



Wollondilly Shire-Wide Heritage Study Report

Submitted to Wollondilly Shire Council

AUGUST 2023




Heritage NSW

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REPORT REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Date Issued	Revision Description		
01	05/12/22	DRAFT		
		Prepared by	Reviewed by	Verified by
		Asmita Bhasin <i>Heritage Consultant</i>	Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>	
		Kurt Dixon <i>Heritage Consultant</i>		Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>
02	12/12/2022	FINAL DRAFT		
		Prepared by	Reviewed by	Verified by
		Kurt Dixon <i>Heritage Consultant</i>	Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>	Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>
		Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>		
03	23/03/2023	FINAL / FINAL - June 2023 / FINAL - map update / FINAL - August 2023		
	14/06/2023	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Verified by
	20/06/2023	Asmita Bhasin <i>Heritage Consultant</i>	Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>	Kerime Danis <i>Director - Heritage</i>
	28/08/2023	Kurt Dixon <i>Heritage Consultant</i>		
		Jakub (Chaz) Czastka <i>Senior Heritage Consultant</i>		

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City Plan Heritage P/L

Level 6, 120 Sussex St, Sydney NSW 2000

P +61 2 8270 3500

CITYPLAN.COM.AU

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Wollondilly Local Government Area (LGA) situated southwest of the Sydney CBD is unique in that it is predominantly made up of national parks and water catchment areas (approximately two-thirds of the LGA), yet it is predicted to be the centre of significant growth in the coming decades. Wollondilly 2040, the Local Strategic Planning Statement from Wollondilly Shire Council identifies a significant increase in the shire's anticipated population climbing from 51,002 in 2017 to 92,102 by 2036. With such a substantial increase in predicted population anticipated for the region, Wollondilly Shire Council are tasked with ensuring development of the region is undertaken in a sensible and respectful manner.

The Wollondilly Shire is geographically diverse with a range of land classifications that include remote wildernesses and National Parks along its western boundary near the Burragorang Valley and Yerranderie, several water catchment areas on its north-western and south-eastern boundaries at Warragamba, Cordeaux and Cataract, and rural land within the centre of the LGA. Importantly, 6% of Wollondilly Shires existing landscape forms part of designated growth areas, and heritage has been identified as an important focus in the Local Strategic Planning Statement Wollondilly 2040, with several heritage related objectives and actions proposed in the short term under Planning Priority 7: 'Cultivating A Creative and Cultural Destination Connection People and Places'. One of these identified actions is the review of the current heritage schedule in the *Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011*, as well as the identification of new potential heritage items to ensure their protection (action 7.8).

Wollondilly Shire Council have not adopted a heritage study since 1992, and this heritage study provides the first audit of heritage since that time, in addition to presenting a review of the current controls within the Wollondilly LEP 2011 and *Wollondilly Development Control Plan (DCP) 2016*. A major component of this study was conducting historical research of each site to understand its heritage significance and its suitability for heritage protection under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. An ancillary component to the historical research was a review of previous thematic historical studies of Wollondilly Shire LGA, since this provides the research framework for historical and archaeological investigations of heritage items, cultural landscapes, conservation areas and archaeological sites, as well as highlighting the relevant historical themes that collectively define the historic character of Wollondilly Shire. This thematic history identifies major events and processes that have occurred in the region's past, and links them together with different places, people and items within the region to establish a continuous story. The thematic history also considered the Aboriginal thematic history of Wollondilly Shire and provided a framework to guide future research into Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The heritage review resulted in the investigation of 236 existing heritage items under Schedule 5 Part 1 of the *Wollondilly LEP*, two heritage conservation areas under Part 2, and 12 archaeological sites under Part 3. Wollondilly Shire Council and the local community also proposed 22 amendments to existing heritage sites to ensure these items are more appropriately protected, as well as nominated 64 new potential heritage items to be investigated. The review of these potential heritage items identified the fact that several shared the same history with other nominated items, and so CPH amalgamated 12 items into one group ('Burragorang Valley Group') and another two items into a second group ('Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse'). The investigation of potential heritage items ultimately resulted in a total of 34 new heritage items being nominated for heritage listing.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

After conducting several site inspections, and undertaking physical and documentary investigations, this study recommends consideration of the following key actions for the Wollondilly's environmental heritage:

Existing items under Schedule 5 Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011:

1. Nominate four (4) items for listing on the State Heritage Register under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*.
 - Suspension Bridge over Nepean River (I78)
 - Vault Hill Cemetery (I208)

- Imperial Hotel (I199) - It is noted that the recommendation for State Heritage Register listing is subject to the undertaking of a comparative assessment to ascertain if listing at the State level is justified.
 - Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir (I278) - to be included within the curtilage of SHR # 01373 Upper Canal System (Pheasant Nest Weir to Prospect Reservoir)
2. Amend 32 existing items as detailed in Section 7.1 Review of Schedule 5 Part 1 'Heritage Items' (Appendix D), Section 8 Review of Existing Heritage Conservation Area Boundaries and Section 7.3 Review of Schedule 5 Part 3 - 'Archaeological Sites' (Appendix E). This includes amending addresses, property descriptions, item descriptions and mapping associated with the item. A summary of these recommendations is provided below in Table 1.

Table 1: Table showing recommended amendments to existing heritage items, conservation areas and archaeological sites.

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
I18	Bargo Cemetery	Amend the address from 15 Great Southern Road, Bargo to 9 Great Southern Road, Bargo
I26	Bargo Public School	Amend the property description to list Part Lot 1 DP 782052
I53	Camden Park Estate - House and Gardens	Amend the address from 'Remembrance Driveway' to 160 Camden Park Road, Camden Park
I72	Mountbatten Group - house, chapel and garden building	Amend the item name, replacing 'chapel' with 'stable.' The chapel is a misidentification of the historic structure within Lot 1 DP 576136
I105	Mount Hunter Public School	Amalgamate with item I106 and Amend listing name to 'Mount Hunter Public School and Residence'
I107	Mount Hunter Creamery	Amend the address and property description to 179 Burragarang Road and Lot 101 DP 1187951
I114	Mowbray Park Group - gateway, buildings, weir, trees and grounds	Amend the SHI database so that I115 'Farm Buildings and site of former Pictona Stud.' is not hyperlinked when one searches for I114.
I130	Industry Housing Group	Amend the property description to Lot 50 DP 1168144 and Lots 5-8 DP 36147.
I135	Macquarie House	Amend the existing item description of I135 Macquarie House to include mention of the Hitching Post
I148	Fairley Residence (former)	Amend the property description to Lot 90 DP 1264465.
I149	Railway Bridge (Hole in the wall)	Description in the SHI form has been amended to include the railway loop and tunnel on the site. Previously only the bridge was only noted.
I169	Houses	Amend the existing listing to include 20 Wild Street, Picton and rename as 'Cowper & Wild Streets Housing Group'
I175	Jarvisfield - House and Barn	Amend the LEP property description to be Part Lot 3 and Part Lot 4 DP 873571. CPH also recommend amending the property description of the State Heritage Register (SHR) listing curtilage to include the Part Lot 4 DP 873571 that is within the Jarvisfield complex.
I179	House	Amend the property description to Lot 2 DP 1064470

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
I181	Picton Railway Station Group, including stationmaster's residence	Remove the stationmaster's residence from I181 so as to make I181 identical to the curtilage of the SHR listing (SHR #01224). Create a separate listing for Picton Stationmaster's Residence (PI13).
I186	Furniture Store	Amend the property description to Lot 12 DP 1255815.
I188	Former Wollondilly Shire Hall	Amend the Property Description to Lot 70 DP 1279596.
I206	Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek	Amend the item description to include reference to the embankment as a significant fabric of the bridge.
I213	Cottage Group	Remove 18 Webster Street (Lot 3 DP 1110161) from the group listing.
I219	Cottage	Amend the property description to Lot 1 DP 86229.
I240	The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing	Extend the curtilage of the existing item to include the waterfall and caves behind the property. Undertake an archaeological study for the site to locate the convict graves.
I267	Charleville	Amend the item address to include only 260 Bents Basin Road, Wallacia, and amend the property description to only Lot 17 DP 546709 (remove 258 Bents Basin Road from listing)
I272	Cottage, Silverdale Werombi 1185 Road,	Amending the item description to include the fibro cottage to the listing
I285	Aboriginal Shelter Sites	Amend the address from Fairway Drive, Wilton to Stringybark Creek, Wilton, keeping the property description the same, also undertake an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment to relocate the rock shelters and assess their current condition
I297	Abbotsford Silos	Amend the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 59 <i>Abbotsford Road, Picton</i> , and the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to <i>Lot 102 DP 1271107</i> .
I298	Byrnes Exhibition Dairy (2 buildings)	Amend the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 11 <i>Abbotsford Road, Picton</i> , and the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to <i>Lot 101 (11 Abbotsford Road) and Lot 102 (59 Abbotsford Road) in DP 1271107</i> .
C2	Picton Conservation Area	Amend the boundaries of the Picton HCA to include properties along Argyle Street between Margaret Street and Eliza Place / Regreme Road roundabout on the north; and extend on the southeast corner as shown in Figure 4 of this report
A3	Wooden Mileposts	Extend the listing to include two additional mileposts below: a) Mount Hercules Road (near the junction with Old Razorback Road), Razorback b) Old Razorback Road (south of Apps Gully and before the junction with Old Hume Highway), Razorback. Undertake conservation measures as recommended in Appendix E

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
A6	Stonequarry Creek Quarry site	Extend the boundary to include 14 Victoria Street at Lot 1 DP 548596
A7	Abbotsford - house, ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit	Change address and property description - 11 and 59 Abbotsford Road, Picton (Lots 101 & 102 DP 1271107)
A8	Remnant sandstone kerbs, gutters and culverts	Amend the address to include Menangle Street West (adjoining 123 Argyle Street) and 217 Menangle Street, Picton
A11	Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)	Amend the address and property description to include 145 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback (Part Lot 32 DP 1012256). An archaeological assessment of the old road relics - including detailed mapping - is also recommended

3. Reclassify one (1) Heritage Item listed under Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* as an Archaeological Site under Part 3 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.
 - Brownlow Hill Road Bridge (I48)
4. No further action is required for two (2) items:
 - Farm buildings and site of former Pictona Stud (I115). The site could not be inspected in order to confirm whether the farm buildings have been destroyed by flooding therefore the listing should remain as it currently is.
 - Industrial Housing Group at 15-23 Antill Street, Picton (I130). The proposed amendment to remove 17 Antill Street is not considered justified and thus the listing should remain as it currently is.
5. Remove six (6) existing items from the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. These items do not satisfy heritage listing criteria due to extensive modifications and impacts to the items' heritage values.
 - Kalinya Gardens, 60 Great Southern Road, Bargo (I19)
 - Cottage, 91 Hawthorne Road, Bargo (I27)
 - Mount Hunter Public School Residence, 169 Burraborang Road, Mount Hunter (I106) amalgamated with (I105)
 - Farmhouse, 2 Werriberri Road, Orangeville (I125)
 - Farmhouse, 160 Dwyers Road, Pheasants Nest (I126)
 - Cottage, 18 Webster Street, Picton (I218)
6. Extend the boundaries of Picton Heritage Conservation Area (Picton HCA) (item no. C2) to include:
 - Properties to the north along Argyle Street, between Margaret Street and Eliza Place / Regreme Road roundabout
 - Properties to the south on the eastern side of Menangle Street to incorporate dwellings located at 246 Menangle Street and 248 Menangle Street
7. Undertake 12 archaeological assessments including three (3) existing Heritage Items and nine (9) Archaeological Sites to confirm each site's archaeological potential and guide future conservation and heritage classification.
 - Mount Hunter Creamery (I107)
 - The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing (I240)

- Aboriginal Shelter Sites (I285)
 - Cawdor Creamery site (A2)
 - Wellington Iceworks - ruins, silos and tanks (A5)
 - Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site (A6)
 - Abbotsford - house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottages, outbuildings and tree on hill summit (A7)
 - Former Stonequarry Creek Swimming Pool (A9)
 - Oakdale Timber Mill relics (A10)
 - Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road (A11)
 - Mt Hercules Homestead - ruins, well, trees and slab garage (A12)
 - Myrtle Creek Bridge ruins (A13)
8. Retain all existing heritage items under Parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, except where they are recommended to be removed or modified as noted above and in Sections 7, 8 and 9 of this report.
9. Review the existing Yerranderie Conservation Area (listing no. C5) when physical access to the site can be organised.

