA.

## Study area

The study area is approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale central business district (**Error! Reference source not found.**). It encompasses 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot/DPs:

- Lot 1 DP 1285945
- Lot 2600 DP 752038
- Lot 947 DP 752038
- Lot 176 DP 752038
- Lot 177 DP 752038
- Lot 178 DP 752038
- Lot 946 DP 752038
- Lot 944 DP 752038

Lot 945 DP 752038

Lot 948 DP 752038

- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038

- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330
- Lot 3 DP 1242330.



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches Council LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west (**Error! Reference source not found.**). The study area has no development, bounded on all sides by vegetation. Snake Creek forms a part of the sites southern boundary.

## **Background**

#### AHIMS sites within the study area

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Figure 3). These are all rock engraving sites, and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 1.

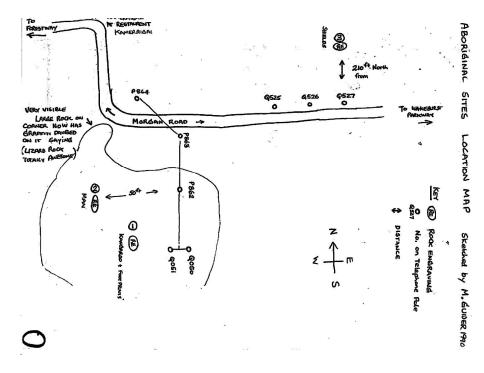


Photo 1 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide, with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo

Biosis Pty Ltd Wollongong Resource Group



1). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.

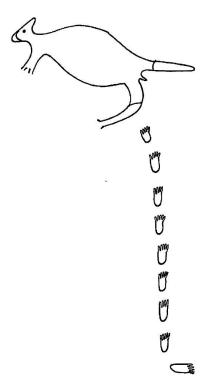
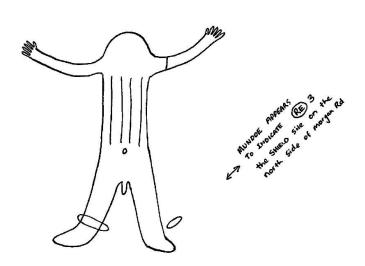


Photo 1 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 2). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length, with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet south-east.





AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

Photo 2

#### AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 3). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.

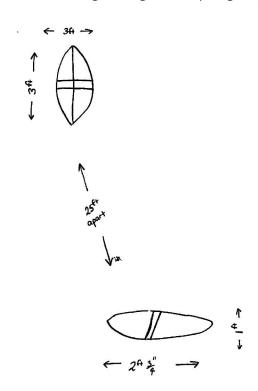


Photo 3 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity to the



study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Indigenous Heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (Australian Government: Australian Heritage Council 2020).

#### Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site is contained by numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.



The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016a).

#### **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.
- The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020b)



#### Hydrology, geology and soils

The background research identified that the study area is intersected towards the south by Snake Creek, which runs west to east and is a first order non-perennial watercourse that feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non perennial creek running north to south. Oxford Creek is fed from Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse that is tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon that feeds directly into the Tasman Sea. The presence of available aquatic resources can serve as a strong indication of past Aboriginal occupation, coupled with the likely availability of overhangs based on the geological landscape occupation.

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses. The formation ranges in thickness from 34 meters to 240 meters and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch, which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone was important to Aboriginal people as evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites, Sydney's sandstone landscape is built largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

#### **Project schedule**

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

Action	Timeframe	Potential constraints and limitations
Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders	Completed	Project advertised in the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> on 15 February 2024. Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 15 February 2024.
Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties	15 February 2024	N/A
Aboriginal stakeholder registration period	15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024	Registration period expired on 29 February 2024
Field investigation	TBD	TBD
Archaeological test excavations (if required)	TBC	TBC
Information gathering	Continuous	N/A
Review of draft report	ТВС	28 days review time allowed under the consultation guidelines.
Final report	TBC	TBC



## Responsibilities and roles

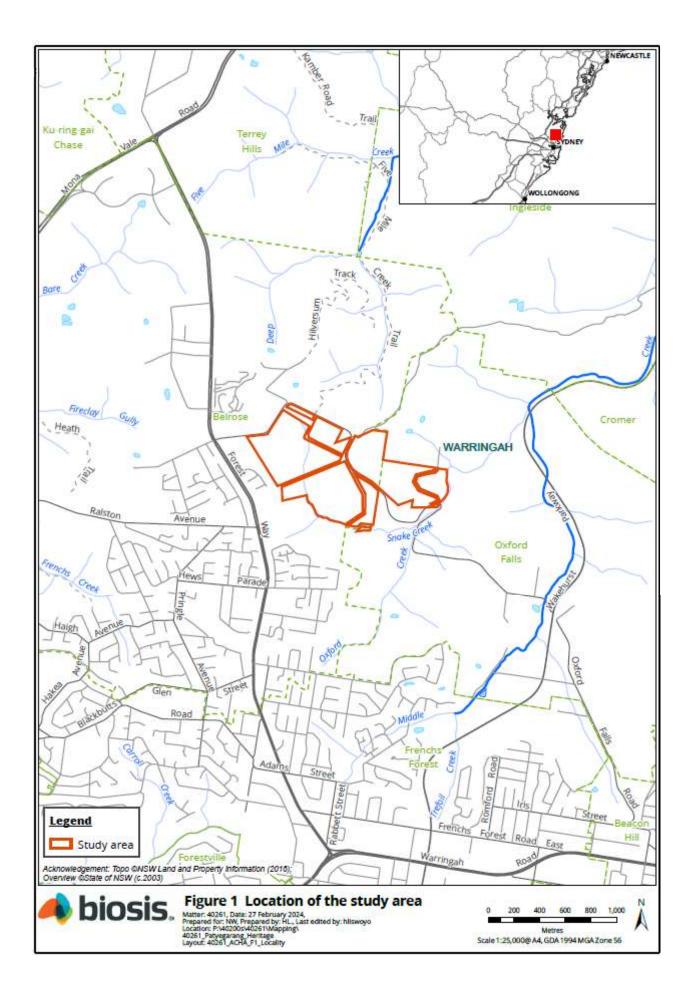
As part of the consultation process, RAPs will be provided the opportunity to offer input into regulatory processes, contribute to decision making by proponents and government authorities, respond to requests for cultural information and comment on draft reporting, as appropriate. This will be undertaken in accordance with their role specified in Section 5 of the consultation requirements.

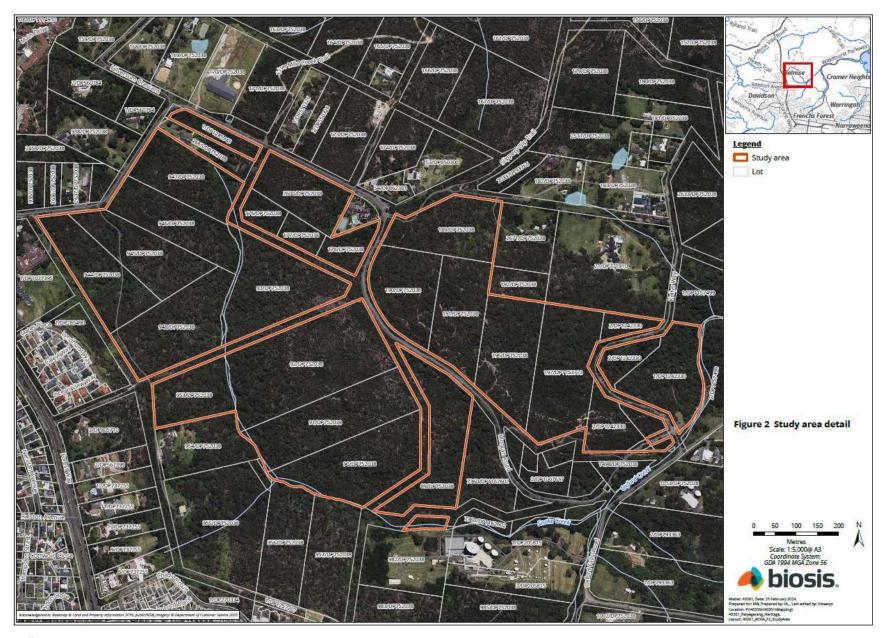
Biosis and the proponent, in accordance with their role under Section 5 of the consultation requirements, will consult with the Aboriginal community by:

- Displaying a meaningful appreciation, understanding and respect for the belief system, spiritual
  connection and sense of belonging that Aboriginal people have to their land, people and
  environment, which includes plants, animals, waterways, sacred sites and other places of cultural
  significance and importance.
- Upholding and respecting the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in accordance with traditional lore and custom, particularly as these relate to the cultural business of men and women.
- Encouraging active participation of culturally experienced and appropriate Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in the consultation process.
- Encouraging opportunities for the effective transfer of cultural knowledge from older to younger generations in accordance with traditional lore and custom through the consultation process.
- Have an awareness and understanding of how colonisation has impacted the Aboriginal people of Australia.
- Supply suitable project information and provide the opportunity for Aboriginal stakeholders to provide input into the heritage management process (DECCW 2010a).

Each section of the ACHA methodology will be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.







## Stage 3 - Gathering information about cultural significance

The aims of stage 3 of the consultation process is to facilitate a process where RAPs for the project can:

- Contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology.
- Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the proposed study area to be determined.
- Have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options (DECCW 2010a, p. 12).

The purpose of the stage 3 document below is to provide RAPs with information about the proposed ACHA methodology for the project, including the survey strategy and test excavation (if required) methodology and to seek feedback on the Aboriginal cultural values present within the study area.

The assessment methodology includes the following tasks:

## **Background research**

This task will identify known Aboriginal sites, areas of potential archaeological sensitivity and previous disturbance, and inform the predictive modelling for the assessment/study area. The following steps will be undertaken:

- A search of the AHIMS database will be completed to identify registered sites in the vicinity of the
  assessment/study area. The results of the AHIMS search will be used to obtain relevant site cards and
  relevant previously completed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments.
- A review of relevant reports identified through the AHIMS search will be undertaken.
- A review of aerial photographs and other resources to gauge the existing landscape and previous history of land disturbance will be undertaken.
- A review of the historical heritage databases will be undertaken.
- A brief summary of the historical uses of the study area will be developed.

## **Consultation with the Aboriginal community**

This task will provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the management of their cultural heritage by providing proponents information regarding cultural significance and opportunities to input into management options.

Aboriginal community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the consultation requirements, which includes:

- COMPLETED. Biosis ascertained the names of Aboriginal people or groups who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/ or places within the study area.
- COMPLETED. Aboriginal stakeholders were provided with notification by letter of the project on 15
   February 2024 via Biosis on behalf of Gyde, and given the opportunity to be involved in consultation.

Phone: 02 4201 1090



- This document outlines the details of the project and proposed archaeological testing methodology. If required. The RAPs must be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback to the proponent within a minimum of 28 days of Biosis providing the methodology document.
- The draft ACHA report and AR will be provided to all RAPs for comment the proponent must allow 28 days for comment. All comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project will be included in the final report in an appendix.

### **Culturally sensitive material**

Biosis invites RAPs to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public then RAPs should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

## **Field investigation**

Recording during the field investigation will follow requirements 5 to 10 of the code and industry best practice. Information recorded will include:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the investigation.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have potentially have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landforms.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.
- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, Identification of natural soil deposits within the study area will be undertaken. Representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, ground surface visibility will be undertaken.

Detailed results of the field investigation will be provided in the draft ACHA report and AR.

#### **Archaeological test excavations (if required)**

Any areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) identified during the field investigation which cannot be avoided by future construction works will be subject to archaeological test excavations in line with the code as outlined below. Based on the likelihood of encountering rock art and rock shelters within the study area, any testing within 50 metres of rockshelters will require a testing AHIP. Based on the planning pathway this assessment is being undertaken, it is unlikely that test excavations will occur until the development application stage of the project.



#### **Aims**

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD within the study area. This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

#### **Test excavation methodology**

If test excavations are required within the study area they will conform to the following methodology in line with Requirement 16 of the Code:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 50 by 50 centimetre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than five metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in five centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay or bedrock layer (B-horizon).
- If the depth of deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 50 by 50 centimetre test pit, additional 50 by 50 centimetre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 50 by 100 centimetres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 50 by 50 centimetre units for the purposes
  of further understanding site characteristics. Note that under the Code, the maximum area that can
  be excavated in any one continuous area is three metres squared (3 m²).
- The Code dictates that the maximum surface area of all test excavation units must be no greater than 0.5% of the PAD or area being investigated.
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).
- For each test pit that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken:



- Unique test pit identification number.
- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
- Munsell soil colour and texture.
- Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
- Nature of disturbance where present.
- Stratigraphy.
- Archaeological features (if present).
- Photographic records.
- Spit records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the NSW Police and Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Heritage NSW) will be notified.
- Test excavations will cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the objects present with regard to their nature and significance.

\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning "the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit's nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density: presence of rare or representative objects: presence of archaeological features: or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not." (DECCW 2010b, p. 28).

#### Storage of cultural material

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Sydney office for analysis (14/17-27 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015).

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

Biosis requests any comments regarding the care and control of any cultural material be included as part of the review of this assessment methodology.

#### Reporting

Biosis will prepare an ACHA and AR for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the assessment, and detail the consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the report is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the



guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

### The ACHA report will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

The RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA report and AR, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by the party's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology registered Aboriginal parties will be provided with the draft report for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final report will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.



#### References

AMBS 2006. *Volume 1: Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: West Dapto Release Area*, An unpublished report to Wollongong City Council.

Artefact Heritage 2018. *Rezoning and subdivision of 109 Darkes Road, Kembla Grange*, Report to NewQuest Property Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd 2015. *Lot 1, DP 825516, Farmborough Heights NSW. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Proposed Rezoning, Report to Plannex Environmental Planning.* 

DECCW 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

OEH 2011., Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW.

Sefton C 1980. Aboriginal Cultural Resources Study Illawarra Region. Illawarra Regional Planning Committee,.

Ashley Bridge From: To: Subj Nathan Windram

Fwd: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:19:29 PM

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#### Ashlev Bridge

Senior Heritage Consultant

0437 689 734 abridge@טוֹטָפּוּכּיִּכּיִּ
 www.biosis.com.au abridge@biosis.com.au



#### Leaders in Ecology, Heritage and Environmental Approvals

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From: Carolyn .H <cazadirect@live.com> Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:01:41 AM To: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Subject: Re: 40261 - Patvegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology



**Contact: Carolyn Hickey** Mobile: 0411650057 Email: Cazadirect@live.com

Address: 10 Marie Pitt Place, Glenmore Park, NSW 2745

ABN: : 20 616 970 327

#### Hi Ashley,

I have reviewed the document and support the Information and Methodology.

I Would like to be included in all Meetings, Reports, Sharing Cultural Information, and Field Work

I am a Traditional Owner and Custodian with over 20 years experience in helping preserve Aboriginal cultural heritage on projects. I hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and values that exist in the project area.

#### I have attached A1 Indigenous Services Insurances.

Please feel free to contact me on details supplied

Kind Regards, Carolyn Hickey

#### When Selecting Groups for Engagement;

Please consider that A1 INDIGENOUS SERVICES is a member of the NSW INDIGENOUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

We carry the NSWICC Assured logo showing that A1 Indigenous Services has met National Policy requirements as upheld by the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) for being identified as a 100% First Nations Owned Indigenous Business That has demonstrate compliance with Government and Industry Regulators.

#### A1 INDIGENOUS SERVICES is now a member of the NSW INDIGENOUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A business or enterprise carrying the NSWICC Assured logo has met National Policy requirements as upheld by the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) for being identified as a First Nations Business Owner or Entrepreneur and the business must demonstrate compliance with Government and Industry Regulators.

(Certificate attached) A certificate confirms that the Enterprise listed above has met all requirements of the NSWICC's Assured Program, operating as a100% Aboriginal Owned, Operated and Controlled Business. The NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NSWICC) is the Peak A1 Indigenous Services is 100%, Indigenous Owned Australian Company

which offers a range of services to the construction industry.

It is our mission to commit to an innovative approach to a better future for Indigenous employment and community.

While improving ways to close the gap in Aboriginal participation in the construction Industry.

Building strength in aboriginal communities and our Indigenous labour force.





From: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2024 4:41 PM
To: cazadirect@live.com <cazadirect@live.com>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

The attached project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with section 4.2 and section 4.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards, Ashley

Ashley Bridge Senior Heritage Consultant

□ 0437 689 734☑ abridge@biosis.com.au



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 From:
 Ashley Bridge

 To:
 Nathan Windram

 Subject:
 Fwd: 40261 - Pat

Subject: Fwd: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:19:09 PM

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#### **Ashley Bridge**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0437 689 734 ☑ abridge@biosis.com.au ❷ www.biosis.com.au



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From: Amanda De Zwart <amandahickey@live.com.au>

**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 8:10:03 AM **To:** Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Subject: Re: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Hi Ashley

Thank you so much for your email AHCS supports the methodology If you need anything else please don't hesitate to contact me Have a great day

Amanda Hickey AHCS

Get Outlook for Android

From: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 4:41:49 PM

To: amandahickey@live.com.au <amandahickey@live.com.au>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

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Kind regards, Ashley

Ashley Bridge

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0437 689 734 ☑ abridge@biosis.com.au ♀ www.biosis.com.au



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 From:
 Ashley Bridge

 To:
 Nathan Windram

 Subject:
 Fwd: 40261 - Pat

Subject: Fwd: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:18:54 PM

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#### **Ashley Bridge**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0437 689 734 ☑ abridge@biosis.com.au ❷ www.biosis.com.au



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From: Darleen Johnson <murrabidgeemullangari@yahoo.com.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2024 12:57:19 PM **To:** Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Subject: Re: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Hi Ashlev

I have read the project information and ACHA project methodology for the above project, and I endorse the recommendations made.

Kind regards Darleen Johnson 0490051102

On Tuesday, 12 March 2024 at 10:04:57 am AEDT, Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

The attached project information and assessment methodology has been provided in accordance with section 4.2 and section 4.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards,

Ashley

#### Ashley Bridge

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0437 689 734

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 From:
 Ashley Bridge

 To:
 Nathan Windram

 Subject:
 Fwd: 40261 - Pat

Subject: Fwd: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:19:46 PM

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#### **Ashley Bridge**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0437 689 734 ☑ abridge@biosis.com.au ❷ www.biosis.com.au



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From: Phil Khan <philipkhan.acn@live.com.au>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:50:46 PM
To: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Subject: RE: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Hi Ashley,

Thank you for your methodology for Patyegarang Project, Belrose. The study area is highly signifigant and sensitive to our people, we recommend further investigations. We look forward to working alongside you on this project.

Kind Regards Phil Khan – Director P 0434545982

E philipkhan.acn@live.com.au

ABN 26 637 314 384



Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 4:41:57 PM

To: philipkhan.acn@live.com.au < philipkhan.acn@live.com.au >

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

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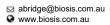
It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards, Ashley

Ashley Bridge

Senior Heritage Consultant

0437 689 734





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Ashley Bridge From: To: Subject: Nathan Windram

Fwd: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:18:43 PM

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#### Ashley Bridge

Senior Heritage Consultant

0437 689 734 abridge@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au



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From: Office Admin MLALC <officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 4:47:27 PM To: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Subject: RE: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Hi Ashley,

I have passed this over to our Culture and Heritage team who will be in contact.

Thank you

Kriss Sharpe

Administration Assistant



Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) Level 2, 150 Elizabeth St, Sydney, NSW, 2000. PO Box 1103, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

B: (02) 8394 9666 F: (02) 8394 9733 W: www.metrolalc.org.au

Bujari gamarruwa – 'good day' in the local Gadigal language of the Eora Nation MLALC acknowledge the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the area MLALC operates.

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From: Ashley Bridge <abridge@biosis.com.au>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 4:42 PM

To: Office Admin MLALC <officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au>

Subject: 40261 - Patyegarang Project, Belrose - Stage 2/3 Aboriginal consultation - Project methodology

Good afternoon,

Thank you for registering your interest in the Patyegarang Project in Belrose NSW. Biosis is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for Gyde Consulting on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

 $The \ attached \ project \ information \ and \ assessment \ methodology \ has \ been \ provided \ in \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.2 \ and \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.2 \ and \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ section \ 4.3 \ of \ accordance \ with \ accordance \ with \ accordance \ accordanc$ the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010. The aim of this letter is to provide you with information about the project, and the proposed ACHA process and to seek your feedback to inform the ACHA.

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter to Biosis by 5:00pm on 8 April 2024 either by email, phone or return mail.

Kind regards, Ashley

**Ashley Bridge** Senior Heritage Consultant

□ 0437 689 734

□ abridge@biosis.com.au

• www.biosis.com.au



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# Appendix 4 Stage 4: Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report

From: Amanda De Zwart To: Subject:

Nathan Windram Re: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation Date: Wednesday, 26 June 2024 7:38:43 AM

Hi Nathan

So sorry for the late response I have not been well.

AHCS supports the ACHA / AR Sorry again for the late reply Have a great day Amanda Hickey AHCS

### Get Outlook for Android

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au> Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 1:55:13 PM Subject: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your registration and participation in the Patyegarang project. Biosis wish to invite you to provide comment on the present draft version of the ACHA / AR (https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/7PUqf3suzy).