Potential items recommended for listing under Part 1 and Part 3 of Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011:

Of the nominated 64 potential items 34 have been nominated for heritage listing in Part 1 - Heritage Items; two (2) recommended for further archaeological assessment; seven (7) were not found meeting the threshold for listing and not recommended for listing; five (5) were recommended for incorporation into the existing listings of heritage items where they have associations; four (4) were outside of the study area; three (3) Wooden Mileposts have been nominated for inclusion within the existing item 'A3' listing; one (1) Hitching Post have been nominated for inclusion in the existing item 'I135' listing; and the remainder of the nominated items (8) have been nominated as groups rather than as individual items under Burragarang Valley Group as detailed below:

10. List 34 nominated items under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. Refer to Section 10 and Appendix F of this report for details of the nominated items listed below:
- Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse (PI01)
 - Razorback Bridge (PI02)
 - Brookside Bridge (PI03)
 - Mt Hercules Causeway (PI04)
 - Picton Police Station and Lock-up (PI05)
 - Picton Reservoir (PI06)
 - Railway Underbridge (Thirlmere Way) (PI07)
 - Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane) (PI08)
 - Tyrone Cottage (PI09)
 - Vault Hill Landscape Conservation Area (PI10)
 - Rumker Observatory Hill (PI11)
 - Amy Villa Cottage (PI12)
 - Stationmaster's Residence (PI13)
 - Dalkeith (PI14)
 - Tite's Refrigeration and Ice Store (PI15)
 - Former Petrol Station and Workshop (PI16)
 - Gaudry's Cottage (PI17)
 - Farm Dams (PI18)
 - Condell Park Homestead (PI19)

- Broughton Pass Bridge (PI20)
 - Aston Cottage (PI21)
 - Staff Road Workers Houses and Aboriginal Scar Tree(s) (PI22)
 - Bindook (PI23)
 - Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group) (PI24)
 - Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group) (PI25)
 - Mrs' Barnes Board House (PI26)
 - Burraborang Valley Group (PI27)
 - Burraborang Valley (PI28)
 - Glenrock Reserve (PI29)
 - Spaniards Hill Landscape Conservation Area (PI30)
 - Barrallier's Camp (PI31)
 - University of Sydney Farms - Camden Campus (PI32)
 - Store (former) (PI33)
 - Picton Public School Administration Building (PI34)
11. Of the 64 nominated items (Table 4), two (2), Old Hume Highway and Thornton's Weir, require further archaeological assessment, including a physical inspection of the sites, to determine significant fabric, extent and curtilage and thus each items' suitability for listing. Until the results of these investigations and assessments are known, no listing is recommended for these items.
12. Four (4) nominated bridges have been excluded due to being located outside of the Study Area. A brief heritage assessment and site inspection indicated they likely did not meet the threshold for heritage listing.
- Chiddys Bridge, Oaks Road near Sandy Lane, Thirlmere
 - Cedar Creek Bridge, Cedar Creek Road, between Burns Road and Mullholands Road, Thirlmere
 - Scroggies Bridge, Scroggies Road (over Cedar Creek), Thirlmere
 - Ghost Bridge, Bridge Street, Thirlmere
13. Nominate one (1) item, Burraborang Valley, for inclusion in the National heritage listing.
14. No listing is recommended for seven (7) nominated potential items as detailed in Section 10.2 of this report. The nominated items listed below do not meet the criteria for listing. Further information can be found in Appendix F as to why they do not satisfy the criteria.
- Homestead, 3-5 Cowper Street, Picton
 - Picton Official Residence, 82-84 Argyle Street, Picton
 - Sunning Hill "The Castle", 30 Radnor Road, Bargo
 - Menangle Street Cottages, Picton
 - 'T' Intersection, Menangle Road and Camden Road, Douglas Park
 - Water Well, 65 Menangle Street, Picton
 - Cordeaux Flying Fox and Tramway, Unknown location (within private and public property heading south from rail line at Douglas Park)

Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2016

15. For Volume 1 Part 5 of the *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, incorporate Heritage Definitions, Heritage Significance, Development in Vicinity of Heritage Sites and Repairs and Maintenance of Heritage Items sections to aid developer understanding of heritage and its significance.
16. For Volume 1 Part 6 of the *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, amendments are recommended to 6.1 Objectives, 6.2 Application and 6.4 Heritage Conservation Area - Picton. A ninth (9th) precinct is recommended for addition to this heritage conservation area - Argyle Street Cottages - which should include specific objectives and controls.

17. For Volume 1 Part 7 of the *Wollondilly DCP* 2016, incorporate Aboriginal Heritage, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Definitions, and the proposed approach. This will aid developers in understanding Aboriginal cultural heritage and its applicability to their land.

General Recommendations

18. Undertake a detailed study of Aboriginal cultural heritage in partnership with the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Wollondilly Shire. This should include a consideration of archaeological, environmental (landscape evolution and climate change), cultural, historical and anthropological components to the study.
19. Undertake a detailed study to understand the future challenges for Wollondilly Shire in relation to climate change and how this may exacerbate the risks associated with geohazards such as landslides or increase the frequency and intensity of climatic events such as flooding or bushfires for all heritage assets within the LGA and how this will potentially impact heritage conservation efforts.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

In May 2022, Wollondilly Shire Council engaged City Plan Heritage (CPH) to prepare a heritage study of existing and potential heritage items in the Wollondilly Local Government Area (LGA). The study area for this heritage study covered all townships and regions within the Wollondilly LGA, with the exception the townships of Appin, Thirlmere, Menangle and Warragamba, which were subject to Stage 1 Heritage Study undertaken by Extent Heritage Pty Ltd in 2021. This Draft Heritage Study is the key deliverable for Stage 4 of this project.

Wollondilly Shire Council have resolved to undertake an extensive review of the current heritage landscape within the LGA, with heritage being an important focus in *Wollondilly 2040*, Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement. As the Council has not adopted a heritage study since 1992, it was important that one was undertaken to thoroughly audit and protect heritage items that exist within the LGA, as well as to identify potential items that meet heritage significance criteria that should attract heritage protection.

The purpose of this Heritage Study is to review the existing controls relating to heritage protection in the Wollondilly. This incorporates a review of the existing Heritage Items, Heritage Conservation Areas and Archaeological Sites listed under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011*, as well as an assessment of items nominated for heritage listing by the Wollondilly Council and the Wollondilly local community. Additionally, this Heritage Study reviews the current controls within the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* and *Wollondilly Development Control Plan (DCP) 2016* and propose amendments where necessary to best protect heritage sites within the Wollondilly Shire LGA.

1.2. Objectives of the Study

This Heritage Study investigates and assess the significance of identified heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites in the Wollondilly LGA, excluding those situated in the townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragamba.

The primary purpose of this study is to identify sites of heritage significance which warrant statutory protection through local heritage listing. Additional requirements of this study were:

- Review 250 existing listings (236 heritage items, 2 conservation areas, 12 archaeological sites) and update inventories
- Consider 18 amendments to existing items identified by the council
- Review 64 potential items identified as heritage items by Wollondilly council, the Wollondilly community and CPH
- Review current heritage planning controls within the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* and *Wollondilly DCP 2016* and provide recommendations

1.3. Terminology

Table 2: Acronyms and their definitions

Acronym	Definition
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (managed by Heritage NSW, NSW Department of Planning and Environment)
BP	Before Present
CMP	Conservation Management Plan

Acronym	Definition
DPW	NSW Department of Public Works
DCP	Development Control Plan
HCA	Heritage Conservation Area
LGM	Last Glacial Maximum
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
NPWS	National Parks & Wildlife Service division of OEH
NSW HC	NSW Heritage Council – advises the Heritage NSW, the Minister for Environment & Heritage, and the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (now Heritage NSW)
PP	Planning Proposal
RMS	NSW Dept of Roads and Maritime Services
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation

1.4. Limitations

While every effort has been made to thoroughly investigate the study area, no heritage study is exhaustive and complete. The following limitations of this study are highlighted:

- This study is limited to assessment of existing heritage items, archaeological sites and HCAs, along with the potential heritage items identified by Wollondilly Council and the Wollondilly Community. The assessment of potential heritage items outside of those identified in Section 1.2 is beyond the scope of this report.
- This report does not include an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage, Aboriginal archaeology or landscape heritage values. CPH have however included a preliminary Aboriginal thematic history in Section 5.3 and Appendix C.
- The sites were inspected and photographed by the authors of this report throughout June and July 2022. Only items that were publicly accessible were assessed in this study, with most inspections undertaken from the public domain.
- Inspections of interiors or grounds of sites were only possible where CPH were privately invited to sites by the respective owners. For the most part therefore, the condition and physical description of items is reflective of what could be assessed from the public domain.

- Access to sites was also limited due to safety concerns. The Wollondilly area experienced flooding around the time the site inspections were undertaken, which meant it was unsafe to visit some heritage items near bodies of water and where landslides occurred along the rural roadways.
- CPH were unable to safely access the Yerranderie township and surrounding Burragorang Valley area. Assessment of these sites has been informed by the information and documentary and photographic evidence provided by Dennis Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee.
- For items which could not be accessed during the site inspection stage, assessment has been undertaken through desktop research. This research methodology has been identified in Section 4. Accordingly, the recommendations for these inaccessible sites are based on existing information and photography.
- This heritage study does not provide a full heritage assessment of all sites recommended for listing. It recognises that more detailed heritage assessment of the sites, if listed, can occur as part of a Heritage Impact Statement when a development is proposed.

Any heritage study which encompasses the whole of an LGA will restrict the detailed assessment of each item. The potential will also remain for additional places to be identified as heritage items in the future, even though they were not identified as part of this Study, for example, if they are located where not visible from the public domain, or additional significant historical information comes to light. Moreover, the Heritage Study can only be consistent with current professional and community perceptions of what makes a place of heritage significance. Therefore, places not identified as being significant at present may well be regarded as such in the future.

1.5. Author Identification

This study has been undertaken by a multi-disciplinary team of heritage consultants lead by City Plan Heritage. These include:

- Kerime Danis, Director - Heritage, City Plan Heritage - BArch, MheritCons (Hons), Associate RAIA, MICOMOS, NMAS
- Pamela Jeffrey, Senior Heritage Consultant, City Plan Heritage - BA, BSc (Arch), Barch (Hons), MheritCons, RAIA, MICOMOS
- Jakub Czastka, Senior Heritage Consultant, City Plan Heritage - BA (Honours) Archaeology
- Asmita Bhasin, Heritage Consultant, City Plan Heritage - Murbanism (HerCons), Barch
- Kurt Dixon, Heritage Consultant, City Plan Heritage - BA-LLB (History)
- Alexandra Gangan, Assistant Heritage Consultant, City Plan Heritage - MSCE, BCE, CertIVBusAdmin
- Dr Martina Muller, Professional Historian, Storialines

1.6. Acknowledgements

The study team acknowledges the support and assistance provided by the following:

- Wollondilly Shire Council staff, Christopher Morris (Strategic Planner); Lisa Howard (Strategic Planner); Brittany Madeley (Senior Strategic Planner - Growth) and Corrie Swanepoel (Manager Development Services)
- Peter Kabaila, Heritage Advisor, Wollondilly Shire Council
- Dennis Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee
- Residents who provided access to their properties during site inspections, including The Hermitage's Edgar Polanco, Mickey Robertson of Glenmore House, the staff at the Razorback Inn, the Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary at Theresa Park, and Silvana Monte, former resident of the Imperial Hotel.
- NSW Government - Heritage NSW who has provided funding for this heritage study.

1.7. Previous Heritage Studies

This study builds on previous heritage studies and assessments undertaken in the Wollondilly Shire LGA. There have been several heritage studies and reviews undertaken since the initial JRC Planning Services report in 1992, but none have been formally adopted since the initial study was undertaken.

1992 Wollondilly Heritage Study

JRC Planning Services

In 1992, JRC Planning Services undertook a Heritage Study for the adjoining shires of Wollondilly and Wingecarribee with the aim of identifying and analysing the environmental heritage of both shires and to make practical recommendations for their conservation and management. This study was part of the original pilot study for the *State Heritage Inventory Project*, the first electronic archiving of heritage items in NSW. This study is the only adopted heritage study of the Wollondilly Shire LGA, thus its findings are the basis for the majority of the LGA's heritage items. As it was undertaken in 1992, the significance assessments and histories for each item are minimal compared to more recently updated heritage inventories. With the abundance of historical information available now through online repositories and databases, CPH have been able to update the existing data and provide a more accurate review of each item, as well as providing a clearer significance assessment to justify their listing.

2006 Wollondilly Shire Council Heritage Study Review

Andrea Oehm

In March 2006, Wollondilly Shire Council Heritage Advisor Andrea Oehm undertook a heritage study review of the 1992 JRC Planning Services *Heritage Study*. This study involved a review of thematic history (mentioned below), identification of potential heritage sites through field survey, assessment of significance and preparation of heritage inventory with management recommendations. The *Wollondilly Shire Council Heritage Study Review*, published in November 2006 canvassed the whole Wollondilly Shire LGA and produced inventories for 257 items, proposed six new or extended heritage conservation areas for listing, and proposed the removal of 129 items for reasons such as duplication, demolition or alteration. Though not formally adopted, this was the most recent heritage study undertaken in the Wollondilly Shire study area.

2006 Wollondilly Local Government Area Thematic History

Andrea Oehm

As part of the above Heritage Study Review undertaken by Andrea Oehm, a Thematic History for the Wollondilly Shire LGA was also prepared. This was completed primarily by Andrea Oehm in February 2006, though the report identifies a number of other previous researchers who contributed to this thematic history. CPH have utilised the 2006 thematic history by Andrea Oehm as the basis for the thematic history accompanying this *Wollondilly Shire Wide Heritage Study*. CPH have also updated the information from the previous account, correcting errors and providing a number of primary and secondary sources that better support the historical narrative. In addition to updating the prior history, CPH have also expanded upon the original local themes to include new themes that better capture the different local heritage items within the LGA that were not previously referenced.

April 2021 Wollondilly Shire LGA Appin, Thirlmere, Warragamba, Menangle - Heritage Study

Extent Heritage Pty Ltd

In 2021, Extent Heritage were commissioned by Wollondilly Shire Council to undertake a partial heritage study for the townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragamba as part of Stage 1 of Council's review of its heritage inventory. Though these townships are outside the study area of the current heritage study, this investigation shared similar historical contexts and themes with this heritage study and has therefore been consulted as part of this heritage study.

March 2021 Planning Proposal - Corrections to Wollondilly's Heritage List

Wollondilly Shire Council

The *Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal* sought to amend the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* to correct a large number of errors found in the Schedule 5 heritage list and related heritage maps. In total, 102 heritage items required amendments to the LEP, with 35 of these requiring mapping changes to accurately reflect their location. This planning proposal greatly aided CPH in their investigations as accurate mapping data was used to identify sites. As well as this, the findings of the planning proposal guided CPH to assess concerns with particular sites, including description and mapping anomalies, and recommend potential state heritage listing for some items.

2. STUDY AREA CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION

2.1. Study Area Description

Wollondilly LGA is approximately 70 kilometres southwest of the Sydney CBD, covering approximately 2,560 square kilometres. The LGA is bounded by the Blue Mountains and Penrith LGAs to the north, Liverpool, Camden, Campbelltown and Wollongong LGAs to its east, Wingecarribee LGA to its south and Upper Lachlan and Oberon LGAs to the west.

The Wollondilly Shire is geographically diverse with a range of land classifications and includes remote wildernesses and National Parks along its western boundary near the Burratorang Valley and Yerranderie, several water catchment areas on its north-western and south-eastern boundaries at Warragamba, Cordeaux and Cataract, and rural land within the centre of the LGA. Importantly, 6% of Wollondilly Shires existing landscape forms part of designated growth areas which emphasises the importance of heritage management protocols to ensure that a balance between development, conservation and appropriate land use is supported in the long term. Wollondilly Shire can be subdivided into the following land use designations (Spackman Mossop Michaels 2020: 9):

- 63% of land is protected within natural areas
- 34% is rural land within the Metropolitan Rural Area
- 3% of land is located in the Wilton Growth Area
- 3% of land is located in the Greater Macarthur Growth Area

The study area for this heritage study covers the whole Wollondilly Shire Council LGA, excluding the townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragamba. These townships were included in a partial heritage study undertaken in April 2021 by Extent Heritage.

The townships that are included in this study area are:

▪ Bargo	▪ Belimbla Park	▪ Blue Mountains National Park / Burratorang Valley
▪ Brownlow Hill	▪ Buxton	▪ Camden Park
▪ Cataract	▪ Cawdor	▪ Couridjah
▪ Darkes Forest	▪ Douglas Park	▪ Glenmore
▪ Lakesland	▪ Maldon	▪ Mount Hunter
▪ Mowbray Park	▪ Nattai	▪ Oakdale
▪ Orangeville	▪ Pheasants Nest	▪ Picton
▪ Razorback	▪ Silverdale	▪ Tahmoor
▪ The Oaks	▪ Theresa Park	▪ Wallacia
▪ Werombi	▪ Wilton	▪ Yanderra
▪ Yerranderie		

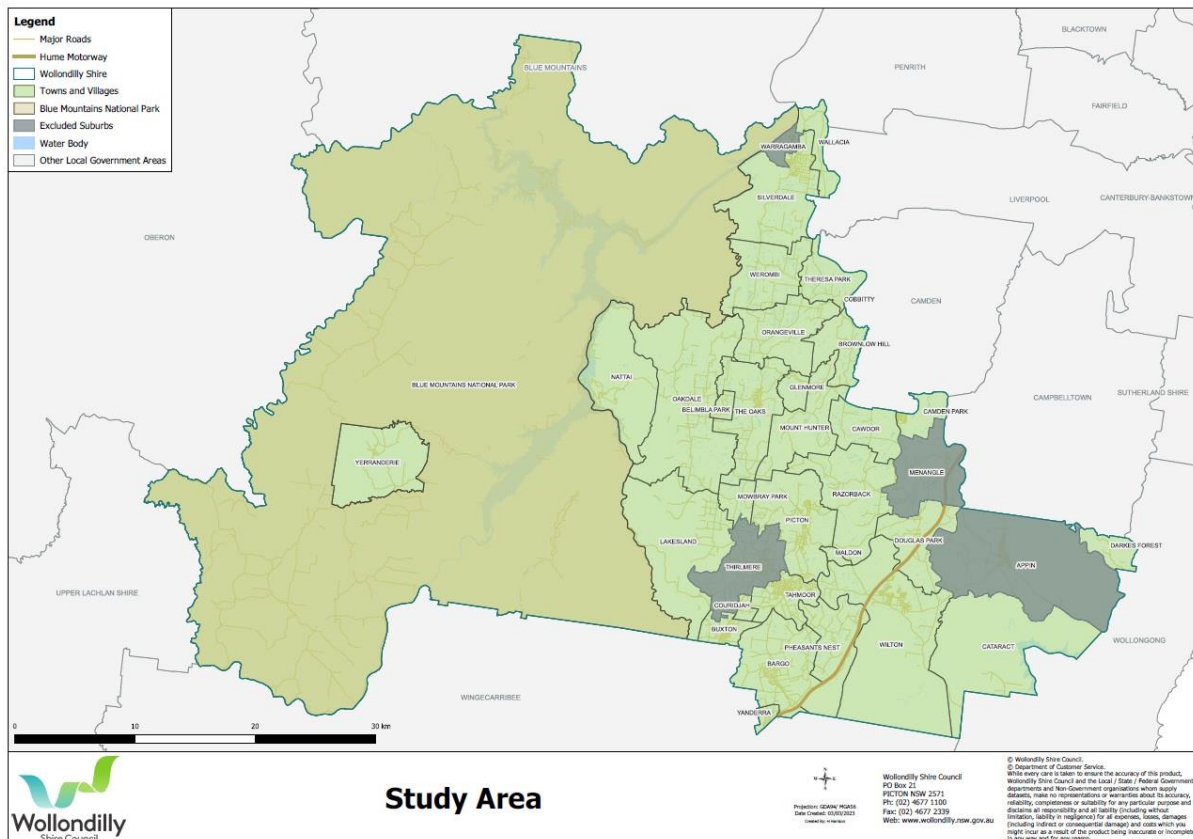


Figure 1: Map of Wollondilly Shire LGA showing the study area. The townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragamba and Blue Mountains National Park are excluded from the scope of the current project (Source: Wollondilly Shire Council).

2.2. Study Area Context

Wollondilly Shire is located within the geological province known as the Sydney Basin where it lies straddled across two geological structures: the Cumberland Basin in the north and the Woronora Plateau to the south (Gale 2020) (Figure 2). The interaction of tectonics and the relative positioning of fault lines has created a complex landscape of very different topographic, structural and environmental characteristics, including topographical highs (the plateaus), lows (the basin) and intermediary structures such as the Razorback Ranges and Thirlmere Lakes. The Woronora Plateau forms part of a series of elevated plateaus that encircle the Cumberland Basin in a u-shape, with the Blue Mountains Plateau forming the western half of the 'u' and the Woronora Plateau forming the eastern half. The boundary between the Blue Mountains Plateau and Cumberland Basin in the Wollondilly Shire follows the Lapstone Monocline - Nepean Fault line from Mount Hunter south to the suburbs of Mowbray Park and Thirlmere, with the Woronora Plateau arising just east of Thirlmere. From here the Woronora Plateau follows the eastern half of the u-shaped boundary northeast to Douglas Park before turning north up to the suburbs of Menangle and then Campbelltown.

The Razorback range forms the southern boundary of the Cumberland Basin in the Wollondilly Shire, the boundary swinging southeast to Picton before turning and continuing north to Mount Hunter and passing west of the suburbs of Brownlow Hill and Theresa Park. Both the Cumberland Basin and Woronora Plateau are also defined by distinct geological formations. The Cumberland Basin is largely confined to the Wianamatta Group geology with some limited outcrops of Hawkesbury Sandstone along topographical lows along creek lines, in contrast to the Woronora Plateau which is largely confined to Hawkesbury Sandstone with limited remnant outcrops of Wianamatta Group Ashfield Shales around its periphery. The nature of the bedrock geology sets up the topographical (geomorphological) character of each structural region: the predominantly shale geology of the Cumberland Basin tends to produce

the gently undulating hilly landscape in the north of the Shire, where the sandstone geology gives rise to the entrenched gorge like valleys characterised by the rugged relief between ridgelines and valleys.

The two different geological settings that define the Wollondilly Shire also give rise to two very different drainage networks. The rivers draining the Woronora Plateau all rise within a few kilometres of the Illawarra escarpment boundary and flow north or northwest down the backslope of the plateau into the Nepean River which flows in a northwest direction on the plateau (Gale 2020; Gale 2020a). The Nepean Rivers headwaters are located west of Appin and south of Wilton (eastern tributary) and east of Mount Lindsay and Yerrinbool some 15 km south of the Shire's southern boundary with Wingecarribee LGA (southern tributary). Several of the larger tributaries of the Nepean River within Wollondilly Shire have however been dammed and are no longer accessible. These include the Warragamba, Cordeaux and Cataract Rivers. Additional important water sources on the Woronora Plateau include the Thirlmere Lakes, a series of five freshwater lakes trapped in an ancient uplifted river meander (Allenby 2018), as well as the (now largely destroyed) upland swamps or dells that once dotted the headwater catchments of tributaries on the plateau (these were estimated in 1982 to be around 2 - 9% of the area around the headwater catchments of creeks dissecting the plateau [Young 1982]). There is one exception to the drainage pattern of the Woronora Plateau, and this is the course of the Georges River. The suburb of Appin marks the watershed between the Nepean and Georges Rivers: the Nepean River catchment is located on the west side of Appin and flows in a north-westerly direction on the plateau, whereas the Georges River headwaters arise to the east of Appin and initially flow to the north before swinging east north of Campbelltown and eventually draining into Botany Bay (Gale 2020: 11).

The Nepean River swings north when it flows into the Cumberland Basin, following the fault line that defines the eastern boundary of the Blue Mountains Plateau - the Lapstone escarpment - with Wallacia and Warragamba being the northernmost suburbs of Wollondilly Shire, after which the river leaves the Shire to flow into the floodplain of the Hawkesbury River to the north. An arc following the suburbs of Brownlow Hill south to Grasmere, Cawdor and then Menangle form the headwaters of several important tributaries of the Nepean River in the Cumberland Basin, where they drain on to a widening floodplain centred on the Nepean River (Figure 3). The drainage patterns of the Cumberland Basin generally flow northwards, with the headwaters of several tributaries along the southern flank of the Cumberland Basin arising in various suburbs of the Shire including (but not limited to) Menangle (Navigation and Foot Onslow Creeks), Cawdor (Matahil Creek), Theresa Park (Eagle and Wattle Creeks), Mount Hunter (Spring Creek and Mount Hunter Rivulet), Brownlow Hill (Flaggy Creek), and The Oaks (Werriberrie Creek).

3. HERITAGE LISTINGS

The following section is divided into the following components

- A summary of the existing heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites that were reviewed in this Heritage Study
- Proposed amendments to existing heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites
- Potential heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites that have been nominated for listing

3.1. Existing Heritage Items

There are currently 294 heritage items listed under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. However, 58 of those heritage items are within the townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragamba, which are outside the scope of this study. Therefore, there are 236 existing heritage items that are within the scope for this Heritage Study that have been reviewed.

Though there are six heritage conservation areas (HCA) listed under Part 2 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, only two of these HCAs are within the Study Area. These are items C2 - Picton Conservation Area ('Picton HCA') and C5 - Yerranderie Conservation Area.

There are 14 archaeological sites listed under Part 3 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, of which 12 are within the study area.

In total, there are 250 heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites listed under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* that are within the scope of this Heritage Study.

The types of heritage items within the study area are varied and included:

▪ Cottages / Houses	▪ Homesteads	▪ Slab Buildings	▪ Farm Complexes
▪ Schools / School Residences	▪ Public / Municipal Buildings	▪ Churches	▪ Cemeteries
▪ Inns / Taverns / Hotels	▪ Dairies / Creameries	▪ Commercial Buildings	▪ Railway Stations
▪ Roads / Bridges / Viaducts / Mileposts	▪ Stone Ruins / Archaeological Sites	▪ Trees / Gardens	▪ Hills / Landscapes

Of the 250 heritage items within the Study Area, the following 14 items are also listed as State heritage items on the State Heritage Register, under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* (Table 3).

Table 3. Details of 14 items, which are within the study area, listed on both the Wollondilly LEP and State Heritage Register.

Heritage Item	Address	LEP #	SHR #
Bargo Railway Viaduct	East of Bargo River Road and Remembrance driveway (Main Southern Road), Bargo	I33	01024
Wirrimbirra Sanctuary	3105 Remembrance Driveway, Bargo	I38	01508
Brownlow Hill Estate - homestead, aviary, roundhouse, garden, trees, stables and Glendon	217 Brownlow Hill Loop Road and 344 Werombi Road, Brownlow Hill 275 Monks Lane, Mount Hunter	I49	01489
Camden Park Estate - house and gardens	Remembrance Driveway, Camden Park	I53	00341
Cataract Dam	Cataract Dam Road, Cataract	I55	01359
Cordeaux Dam	Cordeaux River, Cataract	I56	01360
Couridjah Railway Station and stationmaster's residence	310 West Parade (Main Southern Railway), Couridjah	I66	01121
Jarvisfield - house and barn	4 Jarvisfield Road, Picton (Antill Park Golf Club)	I175	00305
Picton Railway Viaduct over Stonequarry Creek	Main Southern Railway, Picton	I180	01051
Picton Railway Station Group, including stationmaster's residence	1 and 5 station Street, Picton	I181	01224
Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek	Prince Street, Picton	I206	01484
Tahmoor Railway Station Group	Main Southern Railway, Tahmoor	I229	01258
Wilton Park - stables, coachhouse, water tanks, stallion boxes and covered yards	370 Wilton Park Road, Wilton	I277	00257
Upper Nepean Scheme—Pheasants Nest Weir	Nepean River, Wilton	I278	01373
Abbotsford - house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit	15 Fairleys Road, Picton	A7	00073

3.2. Proposed Amendments to Existing Heritage Items

3.2.1. Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal

Prior to engagement of CPH, Wollondilly Shire Council undertook a Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal (March 2021) which sought to make housekeeping amendments to the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* to update existing heritage listing details and address any mapping anomalies. This was undertaken to ensure adequate protection is applied to items with heritage significance within the Wollondilly Shire LGA.