If you could please provide me with feedback regarding the ACHA/AR accessed via the link above by 5:00PM 9 June 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Kind regards Nathan

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 NWindram@biosis.com.au
www.biosis.com.au



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From: Darleen Johnson

To: Subject: Nathan Windram Re: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation

Thursday, 20 June 2024 7:22:33 AM Date:

Hi Nathan

I have read the project information ACHAR/AR for the above project, I endorse the recommendations. Kind regards

Darleen 0490051102

On Tuesday, 11 June 2024 at 01:55:23 pm AEST, Nathan Windram <nwindram@biosis.com.au> wrote:

Good afternoon.

Thank you for your registration and participation in the Patyegarang project. Biosis wish to invite you to provide comment on the present draft version of the ACHA / AR (https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/7PUqf3suzy).

If you could please provide me with feedback regarding the ACHA/AR accessed via the link above by 5:00PM 9 June 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Kind regards

Nathan

#### **Nathan Windram**

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 ☑ NWindram@biosis.com.au www.biosis.com.au



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From: To: Cc: Nathan Windram

Subject: FW: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation Tuesday, 11 June 2024 3:13:16 PM

Attachments

image418331.png image505373.png image010567.png image304361.png image001.png

#### Hi Nathan.

On behalf of Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) thank you for providing present draft version of the ACHA for the Patyegarang project proposal.

And wish to clarify the close date and time for any comments, is it 9/6/24? ask as only received on 11/6/24

And or is it a typo error that is maybe 9/7/24 is closing date and time for comments and or feeback?

Yours In Unity Nathan Moran Chief Executive Officer



Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) Level 2 150-152 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000 I PO Box 1103, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

B:(02) 8394 9666 I F: (02)8394 9733 I W: www.metrolalc.org.au

Bujari gamarruwa – 'good day' in the local Gadigal language of the Eora Nation MLALC acknowledge the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the area MLALC operates.

From: Office Admin MLALC <officeadmin@metrolalc.org.au>

Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:37 PM To: Nathan Moran <nmoran@metrolalc.org.au> Subject: FW: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation

### Thank you

Che Munro Administration Assistant



Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) Level 2, 150 Elizabeth St, Sydney, NSW,2000. PO Box 1103, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

B: (02) 8394 9666 F: (02)8394 9733 W: www.metrolalc.org.au

### Bujari gamarruwa - 'good day' in the local Gadigal language of the Eora Nation MLALC acknowledge the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the area MLALC operates.

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From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au > Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 1:55 PM

Subject: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your registration and participation in the Patyegarang project. Biosis wish to invite you to provide comment on the present draft version of the ACHA / AR (https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/7PUqf3suzy).

If you could please provide me with feedback regarding the ACHA/AR accessed via the link above by 5:00PM 9 June 2024 it would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

□ 0429 019 163⋈ NWindram@biosis.com.auwww.biosis.com.au



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From: Phil Khan To: Subject:

Nathan Windram RE: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation Friday, 14 June 2024 12:15:10 PM Date:

Hi Nathan,

Thank you for your ACHAR/AR for the Pategarang Project, we would like to agree and support your recommendations.

Kind Regards Phil Khan – Director P 0451068480 E philipkhan.acn@live.com.au ABN 26 637 314 384



Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Nathan Windram < NWindram@biosis.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 1:55:13 PM

Subject: (40261) Patyegarang Stage 4 Consultation

Good afternoon,

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Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Windram

Heritage Consultant

0429 019 163 NWindram@biosis.com.au
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## Appendix 5 Archaeological report







### **Biosis offices**

### **New South Wales**

### **Albury**

Phone: (02) 6069 9200 Email: <u>albury@biosis.com.au</u>

### Gosford

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: gosford@biosis.com.au

### Newcastle

Phone: (02) 4911 4040 Email: newcastle@biosis.com.au

### **Sydney**

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: <a href="mailto:sydney@biosis.com.au">sydney@biosis.com.au</a>

### **Western Sydney**

Phone: (02) 9101 8700 Email: <u>sydney@biosis.com.au</u>

### Wollongong

Phone: (02) 4201 1090

Email: wollongong@biosis.com.au

### Victoria

### Ballarat

Phone: (03) 5304 4250 Email: <u>ballarat@biosis.com.au</u>

### Melbourne

Phone: (03) 8686 4800

Email: melbourne@biosis.com.au

### Wangaratta

Phone: (03) 5718 6900

Email: wangaratta@biosis.com.au

### **Document information**

Report to:	Gyde Consulting on behalf of Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
Prepared by:	Ashley Bridge Nathan Windram Hannah Mills
Biosis project no.:	40261
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LGA	Northern Beaches Council

### Document control

Version	Internal reviewer	Date issued
Draft version 01	Charlotte Allen	29/05/2024
Draft version 02	Charlotte Allen	07/06/2024
Final version 01	Charlotte Allen	15/07/2024
Final version 02	Ashley Bridge	06/08/2024

### Acknowledgements

Biosis acknowledges the contribution of the following people and organisations in undertaking this study:

- Gyde Consulting: Names
- Lucy Langley

Biosis staff involved in this project were:

- Mathew Smith & Bronte Baonza (assistance in the field)
- Henri Liswoyo (mapping)

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### **Summary**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) was commissioned by Gyde Consulting (Gyde) on behalf of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) (the applicant) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) of a proposed rezoning of approximately 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose, New South Wales (NSW) (the study area). This Archaeological Report (AR) documents the findings of the archaeological investigations conducted as part of the ACHA. As required under Section 2.3 of *The Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010b) (the Code), the AR provides evidence about the material traces of Aboriginal land use to support the conclusions and management recommendations in the ACHA.

The study area is located in a peri-urban environment approximately 6 kilometres north-west of the Brookvale Central Business District (CBD) and 22 kilometres north of the Sydney CBD.

There are 111 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered with the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) register, three of which (AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3) are located within the study area.

The project is being assessed under Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Sydney North Planning Panel is the determining authority and will assess the planning proposal put forward by Gyde to help them determine if the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, including Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The archaeological survey was conducted on 22 and 23 April 2024. The overall effectiveness of the survey for examining the ground for Aboriginal sites was deemed low. This was attributed to vegetation cover restricting ground surface visibility (GSV) combined with a low exposure, and an overall difficult terrain making access difficult.

No previously unrecorded sites were identified over the course of the archaeological survey, and two (AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3) previously recorded sites were located. However, the third previously recorded site (AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 2) was not able to be located.

No areas of moderate or high archaeological potential were identified during the archaeological survey, with the majority of the study area being assessed as holding low archaeological potential for Aboriginal sites (Figure 8).

There is potential for development activities to impact the previously recorded Aboriginal sites within the study area.

Strategies have been developed based on the archaeological significance of cultural heritage relevant to the study area. The strategies also take into consideration:

- Predicted impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- The planning approvals framework.
- Current best conservation practice, widely considered to include:
  - The ethos of the *The Burra Charter: The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (Burra Charter) (Australia ICOMOS 2013).
  - the Code.



The recommendations that resulted from the consultation process are provided below.

### **Management recommendations**

It is recommended that during the planning proposal stage of the project the following recommendations be followed to ensure protection of existing sites within the study areas over a long period of time:

### Recommendation 1: Continued consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties

It is recommended that Gyde Consulting continue to inform these groups about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project. This recommendation is in keeping with the consultation requirements.

### Recommendation 2: Further assessment warranted along creek lines

As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials.

### Recommendation 3: Development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan

It is recommended a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) be developed in order to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This will identify management processes to be implemented for the treatment of Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unanticipated finds protocols and a heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works.

The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project.

Once the project progresses into the Development Application stage, the following is recommended:

### Recommendation 4: Application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit

Damage to the AHIMS sites within the study area was observed during the archaeological survey. In accordance with discussions with MLALC, it is recommended that a permanent deterrent be installed to prevent further unauthorised access to the engraving sites. It is recommended that the MLALC apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to perform ground penetrative works associated with installation of protective fencing around areas of sandstone containing the AHIMS sites within the study area as part of the future proposed development.

### The AHIP should be for a term of two years.

# Recommendation 5: No further archaeological assessment required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to hold low potential for further archaeological sites. In the event that unexpected finds, including human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 4 and 5 below.



### Recommendation 6: Stop works provision – Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.

### Recommendation 7: Stop work provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

- Discovery: If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.
- 2. Notification: Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under Section146 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act).



### **Contents**

Sun	nmary		i
	Man	agement recommendations	ii
Con	tents		V
Glo	ssary		ix
1	Intro	oduction	1
	1,1	Project background	
	1.2	Study area	
	1.3	Planning approvals	
	1.4	Objectives of the investigation	
	1.5	Investigators and contributors	
2	Prop	osed development	
3		top assessment	
	3.1	Landscape context	
		3.1.1 Topography and hydrology	
		3.1.2 Soil landscapes	
		3.1.3 Landscape resources	24
		3.1.4 Land use history	24
	3.2	Previous archaeological work	27
		3.2.1 Regional overview	
		3.2.2 Local overview	
		3.2.3 Previous assessments within the study area	
		3.2.4 AHIMS site analysis	
		3.2.6 Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment	
		3.2.7 Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area	
	3.3	Discussion	42
		3.3.1 Predictive statements	43
4	Arch	aeological survey	46
	4.1	Archaeological survey objectives	46
	4.2	Archaeological survey methodology	46
		4.2.1 Sampling strategy	46
		4.2.2 Survey methods	46
	4.3	Archaeological survey results	47
		4.3.1 Constraints to the survey	48
		4.3.2 Visibility	
		4.3.3 Exposure	
	4.4	4.3.4 Disturbances	
	4.4	Discussion of archaeological survey results	58



5	Scientific values and significance assessment		
	5.1	Introduction to the assessment process	63
	5.2	Archaeological (scientific significance) values	64
		5.2.1 Statements of archaeological significance	66
6	Imp	act assessment	68
	6.1	Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage	68
	6.2	Ecologically Sustainable Development	
	6.3	Management and mitigation measures	
		6.3.1 Avoidance of identified Aboriginal sites	
		6.3.2 Application for an AHIP to install a permanent deterrent to site incursions	
		6.3.3 Development of a cultural heritage management plan	
		6.3.4 No further work required in areas of low archaeological potential	
		6.3.5 Stop works provision – Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects	
		6.3.6 Stop works provision for any potential discovery of human remains	
7	Reco	ommendations	71
Refe	rence	S	73
Appe	ndice	s	76
Appe	ndix	1 AHIMS results	77
Table	es		
Table	1	Investigators and contributors	3
Table	2	Oxford Falls soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 106)	11
Table	3	Hornsby soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 63)	12
Table	4	Hawkesbury soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 54)	14
Table	5	Lambert soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989)	17
Table	6	Gymea soil landscape characteristics	19
Table	e 7	AHIMS site type frequency	33
Table	8 :	Aboriginal site prediction statements	
Table	9	Survey Coverage	47
Table	10	Landform Coverage	47
Table	11	Site contents ratings used for archaeological sites	
Table	12	Site condition ratings used for archaeological sites	
Table	13	Site representativeness ratings used for archaeological sites	
Table	14	Scientific significance ratings used for archaeological sites	
Table	15	Scientific significance assessment of archaeological sites recorded within the study	
		area	66
Table	16	Statements of scientific significance for archaeological sites recorded within the	<i>c</i> <b>7</b>
		study area	σ /
Figur	es		
Figur	e 1	Location of the study area in a regional context	6
Figur	e 2	Study area detail	7



Figure 3	Geological units in the vicinity of the study area	21
Figure 4	Hydrology and topography in the vicinity of the study area	22
Figure 5	Soil landscapes in the vicinity of the study area	23
Figure 6	AHIMS search results	41
Figure 7	Landforms	60
Figure 8	Survey coverage	61
Figure 9	Impact Assessment	62
Photos		
Photo 1	Illustrated Master Plan (Cox Architecture 2022 in Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 2022)	8
Photo 2	Diagram showing Strahler stream order (Ritter, Kochel, & Miller 1995, p. 151)	10
Photo 3	Schematic cross-section of the Oxford Falls soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 106)	12
Photo 4	Schematic cross-section of Hornsby soil landscape (Source: Chapman et al. 1989, p. 63)	
Photo 5	Schematic cross-section of Hawkesbury soil landscape (Source: Chapman et al. 1989, p. 54)	
Photo 6	Schematic cross-section of Lambert soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 61)	
Photo 7	Schematic cross-section of Gymea soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 66)	
Photo 8	Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1943 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	
Photo 9	Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1970 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	
Photo 10	Aerial photography of the study area dated to 1982 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	26
Photo 11	Aerial photography of the study area dated to 2005 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)	26
Photo 12	Port Jackson catchment area, sub catchment and aquatic zones, with registered shell midden and archaeological deposit sites as at 28 February 1990 and known excavated sites (V. Attenbrow 1990)	
Photo 13	Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card)	35
Photo 14	AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)	36
Photo 15	AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)	37
Photo 16	AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)	38
Photo 17	Example of landscape constraint – Ridgeline and steep slope in the central portion of the study area, photo facing north-east	48



Example of landscape constraint – Ridgeline and steep slopes in the western portion of the study area, photo facing south	49
Example of GSV in the study area, photo facing south	
Example of GSV within the study area, photo facing east	50
Example of low visibility (0%) due to leaf litter in the south western portion of the study area, photo facing north	51
Example of dense vegetation (0% GSV) limiting access, photo facing south	52
Example of sandstone outcropping in the central portion of the study area, photo facing west	52
Clearer GSV (10%) on trail towards creek in the southern portion of the study area,	
Exposure (80%) along trail in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing south	54
Exposure along trail (30%) in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing east	
Aus Grid pole in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing north east	56
Disturbance associated with construction of bike ramps in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing south	56
Example of ad hoc ramp constructed using clay in the south-eastern, photo facing west	57
Graffiti painted upon a rock outcrop in the eastern portion of the study area, photo	
AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1;	
AHIMS 45-6-2197 /Morgan Road 3;	
	of the study area, photo facing south



# Glossary

ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ADDA	Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AR	Archaeological Report
Biosis	Biosis Pty Ltd
Consultation requirements	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010
Cth DCCEEW	Australian Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DA	Development Application
DP	Deposited Plan
DSCA	Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
GDA	Geocentric Datum of Australia
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Heritage Act	Heritage Act 1977
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
MLALC	Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
NHL	National Heritage List
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW	New South Wales
NSW DCCEEW	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
NTSCORP	Native Title Services Corporation
PAD	Potential Archaeological Deposit
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
REP	Regional Environmental Plan



SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
Study area	Defined as approximately 71 ha land parcel located off Morgan Road, Belrose, NSW (Figure 2)
the Code	Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW

X



### 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Project background

Biosis was commissioned by Gyde on behalf of MLALC to undertake an ACHA for the proposed rezoning of approximately 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose NSW (study area) (Figure 1 and Figure 2). This AR documents the findings of the archaeological investigations conducted as part of the ACHA. The AR provides evidence about the material traces of Aboriginal land use to support the conclusions and management recommendations in the ACHA.

The purpose of the ACHA is to assist Gyde on behalf of MLALC by informing their planning proposal for the aforementioned rezoning.

This investigation has been carried out under Part 6 of the NPW Act and in accordance with the Code. The Code has been developed to support the process of investigating and assessing Aboriginal cultural heritage by specifying the minimum standards for archaeological investigation undertaken in NSW under the NPW Act.

It is stated in Section 1.2 of the Code that where the ACHA report concludes that the proposed activity will result in harm to Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal Places, an application for an AHIP will be required. This application must be supported by an ACHA report.

The EP&A Act includes provisions for local government authorities to consider environmental impacts in landuse planning and decision making. Each Local Government Area (LGA) is required to create and maintain a Local Environmental Plan (LEP) that includes Aboriginal and historical heritage items. Local Councils identify items that are of significance within their LGA, and these items are listed on heritage schedules in the local LEP and are protected under the EP&A Act and Heritage Act.

### 1.2 Study area

The study area is located approximately 700 meters north-east of Belrose and approximately 6 kilometres north-west of Brookvale CBD (Figure 2). It encompasses approximately 71 hectares of private land and the adjacent road reserves and the following Lot and DPs:

_	I 👉 1	סח	1285945
•	LULI	DΓ	1200940

Lot 2600 DP 752038

Lot 947 DP 752038

Lot 176 DP 752038

Lot 177 DP 752038

• Lot 178 DP 752038

Lot 946 DP 752038

• Lot 945 DP 752038

- Lot 944 DP 752038
- Lot 948 DP 752038
- Lot 93 DP 752038
- Lot 953 DP 752038
- Lot 92 DP 752038
- Lot 91 DP 752038
- Lot 89 DP 752038
- Lot 90 DP 752038

- Lot 189 DP 752038
- Lot 190 DP 752038
- Lot 191 DP 752038
- Lot 196 DP 752038
- Lot 197 DP 1153773
- Part Lot 2 DP 1242330
- Part Lot 1 DP 1242330



The study area is within the:

- Northern Beaches LGA.
- Parish of Manly Cove.
- County of Cumberland.

The study area is bounded by Morgan Road approximately 50 metres to the north, Perentie Road approximately 500 metres to the south, Wakehurst Parkway approximately 1.5 kilometres to the east and Forrest Way approximately 400 metres west. The study area has no immediately adjacent development and is bounded on all sides by vegetation, aside for the western boundary which comprises Morgan Road. Lot 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 982 DP752038 and Snake Creek form a part of the sites southern boundary and Lot 1, 2 DP1157499, Lot 21 DP771910, Lot 192 DP752038, Lot 2671 DP752038 and Lot 2649 DP752038 which form a part of the northern boundary (Figure 2).

### 1.3 Planning approvals

The proposed development will be assessed against Part 3 of the EP&A Act. Other relevant legislation and planning instruments that will inform this assessment include:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).
- NPW Act.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010.
- Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007.
- Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP).
- Warringah Development Control Plan 2011.

### 1.4 Objectives of the investigation

The objectives of the investigation can be summarised as follows:

- To identify and consult with any registered Aboriginal stakeholders and the MLALC.
- To conduct additional background research to supplement the work undertaken by Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology for the current study area (Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 2022) in order to recognise any identifiable trends in site distribution and location.
- To search statutory and non-statutory registers and planning instruments to identify listed Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area.
- To highlight environmental information considered relevant to past Aboriginal occupation of the locality and associated land use and the identification and integrity/preservation of Aboriginal sites.
- To summarise past Aboriginal occupation in the locality of the study area using ethnohistory and the archaeological record.
- To formulate a series of statements to broadly predict the type and character of Aboriginal sites likely
  to exist throughout the study area, their location, frequency and integrity.
- To conduct a field survey of the study area to locate unrecorded or previously recorded Aboriginal sites and to further assess the archaeological potential of the study area.



- To assess the significance of any known Aboriginal sites in consultation with the Aboriginal community.
- To identify the impacts of the proposed development on any known or potential Aboriginal sites within the study area.
- To recommend strategies for the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the context of the proposed development.

### 1.5 Investigators and contributors

The roles, previous experience and qualifications of the Biosis project team involved in the preparation of this archaeological report are described below in Table 1.