The Planning Proposal received some proposals to amend existing listings which Wollondilly Shire Council decided should be investigated as part of a *Wollondilly Shire-Wide Heritage Study* instead of being addressed by the Planning Proposal. These included:

Mount Hunter Creamery (item no. I107), 179 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter

Proposed Change:

- Amend property address from '175 Burragorang Road' to '179 Burragorang Road'
- Amend Heritage Map (HER_007J) to remove Lots 102 and 103 DP 1187951.

Planning Proposal Response:

The review indicated that there is not enough justification to remove the lots. According to Council records, approval was received to demolish this item in 2012. Despite this, remains of the structure still appear on aerial maps. Furthermore, the State Heritage Register still includes this structure and also lists a fence and a number of trees on the property as well. With this in mind, it was agreed that the item would remain on the heritage schedule as well as being reviewed as part of the *Shire-Wide Heritage Study*.

Industry Housing Group (item no. I130), 15-23 Antill Street, Picton

Proposed Change:

- Amend property description from 'Lot 15 DP 1093396 and Lots 6-8 DP 36147' to Lots 5-8 DP 36147 and Lot 50 DP 1168144'
- Amend Heritage Map (HER_008G) to include Lot 5 DP 36147.

Planning Proposal Response:

The review indicated that there is not enough justification to include the property (17 Antill Street). The proposal to include Lot 5 DP 36147 (17 Antill Street, Picton) will be removed from this amendment and reviewed as part of the *Shire-Wide Heritage Study*.

Old Razorback Road (relics of the Great South Road) (item no. A11), 39 and 50 Old Razorback Road, 1220 Remembrance Driveway, and 157 and 159 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback

Proposed Change:

- Amend Schedule 5 property description from 'Lot 102 DP 804424' to 'Lot 9 DP 112301, Part Lot 41 DP 777560 and Part Lot 1301 DP 1034807'.
- Amend Schedule 5 property address from 'Razorback Road' to '39 Old Razorback Road, 157 Mount Hercules Road and 159 Mount Hercules Road'.
- Amend Heritage Map HER_011A to identify item as being located on Lot 9 DP112301, Part Lot 1301 DP1034807 and Part Lot 41 DP 777560.

Planning Proposal Response:

This requires further justification and studies on the amendment to archaeological land on the heritage map. The item was removed from this amendment and investigated as part of the *Shire-Wide Heritage Study*.

The assessment of these three proposed amendments made by the *Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal* is considered at Schedule 5 Part 1 - Heritage Items.

3.2.2. Wollondilly Shire Council Proposed Amendments

In addition to the review of the items identified in the *Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal*, Wollondilly Shire Council proposed amendments to another 18 heritage places. This equates to 16 heritage items, one heritage conservation area and one archaeological site. The types of amendments Wollondilly Shire Council proposed were:

Nominate for State heritage listing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suspension Bridge over Nepean River (Item I78) Imperial Hotel (Item I199) - subject to comparative assessment to ascertain if listing at the State level is justified Vault Hill Cemetery (Item I208) Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir (Item I278)
Amend addresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charleville (Item I267) Remnant sandstone kerbs, gutters and culverts (A8)
Amend physical descriptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Railway Bridge (hole in the wall) (Item I149) Picton Railway Station Group, including stationmaster's residence (Item I184) The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing (Item I240) Cottage (Item I272)
Amend mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bargo Public School (Item I26) Jarvisfield House and Barn (Item I175) Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir (Item I278)
Remove Item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kalinya Gardens and Landscape (Item I19) Site of the former Pictona Stud (Item I115) Cottage (Item I218)
Extension of heritage conservation area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picton Conservation Area (Item C2)

Further details on the exact amendments proposed by Wollondilly Council, as well as the assessment of these amendments, is considered in Review of Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 and Review of Heritage Conservation Area Boundaries.

3.2.3. Wollondilly Community Proposed Amendments

Unlike the prior proposed amendments from the *Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal* and Wollondilly Shire Council, the Wollondilly local community did not specifically propose amendments to existing heritage items. Instead, the community proposed listing items that are already listed as heritage places under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. This nomination of already existing items is likely to have occurred because the general community are not aware of what sites are already heritage listed, and only learn about their listing when it impacts their development proposals. Nonetheless, this Heritage Study has assumed that where the local community have nominated an item for listing that is already listed under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, the expectation is that they want this item to be reviewed and amended where necessary.

The Wollondilly local community proposed the listing of three items which are existing heritage items listed under Schedule 5 Part of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*:

- Maldon Suspension Bridge (Item I78)
- Imperial Hotel (Item I199)
- Vault Hill Cemetery (Item I208)

As these items are already listed under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, and the Wollondilly Shire Council have nominated all three of these items for potential state heritage listing, it has been assumed that the local community are also in favour of CPH reviewing these three items to determine whether they qualify for State heritage listing.

The Wollondilly local community also identified Menangle Street in Picton as possessing an historic streetscape that is worthy of heritage protection. Some cottages along Menangle Street are already listed as heritage items, for example, Items I191 through to I198 are all cottages of different architectural styles along Menangle Street that are listed under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* as heritage items. Additionally, Menangle Street is within the Picton Conservation Area (Item C2), thus development controls are already in place that protect the heritage significance of the houses along the street. As a result, CPH have assumed that the local community have proposed reviewing both these existing heritage-listed cottages along Menangle Street as well as the Picton Conservation Area as part of this Heritage Study.

The local community also identified three wooden mileposts along Cawdor Road and Old Razorback Road as having heritage significance. One of these wooden mileposts (along Cawdor Road) is already listed as an archaeological site under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* (Item No. A3). Therefore, CPH will determine whether the other nominated mileposts are worthy of listing, with the A3 listing being modified to accommodate these additional mileposts accordingly.

The assessment of the five community proposed amendments (potential State heritage items, the Picton Conservation Area and the wooden mileposts) are all considered in Review of Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011.

3.3. Potential Heritage Listings

In addition to assessing the existing heritage items identified in the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* and their proposed amendments, CPH were commissioned to investigate nominated items that have the potential to be heritage listed. These nominated items are assessed against the heritage significance criteria outlined in Assessment and Grading of Significance.

Of the 64 items identified as having heritage potential, 45 were proposed by Wollondilly Shire Council, 18 nominated by the Wollondilly community and one was proposed by CPH as a result of their site investigations.

The following table identifies the potential items nominated for heritage listing and identifies the nominee. Assessment of these potential items are all considered in Table 4 and Appendix F. Note that all the NPWS Land entries have multiple items as part of the listing, and these have been extracted into Appendix A.

Table 4. Details of potential items nominated for heritage listing.

Item Name	Address & Property Description	Nominator
Jervisville Mineral Springs	60-130 Picton Road, Maldon Lot 4 DP 816022	Council
Mineral Springs Guest House	60 Matthews Lane, Picton Lot 1 DP 155118	Council
Buckling stone-lined embankment	Prince Street (beneath Victoria Bridge), Picton	Council
Razorback Bridge	Remembrance Driveway (crossing Racecourse Creek), Picton	Council

Item Name	Address & Property Description	Nominator
Brookside Bridge	Remembrance Driveway (crossing Racecourse Creek), Picton	Council
Mount Hercules Causeway	Mount Hercules Road, Razorback, between Thurns Road and Mt View Close	Council
Homestead	3-5 Cowper Street Lot 22 DP 586205	Council
Picton Residence Official	82-84 Argyle Street, Picton Lot 2 DP 212204	Council
Picton Police Station and Lock-Up	86 Argyle Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 829645	Council
Picton Reservoir	Argyle Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 545361	Council
Railway Bridge	Near 802 Thirlmere Way (Great Southern Railway), Picton	Council
Bridge	Near 3 Matthews Lane (Great Southern Railway), Picton	Council
Tyrone	467 Argyle Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 537245	Council
Vault Hill	Vault Hill, Picton	Council
Rumker Observatory	Reservoir Hill (near 1 Argyle Street), Picton Lot 25 DP 1087690	Council
Former Quarry Site	14 Victoria Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 548596	Council
Dwelling	259 Argyle Street, Picton Lot B DP 158424	Council
Stationmaster's Residence	1 Station Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 1120336	Council
Dalkeith	35 Stilton Lane, Picton Lot 48 DP 797250	Council
Tites Ice	2740 Remembrance Driveway, Tahmoor Lot 2 DP 562297	Council
Former Petrol Station & Workshop	1615 Burragorang Road, Oakdale Lot Y DP 336313	Council

Item Name	Address & Property Description	Nominator
Early Cottage	745 Montpelier Drive, The Oaks Lot 48 DP 939905	Council
Farm Dams	East of 670 - 760 Montpelier Drive, The Oaks Lot 1 DP 1214262 Lot 1 DP 270209 Lot 3 DP 263839	Council
Condell Homestead Park	Fairway Drive, Wilton Lot 40 DP 270536	Council
Broughton Pass Bridge	Wilton Road (over Cataract River), Wilton	Council
Hume Highway	Old Hume Highway (various)	Council
Aston Cottage	615 Werombi Road, Orangeville Lot 2 DP 1287	Council
Sunning Hill ('The Castle')	30 Radnor Road, Bargo Lot 192 DP 13127	Council
Nattai	The area below and near Nattai Village	Council
Nattai	Nattai River foreshore and river inflow area	Council
NPWS Land	Sheehys Creek	Council
NPWS Land	Along Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang, up to Wollondilly River to Council boundary	Council
NPWS Land	Wollondilly River and down along Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang	Council
NPWS Land	Up Tonalí Arm and River	Council
NPWS Land	Sheepwalk Road (and nearby) Center Ridge	Council
NPWS Land	Colong Stock Route	Council
NPWS Land	Foreshore area Tonalí Bay to Higgins Bay	Council
NPWS Land	Lacys Creek	Council
NPWS Land	Greenwattle Creek foreshore and creek	Council
NPWS Land	Cox Arm of lake, Cedar and Kedumba, also Scots Main Range	Council

Item Name	Address & Property Description	Nominator
Bindook (Slab Hut and Farm Buildings)	Mount Werong Road, Oberon Lots 11, 24, 40 & 42 DP 757066	Council
Various	Wilton Road, Wilton	Council
Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group)	Within Yerranderie	Council
Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group)	Within Yerranderie	Council
Mrs Barnes' Boarding House (Yerranderie Group)	Within West Yerranderie	Council
Staff Road Houses & Aboriginal Scar Tree	Staff Road, Maldon Lot 1 DP 748675	Community
Menangle Street Cottages	Menangle Street, Picton	Community
Burraborang Valley	Burraborang Valley	Community
Glenrock Reserve	Antill Street, Picton Lot 2 DP 235052	Community
Hairpin Bend	Menangle Road, Douglas Park	Community
T Intersection	Menangle Road and Camden Road, Douglas Park	Community
Chiddy's Bridge	Oaks Road (over Cedar Creek), near Sandy Lane, Thirlmere	Community
Cedar Creek Bridge	Cedar Creek Road (over Cedar Creek), between Burns Road and Mullhollands Road, Thirlmere	Community
Scroggies Bridge	Scroggies Road (over Cedar Creek), Thirlmere	Community
Ghost Bridge	Bridge Street (over unnamed tributary of Redbank Creek), Thirlmere	Community
Water Well	65 Menangle Street, Picton Lot 1 DP 1004788	Community
Barrallier's Camp	55 Sheehy's Creek Road, Oakdale Part Lot 21 DP 751261	Community
Hitching Post	In front of 55 Argyle Street, Picton Lot 913 DP 1216048	Community

Item Name	Address & Property Description	Nominator
Cordeaux Dam Flying Fox and Tramway	Unknown	Community
University of Sydney Farms	Werombi Road, Brownlow Hill Lot 104 DP 86109	Community
Former Store	168 Argyle Street, Picton Lot 172 DP 591137	Community
Wooden Mileposts	Cawdor Road West, 300m north of corner with Cawdor Road East AND Old Razorback Road near junction with Mount Hercules Road AND Old Razorback Road above Apps Creek causeway before Remembrance Driveway junction (MR51)	Community
Stone Bridge	Near 145 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback Near Lot 32 DP 1012256	Community
Picton Public School Administration Building	27 Lumsdaine Street, Picton Lot 48 Section 2 DP 2893	CPH

4. STUDY METHODOLOGY

This heritage study comprehensively reviewed the existing and nominated heritage items, conservation areas and archaeological sites within the study area through a range of methods. Consistent with best practice standards and guidelines for heritage assessments and studies, this study has investigated the history of the Wollondilly Shire, consulted with expert stakeholders, conducted comparisons of similar studies, and completed a physical survey of heritage items within the study area. Through these combined methods, this study has identified items of heritage value recommended for heritage listing and updated the details of the existing heritage items.

4.1. Stakeholder Consultation

The following bodies were consulted as part of this heritage study for their knowledge, experience and expertise:

- Wollondilly Heritage Centre and Museum
- Appin Historical Society
- Yerranderie Management Committee

4.2. Historical Research

A major component of this study was conducting historical research of each site to understand its heritage significance and its suitability for heritage protection under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. This research was conducted in five main parts.

Firstly, research contained in secondary sources of past heritage studies for the Wollondilly Shire LGA were reviewed as background to this study. The past studies are discussed in Previous Heritage Studies.

Secondly, research contained within each existing item's State Heritage Inventory (SHI), including the State Heritage Register (SHR) forms for items of State significance listed under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*, was reviewed to ascertain the existing information about a site. These histories were often limited or requiring further corroboration from other sources. These limited histories can be understood to arise from the lack of records and historical databases available to those who previously investigated these items.