Table 1 Investigators and contributors

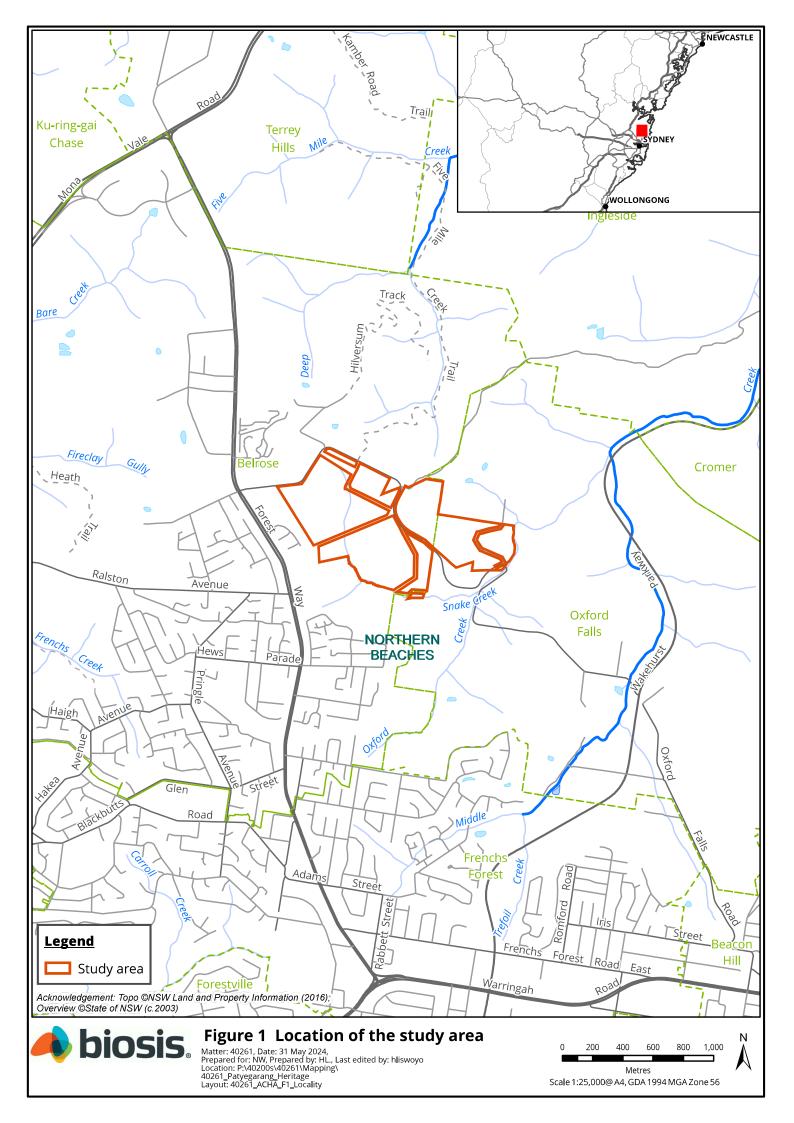
Name and qualifications	Experience summary	Project role
Samantha Keats BA Arts (Hons)	Samantha is an archaeologist with Biosis Wollongong office and has over eight years of experience as an archaeologist.  Samantha has had experience working as an archaeologist and project manager on a number of Aboriginal and European heritage projects across New South Wales, including water infrastructure and linear projects, residential development projects, renewable energy projects, and telecommunications projects. As part of these project Samantha has interacted with a diverse client base including Local Government, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Primary Industry and Water, resource companies, architectural firms, engineering firms, and private developers.	Project Director
Ashley Bridge BA Archaeology (major) and Ancient History (minor) MA of Archaeological Science (Adv) (Honours)	Ashley joined Biosis at the Sydney Office as a Research Assistant – Heritage in 2018 and now has over 5 years' experience in the heritage consulting industry. She completed her Masters in Archaeological Science in 2016, having written a thesis on forensic stature in Australian mass casualty scenarios, developing equations that allow anthropologists to discern stature in a female Australian population.  During her time as a heritage consultant, Ashley has successfully obtained project approvals for both Aboriginal and historical heritage under the NPW Act and Heritage Act, including Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits, State Significant Development approvals and Section 60 approvals. As part of these approvals, Ashley has authored a range of report types including Due Diligence Assessments (ADDAs), Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) assessments, ACHAs, Heritage Management Plans (HMPs) and letters of advice, which have supported review of environmental factors, Environmental Impact Statements, and development applications.	Project Manager
Nathan Windram BA Archaeology and Ancient History	Nathan is an archaeologist based out of the Wollongong office on south-coast of New South Wales and has gained most of his professional experience within that region, with a focus on Aboriginal heritage. Academically trained with a hands-on approach Nathan has worked in both salvage and test excavation sites while also operating as project lead for	Project Manager



Name and qualifications	Experience summary	Project role
	numerous cross-country surveys. Nathan is building experience in project management, and he is well-adapted to liaising with clients, being eager to continue refining his skills as a well-rounded heritage consultant.	
Hannah Mills BA Arts Archaeology MA Arts Cultural Heritage Studies	Hannah joined Biosis in 2021 as a Research Assistant and is currently a Heritage Consultant with the NSW Heritage Team with 5 years of experience. She completed her Masters in Cultural Heritage Studies in 2020.	Background     Research
	Prior to joining Biosis, Hannah has undertaken fieldwork across the South Coast of NSW working as a subcontracting archaeologist with Biosis, Casey & Lowe, and AMBS Ecology & Heritage. This fieldwork involved both historical and Aboriginal heritage sites, including sites under the Sydney Metro Project and the Newcastle Inner City Bypass project.	
	As a Heritage Consultant, Hannah has experience in project management, Aboriginal heritage surveys, test and salvage excavations, artefact analysis, Aboriginal community consultation and reporting primarily within the Sydney, Central Coast and South Coast regions. She has managed a number of ACHAs and ADDAs, several requiring AHIPs.	
Bronte Baonza BA Archaeology and Ancient History	Bronte joined Biosis in 2023 as a Graduate Heritage Consultant with the Sydney Heritage team. Completing a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Archaeology and Ancient History as well as International Relations, Bronte was introduced to archaeology of the Australasia region, considering the influence of archaeological knowledge on modern ideas and representation of this region and its people. Bronte also was provided a practical and real-world approach to investigating archaeology in an Australian context, such as undertaking spatial and computational techniques to survey, record and interpret Aboriginal objects and landscape in which they are found. Since joining Biosis, Bronte has gained experience in Aboriginal	<ul><li>Fieldwork</li><li>Reporting</li></ul>
	community consultation, background research, report writing, artefact analysis, field surveys, and test and salvage excavations throughout the Sydney, Newcastle, Albury and Illawarra regions.	
Mathew Smith BA Arts BA Science (Honours)	Mathew is a senior heritage consultant with eight years' experience in the consulting industry. Mathew has been with Biosis since 2016 and has extensive experience in Aboriginal archaeology. He has successfully obtained project approvals for Aboriginal heritage under both the NPW Act and the EP&A Act for a wide range of project types including large scale water infrastructure, linear projects including road upgrades, urban development of all sizes, renewable and non-renewable energy projects, and mineral resource projects.	<ul><li>Fieldwork</li><li>Technical advice</li></ul>
	Mathew's key areas of expertise include Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage management advice, archaeological excavation and survey, Aboriginal community consultation, artefact analysis, technical report writing and review of technical reports. He has completed ADDAs, ACHAs, Constraints Analysis, and Heritage Impact permits for a range of projects. Mathew has also served as an expert witness for	



Name and qualifications	Experience summary	Project role
	section 34 conciliation conferences, and a Land and Environment Court hearing.  Mathew is currently recognized by the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc, as a specialist in the recording and analysis of Aboriginal artefacts. He has undertaken full scale lithic analysis for small and large scale projects in accordance with project approval requirements.	
Charlotte Allen BA Archaeology (Honours)	Charlotte has over six years' archaeological consulting experience, and is skilled in historical research, report preparation and project management. Prior to consulting, Charlotte had an established career in administrative, project management and data management support in the heritage, health and transport sectors. Charlotte has broad experience working as an archaeologist on Aboriginal and European heritage projects across New South Wales.  Charlotte has strong technical skills in research, archaeological field surveys and excavation, artefact analysis, and technical report writing, with a focus on detail and accuracy. Charlotte has managed a range of projects for a variety of client bases, including ADDAs, ACHAs, Historical Heritage Assessments (HHAs), Historical Archaeological Assessments, SoHls, Conservation Management Plans, Heritage Interpretation Strategies and Plans, Constraints Analyses and Letters of Advice. Charlotte has also had numerous successful permit applications under the Heritage Act and NPW Act, with minimal comments from government regulators.  Charlotte is a confident project manager and field team leader, having worked across various environments, working collaboratively with senior staff and in a team throughout her working life. With experience in both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage projects in NSW, as well as excavation and field survey experience from the UK, Charlotte is able to consider heritage values and impacts from varying aspects and	• Quality Assurance
Henri Liswoyo – Graduate GIS Analyst BA Science	Henri joined the Biosis NSW GIS team in July 2023. In his time with us, he has gained experience in various projects spanning ecology (Bio Diversity Assessment Reports, Flora and Fauna Assessments, Offset cost reviews, and more) and heritage (ACHAs, ARs, HHAs, ADDAs and more). These projects span a wide range of clients including energy, mining, residential development, and more.  Henri actively applies this experience to produce high quality map products, carry out spatial analysis, and produce data collection tools for field teams. Throughout his work, he actively incorporates client-provided data, including Computer Aided Designs of proposed developments.  Before joining Biosis, Henri was a Geospatial Intern at the New Zealand government's Ministry for Primary Industries. In his short time at MPI, he rapidly developed a series of GIS webapplications for use by Biosecurity NZ. These continue to be used for planning biosecurity responses in NZ.	• GIS







### 2 Proposed development

The proposed development involved the proposed rezoning of 71 hectares of land along Morgan Road, Belrose NSW (Photo 4).

The development intended by the planning proposal involves the amending of local planning controls in order to zone 450 new residential dwellings, as well as a new cultural community centre and the protection of Aboriginal heritage sites. The planning proposal hopes to ensure development outcomes will align with traditional indigenous 'Caring for Country' practices and relevant 'Connecting with Country' and 'Designing with Country' strategies (Government Architect NSW 2023).



Photo 1 Illustrated Master Plan (Cox Architecture 2022 in Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 2022)



### 3 Desktop assessment

The desktop assessment involves researching and reviewing existing archaeological studies and reports relevant to the study area and surrounding region. This information is combined to develop an Aboriginal site prediction model for the study area, and to identify known Aboriginal sites and/or places recorded in the study area. This desktop assessment has been prepared in accordance with Requirements 1 to 4 of the Code.

### 3.1 Landscape context

It is important to consider the local environment of the study area any heritage assessment. The local environmental characteristics can influence human occupation and associated land use and consequently the distribution and character of cultural material. Environmental characteristics and geomorphological processes can affect the preservation of cultural heritage materials to varying degrees or even destroy them completely. Lastly, landscape features can contribute to the cultural significance that places can have for people.

### 3.1.1 Topography and hydrology

The study area sits upon the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, a medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone with minor shale and laminate lenses (Figure 3). The formation ranges in thickness from 34-240 meters, and was deposited during the Anisian stage of the Middle Triassic epoch which lasted from 247.2 millions years ago (MYA) until 242 MYA. Hawkesbury Sandstone is important to Aboriginal peoples for both occupation, tool production, art and ceremonial activities. This is evidenced by numerous rock engraving and rock shelter sites. Sydney's sandstone landscape is comprised largely from nutrient poor but iron-rich and quartz-rich rock that support an incredibly rich flora and fauna environment (Smith, M 2020).

Topographically, the study area sits at its lowest, 36 meters above sea level, and at its highest altitude, 138 meters above sea level. The study area is primarily comprised of steep simple slopes, with several benches taking shape towards the southern portion of the study area, an open depression where Snake Creek transects the study area, as well as a crest forming in a central position towards the northern portion of the study area (Figure 4).

Stream order and topography is recognised as a factor which helps the development of predictive modelling in Aboriginal archaeology in the Cumberland Plain. Predictive models which have been developed for the region have a tendency to favour permanent water courses as the locations of complex sites that have been continuously occupied, as they would have been more likely to provide a stable source of water and by extension other resources which would have been used by Aboriginal groups (JMCHM 2000, p. 19). The stream order system used for this assessment was originally developed by Strahler (1952). It functions by adding two streams of equal order at their confluence to form a higher order stream, as shown in Photo 2. As stream order increases, so does the likelihood that the stream would be a perennial source of water.



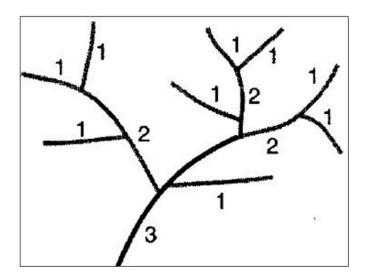


Photo 2 Diagram showing Strahler stream order (Ritter, Kochel, & Miller 1995, p. 151)

The study area features Snake Creek, a first order non-perennial watercourse, which meanders through the study area from west to east via an open depression landform. Snake Creek feeds into Oxford Creek, a second order non-perennial watercourse that runs north to south on the eastern boundary of the study area (Figure 4). Oxford Creek in turn feeds Middle Creek, a third order perennial watercourse 824 metres northeast of the study area and a tributary to Narrabeen Lagoon, 3.2 kilometres to the east, which runs into the Tasman Sea. The presence of both perennial and non-perennial water sources indicates that Aboriginal people would likely have utilised these places for both water and the aquatic and terrestrial resources drawn there.

### 3.1.2 Soil landscapes

Soil landscapes have distinct morphological and topological characteristics that result in specific archaeological potential. They are defined by a combination of soils, topography, vegetation and weathering conditions. Soil landscapes are essentially terrain units that provide a useful way to summarise archaeological potential and exposure.

The study area is divided into five separate soil landscapes (Figure 5). These include the Hawkesbury, Lambert, Hornsby, Gymea and Oxford falls landscapes. These soil landscapes are summarised below.

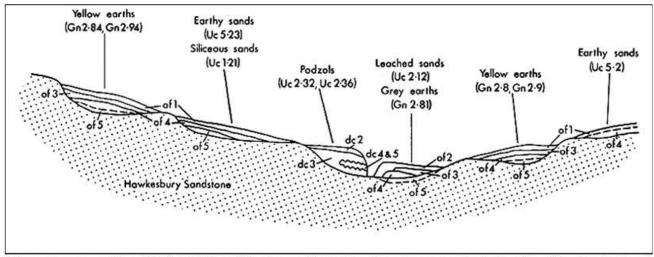
The Oxford Falls soil landscape is present in a small extent of the southern-central portion of the study area. The Oxford Falls soil landscape is characterised by hanging valleys generally 100-1000 meters wide underlaid by Hawkesbury Sandstone, with moderately inclined (5-15%) slopes. Wide sandstone benches are occasionally found on side slopes with associated rock outcrops and low scarps. Soils are moderately deep to deep (50-150 centimetres) earth sands, yellow earths and silicious sands on slopes, with deep (>200 centimetres) leached sands, podzols and grey earths on valley floors. This soil landscape is fluvial, meaning it is prone to flooding which decreases the likelihood of long-term occupation, an extensive or repetitive flood event may also negatively affect the condition of Aboriginal sites (Table 2 and Photo 3).



Table 2 Oxford Falls soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 106)

Soil material	Description
Of1-Dark brown, loose loamy sand	This is dark brown sand to sandy loam with loose apedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). This material is often water repellent. Colour ranges from a commonly occurring dark brown (10YR 3/3) to yellowish-brown (10YR 4/3, 5/4). The pH is usually moderately acid (pH 5.0). Small subrounded sandstone and quartz gravel fragments are widespread. Roots and charcoal fragments are common.
Of2-Black organic loam	This is black organic rich loamy sand to light sandy clay loam with loose, apedal single-grained or apedal massive structure and porous sandy fabric. This material occurs as topsoil in waterlogged areas (A horizon). Colours are commonly dark and range from black (7.5YR 1.7/1, 10YR 1.7/1) to brownish-black (10YR 3/1). This material is often waterlogged. The pH is usually moderately acid (pH 5.0). Iron coated sandstone and quartz gravel fragments and roots are common.
Of3- Bleached loose sandy loam	This is bleached loamy sand to sandy clay loam with either loose apedal single-grained or apedal massive structure and porous sandy or earthy fabric. This material occurs as an A2 horizon. Surface condition is commonly loose but is occasionally hardsetting. Moist colours range from dull yellowish brown (10YR 5/3) to dull yellow orange (10 YR 6/4). Dry colours are frequently bleached light grey (10YR 7/1). Orange mottles often follow root channels. The pH ranges between strongly acid (pH 4.5) and slightly acid (pH 6.0). Subrounded, sandstone and quartz gravel fragments and roots are rare, but charcoal fragments are common.
Of4- Earthy yellowish- brown clayey sand	This is a yellowish-brown, clayey sand to light sandy clay loam with apedal massive structure and porous earthy fabric. It usually occurs as subsoil (B horizon). Colour is commonly bright yellowish-brown (2.5Y 7/6, 10YR 7/6). This material is often moist to saturated and in this condition is labile to plastic and corresponds with Chapman et al. 1989) puggy clay. The pH ranges between moderately acid (pH 5.0) and slightly acid (pH 6.0). Subrounded sandstone fragments, quartz pebbles and roots are rare. Charcoal fragments are absent.
Of5- Friable sandstone	This is deeply weathered soft friable sandstone that has the appearance of sugar crystals. This material ranges from clayey sand to sandy clay with apedal massive structure and earthy fabric. Colour ranges from greyish yellow brown (10YR 6/2) to light grey (10YR 8/1). Pale grey or yellow mottles may be present at depth. This material has an appearance similar to sugar crystals and is often waterlogged. The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Small rounded quartz gravels are rare whilst roots and charcoal fragments are absent.





Schematic cross-section of Oxford Falls soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

# Photo 3 Schematic cross-section of the Oxford Falls soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 106)

The Hornsby soil landscape exists in a small portion of the south-east corner of the study area. It is characterized by gently undulating rises to steep low hills on deeply weathered basaltic breecia (rock formed from angular gravel and boulder-sized clasts cemented together in a matrix). Topography of this soil landscape is distinguished by gently inclined valley floors surrounded by steep, colluvial sideslopes. Slope gradients range from 3-65%. Soils are deep (150-300 centimetres) yellow podzolic soils on upper and midslopes, yellow brown earths and red podzolic soils on sandstone colluvium, yellow podzolic soils on volcanic breccia, deep (>200 centimetres) structured loams in drainage lines. This soil is considered to be residual, which, due to their age and slow accumulation, have reasonable potential to contain archaeological deposits in an open context. Occupational evidence here may include stone artefacts or scarred trees (Table 3 and Photo 4).

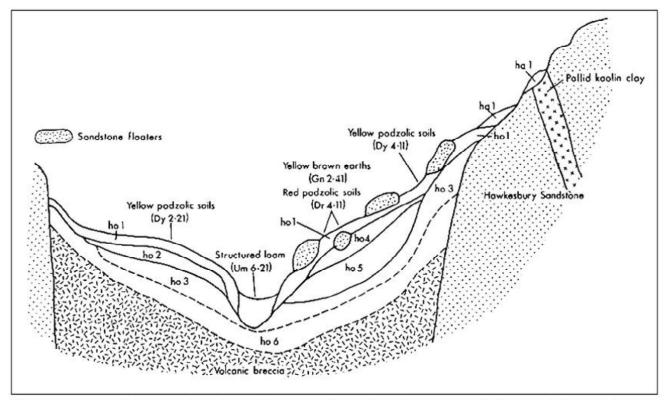
Table 3 Hornsby soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 63)

Soil material	Description
Ho1-Black, organic sandy loam	This is loose, organic rich, apedal single-grained sandy loam with porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). Colour ranges from black (10YR 1.7/1) to brownish-black (10YR 2/2). Large amounts of organic material are present. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Coarse quartz sand grains are derived from Hawkesbury Sandstone. Gravel and boulders consisting of strongly weathered sandstone and metamorphosed sandstone are common. Roots are also common and charcoal fragments are often present.
Ho2- Hardsetting, dark brown sandy clay loam	This is a dark brown, light sandy clay loam to fine sandy clay loam that has a hardsetting surface condition and apedal massive to weakly pedal structure. This material occurs as an A2 horizon. Peds, when present, are porous and rough faced, 20–50 mm in size and have a sub-angular blocky shape. Abundant root and faunal pores are usually present. Coarse quartz sand grains are commonly found throughout this material. Colour ranges from dark brown (7.5YR 3/3) to black (10YR 1.7/1). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.5). Sandstone and metamorphosed sandstone fragments, roots and charcoal fragments are often present.



Soil material	Description
Ho3- Strongly pedal, brown light clay	This is brown, sub-plastic, light clay with strongly pedal structure and dense, smooth-ped fabric. This material occurs as subsoil over volcanic breccia (B horizon). Peds range in size from 2–20 mm, they are smooth-faced and granular to sub-angular blocky in shape. Common colours include dull reddish-brown (5YR 5/4), light reddish-brown (5YR 5/8), and bright brown (7.5YR 5/6). This material is often sub-plastic and is moderately sticky when moist. The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.5). Rock and charcoal fragments are usually absent, and roots are rarely present.
Ho4-Earthy, brown sandy loam	This is a sandy loam to a light sandy clay loam with apedal massive structure and porous earthy fabric. It generally occurs as subsoil over sandstone colluvium (B horizon). Colour varies from bright yellowish-brown (10YR 7/6) to dull yellowishbrown (10YR 4/3). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Strongly weathered sandstone and metamorphosed sandstone fragments range from few to common. Roots are often abundant, whilst charcoal fragments are rarely present.
Ho5-Earthy, reddish- brown, sandy clay	This is reddish brown, sandy clay to light clay with apedal massive or weakly pedal structure and earthy, slightly porous, fabric. It occurs as subsoil on sandstone colluvium (B-C horizon). Sand grains are often present throughout this material. Peds, when present, are commonly rough-faced and porous. They range in size from 5–20 mm and are usually sub-angular blocky in shape. Colour is commonly a bright reddish-brown (5YR 5/6). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.0). Sandstone boulders, cobbles and rock fragments are common whilst charcoal fragments and roots are rare.
Ho6- Weathered volcanic breccia clay	This is a light to medium clay with highly pedal structure and rough-faced ped fabric that is the weathering product of volcanic breccia parent material. Peds are commonly rough-faced, prismatic and angular blocky in shape and range in size from 10–50 mm. They readily break down to smaller 2–10 mm polyhedral peds. Clusters of smooth-ped faces also occur. Colour ranges from bright reddish-brown (5YR 5/6) to light brownish grey (7.5YR 7/1). Dark red, orange or yellow mottles are commonly present. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Strongly weathered, angular, breccia rock fragments are common. Roots and charcoal fragments rarely present.





Schematic cross-section of Hornsby soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

### Photo 4 Schematic cross-section of Hornsby soil landscape (Source: Chapman et al. 1989, p. 63)

The Hawkesbury soil landscape is present across the majority of the study area and is characterised as a colluvial soil landscape. The Hawkesbury soil landscape features shallow discontinuous lithosols/siliceous sands greater than 50 centimetres associated with rock outcrops, earthy sands, yellow earths and some locally deep sands on the inside of benches and along joints and fractures. Localised yellow and red podzolic soils associated with shale lenses, siliceous sands and secondary yellow earths occur along drainage lines (Bannerman & Hazelton 1990). The colluvial nature of this soil landscape indicates vulnerability to mass movement events, with soil consisting of mass movement debris. This may both protect archaeological deposits by burying them deeper, or conversely, soil movement may result in higher levels of subsurface disturbance (Table 4 and Photo 5).

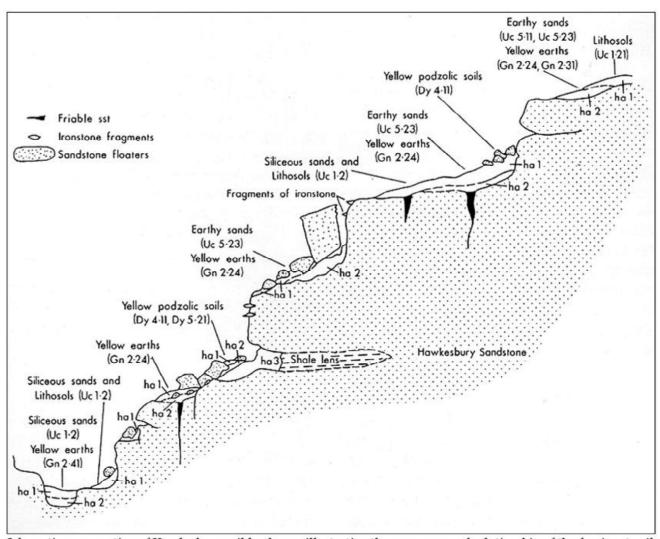
Table 4 Hawkesbury soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 54)

Soil material	Description
Ha1 - Loose,	This is a sand to sandy loam with loose, a pedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). Colour ranges from brownish black (10YR 3/2) when abundant
coarse	organic matter is present, to bright yellowish brown (10YR 7/6) and often becomes lighter with depth. The
quartz sand	pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Weakly weathered sandstone fragments may be present whilst charcoal fragments and roots are common. This material is commonly water repellent.



Soil material	Description
Ha2 - Earthy, yellowish brown sandy clay loam	This is a clayey sand to sandy clay loam with a pedal massive or occasionally weakly pedal structure and a distinctly porous, earthy fabric. It generally occurs as subsoil, often in association with sandstone bedrock (B or C horizon). Where peds are present they are large subangular blocky and rough-faced. Ped sizes range from 30-60 mm. Common colours include yellow orange (10YR 7/8), bright yellowish brown (10YR 6/8, 6/6) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Gravels, stones and ironstone-plated sandstone fragments are common but roots and charcoal fragments are rare.
Ha3 - Pale, strongly pedal light clay	This is fine sandy clay loam to medium clay with strongly pedal structure and rough faced ped fabric. It commonly occurs as subsoil derived from shale lenses within the Hawkesbury Sandston (B or C horizons) but does not always occur. Structure is strongly pedal when dry and apedal when saturated. Peds range in size from 20-60 mm and are sub angular blocky to angular blocky in shape. Colours are most often pale but can vary according to site drainage characteristics. Colour ranges from bright yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) to reddish brown (5YR 5/6). Red, orange and grey mottles are often present. The pH varies from strongly acid (pH4.1) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Stratified ironstone gravels are common but roots and charcoal fragments are usually rare or absent





Schematic cross-section of Hawkesbury soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

#### Photo 5 Schematic cross-section of Hawkesbury soil landscape (Source: Chapman et al. 1989, p. 54)

The Lambert soil landscape is present across the northern boundary of the study area and is considered to be erosional. The Lambert soil landscape is characterized by undulating rises to rolling hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with elevation between 6–610 meters. Broad ridges with gently to moderately inclined sideslopes with sandstone bedrock which outcrops as wide as 10-100 meters. Soils consist of shallow to moderately deep (25-<100 centimetres) well drained brown and yellow othic tensols and brown kandosols, shallow (25-<50 centimetres) well-drained Leptic Rudosols and moderately deep (50–100 centimetres) imperfectly drained brown kurosols. Erosional soil landscapes are vulnerable to movement events in shallow soils, which result in poor preservation of the archaeological record; land clearance can lead to higher levels of erosion (Table 5 and Photo 6).



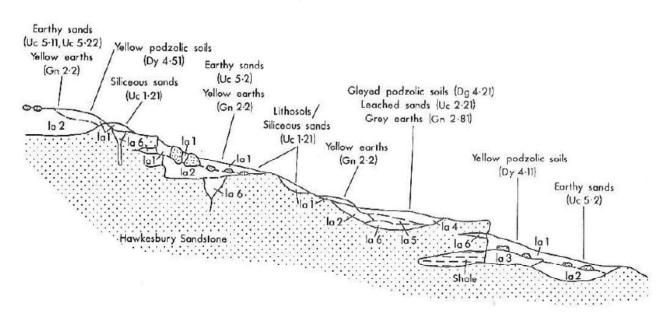
Table 5 Lambert soil landscape characteristics (Chapman et al. 1989)

Soil material	Description
La1 - Loose, stony, yellowish- brown sandy loam	This is a stony brown loamy sand to sandy loam with apedal singlegrained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (Al horizon). Colour, which can vary from olive brown (2.5Y 4/ 4) to dark brown (IOYR 3 / 4) is commonly a yellowish-brown (10YR5 / 4,5/6, 5/8). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Subrounded sandstone fragments and quartz pebbles are common and are occasionally concentrated as a stone line at depth. Charcoal fragments and roots are common.
La2 - Earthy, yellow- brown, light sandy clay loam	This is commonly a yellow-brown, light sandy clay loam with apedal massive to weakly pedal structure and porous earthy fabric. This material occurs as subsoil (B horizon) or occasionally as an A2 horizon. Texture can range from clayey sand to sandy clay loam. Texture often increases gradually with depth. Peds when present, are usually rough-faced and sub-angular blocky. They range in size from 10 mm to 50 mm. Porosity often decreases with depth. Colour ranges from yellowishbrown (IOYR 5/6, 6/6) to brownish-yellow (IOYR 6/8). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Sandstone and ironstone fragments are common but charcoal fragments and roots are rare.
La3 - Angular blocky "puggy" clay	This is a fine sandy clay loam to medium clay with strongly developed angular blocky to occasionally prismatic structure when dry and apedal massive structure when wet. This material occurs as deep subsoil (B horizon) on shale lenses. Colour in well drained positions is commonly a yellowish- brown (IOYR 6/6-6/8). In areas subject to prolonged saturation or seepage, colour varies from light yellow orange (IOYR 8/4) to pale grey (IOYR 8/2). Red, orange and grey mottles are common. The pH ranges from extremely acid (pH3.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Platy, iron coated ironstone fragments are common. Roots and charcoal fragments are usually absent.
La4 - Blackish- brown, loose sandy loam	This is a dark loamy sand to sandy ;oam with apedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It usually occurs as topsoil (Al horizon). This material is often water repellent. Colour usually ranges from greyish yellow brown (IOYR 4/2) to brownish-black (10YR 3/2). The pH ranges between strongly acid (pH 4.0) and slightly acid (pH 6.0). Sandstone and ironstone fragments, charcoal fragments, roots and decaying plant remains are common.
La5 - Earthy, mottled, pale clayey sands	This is a pale coloured clayey sand with apedal massive structure and porous earthy fabric. It generally occurs as subsoil in wet areas (B or C horizon). Texture can vary from loamy sand to sandy clay loam, with clayey sands and sandy loams being the most common. Surface condition is loose and fabric is sandy. This material is characterised by pallid/ grey soil colours such as light yellow (2.5Y 7 I 4) and bright yellowish-brown (2.SY 7 /6). In wet situations there are often rusty piped mottles around root traces. The pH ranges from extremely acid (pH 3.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.5). Sandstone fragments, charcoal fragments and roots are usually absent.



Soil material	Description
La6 – Friable sandstone	This is a soft, friable, deeply weathered, sandstone with a coarse sugary appearance. It commonly occurs as deeply weathered parent material (C horizon) in joint lines and beneath perched water tables. Texture is commonly a clayey sand which often becomes sandier with depth. Structure is usually a pedal and massive and the fabric is sandy or occasionally earthy. Colour can vary from light grey (IOYR 8/1) to dull yellow-orange (IOYR 7 /2-7 / 4). Pale yellow and orange mottles may be present. Rusty mottles occasionally occur which follow root traces. This material can be crushed by hand and the disrupted material has a feel and appearance similar to sugar crystals. The pH ranges from extremely acid (pH 3.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.0). Occasional bands of dark red (2.SYR 3/6) mottles associated with platy, angular, ironstone fragments occur. These ironstone fragments often occur in undisturbed and stratified bands. Strongly weathered fragments of sandstone are found at depth. Roots are rare and charcoal fragments are absent.

## Sondstone floaters



Schematic cross section of Lambert soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

## Photo 6 Schematic cross-section of Lambert soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 61)

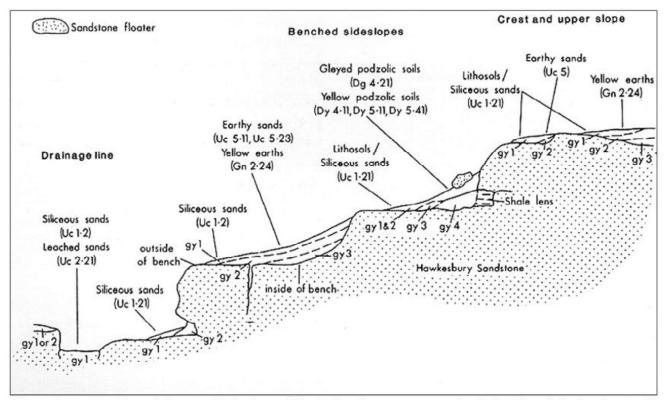
The Gymea soil landscape makes up the final soil landscape in the study area and occupies the western boundary and is an erosional soil type. It is features undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with local relief of 20–80 meters and slopes of 10–25%. Sideslopes with narrow to wide outcropping sandstone rock benches between 10–100 meters which often form broken scarps of <5 meters. Shallow to moderately deep (30–100 centimetre) yellow earths, and earthy sands on crests and inside of benches, shallow (<20 centimetre) siliceous sands on leading edges of benches, localised gleyed podzolic soils and yellow podzolic soils on shale lenses, shallow to moderately deep (<100 centimetres) siliceous sands and leaches sands along drainage lines. As an erosional soil, the Gymea soil landscape likewise implies vulnerability to movement events in shallow soils (Table 6 and Photo 7).



Table 6 Gymea soil landscape characteristics

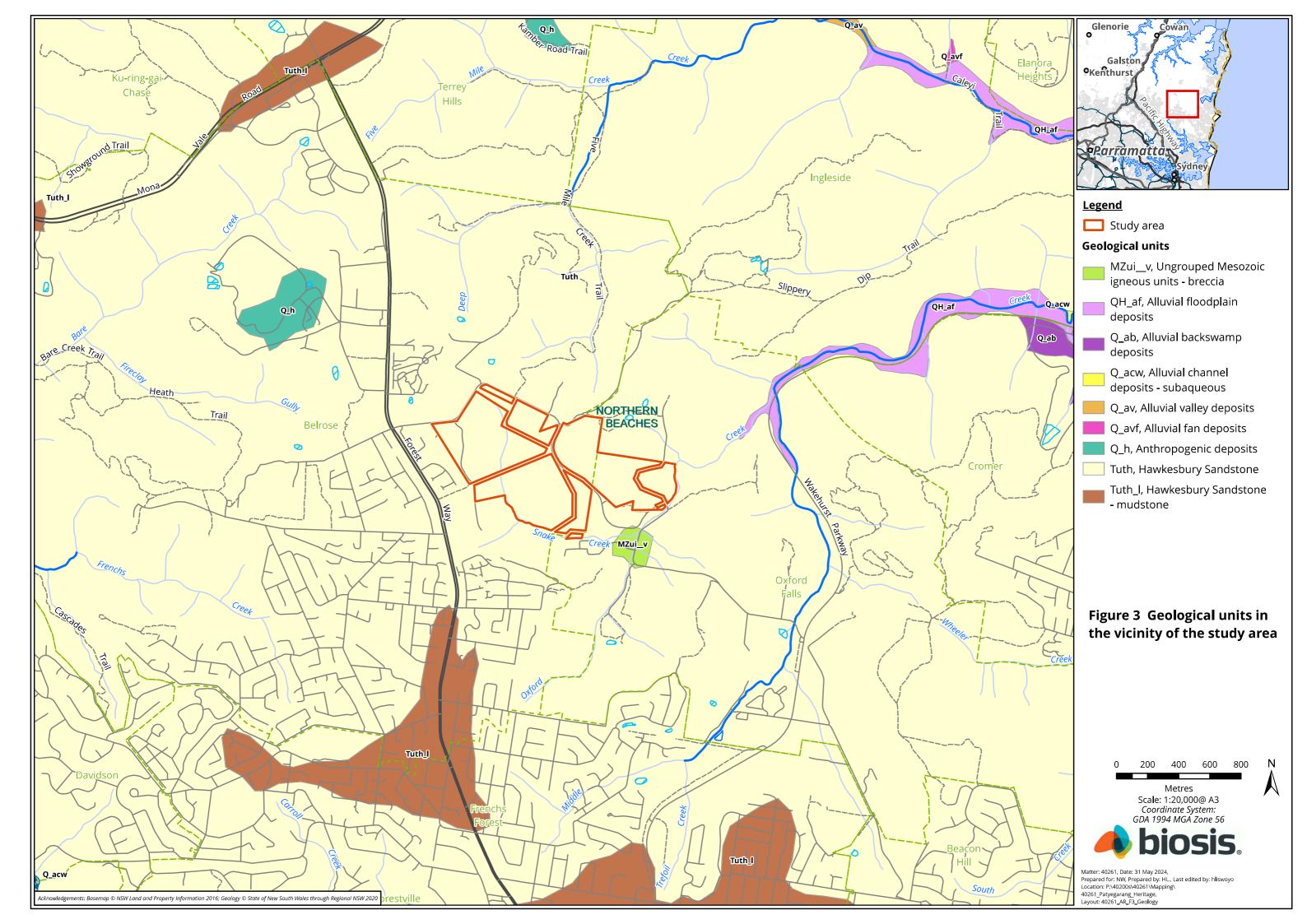
Soil material	Description
Gy1-Loose, coarse sandy loam	This is loamy sand to sandy loam with loose, apedal single grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). The colour often becomes lighter with depth and ranges from brownish-black (10YR 2/2), when organic matter is present, to bleached dull yellow-orange (10YR 7/2). It is often water repellent under native vegetation. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Small sandstone and platy ironstone fragments, charcoal fragments and roots are common.
Gy2- Earthy, yellowish- brown clayey sand	This is commonly yellowish-brown clayey sand with apedal massive structure and porous earthy fabric. It commonly occurs as subsoil over sandstone bedrock (B horizon). Where it is exposed at the surface it forms hardsetting topsoil. Texture may increase gradually to a light sandy clay loam with depth. Colour is commonly yellowish-brown (10YR 6/8) and orange mottles are occasionally present with depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.5). Sandstone and ironstone fragments are common and are often concentrated in stone lines in the upper parts of this material. Charcoal fragments are common whilst roots are rare.
Gy3-Earthy to weakly pedal, yellowish- brown sandy clay loam	This is commonly a yellowish brown sandy clay loam to sandy clay with an apedal massive structure and an earthy porous fabric. It usually occurs as subsoil (B or C horizon) on coarse sandstone. Texture is commonly sandy clay loam but may increase gradually with depth to sandy clay. Occasionally a weakly pedal structure of sub-angular blocky shaped peds are present. Peds are commonly rough-faced and porous and range in size from 5-20 mm. Colour is commonly yellowish brown (10YR 5/8, 6/6, 6/8; 2.5Y 5/6, 5/4). Orange mottles may occur with depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Strongly weathered sandstone fragments are common. Roots and charcoal fragments are rare.
Gy4- Moderately to strongly pedal, yellowish- brown clay	This is commonly a yellowish-brown sandy clay or light clay with a moderately to strongly pedal structure and either a smooth or rough-faced ped fabric. This material occurs as subsoil on shale bedrock (B and C horizons). Peds ranging in size from 5–50 mm, are either smooth or rough-faced and are polyhedral to subangular blocky. Colour is commonly yellow-brown (10YR 6/6) but can vary from dark reddish brown (2.5YR 3/6) to light grey (7.5YR 8/1). Red, orange and grey mottles are occasionally present at depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Shale and ironstone fragments are often present, but charcoal fragments are absent, and roots are rare.

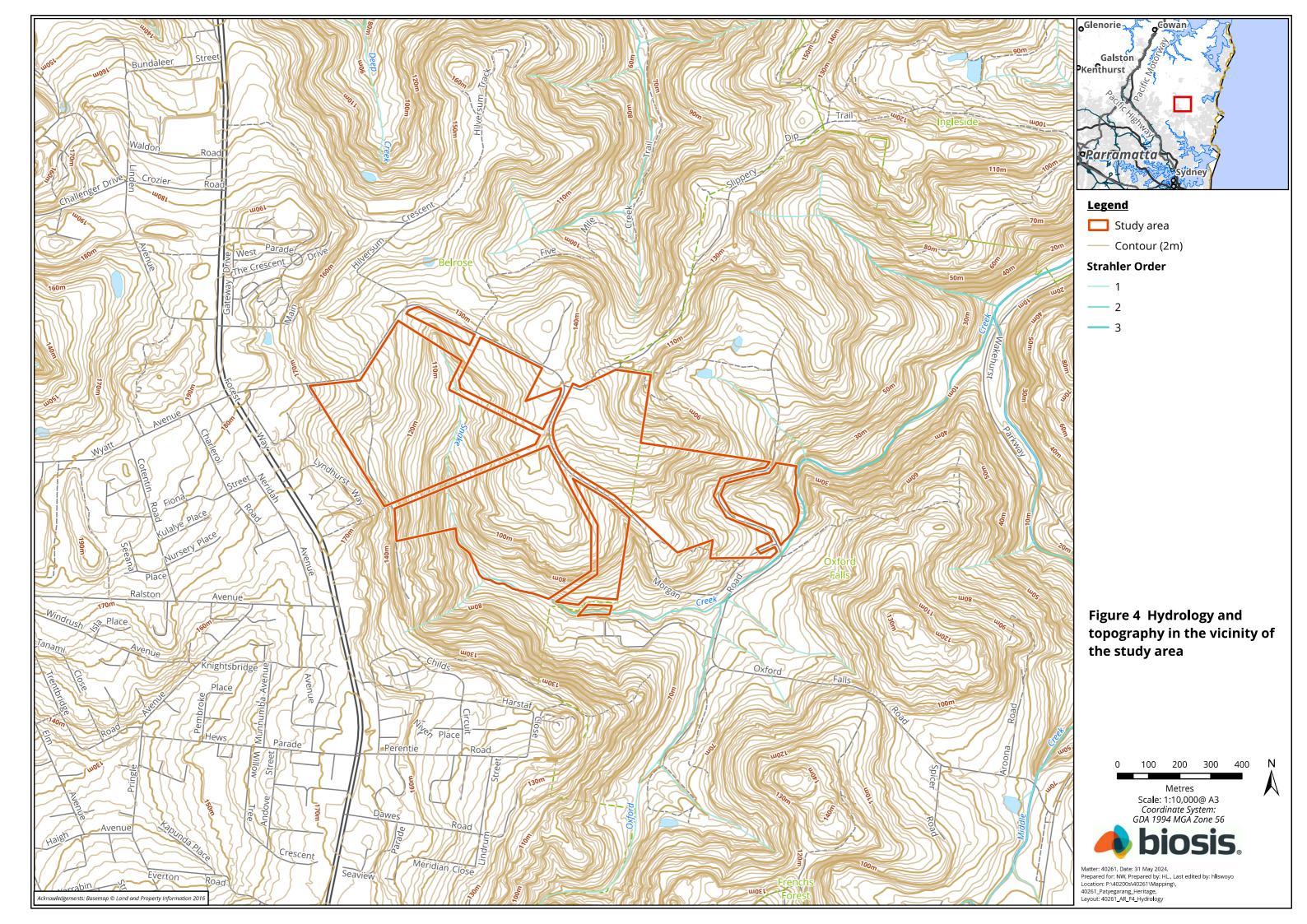


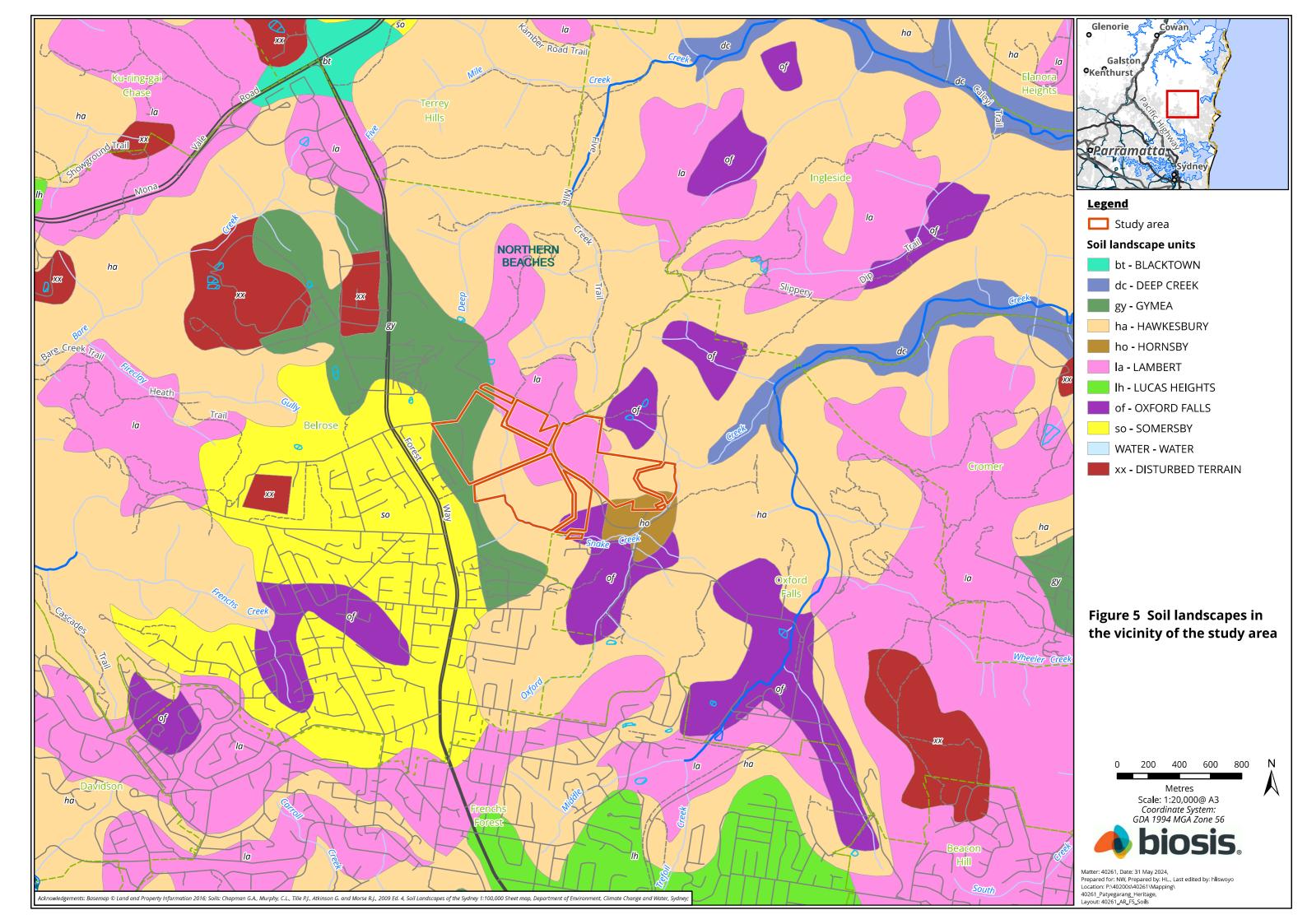


Schematic cross-section of Gymea soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