Thirdly, for items where the history needed to be expanded to better inform their heritage significance assessment, online inventories and resources were utilised. These databases include:

- National Library of Australia's TROVE database. This database was often consulted first to find specific primary sources, including newspaper articles, government gazettes, newsletters, photographs, books, maps, artefacts and images.
- NSW Land Registry Services' Historical Land Records Viewer. This database contained historic parish and charting maps, original Lot and Plan documents, grant registers etc.
- NSW Historical Imagery. This resource enabled the aerial identification of heritage sites, as well as any modifications made to heritage items from the 1950s onwards.
- National Archives of Australia
- State Library of NSW
- Wollondilly Street Name Register
- Penrith City Council Library
- Camden Council Library
- Picton and District Historical and Family History Society

Fourthly, accredited professional historian Dr Martina Muller was engaged to provide historical investigations of nominated heritage items identified by both the Wollondilly Council and local community.

Finally, CPH reviewed a wide variety of scientific and historical journal articles, published and unpublished specialist reports (for example, geomorphological and archaeological studies), and local and general historical studies.

4.3. Fieldwork Survey

A major component of this Heritage Study included a comprehensive survey of existing and potential heritage items in the study area. The site survey was undertaken over 11 days, through a combination of car and on pedestrian surveys in June, July and August 2022. For existing items, a total of 192 heritage items (those that could be accessed), one heritage conservation area and eight archaeological sites were surveyed. An additional 34 nominated heritage items were also inspected.

These surveys identified, where possible, the address, architectural style, use, construction period, building condition, archaeological potential, materials and conservation issues for surveyed sites, where this could be discerned from an external visual assessment. Aerial photographs were also reviewed for sites inspected, especially where site access or visibility from the public domain was restricted.

Effort was made to survey and document the interior condition of buildings, with respect to the common law rules on private property. In some cases, CPH were granted internal access to sites by residents who were keen on upholding the heritage significance of the site. However, most of the physical inspections were undertaken from the public domain and were not therefore able to inspect the interior condition of buildings.

The information collected from this survey provided a sound basis to establish the integrity and comparative heritage values of surviving heritage items in the study area. The historic attributes of sites were determined through historic research, as outlined in the above Section 4.2.

CPH were not able to physically inspect 49 existing heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites that were within the subject area. Additionally, CPH were unable to visually inspect 28 nominated heritage items. This is mostly because of the aforementioned limitations to this study, as identified at 1.4, namely that:

- Many heritage items in the Wollondilly are large farming estates on private land where the heritage item is not visible from the public domain
- Some existing and nominated sites had vague or incorrect locations
- The Burratorang Valley area and Yerranderie township were inaccessible in this survey
- Heritage items in proximity to water bodies were not accessible due to safety concerns, particularly as the Wollondilly Shire experienced extensive flooding between June and July 2022

Where access was not possible for these sites, CPH relied upon desktop research to inform understanding of the heritage site's setting and physical state.

5. THEMATIC HISTORY

5.1. Purpose of a Thematic History

A thematic history is not intended to be an exhaustive account of the history of an area but rather informs the analysis of a place in relation to the evidence of change and development, its inhabitants and features, as well as its economic, cultural and social structure and makeup. A thematic history identifies major events and processes that have occurred in a region's past, and links them together with different places, people and items within the region to establish a continuous story. Specific locations and items may appear isolated at first, but through consideration of the wider historical context for the region, become interrelated and tell a continuous story. These themes that bind different heritage items together can help substantiate the reasoning as to why these items are considered significant to the local community.

There has been a number of previous historical and heritage studies undertaken for the Wollondilly LGA (JRC Planning Services 1992; Oehm 2006; Oehm 2006a; Extent Heritage 2021; Wollondilly Shire Council 2021). Therefore, this Heritage Study provides an updated thematic history that fills in the gaps for the events that have occurred or were missed since the completion of the previous 2006 Wollondilly Shire LGA Thematic History.

The 2006 *Wollondilly LGA Thematic History* established a series of local historical themes which have been reviewed as part of this Heritage Study. Most of these local themes are still considered to be relevant, however, some have been amended to better reflect the region's history, whilst others have not been reconsidered due to being outside the scope of this Heritage Study. For example, the 2006 Thematic History discussed the development of Menangle, Appin, Thirlmere and Warragamba, which are all townships that outside the scope of this Heritage Study. The updated thematic history has:

- corrected grammar / spelling errors
- corrected historical inaccuracies
- provided primary sources and references that inform the themes
- considered these themes in relation to the state themes developed by the NSW HC

This thematic history has also considered the Aboriginal thematic history of the Wollondilly Shire. The Aboriginal thematic history provides a framework to guide future research and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

5.2. The Thematic Framework

The Heritage Council of NSW (2001) developed a thematic framework for use in guiding heritage assessments and their management recommendations. The reasoning behind the development of this thematic framework is that thinking about a place in terms of historical themes can help contextualise its significance, both in isolation and as part of a region's history. The organising principle for the thematic framework is the dynamism of human activity. This State framework identifies 38 principal themes.¹

The historical development of an area or item can be understood as occurring in a thematic way, with different layers representing progressively earlier themes.² In the case of Wollondilly Shire LGA, there are numerous State and National themes reflected at the local level which relate to the foundation and development of the LGA as a historic town and rural landscape.

The following table shows the correlation of National, State and local themes, with revised annotations and examples relating to the Wollondilly LGA. The table firstly identifies the local theme that is prevalent throughout the shire, then correlates this theme with the specific State and National themes as

¹ Both the Australian Heritage Commission (national) and the NSW Heritage Office (state) have identified themes for research relating to places of heritage significance. These can be accessed from the NSW Heritage Branch website; <<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/themes2006.pdf>>

² NSW Heritage Office, Heritage Information Series, Historical Research for Heritage, Baskerville, Bruce, (2000) p. 2.

ascertained from the Heritage NSW website. Due to the broadness of the State and National themes, they are often replicated across multiple Local Themes. Themes One - Six relate to the Aboriginal thematic framework for the shire, whilst Themes Seven - Eighteen consider the development of the shire through a European historical perspective.

Table 5. The correlation of Local, State and National themes, with revised annotations and examples relating to the Wollondilly LGA.

Local Themes	State Themes	National Themes
Theme One: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature, timing and geography of initial Aboriginal occupation of the Wollondilly Shire. 	<p>The nature, timing and geography of the initial settlement of NSW by Aboriginal People.</p> <p>Environment - naturally evolved Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p>	<p>Tracing the natural evolution of Australia</p> <p>Peopling Australia</p>
Theme Two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Into and out of the Ice Age: climatic changes and Aboriginal settlement patterns. 	<p>The influence of climatic change resulting from the onset and decline of the Last Ice Age on Aboriginal settlement patterns in NSW.</p> <p>Environment - naturally evolved Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p>	<p>Tracing the natural evolution of Australia</p> <p>Peopling Australia</p>
Theme Three: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The long hot summer: the stabilisation of climates in the Holocene and the mid-Holocene intensification debate on Aboriginal settlement patterns. 	<p>Environment - naturally evolved Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p> <p>The influence of Holocene climates on the nature, intensity and geography of Aboriginal settlement patterns in NSW.</p>	<p>Tracing the natural evolution of Australia</p> <p>Peopling Australia</p>
Theme Four: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Contact, impressions and exploration of the Wollondilly Shire. 	<p>First Contact, impressions and exploration of NSW by Europeans.</p> <p>Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p>	<p>Peopling Australia</p>
Theme Five: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict, massacres and the re-writing of Aboriginal history. 	<p>Conflict, massacres and the 'Great Australian Silence:' consideration and reconciliation of New South Wales historical perspectives.</p> <p>Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p>	<p>Peopling Australia</p>
Theme Six: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The road to truth and reconciliation: a history of continuing Aboriginal struggles. 	<p>The road to truth and reconciliation: a history of continuing Aboriginal struggles in NSW.</p> <p>Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures</p>	<p>Peopling Australia</p>

Local Themes	State Themes	National Themes
<p>Theme Seven: The Wild Cattle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Empire Building 	<p>Environment - naturally evolved Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures Convict Pastoralism Agriculturalism Government and administration Persons</p>	<p>Tracing the natural evolution of Australia Peopling Australia Developing local, regional and national economies Governing Marking the phases of life</p>
<p>Theme Eight: Exploration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Escape to China ▪ Ensigns and Botanists 	<p>Environment - naturally evolved Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures Convict Exploration Persons</p>	<p>Tracing the natural evolution of Australia Peopling Australia Developing local, regional and national economies Marking the phases of life</p>
<p>Theme Nine: Pastoral Expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Antill Family ▪ Stargard - Astrological Discoveries by Picton's earliest resident ▪ Other Early Land Grants - The Oaks and Douglas Park ▪ The Macleays and Brownlow Hill ▪ The Macarthur's, Belgenny Farm & Camden Park ▪ Settlement in the Burratorang Valley 	<p>Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures Agriculture Pastoralism Science Environment - cultural landscape Towns, suburbs and villages Persons</p>	<p>Peopling Australia Developing local, regional and national economies Building settlements, towns and cities Marking the phases of life</p>
<p>Theme Ten: Traversing the Wollondilly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roads ▪ Bridges ▪ The Railway 	<p>Transport Utilities</p>	<p>Developing local, regional and national economies Building settlements, towns and cities</p>
<p>Theme Eleven: Law and Order</p>	<p>Convict Law and Order</p>	<p>Developing local, regional and national economies 7. Governing</p>
<p>Theme Twelve: Religion in the Wollondilly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thomas Hassall ▪ Antill's Churches ▪ Christianity in the Regions 	<p>Religion</p>	<p>Developing Australia's cultural life</p>

Local Themes	State Themes	National Themes
Theme Thirteen: Pubs, Mineral Springs and Farmstays - Recreation and Leisure in the Wollondilly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The First Hotel The Hotels of Picton Inns and Hotels across the Wollondilly Tourism and Celebration 	Creative Endeavour Leisure	Developing Australia's cultural life
Theme Fourteen: Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education in the Burratorang Valley Yerranderie Public School 	Education	Educating
Theme Fifteen: Wollondilly and Wartime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-War Reflection 	Events Defence	Developing local, regional and national economies Governing
Theme Sixteen: Services and Utilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Utilities Postal Services Newspapers 	Communication Utilities Government and Administration	Developing local, regional and national economies Building settlements, towns and cities Governing
Theme Seventeen: The Development of Picton	Towns, suburbs and villages	Building settlements, towns and cities
Theme Eighteen: Industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber Mining Water 	Industry Mining Utilities Labour	Developing local, regional and national economies Building settlements, towns and cities Working

5.3. Aboriginal and European Thematic History

Both an updated European thematic history (themes 7 - 18) and the Aboriginal thematic history (local themes 1 - 6) have been provided at Appendix B and Appendix C respectively of this report as a stand-alone historical documentation for the Wollondilly LGA.

6. ASSESSMENT AND GRADING OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Heritage Study has been prepared in accordance with the best practice heritage standards for assessing heritage significance and heritage studies established by the NSW HC, Heritage Office and NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, as set out in the NSW *Heritage Manual*, *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice* (2006), and *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* (2009).

The primary objective of the NSW *Heritage Act 1977* (as amended) is to conserve the environmental heritage of the State, which is defined under Section 4 of the Act as consisting of the following items (2009: 1):

'those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of State or local heritage significance.'

This significance based approach to identifying 'relics' is consistent with the way other heritage items such as buildings, works, precincts or landscapes are identified and managed in NSW.

...The key issue is whether a deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that survives from the past is significant. If it is significant, it will need to be managed under the 'relics' provisions of the Heritage Act.

An archaeological site is an area which contains one or more archaeological 'relics'.'

It has also been prepared in accordance with the national best practice standards for heritage assessment contained in *The Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Heritage Significance 2013* (Burra Charter, 2013). The Burra Charter defines significance as the:

'Aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.'

Assessing significance is the process whereby a heritage item's value or importance is described, where its significance is contained within the fabric, setting, context and relationship to other items (Heritage Office 1996). Significance is thus embodied in how a society perceives an item's cultural significance, and this obviously changes with time as values and social norms develop and evolve.

6.1. NSW Heritage Criteria

To determine whether sites have heritage significance and therefore warrant heritage listing, each site has been assessed against the seven criteria of heritage significance as set out in the NSW *Heritage Manual*. The seven criteria for heritage significance include:

Criterion (a): An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

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

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

Criterion (e): An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the culture or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (f): An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places or environments.

The NSW *Heritage Manual* guidelines establish that a site warrants heritage listing where it fulfils one of more of these seven criteria of local heritage significance. For each building, structure or site recommended for listing in this study, a succinct statement of significance summarising this assessment has been prepared, contained in the inventory forms. The assessment process is the same for heritage items, heritage conservation areas and archaeological sites.

6.2. Ranking of Significance

The three steps involved in assessing heritage significance - investigation, assessment and management - require the process to provide an appropriate ranking of significance in order to grade items against a series of criteria (Section 6.1). These criteria are assessed with reference to the NSW historical themes (Heritage Council of NSW 2001; see Section 5.2) in order to address an items relative significance and understand whether this has cultural value at National, State or Local levels.

The criteria and themes are assessed against a grading system that provides a concise and simple way of assessing relative values of items (Heritage Branch 2009: 4; Table 6). This system of grading was primarily developed for built and landscape heritage and as a result, makes an assessment of archaeological resources problematic, largely because of the difference in accessibility for assessment. Assessing the significance of a standing building or a landscape is relatively easy because it is located above ground and is visible, whereas archaeological resources are usually hidden beneath ground surfaces and require excavation in order to assess their significance. However, a specific grading system for archaeological resources has yet to be developed, which means that the existing grading system developed for built and landscape heritage is applied in this report. One final difficulty exists in applying the ranking system, and this is because it was originally developed with a three-tier system, namely local, regional and State significance, but an amendment of the *Heritage Act* in 1998 removed the 'regional' classification (ibid: 5). The Wollondilly Heritage Study undertaken by JRC Planning Services in the early 1990s classified some heritage items as having regional significance. Where this existed, it has since been amended to comply with the current framework.