Photo 7 Schematic cross-section of Gymea soil landscape (Source: (Chapman et al. 1989, p. 66)









#### 3.1.3 Landscape resources

The study area is known to contain a wide variety of vegetation, including Angiosperms such as: Red Bloodwood *Corymbia gummifera*; Scribbly Gum *Eucalyptus haemastoma*; Heath Leaved Banksia *Banksia ericifolia*; Saw Bankia *B. serrata*; Wiry Panic *Entolassia stricta*; and the Sugar Gum *Angophora costata*. Gymnosperms present include the Pine *Podocarpus spinulosus*, Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* and Barrawang *Macrozamia communis*.

Faunal resources in the study area include mammalian species such as: Swamp Wallaby Wallabia bicolor, Bush Rat Rattus fuscipes, Common Brushtail Possum Trichosurus vulpecula, Common Ringtail Possum Pseudocheirus peregrinus, Short-beaked Echidna Tachyglossus aculeatus, Eastern-Pygmy-possum Cercartetus nanus and the Sugar glider Petaurus breviceps. Avian species include the Silvereye Zosterops lateralis, Wild Turkey Alectura lathami, Kookaburra Dacelo (Dacelo) novaeguineae, Sulpher-crested Cockatoo Cacatua (Cacatua) galerita, Rainbow Lorikeet Trichoglossus haematodus and the Australian Magpie Gymnorhina tibicen. Reptiles present include the: Lace Monitor Varanus vairus; Eastern Blue-tongue Tiliqua scincoides; Red-bellied Black Snake Pseudechis porphyriacus; and the Diamond Python Morelia spilota. Aquatic species include the Cox Gudgeon Gobiomorphus coxii, River Eel Anguilla reinhardtii, Sydney Crayfish Euastacus spinifer, Western Yabbie Cherax destructor, and the Semaphore Crab Heloecius cordiformis.

Plant resources were used in a variety of ways. Fibres were twisted into string which was used for many purposes including the weaving of nets, baskets and fishing lines. String was also used for personal adornment. Bark from eucalypts was used in the provision of shelter; a large sheet of bark being propped against a stick to form a gunyah (Attenbrow 2002, p. 105). Swamp Oak bark could be used for the making of canoes, and Smooth-barked Apple for the making of baskets and bowls.

As well as being important food sources, animal products were also used for tool making and fashioning a myriad of utilitarian and ceremonial items. For example, tail sinews are known to have been used to make fastening cord, while 'bone points', which would have functioned as awls or piercers, are often an abundant part of the archaeological record. Animals such as Brush-tailed Possums, were highly prized for their fur, with possum skin cloaks worn fastened over one shoulder and under the other (Attenbrow 2002, p. 107).

#### 3.1.4 Land use history

Aerial imagery taken during 1943 displays the study area covered in mature vegetation, with no land clearance visible. However, small pathways are visible crossing into the central northern extent, southern extent and western extent, beginning from the established Forest Way (Photo 8). Imagery dated to 1970 displays minor development in the study area, with numerous additional pathways branching off of Morgan Road, which crosses north to south through the centre of the study area. This is a sealed road with sand strewn pathways leading to clearings in an otherwise closed woodland (Photo 9). Photography from 1982 presents the study area having undergone development, with land clearance present surrounding pathways towards the western extent as well as in the south-central portion. Construction has taken place towards the northern extent, with a structure present off Morgan Road; this includes an in-ground pool facilitating the need for sub-surface work (Photo 10), although outside the study area boundary the infrastructure installation may have impacted the stratigraphy of the study area. The final aerial image of the study area dated to 2005 presents little change in terms of development, however evidence of bushfire place appears in the north east extent of the study area, with discolouration present surrounding the numerous pathways and reaching up to properties towards the north and east (Photo 11).



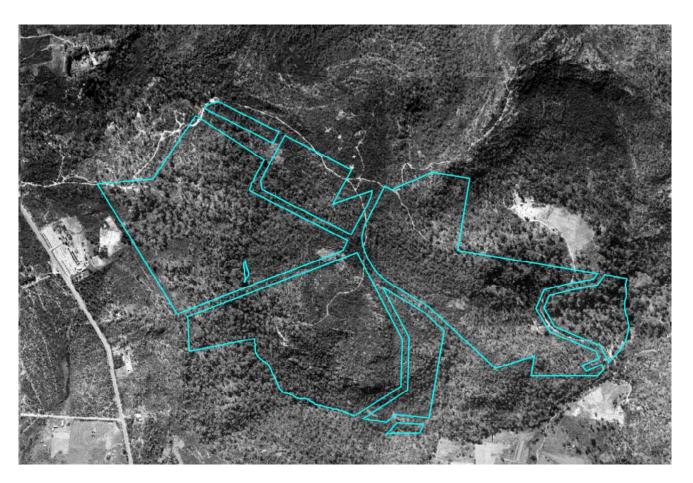


Photo 8 Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1943 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)

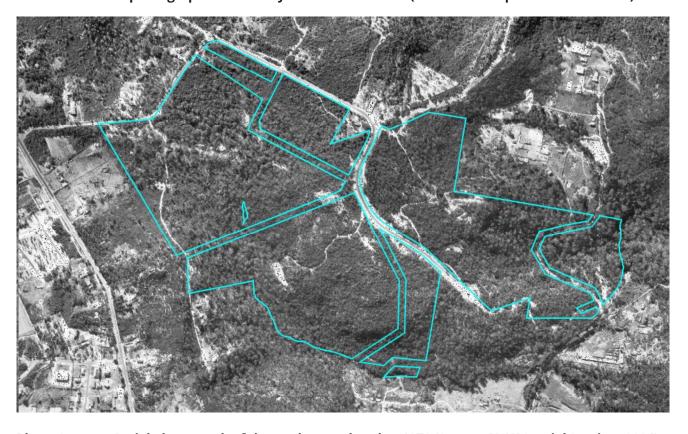


Photo 9 Aerial photograph of the study area dated to 1970 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)





Photo 10 Aerial photography of the study area dated to 1982 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)



Photo 11 Aerial photography of the study area dated to 2005 (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2024)



## 3.2 Previous archaeological work

A large number of cultural heritage surface (surveys) and sub-surface (excavations) investigations have been conducted throughout NSW in the past 30 years. There has been an increasing focus on cultural heritage assessments in NSW due to ever-increasing development, along with the legislative requirements for this work and greater cultural awareness of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The majority of the region's Aboriginal sites date to the last 6000 years when the sea-level stabilised following the end of the last Ice Age. Prior to this, sea levels were lower and the current coast was located much further inland, approximately 14 kilometres to the east of its current position. Coastal sites older than 6,000 years are rare, as most would have been most likely inundated by the rising sea. Until fairly recently, archaeological shelters in the Blue Mountains (Nanson, Young, & Stockton 1987) and on the south coast at Burrill Lake (Lampert 1971) provided the earliest securely dated evidence for occupation in the region. Open sites on the Cumberland Plain and on the coastal strip now provide good evidence for Pleistocene and early Holocene occupation in Sydney (Mcdonald 2008, p. 36). A Pleistocene sand body on the Parramatta River has returned the oldest date for the region (30,735±407) approximately 19.5 kilometres south-west of the study area (Mcdonald 2008, p. 36) The salvage programs completed here provide evidence for distinct and clear changes in the archaeological record through time.

#### 3.2.1 Regional overview

Attenbrow (1990) reported on excavations at two rock shelters with shell middens (AHIMS 45-6-0560/Mt. Trefle Nelson Park Point 1 and AHIMS 45-6-1045/Hydrofoil Cave) located in Neilson Park, Vaucluse, located approximately 14.3 kilometres south of study area, as part of Stage II of the Port Jackson Archaeological Project. The middens were excavated in spits measuring 5–7 centimetres where stratigraphic units exceeded these thicknesses, and the excavated materials sieved through nested 7 millimetre and 2.5 millimetre sieves. Shell, bone, stone artefacts, charcoal, and other cultural materials were extracted and bagged separately on site and analysed in an off-site laboratory. At AHIMS 45-6-0560/Mt. Trefle Nelson Park Point 1, an area measuring 2 by 1 metres was established within and outside of the rock shelter and divided into 50 by 50 centimetre units. Two instances of human bone were identified in two units within the shelter, and following consultation with the then La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), the bones were left in-situ and no further work undertaken in these locations. Excavations continued in the units established outside of the shelter; the deposit was excavated to a maximum depth of 70 centimetres, but this varied due to the presence of sloping bedrock and rock slab. Soils in this location consisted of dark humic-rich soils and were less stratified than the deposit within the shelter; a hearth was recovered and excavated at a depth of 2-5 centimetres. In addition to Aboriginal objects and cultural material, European artefacts were also recovered, with the shelter having been used during the Great Depression in the 1930s. At AHIMS 45-6-1045/Hydrofoil Cave, an area measuring 1 by 1 metres was marked out for excavation in units measuring 50 by 50 centimetres; however, only one unit was excavated to test the integrity of the deposit. This pit reached a depth of 80 centimetres, where it reached rock. A hearth was identified and excavated at a depth of 5-15 centimetres, and the soils consisted of a black to very dark brown sandy sediment. The presence of rusted metal pieces throughout the soil profile suggests that the deposit was significantly disturbed; no further excavations took place at AHIMS 45-6-1045/Hydrofoil Cave.

Attenbrow (1990) undertook an investigation titled "The Port Jackson Archaeological Project" for the Australian Museum approximately 16 kilometres south east of the study area The purpose of this report was to improve upon the existing literature about Aboriginal life utilising the archaeological record. Fieldwork focused largely on existing recorded Aboriginal sites, and also supplementary surveys in areas which had the potential to hold further Aboriginal sites. The project investigated the roles played by marine and land animals in the diet of Aboriginal people within the Port Jackson area, as well as their use of stone, bone and shell in implements



and weapons. The survey relocated and recorded 112 sites with middens and deposits. Attenbrow (1990) concluded that the distance from the harbour mouth influenced the range and predominance of particular shellfish species in middens. It appears that Aboriginal people were occupying areas of the foreshore and exploiting shellfish for at least 4,500 years, and that over time there was a change in the predominance of particular shellfish species.

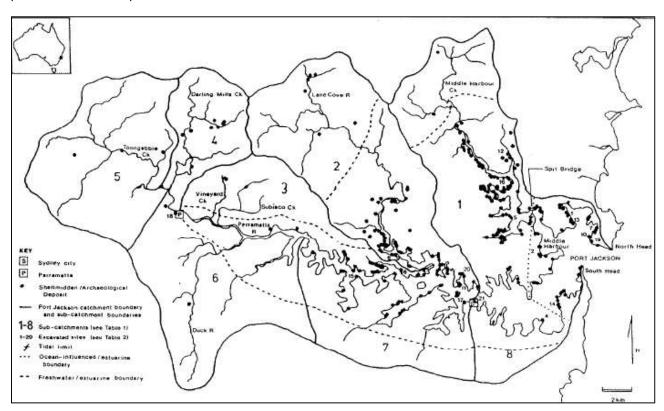


Photo 12 Port Jackson catchment area, sub catchment and aquatic zones, with registered shell midden and archaeological deposit sites as at 28 February 1990 and known excavated sites (V. Attenbrow 1990)

White & McDonald (2010) undertook a review of previous work in the Rouse Hill development area, located approximately 26 kilometres west of the study area. In determining Aboriginal occupation of the area, previous excavations considered stream order, distance from water, landform, aspect, and distance to silcrete sources. As a result of the assessment, the following statements were made:

- Stream order: water supply was a significant factor influencing Aboriginal land use and habitation in the area. There was a correlation between increasing stream order and larger numbers and higher densities of artefacts (from a comparison of first, second, and fourth order stream).
- Distance from water: the results show that the assumption that sites would be clustered within 50 metres of water sources was not entirely correct from the data available. In first order stream landscapes, there was no significant correlation between artefact distribution and distance to water. In second order landscapes, artefact density was highest within 50 metres of water, and then declined with increasing distance. In fourth order landscapes, density was highest between 51-100 metres from water.



- Landform: Artefact density was considered to be lowest on upper slopes and ridgetops, with density increasing on mid and lower slopes. Density was highest in terrace landforms, and lower on creek flats, likely due to repeated flooding events and the erosion it caused.
- Distance to silcrete sources: the results of the study showed no significant difference between sites located closer to or further away from silcrete sources. However, 6 kilometres was the maximum tested distance from silcrete sources, so the sample is only representative of a limited area.
- Aspect: only appeared to have an influence on sites in the lower parts of the valleys which may have been sited to take advantage of steady factors such as the rising/setting sun and wind direction. Sites in higher parts of valleys may have been influenced by weather and other factors such as weather exposure.

The study concluded that landform and distance from water had the biggest impact on site distribution, with artefacts becoming more numerous closer to creeks, and along higher order creeks. It also found that artefacts are found on all landforms; although, landform type influences artefact distribution, with the preference being for slightly elevated, well-drained areas in the lower parts of valleys.

HLA-Envirosciences (2003) undertook archaeological subsurface testing at Eden Gardens, Macquarie Park, NSW, approximately 14.5 kilometres south-west of the study area. The testing program consisted of nine test pits excavated along two transects, each pit measuring 50 by 50 centimeters. The purpose of the excavations was to establish the nature of soil profiles across the subject site, and to clear sandstone outcropping in a controlled manner to identify potential engravings. Test excavations encountered disturbance across all test pits. In one pit, a quartz artefact was identified along with one potential artefact. There was European material present at a greater depth in this pit however, suggesting that the artefact was in a disturbed context. No other artefacts were identified, and no engravings were identified on the sandstone outcrop.

Irish (2004) undertook an assessment of Aboriginal scarred trees at Sydney Olympic Park as part of the Aboriginal History and Connections Program (AHCP), established by the Parklands Unit at Sydney Olympic Park, approximately 10 kilometres south-west of the study area. The purpose of the AHCP was to explore Aboriginal connections to the Homebush Bay area of Sydney from the earliest occupation until the present day. The ACHP found that the Sydney Olympic Park landscape had been heavily disturbed by historical land use practices such as land reclamation and industrial activities. The ACHP found that the only area within Sydney Olympic Park that had any potential to contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation and cultural activity was the relict Cumberland Woodland known as the Wanngal (Newington) Woodland, within the Newington Nature Reserve (Irish, P. 2004, p. 59). A survey of the Woodland was conducted as part of this assessment in order to relocate a number of scarred trees recorded in the area. This assessment determined that none of the previously recorded scarred trees were Aboriginal in origin, as the characteristics associated with cultural scarring were not present and the trees were much too young to have been scarred by Aboriginal people. A number of previously unrecorded artefact scatters were however identified during the survey.

Aboriginal Heritage Office (2011) completed a broad planning study for Aboriginal heritage in the City of Ryde LGA, located approximately 12 kilometers south-west of the study area. The purpose of the study was to identify, access, and re-record all Aboriginal sites located in the City of Ryde, to provide a planning document for conserving cultural values, and to provide a schedule for conservation works. It was concluded that 56 sites were recorded in the City of Ryde, most of which were rock shelters and middens. The LGA was divided into three Sections: Area 1–Lane Cove River; Area 2–Central Plateau; and Area 3–Parramatta River. Area 1 was dominated by rock shelters, engravings, and grinding grooves. Area 2 contained a single artefact scatter. The report recommended a program for staff education take place to enable workers to identify and avoid Aboriginal sites, and regular monitoring of sites in the LGA was to be undertaken to ensure that Aboriginal sites were appropriately managed.



Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology (2015) undertook test excavations as part of mitigation measures for impacts to Aboriginal heritage for the construction of a new section of boardwalk in Glades Bay Park, Gladesville, approximately 15 kilometres south-west of the study area. These test excavations were carried out under an AHIP. Three test pits measuring 50 by 50 centimetres were excavated; no Aboriginal objects or archaeological deposits were identified. The soil profile presented redeveloped alluvial and colluvial soil that were waterlogged and affected by tide movements, overlying sandstone bedrock. Shell material was present on a partly grassed flat sandstone platform approximately 0.5 metres east of the boardwalk, and it was suggested that it was also likely that archaeological deposits may be present in this area due to its location above the high water mark and higher likelihood of survival. This assessment indicated that AHIMS 45-6-1925/Bill Mitchell Park 5; RYDE 220 was restricted to the surface of the rock platform with a low likelihood that archaeological shell midden material would occur in sub-surface deposits in the immediate vicinity.

Biosis (2021) undertook an ADDA for the proposed residential development at 94 Hopetoun Avenue, Vaucluse, approximately 14.5 kilometres south of the study area. Background research illustrated that an abundance of engravings had been previously recorded throughout the Vaucluse area and the wider Sydney region, attributed to proximity to fresh water and coastal resources. It is likely Aboriginal people utilised the study area for both occupation and resource gathering. However, the erosional patterns present in the Hawkesbury soil landscape and the extensive residential development visible throughout the majority of the assessment area suggests that there is a low potential for intact Aboriginal deposits to exist as the disturbances will have removed any Aboriginal sites.

Biosis (2023) completed an ACHA for the proposed development located at 50-88 Parraween Street and 59-67 Gerard Street, Cremorne, approximately 11 kilometres south of the study area. While the assessment area was surrounded by rock shelters and rock engraving sites as the closest Aboriginal sites, the relatively flat platform indicates that vertical sandstone exposures were not expected. This suggested that further possible rock shelters would be unlikely. Furthermore, the area's proximity to other sites of Aboriginal heritage and its position on an elevated outlook over the bay may indicate a landscape feature considered of cultural significance. The background researched completed with the archaeological survey confirmed the assessment area as low potential due to the extensive disturbances, land clearance and heavily modified through multiple phases of residential development.

#### 3.2.2 Local overview

Conyers (1990) completed an assessment which consisted of background research and a survey carried out to record the 'Aboriginal carvings and areas' in the Lane Cove River State Recreation Area, located approximately 9.2 kilometres south-west (Conyers 1990, p. 1). The predictive modelling undertaken for the project identified the coastal margins of the area as the likely location of shell midden deposits, occurring in both open contexts and rock shelters. Areas where the underlying geology consists of shales were considered the locations where campsites, potential archaeological deposits (PADs), quarries and scarred trees would occur, with it being noted that due to extensive vegetation clearance scarred trees are unlikely to be identified. Areas overlying the Hawkesbury Sandstone were the likely locations of rock shelters, art sites, rock engravings, and grinding grooves (Conyers 1990, pp. 30–4). The survey relocated three previously recorded sites, identified seven new sites, and noted five potential habitation sites. The three relocated sites were all rock engravings. Two newly recorded sites were rock engravings, and five were middens. The five potential habitation sites were all rock shelters with PADs. It was recommended that all sites be managed appropriately, and in some cases be subject to further investigation.

Brayshaw and McDonald (1987) conducted an archaeological survey of the Bicentennial Coastal Walkway from Queenscliff to Palm Beach, located approximately 7.7 kilometres south-east of the study area. In total five new sites and one area of scattered shell were recorded during this survey. Only one site, a shelter with



midden deposit, required further assessment as it was the only site that was in good condition and relatively undisturbed. All of the other sites were either completely or partially destroyed and had very low or no archaeological potential.

Therin (2007) completed an Aboriginal heritage assessment of 84A McCarrs Creek Road, Church Point, located approximately 9 kilometres north of the study area. The assessment included background research and a field investigation. Therin developed the following statements:

- "[...] the shoreline and waters of Pittwater offer abundant food resources. A variety of shell fish are common (or were) around the foreshore and numerous fish species are present within the waters. The contents of Aboriginal middens located within the local area indicate that shellfish and fish were an important food resource for Aboriginal people living in the area.
- Geology is also an important factor influencing the distribution of Aboriginal sites in the local area. The
  presence of rock shelters, pigment and engraved art and grinding grooves is dictated by the presence of
  suitable sandstone outcrops. The Hawkesbury sandstone geology of the area means that these site types are
  relatively common,
- While the majority of the sites in the area are located in proximity to the shoreline, this is not to say that areas away from the shore were not used by Aboriginal people. Terrestrial flora and fauna were also important in the Aboriginal diet." (Therin 2007, p. 11)

The field investigation resulted in the identification of one rock shelter site with midden. Sydney cockle *Anadara trapezia* and Sydney Rock Oyster *Crassostrea commercialis* were identified within the midden. The extent of the midden could not be determined due to extensive grass coverage. Therin recommended that further assessment would be required, including a permit to test the rock shelter and Aboriginal community consultation.

Biosis (2011a) undertook an ADDA for a proposed Ausgrid 11kV access track at Laurel Road East, Ingleside, located approximately 5.9 kilometres north-east of the study area. The ADDA included background research and a field investigation. Predictive modelling indicated that small shelters, rock art (particularly engravings) and axe grinding grooves may lie beneath the dense vegetation cover within the study area. The report concluded that vegetation clearance works should be monitored to prevent harm to rock engravings or axe grinding grooves.

Biosis (2011b) conducted a survey for a 11 kilovolt pedestrian access track off Consul Road to Beacon Hill Road, Brookvale approximately 7.5 kilometres south-east of the study area. The field inspection identified a rock shelter site with art (AHIMS 45-6-2975/CS1 (Brookvale)) as well as extensive sandstone outcroppings in the study area. Predictive modelling for this project identified that small rock shelters and grinding grooves may be present beneath dense vegetation.

Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology (2012) (DSCA) completed an Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment for a proposed subdivision at 100 South Creek Road, Cromer, located approximately 5.1 kilometres north of the study area. The assessment included background research, and a field inspection. DSCA noted sandstone outcropping outside of the study area. AHIMS 45-6-1760/South Creek 1 and AHIMS 45-6-1851/South Creek were unable to be located in DSCA's assessment due to weathering of the sandstone. The following was noted in the predictive modelling:

A considerable number of engraving sites are known to occur in the local Warringah landscape.
 Engravings can occur in groups with numerous depictions of animals, human figures, possible spiritual motifs, and other images of equipment such as shields, or single depictions that generally



are found to occur on extensive level sandstone platforms along with smaller ledges and rock exposures.

- Axe grinding grooves may be found where suitable sandstone is exposed in, or adjacent to, creeks or
  on elevated platforms where wet-grinding techniques are possible adjacent to natural rock holes and
  shallow 'basins'. Axe/hatchet grinding grooves may occur in large 'clusters' that serves to facilitate
  their ready recognition or may conversely comprise isolated items that are often difficult to detect
  within certain light conditions.
- Open camp sites are likely to occur on dry and relatively flat landforms along or adjacent to both major and minor watercourses, along with foreshore zones. However, repeatedly or continuously occupied sites are more likely to be located on elevated ground situated at principal creek confluences in the local landscape.
- Surface scatters of flaked stone artefacts (or potentially durable food remains such as animal and fish bone or shell) are often buried in alluvial or colluvial deposits and only become visible when subsurface sediments are exposed by erosion or disturbance.
- Isolated artefacts occur without any associated evidence for prehistoric activity or occupation
  anywhere in the landscape and may represent the random loss, deliberate discard or abandonment
  of artefacts, or the remains of dispersed artefact scatters.
- Manuports are items consisting of raw materials of stone that do not naturally occur within the soil profiles of a given region.

No additional sites were identified by the visual inspection and DSCA postulated that there were potential engravings that were covered by vegetation or may be buried. DSCA recommended that MLALC and Northern Beaches Council be involved in developing management measures for AHIMS 45-6-1760/South Creek 1 (Site A), and that an AHIP be submitted for AHIMS 45-6-1851/South Creek.; (Site B). DSCA also recommended that an additional site (Area C) be investigated to determine if there were any Aboriginal heritage values related to Site A. Area C was noted to have sandstone outcrops outside of the study area.

Biosis (2012) conducted a survey of a project area approximately 7.3 kilometres west of the study area within Deep Creek Reserve to inform the installation of two water crossing signs. Disturbances were present in the form of water movement, and urban infrastructure. No Aboriginal objects or midden material was detected along the bank at sign location 1; this was attributed to the site's exposure to the tidal zone which causes weathering. Sign location 2 was located within the creek where intact archaeological material is unlikely to be present. As a result, archaeological potential within the area was considered low.

Biosis (2014) completed a preliminary Aboriginal heritage assessment for the proposed redevelopment of a community health centre at Mona Vale Hospital, located approximately 7.9 kilometres north of the study area. The assessment included background research and a field investigation. Background research indicated that previously recorded Aboriginal sites are likely to be located within beaches and areas that have suitable sandstone overhangs for shelter sites. A review of the soil characteristics also indicated that the topsoil is very shallow and is no more than 300 millimetres deep, and would be the only horizon with potential to contain archaeological deposits. The assessment determined that there was low potential for Aboriginal sites or objects to be present as geotechnical investigations undertaken had confirmed that the natural topsoil had been removed.

Biosis (2020) completed an Aboriginal archaeological assessment for the same study area as the DSCA (2012) report listed above at 100 South Creek Road, Cromer. The assessment was required in order to determine if further investigation in the form of testing would be required for the project. The assessment included background research and a field investigation, which identified two areas of moderate archaeological



potential. This was due to the presence of existing AHIMS sites within and in close proximity to the study area, the undisturbed nature of these locations, the topography, geology and soil landscapes present, and previous assessment by DSCA (2012). Biosis recommended that the proposed works avoid the AHIMS sites inside and outside the study area and avoid the areas of moderate potential. If those areas were unable to be avoided as part of future development of the study area, further assessment would be required.

#### 3.2.3 Previous assessments within the study area

DSCA (2022) completed an Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment for the current study area at Belrose on behalf of MLALC to inform the Planning Proposal to rezone the land parcel. Background research conducted for this project indicated that PAD sites may be present in association with sandstone overhangs of sufficient size to provide shelter for at least one individual. PAD sites may represent exposures of sizeable and relatively flat and smooth sandstone rock platforms suitable for engravings that are partially or extensively obscured by vegetation and erosion. Over the course of the fieldwork, the three sites previously recorded in the study area (AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3) were relocated, with mention given to the heavy vegetation coverage possibly obscuring further engravings which may be present on the large sandstone outcroppings. No previously unrecorded sites were identified over the course of the survey. It was recommended that work commence, with the engraving sites protected by nominated open space areas identified by the structure plan.

#### 3.2.4 AHIMS site analysis

A search of the AHIMS database (Client Service ID: 867105) identified 111 Aboriginal archaeological sites and two Aboriginal Places within a 2.5 x 2.5 kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Three of these registered sites are located within the study area and are summarised below (Section 3.2.5, Figure 6). AHIMS search results are provided in Appendix 1. Table 7 provides the frequencies of Aboriginal site types in the vicinity of the study area. The mapping coordinates recorded for these sites were checked for consistency with their descriptions and location on maps from Aboriginal heritage reports where available. These descriptions and maps were relied upon where there were notable discrepancies.

It should be noted that the AHIMS database reflects Aboriginal sites that have been officially recorded and included on the list. Large areas of NSW have not been subject to systematic, archaeological survey; hence AHIMS listings may reflect previous survey patterns and should not be considered a complete list of Aboriginal sites within a given area.

Some recorded sites consist of more than one element, for example artefacts and a modified tree, however for the purposes of this breakdown and the predictive modelling, all individual site types will be studied and compared. This explains why there are **127** results presented here, compared to the **111** sites identified in AHIMS (Table 7).

Table 7 AHIMS site type frequency

Site type	Number of occurrences	Frequency (%)	
Art (Pigment or Engraved)	94	74.02	
Artefact	14	11.02	
Grinding Groove	6	4.72	
PAD	3	2.36	
Stone Arrangement	3	2.36	



Site type	Number of occurrences	Frequency (%)
Shell	2	1.57
Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming	1	0.79
Aboriginal Resource and Gathering	1	0.79
Burial	1	0.79
Stone Quarry	1	0.79
Water Hole	1	0.79
Total	127	100.00

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the  $2.5 \times 2.5$  kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that art sites are the most commonly represented site type in proximity of the study area, representing 74.02% (n=94). This is followed by artefact sites representing 11.02% (n=14) and grinding groove sites representing 4.72% (n=6). PAD and stone arrangement sites represent 2.36% each (n=3 each), followed by shell at 1.57% (n=2). The least represented site types in proximity to the study area are Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming sites, Aboriginal Resource and Gathering sites, burials, stone quarries and water hole sites, each representing 0.79% (n=1 each).

#### 3.2.5 Aboriginal sites located within the study area

Three previously recorded Aboriginal sites are located within the study area boundary (Figure 6). These are all rock engraving sites and are summarised below. The relationship between the three sites is depicted in Photo 13.



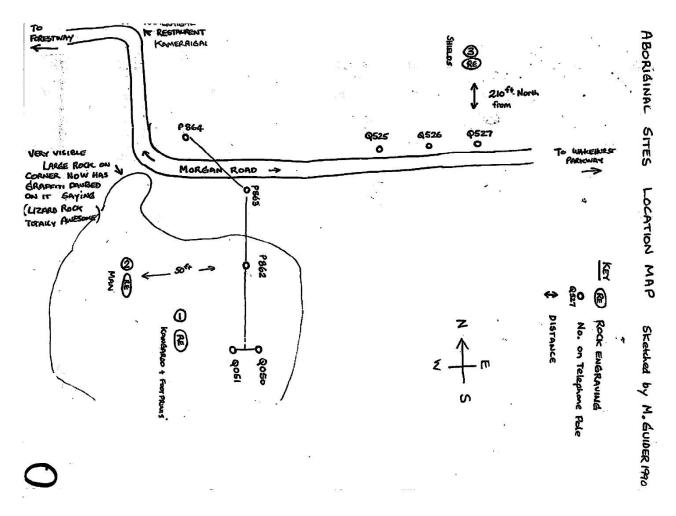


Photo 13 Proximity of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo), AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man) and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 site card).

#### AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1

AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site located on the south side of Morgan Road, Belrose Forestway, on a prominent sandstone rock outcrop. The site was recorded by Michael Guider in 1990. The engraving depicts a kangaroo, 8 feet long by 4.5 feet wide (2.43 metres long by 1.37 metres wide), with nine large footprints leading up to it (Photo 14). The site card suggests the footprints may signify a "culture heroes path, eg Biamie", but that this theory requires further research. The kangaroo is male, with markings on face, tail and hind legs. The site card states that the large footprints appear on three sites in the area (two at Belrose, one at Terry Hills). The site condition is described as good.



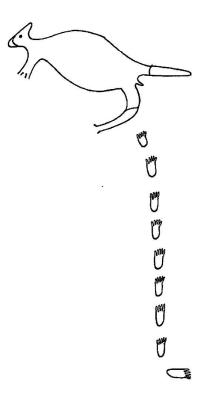


Photo 14 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 Site Card)

#### AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2

AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a second rock engraving site recorded within the study area by Guider, 1990. The site condition is described as good but faint, with engravings that depict the figure of a man with his head pointing north, towards Morgan Road, Belrose (Photo 15). The man is in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, with two mundoes across his leg and nearby (footprint engravings). The man is 6.5 feet in length (1.98 metres), with a line across one arm; the site card notes a similarity with the markings on the kangaroo depicted at AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1, located 72 feet (21.95 metres) south-east.



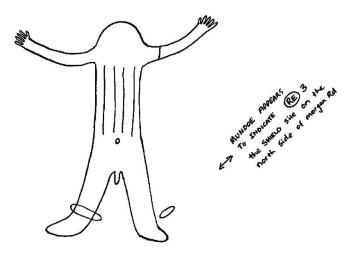


Photo 15 AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 Site Card)

#### **AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3**

AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is the third rock engraving site recorded by Guider within the study area. The engraving depicts two shields (Photo 16). It is noted on the site card that moss has begun covering the area, so while no additional engravings were recorded, more may be present. The site condition is described as fair, with natural weathering and damage from European activities. The engravings were identified at night using the oblique lighting technique, as engravings are difficult to see in the daylight.



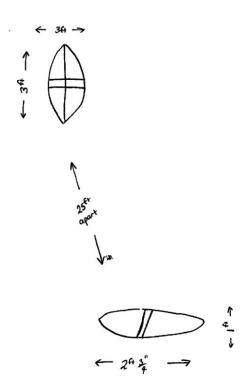


Photo 16 AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 engraving sketch by Guider, 1990 (Source: AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 Site Card)

#### 3.2.6 Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) National Heritage Assessment

It is to be noted that these sites, as well as the extent of the study area, are currently within the boundaries of the larger Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, which extends from the coastline to approximately Box Hill. The area is described as "one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia" and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (AHC 2020).

The area is being assessed as it may meet one or more of the National Heritage Criteria for Aboriginal heritage;

This place may have outstanding heritage value to the nation due the place's significant density of rock art over area of approximately 2 million hectares of eastern NSW. Rock art is described by Indigenous elders as their history books, with the largest sites being libraries and provides a tangible record of the Aboriginal peoples' traditions, presence, cultural practices and knowledge systems (AHC 2020).

The estimated timeframe for the assessment of this area is late June 2025 (AHC 2020). It should be noted that if the Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) is approved for inclusion on the National Heritage list, an assessment under the EPBC Act may be required.

#### 3.2.7 Aboriginal Places located in vicinity of the study area

Two Aboriginal Places are located within 2.5 kilometres of the study area. These sites are summarised below.

#### **Moon Rock**

The Moon Rock Aboriginal Place is an Aboriginal rock engraving site located approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the study area (Heritage Item ID: 5063549). Engravings within the area are extensive, depicting a



variety of land animals, human figures, tools, animal tracks, and fish. The site gained its name from engravings depicting the phases of the moon. The sites were initially recorded in late 1973, then re-recorded in 1992.

The site contains numerous AHIMS sites, each with multiple engravings. Moon Rock is recorded within AHIMS 45-6-0224/Belrose (Moon Rock), AHIMS 45-6-0225/Belrose (Moon Rock) A, AHIMS 45-6-0226/Belrose (Moon Rock) B, AHIMS 45-6-0822/Belrose; DC/RE, and AHIMS 45-6-0823/Belrose; DC/RFa.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows:

The engravings seen at Moon Rock represent different aspects of the local culture that were taught to the young men that were being initiated there. The young men would be led ceremoniously through the site where they would gain the knowledge of the older and previously initiated men, giving them higher status within their community.

The protection and preservation of this site is of high importance to the Metropolitan LALC and the Aboriginal community within its boundaries as it is a representation of their culture, cultural practices and also their spiritual and religious beliefs, and provides tangible evidence of the Aboriginal occupation and use of the land in prehistoric and historic times (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2016).

## **Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site**

The Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site Aboriginal Place comprises of a rock shelter with associated artefacts, along with a rock platform with intact Aboriginal engravings (Heritage Item ID: 5067304). The site is located approximately 1.7 kilometres east of the study area. There are further unregistered items on the property such as middens and grinding grooves.

The statement of significance for the site is as follows;

- The area contains a rock shelter with associated Aboriginal artefacts as well as a rock platform with well-known, intact
  Aboriginal engravings, both of which are highly expressive and significant for their evidence of occupation and traditional activity by the traditional Aboriginal people of the area.
- The large rock shelter containing a fire hearth, grinding grooves and nearby midden material shows evidence of occupation of the area.
- The sites are significant as they may be associated with ceremonial activities and stories of the traditional people of the area.
- This area is highly significant to the contemporary local and metropolitan Aboriginal community as the nominated land, and its Aboriginal cultural heritage features, are part of a wider cultural landscape of the Northern Beaches region.
- The area comprising the immediate vicinity to this site stretches from Dee Why to Narrabeen lagoons contains at least 24 sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance which may be related to this site.
- The rock platform and shelter would have been a place where the traditional owners of the land passed through regularly. The views from the engraved rock platform include the ocean and lagoons on the eastern coast line at Narrabeen and Dee Why. In addition, the rock platform on which the engravings are located affords a view of local vegetation, the yearly growth cycle of which was used to inform traditional people of the food resources available in the broader area. On the rock platform there is evidence of fire pits indicating regular use and occupation. Indications are that this may have been an important traditional education place for the local Indigenous people.



The significance of the rock engravings and shelter is enhanced as they are a highly intact (despite the intrusion of bike riders) and are an unusually numerous and varied group of engravings. In all, there are 36 figures noted to be engraved in the platform on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). These include male (Baiame) figures hunting kangaroos or wallabies, male figures throwing clubs, fish, echidna, sharks, skates, shields, a bullroarer, a necklace of shells, and other representations including a large number of footprints or mundoes.

The site is still used by groups as a site to learn about Aboriginal cultural heritage and potentially its educative value could be expanded through sensitive interpretation (Heritage NSW & State Heritage Inventory 2020).



#### 3.3 Discussion

The study area is underlain by the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological unit, in an area of minimally disturbed land. This underlying geology indicates an increased likelihood that grinding groove, shelter and engraving sites will be present. In the predictive model developed by Therin (2007), the underlying Hawkesbury Sandstone is noted to be 'an important factor influencing the distribution of Aboriginal sites in the local area. The presence of rock shelters, pigment and engraved art and grinding grooves is dictated by the presence of suitable sandstone outcrops. The Hawkesbury sandstone geology of the area means that these site types are relatively common' (Therin 2007, p. 11). This is supported by the predictive model developed by DSCA (2012), who notes that a 'considerable number of engraving sites are known to occur in the local Warringah landscape ... that generally are found to occur on extensive level sandstone platforms along with smaller ledges and rock exposures', and that 'axe grinding grooves may be found where suitable sandstone is exposed in, or adjacent to, creeks or on elevated platforms'.

In combination with the underlying geology, the study area contains five distinct soil landscapes. This includes the erosional Lambert and Gymea landscapes, the colluvial Hawkesbury, residual Hornsby, and transferral Oxford Falls landscapes. These landscapes can impact the archaeological potential of different zones of the study area. Erosional soil landscapes comprise soils that are generally subject to movement of shallow soils, which can result is poor preservation of the archaeological record. Additionally, when the land is cleared of vegetation, the soils can be subjected to more extensive levels of erosion. This could suggest that Aboriginal sites and objects may unlikely be present where erosion has occurred (Chapman et al. 1989, pp. 64–7, McInnes 1997, p.45, cited by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited 2016, p. 13). This would result in the poor preservation of archaeological material at shallow depths, but may also potentially lead to the exposure of any deeper archaeological deposits where topsoil has eroded away.

Colluvial soils, such as the Hawkesbury, are similarly prone to soil movement and are often heavily impacted by mass movement, and the parent soil material consists mostly of colluvial mass movement debris, in conjunction with deposits from landslides and mudflows (Andersson & McNamara 2009, pp. 21). The deposition of soils due to mass movement events may preserve archaeological deposits beneath it though conversely, soil movement can also result in higher levels of subsurface disturbance. Deep soil deposits such as these also provide potential for archaeological deposits to remain intact within areas of superficial disturbances. In contrast, due to their age and slow accumulation, residual soil landscapes such as the have reasonable potential to contain archaeological deposits in an open context, such as stone artefacts derived from occupation sites. Other occupational evidence might include scarred trees where remnant vegetation occurs. However, the slow accumulation and high impact of extensive land clearing (usually associated with pastoral and civic development) often results in poor preservation of archaeological material where disturbances have occurred. Similarly, transferral soils are subject to erosion and movement. They are often comprised of soils that have been washed down from upslope areas. Additionally, when the land is cleared of vegetation these soils can also be impacted by erosion. The deposition of soils may preserve archaeological deposits beneath it though conversely, soil movement can also result in higher levels of subsurface disturbance. Deep soil deposits such as these also provide potential for archaeological deposits to remain intact within areas of superficial disturbances.

The predictive model developed for the local region of the study area by Therin (2007) indicated that 'while the majority of the sites in the area are located in proximity to the shoreline, this is not to say that areas away from the shore were not used by Aboriginal people. Terrestrial flora and fauna were also important in the Aboriginal diet' (Therin 2007, p. 11). The study area is transected by Snake Creek, a first-order non-perennial stream which runs through the western portion of the study area and continues in close proximity to the southern and eastern boundaries of the study area. Oxford Creek, a second-order non-perennial stream,



bounds the eastern portion of the study area. The availability of water and marine resources increases the likelihood that the study area would have been more consistently utilised.