Table 6. Grading of heritage significance (Source: Heritage Branch 2009: 4).

Grading	Justification	Status
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding item of local or State significance. High degree of intactness. Item can be interpreted relatively easily.	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.

6.3. Levels of Significance

There are two levels of significance recognised in the NSW heritage management system and these are 'local' and 'State.' These are defined as (ibid: 6):

'State heritage significance', in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to the State in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item. (Section 4A)

'local heritage significance', in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to an area in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item. (Section 4A).

The Act goes on to note that if an item is primarily of State heritage significance it can also be of local heritage significance; conversely, an item that is primarily of local heritage significance, however, may not necessarily be of State heritage significance.

6.4. Heritage Significance and Archaeology

The Heritage Act protects historical and environmental heritage and defines the different types of heritage items as *'...places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts of State or local heritage significance'* (ibid). Historical archaeological resources are however subject to an additional layer of protection through their classification under the term 'relics.' Section 4(1) of the Heritage Act (as amended 2009) defines relic:

'relic means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

(a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and

(b) is of State or local heritage significance.

The traditional approach developed in the 1980s in assessing historical archaeological significance centred on whether archaeological sites could answer questions that other heritage items and sources were unable to contribute to. However, in order for this information to be reviewed, two things needed to happen: firstly, the research potential of an archaeological site was reviewed in a historical archaeological assessment (review of primary and secondary historical resources), and that was used to inform an archaeological research design and methodology which resulted in the second requirement - an archaeological test excavation of the site. The archaeological excavation process is however a destructive process and should be a last resort in trying to establish archaeological significance. Test excavation of archaeological sites remains the primary tool recommended for investigating archaeological significance. More recently, the development and advancement of technologies like photogrammetry and LiDAR for high resolution scanning of archaeological landforms and associated features, no impact technologies (like ground penetrating radar for investigating subsurface features and deposits), and low impact technologies (like mechanical boreholes where sediments, soils and features can be sampled to assess proxy data) has meant that high impact assessments using archaeological trenching techniques is not always the preferred approach.

In the current approach, the Heritage Office describes the following existing criteria as useful additional frameworks for archaeological enquiry (ibid: 11 - 13):

'Archaeological Research Potential (current NSW Heritage Criterion E).

Archaeological research potential is the ability of archaeological evidence, through analysis and interpretation, to provide information about a site that could not be derived from any other source and which contributes to the archaeological significance of that site and its 'relics'.

The integrity of the site, the state of preservation of archaeological material and deposits will also be relevant...

Associations with individuals, events or groups of historical importance (NSW Heritage Criteria A, B & D).

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

Aesthetic or technical significance (NSW Heritage Criterion C).

Whilst the technical value of archaeology is usually considered as 'research potential' aesthetic values are not usually considered to be relevant to archaeological sites. This is often because until a site has been excavated, its actual features and attributes may remain unknown. It is also because aesthetic is often interpreted to mean attractive, as opposed to the broader sense of sensory perception or 'feeling' as expressed in the Burra Charter.

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

Ability to demonstrate the past through archaeological remains (NSW Heritage Criteria A, C, F & G).

Archaeological remains have an ability to demonstrate how a site was used, what processes occurred, how work was undertaken and the scale of an industrial practice or other historic occupation. They can demonstrate the principal characteristics of a place or process that may be rare or common.

A site may best demonstrate these aspects at the time of excavation. It may also be possible to explain the nature of the site and demonstrate past practices via public interpretation either before, during, or after excavation.'

7. REVIEW OF SCHEDULE 5 OF WOLLONDILLY LEP 2011

An individual assessment of each Heritage Item, Heritage Conservation Area and Archaeological Site was conducted against the 'Criteria for Listing on the State Heritage Register' publication under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*. Every heritage listing's assessment has been provided in the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) forms, and are included as part of this Heritage Study. These SHI forms outline the heritage significance, location, overall site components and a brief history for each of the places to support their retention as heritage items under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

Of the 236 heritage items listed on the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* that are within the Study Area, the majority were noted to still be intact, visible externally from the public domain and retaining their heritage values. However, as some of the sites have changed since the previous heritage studies were undertaken, the following changes were noted for various heritage items:

- Some items could not be located.
- Some were found to be extensively modified.
- The majority of the previous SHI forms for existing items had incorrect or insufficient information.
- Some existing heritage items' names, addresses or property descriptions were incorrect and required modification.

Table 7 identifies the types of amendments proposed to existing heritage listings under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

Table 7: Nature of amendments proposed to existing heritage listings under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

Amendment Type	Number of Items	Item Number	Item Name
Amend the existing listing, whether by correcting addresses, property descriptions, curtilages, item descriptions etc.	32	I18	Bargo Cemetery
		I26	Bargo Public School
		I51	Aston Dairy Cottage and Barn
		I72	Mountbatten Group - house, chapel and garden building
		I105	Mount Hunter Public School
		I107	Mount Hunter Creamery
		I114	Mowbray Park Group
		I130	Industry Housing Group
		I135	Macquarie House
		I148	Fairley Residence (former)
		I149	Railway Bridge (Hole in the wall)
		I169	Houses
		I175	Jarvisfield - House and Barn
		I179	House
		I184	Picton Railway Station Group, including Stationmaster's residence
		I186	Furniture Store
		I188	Former Wollondilly Shire Hall
		I206	Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek

		I213	Cottage Group
		I219	Cottage
		I240	The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves, and stone terracing
		I267	Charleville
		I272	Cottage
		I285	Aboriginal Shelter Sites
		I297	Abbotsford Silos
		I298	Byrnes Exhibition Dairy
		C2	Picton Conservation Area
		A3	Wooden Mileposts
		A6	Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site
		A7	Abbotsford - house, ruins, trees, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit
		A8	Remnant sandstone kerbs, gutters and culverts
		A11	Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)
Conduct archaeological assessment to establish archaeological potential of items	12	I107	Mount Hunter Creamery
		I240	The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing
		I285	Aboriginal Shelter Sites
		A2	Cawdor Creamery Site
		A5	Wellington Iceworks - ruins, silos and tanks
		A6	Stonequarry Creek Quarry site
		A7	Abbotsford - house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottages, outbuildings, and tree on hill summit
		A9	Former Stonequarry Creek Swimming Pool
		A10	Oakdale Timber Mill relics
		A11	Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)
		A12	Mt Hercules Homestead - ruins, well, trees and slab garage
		A13	Myrtle Creek Bridge ruins
Remove from Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as heritage listing is no longer recommended	6	I19	Kalinya Gardens
		I27	Cottage
		I106	Mount Hunter Public School Residence
		I125	Farmhouse
		I126	Farmhouse
		I218	Cottage

Nominate for State heritage listing	4	I78	Suspension Bridge over Nepean River
		I199	Imperial Hotel - subject to comparative assessment to ascertain if State level listing is justified
		I208	Vault Hill Cemetery
		I278	Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir - to be included within the curtilage of SHR # 01373 Upper Canal System (Pheasant Nest Weir to Prospect Reservoir)
No further action required in response to a proposal from the Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal	2	I115	Farm buildings and site of former Pictona Stud
		I130	Industrial Housing Group

7.1. Schedule 5 Part 1 - Heritage Items

The table at Appendix D details the recommended modifications proposed to existing heritage items listed on the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

It should be noted that every SHI form for existing items has been updated to include more information about the item (rather than changing incorrect details). Where general updates have been undertaken, which includes updating physical descriptions, histories and significance assessments, this is considered general modifications to the SHI forms and the details of the changes made in this regard have not therefore been included in the table at Appendix D. Also note that items proposed for removal from the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* will be addressed at Section 9 - Removal of Existing Heritage Places.

7.2. Schedule 5 Part 2 - Heritage Conservation Areas

Of the six heritage conservation areas (HCA) within the Wollondilly LGA identified under Schedule 5 Part 2 'Heritage Conservation Areas' of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, only C2 - 'Picton Conservation Area' and C5 - 'Yerranderie Conservation Area' are within the study area for this Heritage Study. The other HCA's have been assessed by Extent Heritage as part of the *April 2021 Wollondilly Shire LGA Appin, Thirlmere, Warragamba, Menangle - Heritage Study*.

Due to limitations involved in physically accessing and inspecting the township of Yerranderie, the C5 - 'Yerranderie Conservation Area' could not be assessed as part of this Heritage Study. Therefore, only C2 - Picton Conservation Area could be assessed as part of this Heritage Study.

It is recommended that C2 - Picton Conservation Area ("Picton HCA") is retained on the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. This is because the conservation area protects the historic Victorian and Federation era buildings within the township of Picton with controls that guide sympathetic modern development. CPH reviewed and assessed every building within the Picton Conservation Area for its contributory value to the Picton HCA, as well as the Picton HCA's northern and southern boundaries as potential extensions of the HCA. The recommendations concerning the extension of these boundaries is addressed at Picton Conservation Area (C2).

It is recommended that the Yerranderie Conservation Area (C5) is reviewed when access can be provided.

7.3. Schedule 5 Part 3 - Archaeological Sites

There are currently 14 archaeological sites listed under Schedule 5 Part 3 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, 12 of which fall within the parameters of the current study. An individual assessment of each of the existing heritage listed archaeological sites is provided in the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) forms, which form part of this Heritage Study. These SHI forms outline the heritage significance, location, overall site components and a brief history for each of the places to support their retention as archaeological heritage items under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

As archaeological sites, most of these items include a structure or multiple structures, many of which are above ground and actively deteriorating. Generally, the heritage listed archaeological sites have not been archaeologically assessed, and therefore the full extent, nature and condition of these items is poorly understood, particularly in regard to their long-term conservation status. Appendix E lists each of the 12 archaeological sites within this Heritage Study's scope and identifies any issues associated with them, providing recommendations on how to mitigate these issues.

A detailed archaeological assessment of nine (9) of the sites is recommended, and this should ideally include detailed mapping and/or 3D scanning (photogrammetry) and digital photography to create an archival quality recording. Archaeological sites, particularly those above ground and exposed to the elements, will deteriorate over time and a baseline study of their condition and regular monitoring will provide the framework to ensure they are protected and conserved in the long-term.

The archaeological site 'Abbotsford - house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit' (listing A7) was recently the subject of a review as part of an archaeological management plan, prepared by Mountains Heritage, for the subdivision of 1 Abbotsford Road. This archaeological assessment conducted a detailed archaeological survey of the site, assessed the significance of potential archaeological relics in the area and provided recommendations to manage these areas of high archaeological potential. This type of archaeological assessment is recommended to be undertaken for 10 of the other listed archaeological sites to guide future conservation of these sites.

8. REVIEW OF HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARIES

8.1. Existing Heritage Conservation Areas - Schedule 5 Part 2 Wollondilly LEP 2011

As discussed at Schedule 5 Part 2 - Heritage Conservation Areas, only C2 - 'Picton Conservation Area' and C5 - 'Yerranderie Conservation Area' were heritage conservation areas listed under the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* that were within the study area for this Heritage Study. And, as Yerranderie was inaccessible, the C5 'Yerranderie Conservation Area' could not be assessed and reviewed. Therefore, it was only possible for C2 'Picton Conservation Area' to be reviewed as part of this Heritage Study.

As identified earlier, it is recommended that the Yerranderie Conservation Area (C5) is reviewed when access to the area is possible.

8.2. Framework for Assessing Heritage Conservation Areas - Contributory Ranking Plan

The *Conservation Areas - Guidelines for Managing Change in Heritage Conservation Areas*, published by the then Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning in 1996, describes useful techniques that can be employed to identify and manage heritage conservation areas in New South Wales. This publication describes a Heritage Conservation Area as '*...more than a collection of individual heritage items. It is an area in which the historical origins and relationships between various elements create a sense of place that is worth keeping.*' It further notes that:

A heritage area is identified by analysing its heritage significance and the special characteristics which make up that significance. These may include its subdivision pattern, the consistency of building materials or common age of its building stock. The least important characteristic is the 'look' of the place, although the commonly held community view is that this is the determining factor.

Generally, heritage areas include elements such as street and subdivision layout; the pattern of development; parks and gardens; buildings of various styles, forms, types, and functional uses; historical or symbolic sites; streetscapes and skylines; landmarks; and internal and external views that make them attractive and recognisable. Further, the area's history provides the principal key to its significance as well as the built fabric that narrates the story.

This Heritage Study utilised three levels of ranking, including Contributing, Neutral and Detracting, to evaluate and assess the cohesiveness and consistency of building materials and the common age of its building stock within the boundaries of the existing Picton Conservation Area (Table 8). In addition to the three levels of ranking, there are two additional categories attributed to sites within the Picton HCA: these are 'Heritage Items' and 'Undeveloped'.

The above-mentioned ranking approach has been taken to assist in updating the Picton Conservation Area. Each property within the study area has been ranked in accordance with its contributory values to the overall characteristics and historical development of the Town of Picton from the 1820s through to the present day. All existing properties (original, modified or infill) have been ranked as contributory, neutral and detracting, or as heritage items or undeveloped land. The description of each category has been provided below:

Table 8. Categories used for grading heritage significance.

Ranking	Definition
Contributing	Contributory buildings are buildings that make an important and significant contribution to the character of the area. They have a reasonable to a high degree of integrity and date from a key development period of significance. They are buildings:

Ranking	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from a significant historical period (between 1830s and 1920s) and are highly or substantially intact; or from a significant historical period and are altered yet recognisable and reversible (Contributing Items may have incurred intrusive changes over time. Although such changes do not mean that the place has become an intrusive item, as many intrusive changes are reversible); from a significant historical period and have architectural detailing that enhances the attractiveness of the heritage areas. <p>The building stock has a moderate to a high degree of intactness and contributes to the area by adding to its cohesive and representative quality. When a similar building stock is in the majority, the area can be considered to be listed as a heritage conservation area.</p>
Neutral	<p>Neutral buildings are buildings that do not contribute nor detract from the significant character of the area. The building stock generally fits within the surroundings without being disruptive. The loss or retention of a neutral building will have no impact on the overall values of the area, although intrusive changes to a Neutral Item may downgrade its status to Detracting. This may include early or new buildings. Retention of such neutral buildings may not be required provided that it is replaced with an appropriate infill building of similar neutral nature. For instance, the residence located at 63 Appin Road has characteristics such as aluminium windows, contemporary doors, replaced material, etc. Even though the residence sits homogeneously within the setting, the above-mentioned features detract from the significant character of the area, and as such renders it being a neutral building instead of a contributing item. Neutral buildings are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> from a significant historical period, but altered in form, unlikely to be reversed; sympathetic contemporary infill; or from a non-significant historical period but do not detract from the characteristics of the significant area and reduce its attractiveness.
Detracting	<p>Detracting buildings are buildings that are intrusive to the heritage area and have an adverse impact on the character of the area because of inappropriate scale, bulk, setbacks, setting, design or materials. They do not represent a key period of significance and detract from the significant characteristics of the area.</p> <p>In general, a building that detracts from the overall character of the area and changes the character of the area is referred to as a detracting item. This may include early buildings with intrusive alterations and additions that erode their contribution to the cohesiveness of the area, and which cannot easily be reversed. Some Contributing or Neutral Items may exhibit uncharacteristic or intrusive elements or changes, but their contribution to the overall character of the area is not regarded as uncharacteristic if they accord with the definitions for Contributing and Neutral Items.</p>
Undeveloped	<p>Undeveloped refers to locations where building fabric is not present on the site and thus a ranking assessment could not be undertaken. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vacant sites; car parking lots; sites outside of the scope of this report (e.g. landscape sites);

Ranking	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sites where visual access was not possible, and assessment could not occur (i.e. construction sites).
Heritage Items	<p>A site that has been identified as an item of heritage significance, has been listed on the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> and has retained its heritage values. This may also be an item that has been identified by CPH as meeting the threshold for listing on the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i>.</p> <p>For the purposes of the HCA ranking mapping the heritage items are ranked as being 'contributory' as the heritage items are indicated under the LEP heritage maps with the boundaries of the HCA's being identified.</p>

8.3. Picton Conservation Area (C2)

The following ranking of the Picton Conservation Area was undertaken, with non-heritage sites within the conservation area assessed on a scale of whether they were contributory, neutral, or detracting to the character of the conservation area.

The Statement of Significance for the Picton Conservation Area, as extracted from the current SHI database sheet, reads:³

The Picton Conservation Area is an excellent and highly intact mid - late 19th century streetscape. It represents the residential development of Picton as a township from the mid 19th century through to the early 20th century, but is Second Empire Victorian in character, reflecting the boom years of Picton's development. Although largely residential nature, Menangle Street contains a number of commercial and former commercial buildings, most notably the Imperial Hotel and the former Great Southern Hotel, Post Office, Bank and Shire Hall, reflecting the period in which the commercial focus of Picton was Menangle Street, not Argyle Street. The street contains many fine buildings that have significance individually and collectively and the entire streetscape is an essential component of the historic cultural landscape of Picton. Picton township is significant through its historical links with the development of the Great Southern Railway and the important role assumed by Picton in the operation of the railway and its associated functions. Important evidence of this role is found not only in the extant railway structures but also in the residential and commercial buildings which served those workers constructing, and later operating, the railway. Such a range of evidence in such close proximity is not found in other areas of the State.

One of the proposed amendments to existing items by Wollondilly Shire Council was the potential northern extension of the Picton HCA along Argyle Street to the Regreme Road / Eliza Place roundabout. This extension of the Picton HCA was proposed as the northern entry to the township contains a number of heritage-listed cottages, as well as non-heritage cottages that contribute to the heritage character of Picton.

In addition to this northern extension, one of the proposed items submitted by the Wollondilly community was the heritage listing of numerous cottages along Menangle Street. A number of submissions identified the cottages and commercial buildings along Menangle Street as contributing to the unique historic streetscape that introduces visitors entering Picton from the south. As a number of these cottages are already listed under Schedule 5 Part 1 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, CPH decided that the nominated Menangle Street cottages potential item would best be assessed for their contribution to the Picton HCA. This is discussed at Section 3.2 Proposed Amendments to Existing Heritage Items.

Finally, Wollondilly Shire Council identified another two cottages at 246 Menangle Street and 248 Menangle Street (Figure 2 and Figure 3) that are currently outside the boundaries of the HCA that could be incorporated with a southern extension of the HCA. These two cottages are similar to those

³ State Heritage Inventory, 'Picton Conservation Area', available from:
<https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=2690200>

Federation-era cottages found along Menangle Street within the existing HCA, with similar timber weatherboard façade, bullnosed roof verandahs and hipped roofs with facebrick chimneys. CPH therefore investigated whether the southern boundary of the Picton HCA should be extended on this eastern side of the road to incorporate these two cottages.



Figure 2: Google Street View of the cottage located at 246 Menangle Street. (Source: Google Street View Imagery (November 2021)).



Figure 3: Google Street View of the cottage located at 248 Menangle Street. (Source: Google Street View Imagery (September 2020)). With this in mind, City Plan Heritage visually inspected buildings from the public domain to determine their aesthetic and historic contribution to the Picton streetscape. This visual inspection has been produced into a map (Figure 4) that illustrates both the ranking CPH have attributed to each building, as well as the proposed northern and southern extensions of the conservation area.

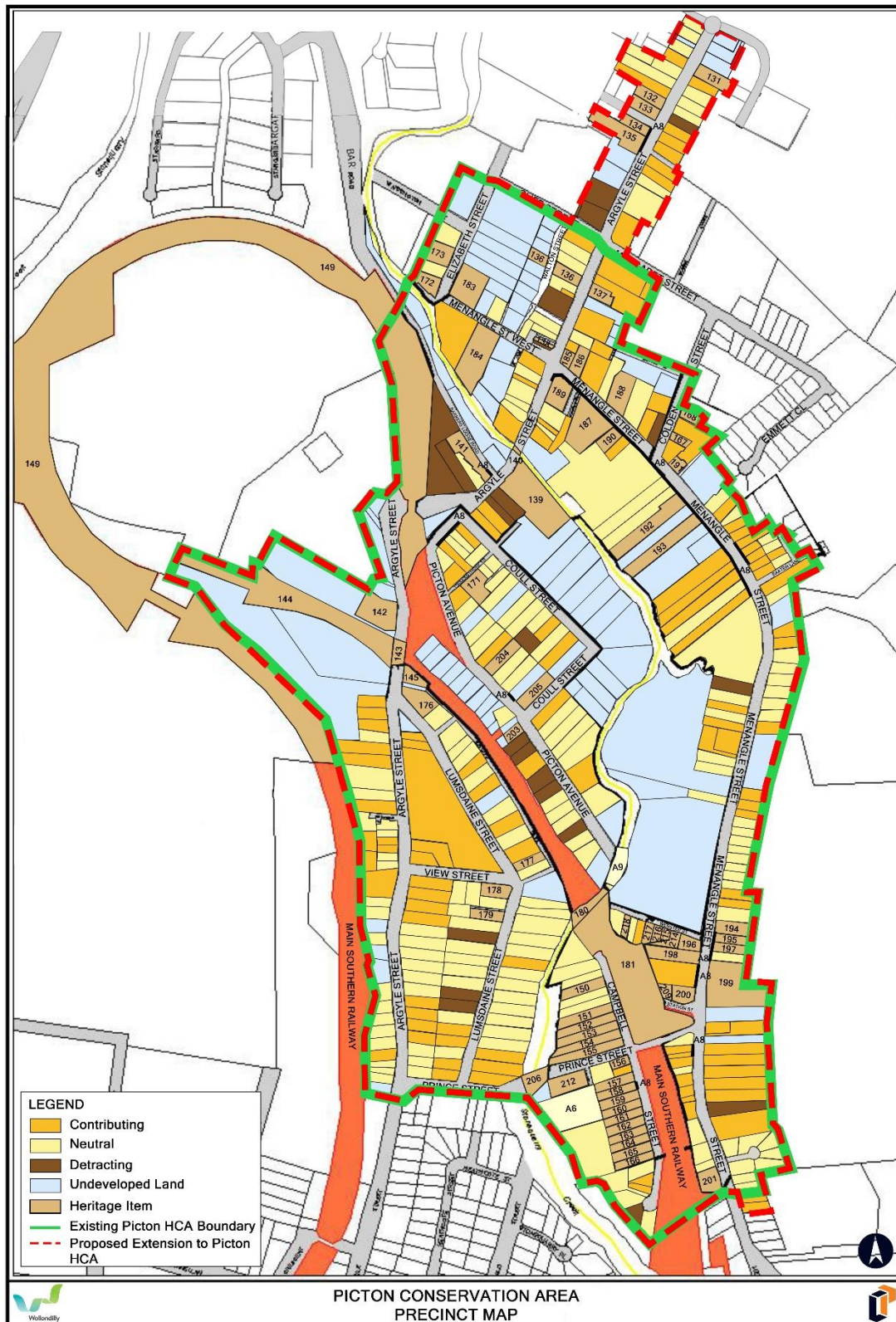


Figure 4: Map of the existing Picton Conservation Area (C2) highlighted in green, alongside the proposed northern extension along Argyle Street to the Regreme Road / Eliza Place roundabout and southern extension on the Menangle Street boundary (both highlighted in red). Source: City Plan Heritage, 2023.

Southern Extension

When reviewing the current conservation area and the possible southern extension along Menangle Street to capture two additional cottages, it became apparent that recent subdivision and development has occurred on the HCA's southern boundary on Menangle Street. At the time of their inspection in June 2022, CPH identified the subdivision of Lot 21 DP 32503 into six (6) new lots (Lots 1 - 6 DP 1212180), with a new cul-de-sac roadway laid out (Camellia Court). This c.2021 development is identified in Figure 5 - Figure 8.



Figure 5: Google Street View of the residence at 240 Menangle Street (right) in June 2019, showing the recent layout of Camellia Court and no development. (Source: Google Street View Imagery (June 2019))

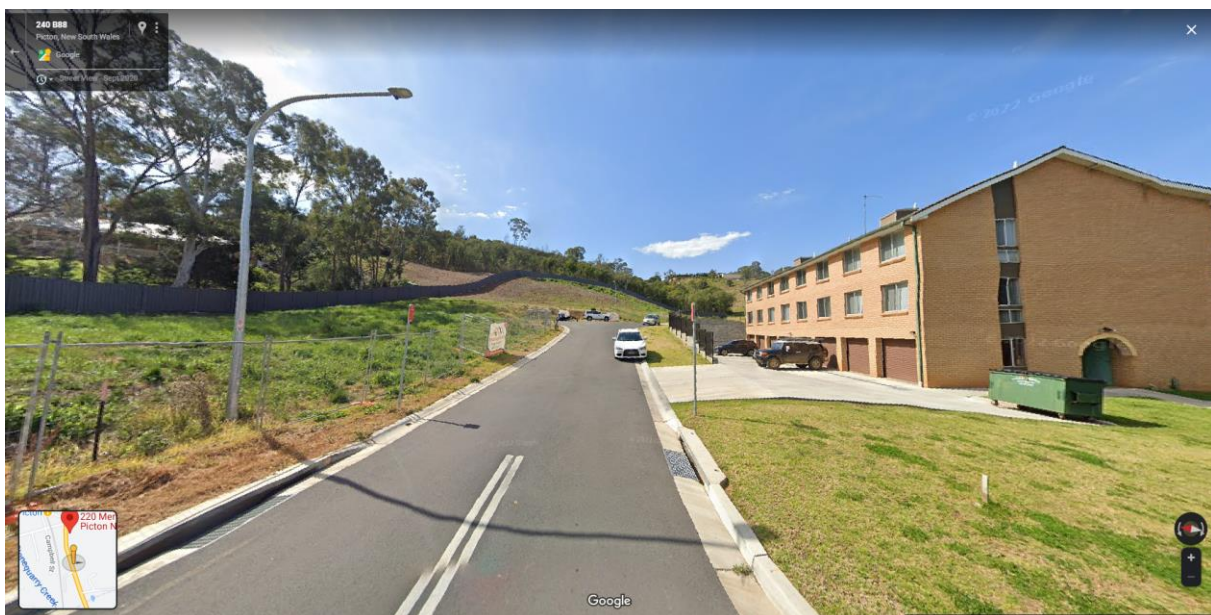


Figure 6: Google Street View of the residence at 240 Menangle Street (right) in September 2020, fencing for new residential development. (Source: Google Street View Imagery (September 2020))



Figure 7: Google Street View from June 2021 of the subdivision and new residential development with Camellia Court. (Source: Google Street View Imagery (June 2021))



Figure 8: Photograph of the c.2021 residential development showing five new houses constructed at Camellia Court, currently the southern boundary of the Picton Heritage Conservation Area. (Source: City Plan Heritage, June 2022).