Physical evidence of previous occupation and use of the study area is demonstrated by the presence of three rock engraving sites recorded: AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 (kangaroo); AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 (man); and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 (shields) rock engraving sites. These sites, the study area and wider area are all considered to fall into the Sydney Cultural Crescent Rock Art (NSW) area, described as 'one of the best and most comprehensive representation of rock art in Australia' and is currently being assessed for possible inclusion on the National Heritage List (AHC 2020).

In addition, two Aboriginal Places are located within 3 kilometres of the study area. Moon Rock and the Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site are both extensive sites that further indicate intensive occupation of the wider local area, and as the study area is devoid of major human-caused disturbances, there is an increased likelihood that additional archaeological sites or material will be present or be preserved.

#### 3.3.1 Predictive statements

A series of statements have been formulated to broadly predict the type and character of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites likely to exist throughout the study area and where they are more likely to be located.

These statements are based on:

- Site distribution in relation to landscape descriptions within the study area.
- Consideration of site type, raw material types and site densities likely to be present within the study area.
- Findings of the ethnohistorical research on the potential for material traces to present within the study area.
- Potential Aboriginal use of natural resources present or once present within the study area.
- Consideration of the temporal and spatial relationships of sites within the study area and surrounding region.

Table 8 indicates the site types most likely to be encountered across the present study area. The definition of each site type is described firstly, followed by the predicted likelihood of this site type occurring within the study area.

Table 8 Aboriginal site prediction statements

Site type	Site description	Potential
Flaked stone artefact scatters and isolated artefacts	Artefact scatter sites can range from high- density concentrations of flaked stone and ground stone artefacts to sparse, low-density 'background' scatters and isolated finds.	High: Stone artefact sites have been previously recorded in the region across a wide range of landforms; they have a high likelihood to be present in undisturbed areas within the study area.
Axe grinding grooves	Grooves created in stone platforms through ground stone tool manufacture.	High: The geology of the study area is underlain by Hawkesbury Sandstone and likely contains suitable horizontal sandstone rock outcrops for axe-grinding grooves. The presence of Snake Creek and other gullies could also feature water runoff, which could



Site type	Site description	Potential
		have been opportunistically used for grinding grooves. Therefore, there is a high likelihood for axe grinding grooves to occur in the study area.
Rock shelters with art and / or deposit	Rock shelter sites include rock overhangs, shelters or caves, and generally occur on, or next to, moderate to steeply sloping ground characterised by cliff lines and escarpments. These naturally formed features may contain rock art, stone artefacts or midden deposits and may also be associated with grinding grooves.	High: The study area is underlain by Hawkesbury Sandstone, including suitable sandstone exposures or overhangs possessing sufficient sheltered space exist. Three rock engraving sites have been previously recorded within the study area, with art (pigment and engraving) sites representing 74.02% (n=94) of sites within a 2.5 km radius of the study area.
Potential archaeological deposits (PADs)	Potential sub surface deposits of cultural material.	Moderate: PADs have been previously recorded in the region across a wide range of landforms including alluvial flats. They have a moderate likelihood to be present in undisturbed landforms.
Modified trees	Trees with cultural modifications	Medium: A number of mature native trees have survived within the study area, due to moderate vegetation clearing from the 1800s onwards.
Aboriginal Places	Aboriginal Places may not contain any 'archaeological' indicators of a site, but are nonetheless important to Aboriginal people. They may be places of cultural, spiritual or historic significance. Often they are places tied to community history and may include natural features (such as swimming and fishing holes), places where Aboriginal political events commenced or particular buildings.	Medium: There are currently two recorded Aboriginal Places within 2.5 km of the study area: Moon Rock; and Cromer Heights Rock Engravings and Shelter Site.
Shell middens	Deposits of shells accumulated over either singular large resource gathering events or over longer periods of time.	Low: Shell midden sites have not been recorded within the study area. There is some likelihood for shell middens to be located in vicinity of permanent water sources. There is a low likelihood of shell middens being present within the study area due to the absence of permanent water courses.
Quarries	Raw stone material procurement sites.	Low: There is one previously recorded quarry in vicinity of the area; AHIMS 45-6-1850/Middle Creek is located approximately 2 km east of the study area. There is a low likelihood for a quarry site to be present within the study area due to the underlying geologies inability to provide quarriable resources.
Burials	Aboriginal burial sites.	Low: Aboriginal burial sites are generally situated within deep, soft sediments, caves or hollow trees. Areas of deep sandy deposits will have the potential for Aboriginal burials. The soil profiles associated with the study area are not commonly associated with burials. Burials



Site type	Site description	Potential
		are known to occur within sufficiently sized rock shelters which have the potential to appear within the Hawkesbury Sandstone unit; However, according to previous reports in the study area sufficiently sized shelters are not present.
Aboriginal ceremony and Dreaming Sites	Such sites are often intangible places and features and are identified through oral histories, ethnohistoric data, or Aboriginal informants.	Low: There are currently no recorded mythological stories for the study area. One site of this type appeared in the AHIMS database search and is located over 2 km to the east.
Post-contact sites	These are sites relating to the shared history of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people of an area and may include places such as missions, massacre sites, post-contact camp sites and buildings associated with post-contact Aboriginal use.	Low: There are no post-contact sites previously recorded in the study area and historical sources do not identify one.



# 4 Archaeological survey

A field survey of the study area was undertaken on 22 and 23 May 2024 by Mathew Smith (Senior Heritage Consultant), Bronte Baonza (Graduate Heritage Consultant) and Aaron Taylor (Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation). The field survey sampling strategy, methodology and a discussion of results are provided below.

## 4.1 Archaeological survey objectives

The objectives of the survey were to:

- Provide RAPs an opportunity to view the study area and to discuss previously identified Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in or within close proximity to the study area.
- Attempt to locate Aboriginal archaeological sites AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3;, AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road2; and 45-6-1219/Belrose; Morgan Road1; previously identified in the study area.
- Undertake a systematic survey of the study area targeting areas with the potential for Aboriginal heritage.
- Identify and record Aboriginal archaeological sites visible on the ground surface.
- Identify and record areas of PADs.

# 4.2 Archaeological survey methodology

The survey methods were intended to assess and understand the landforms and to determine whether any archaeological material from Aboriginal occupation or land use exists within the study area.

#### 4.2.1 Sampling strategy

The survey effort targeted landforms including valleys, ridge lines and benches for potential shelters and further engravings, as well as following the watercourses that intersect the study area for potential grinding grooves. Slopes were targeted as a last priority as this landform was expected to contain the lowest potential to contain archaeological material.

#### 4.2.2 Survey methods

The archaeological survey was conducted on foot with a field team of three members. Recording during the survey followed the archaeological survey requirements of the Code and industry best practice methodology. Information that recorded during the survey included:

- Aboriginal objects or sites present in the study area during the survey.
- Survey coverage.
- Any resources that may have been exploited by Aboriginal people.
- Landform.
- Photographs of the site indicating landform.



- Evidence of disturbance.
- Aboriginal artefacts, culturally modified trees or any other Aboriginal sites.

Where possible, identification of natural soil deposits within the study area was undertaken. Photographs and recording techniques were incorporated into the survey including representative photographs of survey units, landform, vegetation coverage, GSV and the recording of soil information for each survey unit were possible.

Any potential Aboriginal objects observed during the survey were documented and photographed. The location of Aboriginal cultural heritage and points marking the boundary of the landform elements were recorded using a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) and the Map Grid of Australia (94) coordinate system.

# 4.3 Archaeological survey results

A total of one targeted transect was walked across the sloped landforms with the three surveyors walking 2 metres apart when possible (Figure 8). This follows the methodology set out in Burke & Smith (2004, p. 65), which states that a single person can only effectively visually survey an area of two linear metres. Two previously identified Aboriginal sites, AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 and 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 were located. No previously unidentified sites or PADs were identified in the study area.

**Table 9** Survey Coverage

Survey unit	Landform	Survey unit area (m²)	Visibility (%)	Exposure (%)	Effective coverage area (m²)	Effective coverage (%)
1	Slope	4662.166729	10%	3%	13.98650019	0.3
2	Hollow	2598.862819	10%	3%	7.796588457	0.3
3	Valley	2826.81179	10%	3%	8.48043537	0.3
4	Spur	4437.506303	10%	3%	13.31251891	0.3
5	Ridge	155301.4768	10%	3%	465.9044303	0.3
6	Shoulder	524.474348	10%	3%	1.573423044	0.3

Table 10 Landform Coverage

Landform	Landform area (m²)	Area effectively surveyed (m²)	Landform effectively surveyed (%)	No. of Aboriginal sites	No. of artefacts or features
Slope	196487.856	13.98650019	0.007118252	0	0
Hollow	70077.49333	7.796588457	0.011125667	0	0
Valley	166124.2977	8.48043537	0.005104874	0	0
Spur	75205.06911	13.31251891	0.017701624	1	2
Ridge	155301.4768	465.9044303	0.619512003	2	1
Footslope	5756.477778	0	0	0	0
Pit	3592.614093	0	0	0	0



Landform	Landform area (m²)	Area effectively surveyed (m²)	Landform effectively surveyed (%)	No. of Aboriginal sites	No. of artefacts or features
Shoulder	35599.31023	1.573423044	0.004419813	0	0
Peak	3792.807189	0	0	0	0
Flat	1655.745443	0	0	0	0

## 4.3.1 Constraints to the survey

Within any archaeological survey there are several factors that influence the effectiveness (the likelihood of finding sites) of the survey. The primary factor that contributed to the effectiveness of the survey within the study area were the steep ridgelines (Photo 17 and Photo 18), and low visibility within the study area (Photo 19 and Photo 20). The dense vegetation and steep topography represented across the study area proved impassable for the survey team and limited the thoroughness of the survey overall, blocking access to the majority of Snake Creek in particular. As such, this area has been mapped as inaccessible for the purposes of this assessment.



Photo 17 Example of landscape constraint – Ridgeline and steep slope in the central portion of the study area, photo facing north-east





Photo 18 Example of landscape constraint – Ridgeline and steep slopes in the western portion of the study area, photo facing south



Photo 19 Example of GSV in the study area, photo facing south





Photo 20 Example of GSV within the study area, photo facing east

#### 4.3.2 Visibility

In most archaeological reports and guidelines visibility refers to GSV, and is usually a percentage estimate of the ground surface that is visible and allowing for the detection of (usually stone) artefacts that may be present on the ground surface (DECCW 2010). Visibility across the study area was generally low (0-10%) due to extensive leaf litter and extensive vegetation overgrowth which also limited access (Photo 21 and Photo 22). Access tracks and areas with exposed sandstone within the study area provided the areas of highest visibility overall (Photo 23 and Photo 24).





Photo 21 Example of low visibility (0%) due to leaf litter in the south western portion of the study area, photo facing north





Photo 22 Example of dense vegetation (0% GSV) limiting access, photo facing south



Photo 23 Example of sandstone outcropping in the central portion of the study area, photo facing west





Photo 24 Clearer GSV (10%) on trail towards creek in the southern portion of the study area, photo facing south

#### 4.3.3 Exposure

Exposure refers to the geomorphic conditions of the local landform being surveyed, and attempts to describe the relationship between those conditions and the likelihood the prevailing conditions provide for the exposure of (buried) archaeological materials. Whilst also usually expressed as a percentage estimate, exposure is different to visibility in that it is in part a summation of geomorphic processes, rather than a simple observation of the ground surface (Burke & Smith 2004, p. 79, DECCW 2010). Overall the study area displays areas of exposure along pathways, with the remainder of the study area displaying low levels of exposure due to the aforementioned dense vegetation and heavy leaf litter. Overall the exposure in the study area displays a sandy base layer, with exposure extending to approximately 2-3% of the study area (

Photo 25 and Photo 26).





Photo 25 Exposure (80%) along trail in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing south



Photo 26 Exposure along trail (30%) in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing east



#### 4.3.4 Disturbances

Disturbance in the study area is strongly associated with human agents. These include the installation of AusGrid poles within the eastern portions of the study area (Photo 27) which, although confined to a relatively small area, do impact and penetrate the ground and subsoils. As was discussed with members of MLALC during the survey, a major concern for the landowners are the incursions into the study area by recreational bike riders, with evidence of clay being dug up from the ground (Photo 28) and used to build ad hoc ramps in the eastern and south eastern (Photo 29). These activities have caused considerable disturbance and have the potential to seriously damage archaeological deposits. The ramps themselves lead bike riders onto the sandstone outcrop which contains the already faded AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 2; this increases the risk of damage to this site. Graffiti has also been located within the study area, painted onto rock outcrops (Photo 30). These activities risk damaging any potential unrecorded engraving sites.





Photo 27 Aus Grid pole in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing north east



Photo 28 Disturbance associated with construction of bike ramps in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing south





Photo 29 Example of ad hoc ramp constructed using clay in the south-eastern, photo facing west



Photo 30 Graffiti painted upon a rock outcrop in the eastern portion of the study area, photo facing north



# 4.4 Discussion of archaeological survey results

The archaeological survey consisted of a total of one meandering transect walked across the study area by three surveyors, targeting landforms most likely to hold archaeological potential. The study area lies within a complex landscape, with ridgelines, hillcrests, valleys and drainage depressions throughout. Snake Creek, one first order watercourse and one second order watercourse transect through the western and southern portions of the study area, and Oxford Creek running adjacent to the eastern portion of the study area. Predictive modelling for the Sydney region indicates that a high presence of watercourses would increase the potential for Aboriginal archaeological material due to increased proximity to water. The predictive model developed by Therin (2007) for the local region indicated that 'while the majority of the sites in the area are located in proximity to the shoreline, this is not to say that areas away from the shore were not used by Aboriginal people. Terrestrial flora and fauna were also important in the Aboriginal diet' (Therin 2007, p. 11).

The study area contains five separate soil landscapes, including the: Oxford Falls, a fluvial soil landscape prone to flooding; Hornsby soil landscape, a residual soil landscape which allows for archaeological deposits to be present in open context; Hawkesbury soil landscape, which is characterised as a colluvial landscape prone to mass movement events; and Lambert and Gymea soil landscapes, both of which are characterized by their erosional nature, allowing for great vulnerability to movement events especially in shallow soils. The broad geological unit underlying the study area is the Hawkesbury Sandstone unit, which is renowned for producing sandstone outcrops and overhangs.

A review of historic aerials depicts the study area as relatively undisturbed since the 1940s, with vegetation clearance occurring in small amounts surrounding the unsealed roads that form over the decades. Towards the turn of the 21st century, structures begin to appear to the north of the study area, likely bringing in further sub-surface infrastructure to support habitation which may have extended into the study area. It is also evident that bushfires have occurred in the study area based on discolouration of vegetation in imagery from the early 2000s. These bushfire events are capable of destroying mature vegetation and with them, evidence of scarred or modified trees.

No previously unrecorded Aboriginal sites were identified during the field investigation. Two of the three AHIMS sites (AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 and AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3) were located (Photo 31 and Photo 32). It should be noted that AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 was originally identified under low light conditions. Surveyors were unable to locate AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2. Aside from the previously recorded sites, the study area was determined to contain low potential to contain further archaeological sites. The inaccessible areas of Snake Creek have been given the 'Not surveyed – Inaccessible' distinction, and a buffer of 5 meters has been placed around it, whereas a 10 meter buffer has been placed around the sole confluence located in the study area. This is to reflect the predictions which state that cultural heritage is most likely to occur in close proximity to watercourses, with higher density and complexity in proximity to confluences. The purpose of these buffers is to avoid any unintentional impacts to areas not visited by the survey team. A 20 meter buffer around the AHIMS sites is also recommended to minimise any unintentional impacts (Figure 8 and Figure 9). As the sandstone outcrops within the study area are known to contain archaeologically sensitive material, it is recommended that these landforms be given special consideration when creating the development plan as part of the DA. This can be included as part of recommendation 3, the creation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

As mentioned above, the archaeological survey did not encounter further archaeological material. The potential for further archaeological material to be present within the study area was determined to be low. This determination was based off of the accounts of the archaeologists visiting the study area in collaboration with local context and predictive models. In particular the assessment made by DSCA (2022) of the study area



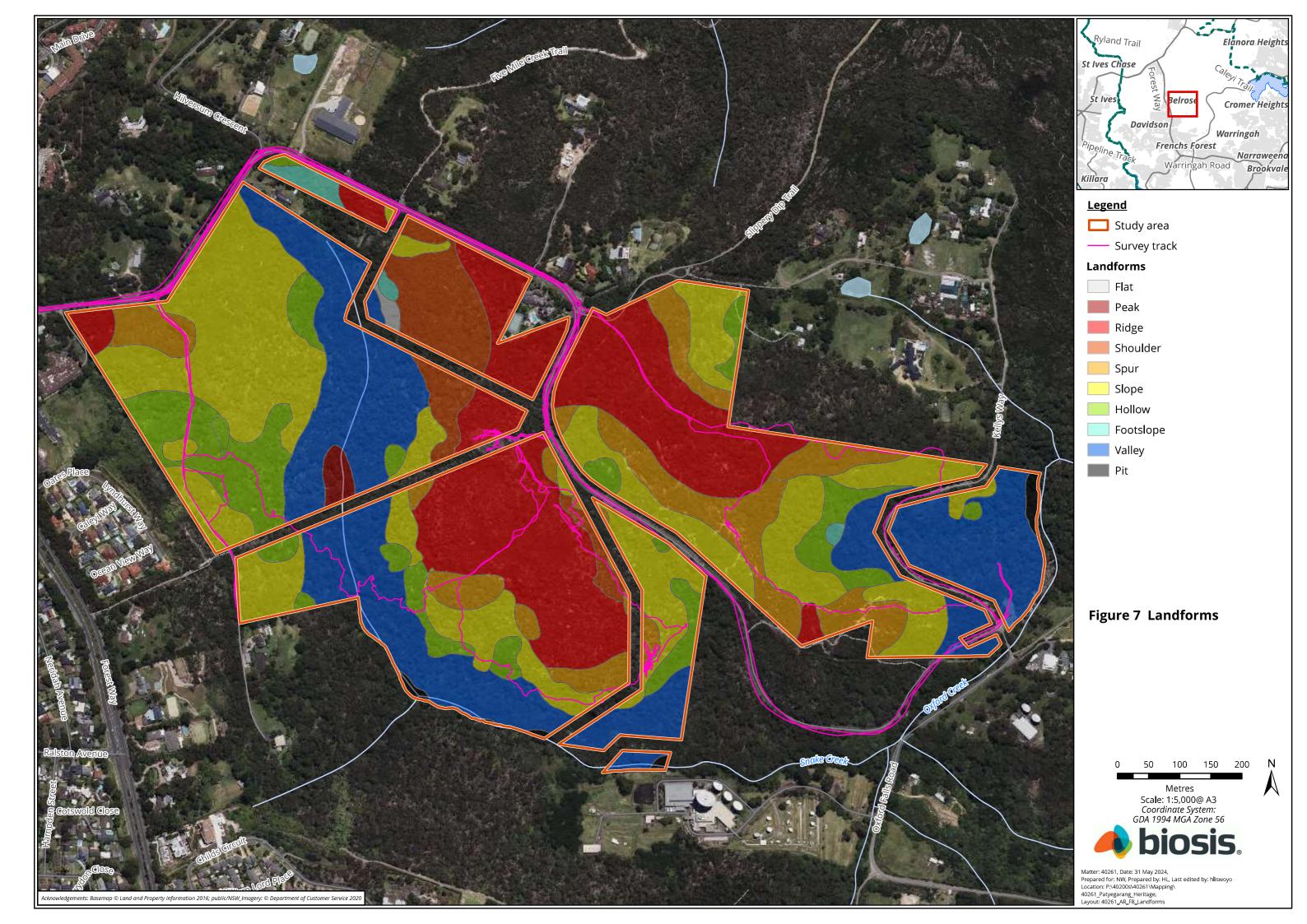
which indicated that the potential for archaeological sites to occur was dependent on adequately sized rock shelters which were not identified during the survey.

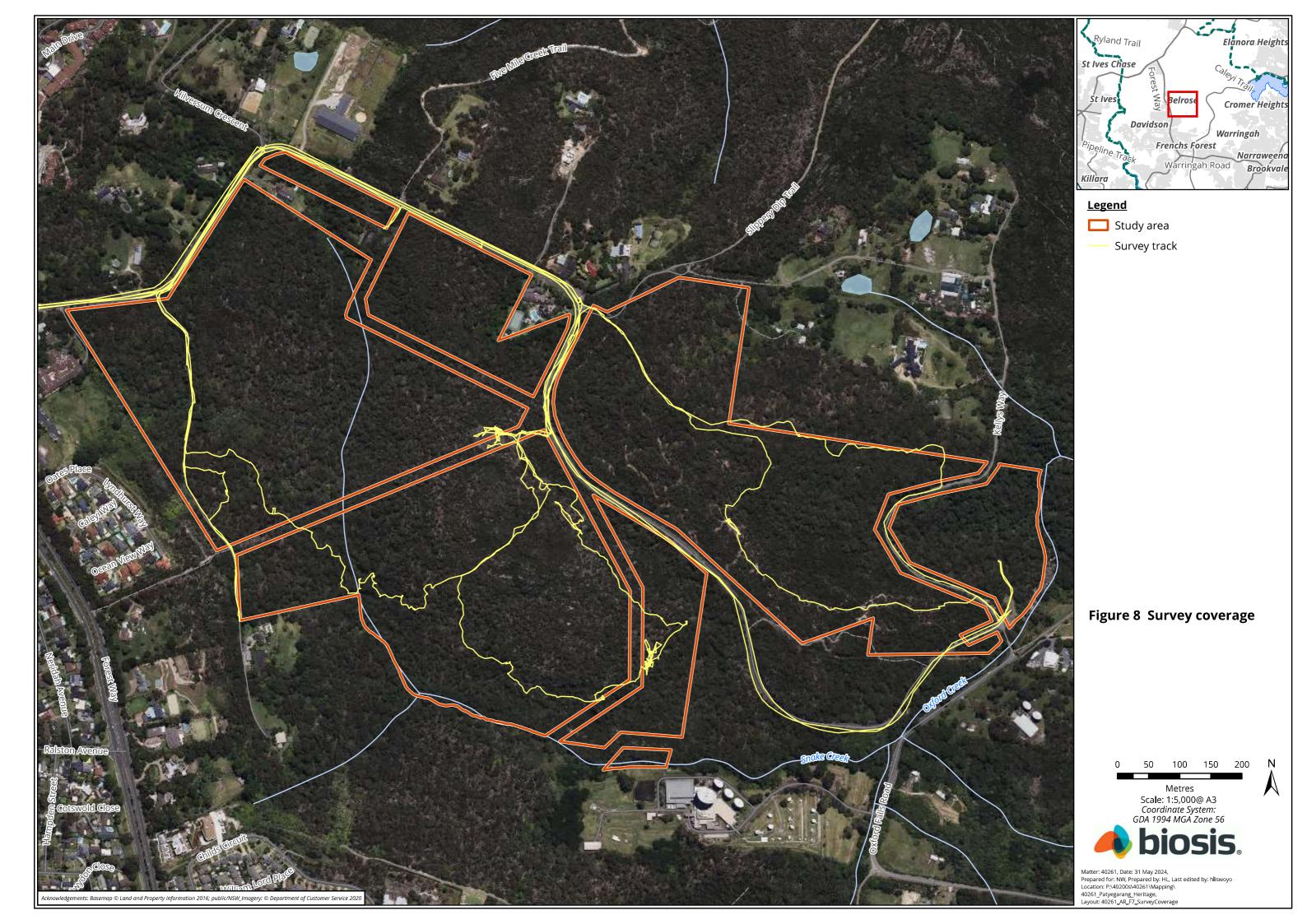


Photo 31 AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1;



Photo 32 AHIMS 45-6-2197 / Morgan Road 3;







# 5 Scientific values and significance assessment

The two main values addressed when assessing the significance of Aboriginal sites are cultural values to the Aboriginal community and archaeological (scientific) values. This report will assess scientific values while the ACHA report will detail the cultural values of Aboriginal sites in the study area.

# 5.1 Introduction to the assessment process

Heritage assessment criteria in NSW fall broadly within the significance values outlined in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter. This approach to heritage has been adopted by cultural heritage managers and government agencies as the set of guidelines for best practice heritage management in Australia. These values are provided as background and include:

- Historical significance (evolution and association) refers to historic values and encompasses the history
  of aesthetics, science and society, and therefore to a large extent underlies all of the terms set out in this
  section. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic
  figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any
  given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or
  where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive.
  However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless
  of subsequent treatment.
- Aesthetic significance (Scenic/architectural qualities, creative accomplishment) refers to the sensory, scenic, architectural and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with social values and may include consideration of form, scale, colour, texture, and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use.
- Social significance (contemporary community esteem) refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical or
  contemporary associations and attachment that the place or area has for the present-day community.
  Places of social significance have associations with contemporary community identity. These places can
  have associations with tragic or warmly remembered experiences, periods or events. Communities can
  experience a sense of loss should a place of social significance be damaged or destroyed. These aspects
  of heritage significance can only be determined through consultative processes with local communities.
- Scientific significance (Archaeological, industrial, educational, research potential and scientific
  significance values) refers to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its
  archaeological and/or other technical aspects. Assessment of scientific value is often based on the likely
  research potential of the area, place or object and will consider the importance of the data involved, its
  rarity, quality or representativeness, and the degree to which it may contribute further substantial
  information.

The cultural and archaeological significance of Aboriginal and historic sites and places is assessed on the basis of the significance values outlined above. As well as the ICOMOS Burra Charter significance values guidelines, various government agencies have developed formal criteria and guidelines that have application when assessing the significance of heritage places within NSW. Of primary interest are guidelines prepared by the Australian Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy, and Water (Cth DCCEEW), Heritage NSW, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW). The relevant sections of these guidelines are presented below.



These guidelines state that an area may contain evidence and associations which demonstrate one or any combination of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Burra Charter significance values outlined above in reference to Aboriginal heritage. Reference to each of the values should be made when evaluating archaeological and cultural significance for Aboriginal sites and places.

In addition to the previously outlined heritage values, the Heritage NSW guidelines (OEH 2011) also specify the importance of considering cultural landscapes when determining and assessing Aboriginal heritage values. The principle behind a cultural landscape is that 'the significance of individual features is derived from their inter-relatedness within the cultural landscape'. This means that sites or places cannot be 'assessed in isolation' but must be considered as parts of the wider cultural landscape. Hence the site or place will possibly have values derived from its association with other sites and places. By investigating the associations between sites, places, and (for example) natural resources in the cultural landscape the stories behind the features can be told. The context of the cultural landscape can unlock 'better understanding of the cultural meaning and importance' of sites and places.

Although other values may be considered — such as educational or tourism values — the two principal values that are likely to be addressed in a consideration of Aboriginal sites and places are the cultural/social significance to Aboriginal people and their archaeological or scientific significance to archaeologists. The determinations of archaeological and cultural significance for sites and places should then be expressed as statements of significance that preface a concise discussion of the contributing factors to Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.

# 5.2 Archaeological (scientific significance) values

Archaeological significance (also called scientific significance, as per the ICOMOS Burra Charter) refers to the value of archaeological objects or sites as they relate to research questions that are of importance to the archaeological community, including indigenous communities, heritage managers and academic archaeologists. Generally the value of this type of significance is determined on the basis of the potential for sites and objects to provide information regarding the past life-ways of people (Burke & Smith 2004, p. 249, NPWS 1997, p. 26).

For this reason, the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) summarises the situation as 'while various criteria for archaeological significance assessment have been advanced over the years, most of them fall under the heading of archaeological research potential' (NPWS 1997, p. 26).

The NPWS criteria for archaeological significance assessment are based largely on the ICOMOS Burra Charter.

#### Research potential

Research potential is assessed by examining site content and site condition. Site content refers to all cultural materials and organic remains associated with human activity at a site. Site content also refers to the site structure – the size of the site, the patterning of cultural materials within the site, the presence of any stratified deposits and the rarity of particular artefact types. As the site contents criterion is not applicable to scarred trees, the assessment of scarred trees is outlined separately below. Site condition refers to the degree of disturbance to the contents of a site at the time it was recorded.

Table 11 and Table 12 outline the site content and site condition rating used for archaeological sites.



Table 11 Site contents ratings used for archaeological sites

Rating	Description
0	No cultural material remaining.
1	Site contains a small number (e.g. 0–10 artefacts) or limited range of cultural materials with no evident stratification.
2	Site contains a larger number, but limited range of cultural materials; and/or some intact stratified deposit remains; and/or are or unusual example(s) of a particular artefact type.
3	Site contains a large number and diverse range of cultural materials; and/or largely intact stratified deposit; and/or surface spatial patterning of cultural materials that still reflect the way in which the cultural materials were deposited.

Table 12 Site condition ratings used for archaeological sites

Rating	Description
0	Site destroyed.
1	Site in a deteriorated condition with a high degree of disturbance; lack of stratified deposits; some cultural materials remaining.
2	Site in a fair to good condition, but with some disturbance.
3	Site in an excellent condition with little or no disturbance. For surface artefact scatters this may mean that the spatial patterning of cultural materials still reflects the way in which the cultural materials were laid down.

Pearson & Sullivan (1995, p. 149) note that Aboriginal archaeological sites are generally of high research potential because 'they are the major source of information about Aboriginal prehistory'. Indeed, the often great time depth of Aboriginal archaeological sites gives them research value from a global perspective, as they are an important record of humanity's history. Research potential can also refer to specific local circumstances in space and time — a site may have particular characteristics (well preserved samples for absolute dating, or a series of refitting artefacts, for example) that mean it can provide information about certain aspects of Aboriginal life in the past that other less or alternatively valuable sites may not (Burke & Smith 2004, pp. 247–8). When determining research potential value particular emphasis has been placed on the potential for absolute dating of sites.

The following sections provide statements of significance for the Aboriginal archaeological sites recorded during the sub-surface testing for the assessment. The significance of each site follows the assessment process outlined above. This includes a statement of significance based on the categories defined in the Burra Charter. These categories include social, historic, scientific, aesthetic and cultural (in this case archaeological) landscape values. Nomination of the level of value — high, moderate, low or not applicable — for each relevant category is also proposed. Where suitable the determination of cultural (archaeological) landscape value is applied to both individual sites and places (to explore their associations) and also, to the study area as a whole. The nomination levels for the archaeological significance of each site are summarised below.

#### Representativeness

Representativeness refers to the regional distribution of a particular site type. Representativeness is assessed by whether the site is common, occasional, or rare in a given region. Assessments of representativeness are subjectively biased by current knowledge of the distribution and number of archaeological sites in a region. This varies from place to place depending on the extent of archaeological research. Consequently, a site that is assigned low significance values for contents and condition, but a high significance value for



representativeness, can only be regarded as significant in terms of knowledge of the regional archaeology. Any such site should be subject to re-assessment as more archaeological research is undertaken.

Assessment of representativeness also considers the contents and condition of a site. For example, in any region there may only be a limited number of sites of any type that have suffered minimal disturbance. Such sites would therefore be given a high significance rating for representativeness, although they may occur commonly within the region.

Table 13 outlines the site representativeness ratings used for archaeological sites.

Table 13 Site representativeness ratings used for archaeological sites

Rating	Description
1	Common occurrence
2	Occasional occurrence
3	Rare occurrence

Overall scientific significance ratings for sites, based on a cumulative score for site contents, site integrity and representativeness are provided in Table 14.

Table 14 Scientific significance ratings used for archaeological sites

Rating	Description
1-3	Low scientific significance
4–6	Moderate scientific significance
7–9	High scientific significance

Each site is given a score on the basis of these criteria. The overall scientific significance is determined by the cumulative score. This scoring procedure has been applied to the Aboriginal archaeological sites identified during the survey. The results are provided in Table 15.

#### 5.2.1 Statements of archaeological significance

The following archaeological significance assessment is based on Requirement 11 of the Code. Using the assessment criteria detailed in Scientific Values and Significance Assessment, an assessment of significance was determined and a rating for each site was determined. The results of the archaeological significance assessment are given in Table 15 below.

Table 15 Scientific significance assessment of archaeological sites recorded within the study area.

Site name	Site content	Site condition	Representativeness	Scientific significance
AHIMS 45-6- 1219/Morgan Road 1	3	2	1	6 – Moderate
AHIMS 45-6- 2196/Morgan Road 2	2	2	1	5 – Moderate



Site name	Site content	Site condition	Representativeness	Scientific significance
AHIMS 45-6- 2197/Morgan Road 3	2	1	1	4 - Low

Table 16 Statements of scientific significance for archaeological sites recorded within the study area.

Site name	Statement of significance
AHIMS 45-6- 1219/Morgan Road 1	AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The site covered an area of approximately 8 feet long by 4.5 feet (1.37 m) wide. The images depicted include a kangaroo with nine large footprints leading to it. The kangaroo is male with markings on its face, tail and hind legs. Art sites both engraved and painted are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 km radius, making it a common site type. The site was in good condition but is continuously disturbed by members of the community using bikes and riding over the outcrop in addition to general erosion. However, the engraving may have links to cultural beliefs through the Great Spirit and Creator Biamie. Therefore, the site may contribute further information about Aboriginal occupation and belief in the local region. The archaeological significance has been assessed as moderate.
AHIMS 45-6- 2196/Morgan Road 2	AHIMS 45-6-2196/Morgan Road 2 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The site covered an area of approximately 6.5 feet (1.98m) in length. The engraving depicts a man in ceremonial markings with his arms outstretched, and two mundoes across his legs and nearby footprint engravings. This site is located 72 feet (21.94m) north-west of AHIMS 45-6-1219/Morgan Road 1 and may be related in context. Art sites, both engraved and painted, are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 km radius, making it a common site type. The site type was unable to be relocated and therefore comments regarding its condition are not possible. The engraving may have links to cultural and ceremonial practices. Therefore, the site may contribute further information about Aboriginal occupation and belief in the local region. The archaeological significance has been assessed as moderate.
AHIMS 45-6- 2197/Morgan Road 3	AHIMS 45-6-2197/Morgan Road 3 is a rock engraving site on a sandstone rock outcrop. The engraving depicts two shields. However, upon the time of the original recording moss covered the surrounding sandstone. Further engravings may be present but are still unaccounted for. It should be noted that this engraving has received damage from European activities. Art sites, both engraved and painted, are the most prominent out of the recorded sites in a 2.5 by 2.5 km radius, making it a common site type. The site was in poor condition due to erosion as well as being disturbed by members of the public. The engraving may have links to Aboriginal material culture; however, the site is not considered to contain further information about Aboriginal occupation in the local region. The archaeological significance has been assessed as low.



# 6 Impact assessment

Within the study area, there are three recorded Aboriginal sites that may be subject to harm. It is expected that the potential of harm to Aboriginal archaeological sites from development in the study area ranges from low to high. Strategies to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal heritage in the study area are discussed below.

Although the scope of works thus far include a subdivision of the study area with no direct physical impact, future development may negatively impact the engraving sites, particularly if protection is not afforded to the sandstone rock outcrops which host them.

# 6.1 Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage

The current proposed works, that being a subdivision of the study area, may not physically impact the recorded sites. Future works to develop the study area may impact the study area in the following ways:

• Earthworks and clearing may damage previously unidentified archaeological sites or objects within the study area.

If left unmitigated, this activity has the potential to completely remove or disturb archaeological deposits and Aboriginal objects.

Presently the study area is unmanaged, with the project intending to assist with managing pedestrian and other impacts to existing sites.

#### 6.2 Ecologically Sustainable Development

One of the primary aims of the NPW Act is the 'conservation of objects places and features ... of cultural value within the landscape, including ... places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people ...' ((s.2A(1)(b)(i)). The *Operational Policy: Protecting Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Version 2)* (DECC NSW 2011) provides guidance to proponents in term of 1.1 Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD).

ESD has been defined in Part 3, 6. (2) Objective of the Authority of the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991* (NSW). This outlines that the ESD requires the integration of economic and environmental considerations (including cultural heritage) in the decision-making process. In regard to Aboriginal cultural heritage, ESD can be achieved by applying the principle of intergenerational equity and the precautionary principle.

#### Intergenerational equity

The principle of intergenerational equity states that the present generation should make every effort to ensure the health, diversity and productivity of the environment – which includes cultural heritage – for the benefit of future generations.

In terms of Aboriginal cultural heritage, intergenerational equity can be considered in terms of the 'cumulative impacts' of any proposal to Aboriginal objects and places. For example, if few Aboriginal objects and places remain in a region (because of harm authorised under previous AHIPs), fewer opportunities remain for future generations of Aboriginal people to enjoy the cultural benefits of those Aboriginal objects and places.



Information about the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values associated with the Aboriginal objects and places proposed to be harmed will be relevant to the consideration of intergenerational equity and an understanding of the cumulative impacts of a proposal.

Where there is uncertainty, the precautionary principle should also be followed (see below).

#### The precautionary principle

The precautionary principle states that the lack of full scientific certainty about the threat of harm should not be used as a reason for not taking measures to prevent harm from occurring.

In applying the precautionary principle, decisions should be guided by:

- a careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment (which includes cultural heritage)
- an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options. The precautionary principle is relevant to OEH consideration of potential harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage where:
- the proposal involves a risk of serious or irreversible harm to Aboriginal objects or places or to the value of those objects or places, and
- there is a lot of uncertainty about the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the Aboriginal objects or places proposed to be harmed.

Where this is the case, a precautionary approach should be taken and all cost-effective measures implemented to prevent or reduce harm to the Aboriginal objects/place. This assessment has allowed for further research to be conducted for the study area. The findings of this report can be used to provide context regarding the AHIMS sites located within the study area, and the wider cultural landscape. This produces a record for future generations to reference.

# 6.3 Management and mitigation measures

Harm can be avoided to all Aboriginal sites within the study area as a part of the proposed works. Ideally, heritage management involves conservation of sites through the preservation and conservation of fabric and context within a framework of 'doing as much as necessary, as little as possible' (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

## **6.3.1** Avoidance of identified Aboriginal sites

Avoidance of impact to archaeological and cultural heritage sites through the design of the development is the primary mitigation and management strategy, and should be implemented where practicable.

Due the large size of the study area limited design modifications would be required to effectively cut the sandstone rock outcrops from the path of harm.

## 6.3.2 Further assessment warranted along creek line

As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials.



#### 6.3.3 Application for an AHIP to install a permanent deterrent to site incursions

Through conversation with surveying Aboriginal site officers from MLALC it was suggested that an AHIP application be undertaken to allow for the installation of deterrents, such as permanent fencing, to prevent further unauthorised visitation to the engraving sites located within the study area, and the larger sandstone rock outcrops which host them. During this application process, low impact fencing may be installed to reduce access. An AHIP application must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

### 6.3.4 Development of a cultural heritage management plan

A CHMP should be developed to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This document will identify how to properly manage Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unexpected finds protocols and heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works. The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

#### 6.3.5 No further work required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to host low potential for further archaeological materials. In the event that unexpected finds, including human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 5 below.

#### 6.3.6 Stop works provision - Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the NPW Act. This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.

#### 6.3.7 Stop works provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

- 1. **Discovery:** If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.
- 2. Notification: Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under Section146 of the Heritage Act.



# 7 Recommendations

Strategies have been developed based on the archaeological (significance) of cultural heritage relevant to the study area and influenced by:

- Predicted impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- The planning approvals framework.
- Current best conservation practise, widely considered to include:
  - Ethos of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter.
  - The Code.

It is recommended that during the planning proposal stage of the project the following recommendation be followed to ensure protection of existing sites within the study areas over a long period of time:

#### Recommendation 1: Continued consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties

It is recommended that Gyde Consulting continue to inform these groups about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project. This recommendation is in keeping with the consultation requirements.

#### Recommendation 2: Further assessment warranted along creek lines

As the majority of Snake Creek was not sufficiently surveyed during the field investigation, due to inaccessibility issues, a 5 meter buffer surrounding the creek line and a 10 meter buffer surrounding the confluence was mapped to afford it protection. If during the DA stage of the project the buffer is impact by proposed development, further assessment is warranted to determine the presence of archaeological materials.

#### Recommendation 3: Development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan

It is recommended a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) be developed in order to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage identified within the study area. This will identify management processes to be implemented for the treatment of Aboriginal heritage for the project and would include unanticipated finds protocols and a heritage inductions to be undertaken by the site personnel prior to works.

The CHMP must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project.

Once the project progresses into the Development Application stage, the following is recommended:

# Recommendation 4: Application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit

Damage to the AHIMS sites within the study area was observed during the archaeological survey. In accordance with discussions with MLALC, it is recommended that a permanent deterrent be installed to prevent further unauthorised access to the engraving sites. It is recommended that the MLALC apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to perform ground penetrative works associated with installation of protective fencing around areas of sandstone containing the AHIMS sites within the study area as part of the future proposed development.



#### The AHIP should be for a term of two years.

# Recommendation 5: No further archaeological assessment required in areas of low archaeological potential

No further archaeological investigation or works are required to be undertaken for the study area in areas determined to hold low potential for further archaeological sites. In the event that unexpected finds, including human remains, are unearthed during any phase of the project please refer to Recommendation 4 and 5 below.

## Recommendation 6: Stop works provision – Discovery of previously unidentified sites or objects

All Aboriginal places and objects are protected under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). This protection extends to Aboriginal objects and places that have not been identified but might be unearthed during the proposed works. Work must cease if Aboriginal objects or places are identified which have not previously been identified as part of this assessment or have not been approved for harm under an AHIP. Heritage NSW and the archaeologist must be notified to make an assessment of the find and advise on subsequent management.

## Recommendation 7: Stop work provision for any potential discovery of human remains

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity works, all activity in the vicinity must cease immediately. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. The following contingency plan describes the immediate actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the study area must follow these steps:

- 3. **Discovery:** If suspected human remains are discovered all activity in the vicinity must stop to ensure minimal damage is caused to the remains; and the remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.
- 4. Notification: Once suspected human skeletal remains have been found, the NSW Police must be notified immediately, and they will subsequently inform the Coroner's Office. Following this, and if the human remains are likely to be Aboriginal in origin, the find will be reported to the Aboriginal parties and Heritage NSW. If the find is likely to be non-Aboriginal in origin and more than 100 years in age, the Heritage Council of NSW will be notified of the find under Section146 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act).



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# **Appendices**