This subdivision and development have been assessed as neutral by CPH to the Picton HCA. This is because the recent development can be considered a reasonably sympathetic example of an infill

development within a heritage conservation area. Though the original subdivision of Menangle Street was altered with this development, these contemporary double-storey residences utilise timber weatherboard cladding with hipped roofs that do not visually detract from the HCA. As a result of this subdivision, CPH have amended the existing precinct map for the conservation area to accurately reflect this change.

The proposed southern extension of the HCA along Menangle Street includes two properties capturing the two 'Contributing' cottages at 246 and 248 Menangle Street (seen in Figure 2 and Figure 3).

- Contributing: 2
- Neutral: 2
- Undeveloped: 0
- Detracting: 0
- Heritage Item: 0

From the above breakdown, CPH can endorse the southern extension of the Picton HCA on the eastern side of Menangle Street to incorporate the addresses of 246 Menangle Street and 248 Menangle Street. These two cottages have been assessed as visually contributing to the historic streetscape of Menangle Street, being similar in architectural design to a number of other cottages erected further north along Menangle Street. The other two buildings within this southern extension on the eastern side are assessed as neutral and not detracting to the visual character of the Picton HCA. CPH recommend retaining the existing southern boundary on the western side of Menangle Street, as the last building captured within the conservation area is that of the heritage item I201 - 'former Great Southern Hotel'. This former hotel now residence visually contributes to the traditional late 19th and early 20th Century character of Menangle Street, particularly as the building was modified to a double storey structure in c.1895. As a result, CPH endorse the southern extension of the Picton HCA.

Northern Extension

Within the proposed northern extension of the Picton HCA along Argyle Street to the Regreme Road / Eliza Place roundabout, the numerical breakdown of each ranking is as follows:

- Contributing: 9
- Neutral: 11
- Undeveloped: 6
- Detracting: 3
- Heritage Item: 6

From the above breakdown, CPH can endorse the northern extension of the Picton conservation area. Of these 29 buildings within the HCA extension, detracting buildings only amount to 10% of the area (Figure 9). In contrast, heritage items and contributory items amount to 52% of the buildings in this northern extension. When the contributory buildings, neutral buildings and heritage items are grouped together, they amount to 90% of the total buildings in the northern extension to the conservation area (Figure 10).

CPH believe that this northern boundary of the conservation area should be extended so as to ensure the historic centre of the town around the Argyle Street / Menangle Street intersection is not negatively impacted by development external to the centre.

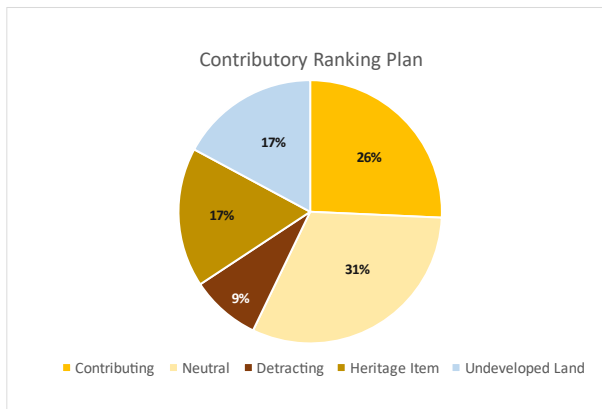


Figure 9: Contributory Ranking Plan for the northern extension to the Picton Conservation Area showing the breakdown of buildings (Source: City Plan Heritage, 2023).

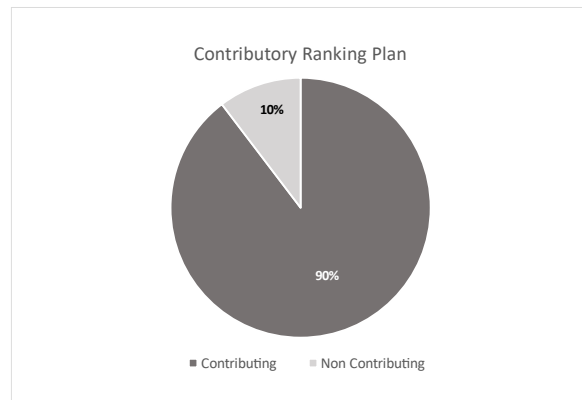


Figure 10: Contributory Ranking Plan comparing non-contributory buildings with contributory buildings in the northern extension to the Picton Conservation Area. In this graph, Contributing is identified as 'Contributory' + 'Neutral' + 'Heritage Items' (Source: City Plan Heritage, 2023).

In addition to the extensions of the HCA, CPH have recommended the removal of a heritage item listed under Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 - 'Cottage', 18 Webster Street, Picton (item. I218). The residence has received modifications that have significantly altered and removed the original fabric of the c.1880 former worker's cottage. Whilst discussion of the removal of this heritage item is considered further at Section 9 - Removal of Existing Heritage Places, CPH recommend that should the item be delisted as per the recommendation, the residence should subsequently be graded in the Picton HCA as neutral.

The following numerical breakdown for the entire Picton HCA identifies the 496 buildings and sites within the conservation area and the different levels of ranking attributed to each building.

- Contributing: 127
- Neutral: 175
- Undeveloped: 94
- Detracting: 22
- Heritage Item: 78

This breakdown illustrates that the Picton conservation area currently protects the historical late 19th Century and early 20th Century character of the township. The vast majority of items within the conservation area are either contributing or not impacting the historical mid - late 19th Century streetscape. The small proportion of detracting buildings (5% of the total buildings) do not dominate or negatively impact the character of the conservation area. The contributing buildings (26%) and heritage items (16%) together account for 41% of the total Picton Conservation Area, indicating that nearly half of the buildings and sites within the Picton HCA are directly promoting the town's historic character. When the contributory buildings, neutral buildings and heritage items are grouped together, they amount to 95% of the total buildings in the conservation area. These figures can be seen in the Contributory Ranking Plans at Figure 11 and Figure 12.

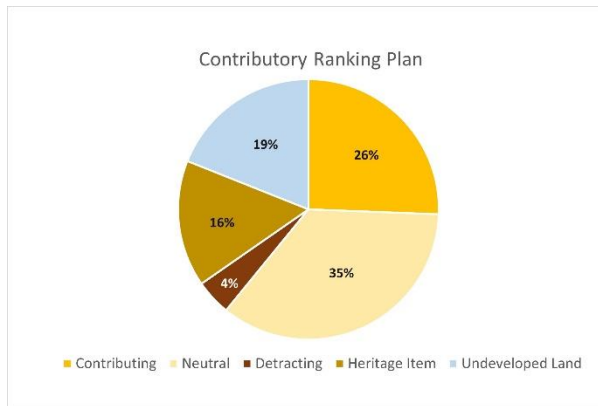


Figure 11: Contributory Ranking Plan for the Picton Conservation Area showing the breakdown of buildings. (Source: City Plan Heritage, 2023).

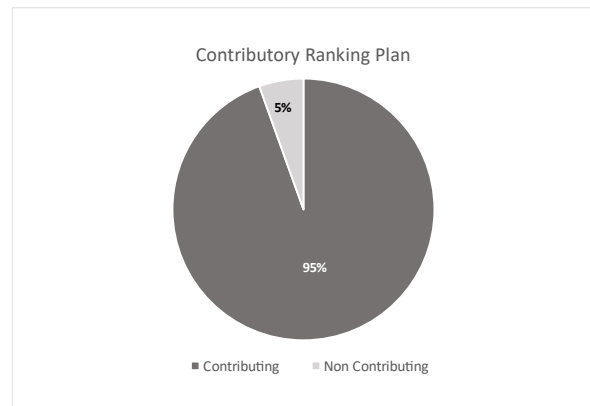


Figure 12: Contributory Ranking Plan comparing non-contributory buildings with contributory buildings. In this graph, Contributing is identified as 'Contributory' + 'Neutral' + 'Heritage Items'. (Source: City Plan Heritage, 2023).

9. REMOVAL OF EXISTING HERITAGE PLACES


9.1. Schedule 5 Part 1 - Heritage Items


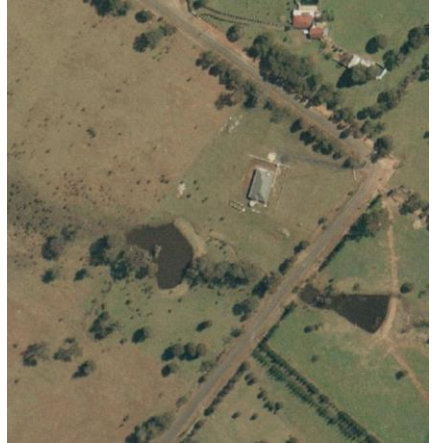
Following an inspection of the heritage items and its remaining significant material, desktop research and secondary documents submitted by third parties, the following five (5) heritage items under Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* have been recommended for removal. The reasons for their recommended removal are explained in Table 9 below.



Table 9: Items recommended for removal from the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*, with reasons provided for their removal.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Reason for Removal	Photo
119	Kalinya Gardens and Landscape	60 Great Southern Road, Bargo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on information provided by Hones Lawyers, CPH site investigations and review of aerial photographs, CPH confirm that the existing buildings at Kalinya Gardens are recent, and the gardens were not built in the 19th Century as identified on the existing SHI form. The buildings and gardens appear to have been constructed after 1970. CPH recommend the removal of the Kalinya Gardens and Landscape from the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i>. 	 <p>Figure 13: The homestead at the Kalinya Gardens and Landscape was incorrectly identified as being built in the 1880s when it appears to be constructed post-1970.</p>
127	Cottage	91 Hawthorne Road, Bargo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the Heritage Impact Statement produced by Rein, Warry & Co for the site and CPH site investigations, the existing cottage is incorrectly identified as a heritage item. The cottage was incorrectly identified as one of Bargo 'earliest surviving 19th Century dwellings' when in fact it did not exist until at least after 1933. The lot was also not part of a pastoral enterprise or agricultural activity as it was only ever sold vacant in 1923 as an urban allotment. In addition to having incorrect historical information, the only surviving original fabric of 	 <p>Figure 14: The Cottage at 91 Hawthorne Lane was incorrectly identified as an 'early 19th Century' cottage when it was built post-1933. The building's only original surviving fabric appears to be the chimney.</p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Reason for Removal	Photo
			<p>the cottage is that of the chimney.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH recommend the removal of the Cottage at 91 Hawthorne Road, Bargo from the Wollondilly LEP 2011. 	
I106	Mount Hunter Public School Residence	169 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mount Hunter Public School Residence is incorrectly identified as situated at 169 Burragorang Road (Lot 15 DP 5827). Instead, the school residence is located at 165 Burragorang Road (Lot 1 DP 816035), within the Mount Hunter Public School curtilage and today serves as an office administration building. The separate listing of the school residence is unnecessary. CPH recommend the removal of I106 from the Wollondilly LEP 2011, with the school residence amalgamated into the Mount Hunter Public School (I105) listing. 	 <p>Figure 15: The Mount Hunter Public School Residence currently operates as an Office Administration building for the Mount Hunter Public School. This building is on the Public School site.</p>  <p>Figure 16: The property at 169 Burragorang Road is a modern construction. The historic schoolmaster's residence can be seen (left) on a different lot to that of 169 Burragorang Road.</p>
I125	Farmhouse	2 Werriberri Road, Orangeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a site inspection and desktop research of the site, CPH recommend the removal of I125 'Farmhouse.' In 2006, the farmhouse was in the middle of a development application at the time of Andrea Oehm's 2006 Wollondilly Shire-Wide Heritage Study Review, which is when this farmhouse was first identified as having heritage 	 <p>Figure 17: The Farmhouse at 2 Werriberri Road has received extensive renovations</p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Reason for Removal	Photo
			<p>significance. This is because the site is believed to have been the location of the Orangeville Post Office in the early 20th Century. Based on the earlier SHI form, the property was described as having an 'encircling skillion verandah on turned posts with decorative timber brackets and a simple valence', 'timber verandah rail with picket infill and 'single storey.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since then however, the building has received extensive modifications as part of the earlier Development Application, including the replacement of the timber posts and brackets, modification of the skillion verandah and installation of a two storey garage on site. CPH believe that the modifications made to the site were incorrectly identified as sympathetic to the heritage significance of the item. This is because the additions drastically changed the appearance of the dwelling, and remaining significant original fabric was removed. CPH recommend the removal of the Farmhouse at 2 Werriberri Road, Orangeville from the Wollondilly LEP 2011. 	<p>over the last 15 years which has significantly altered its heritage value.</p>  <p>Caption: Farmhouse Photographer: Andrea Oehm Copyright Owner: No Credit Date: 1/14/2006 12:00:00 AM</p> <p><i>Figure 18: View of the farmhouse at 2 Werriberri Road in 2006 prior to extensive development of the site, with original fabric visible.</i></p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Reason for Removal	Photo
1126	Farmhouse	160 Dwyers Road, Pheasants Nest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following an investigation into the history of the farmhouse, CPH recommend the removal of 1126 'Farmhouse.' The site was identified in 2006 for its aesthetic qualities, being "an excellent example of a Federation period homestead," noting it as "a substantial building for the period, particularly in this location." There was no known history for the site, with the listing appearing to be determined by its appearance. Following research into the history of the farmhouse, it appears this building was constructed in the 1980s, and not around the Federation period (c. 1900). This is based on historical aerial imagery of the site, with the building clearly not visible in 1980 imagery of the site. The building in its current form appears in the 1990 historical aerial imagery of the site, suggesting that it was built some time during the 1980s. It appears that the cottage was designed to be a "mock-up" Federation dwelling, displaying architectural features common in Federation-era designs (eg. Masonry chimney with decorative capping, bullnosed roof veranda). CPH recommend the removal of the Farmhouse at 160 Dwyers Road, Pheasants Nest from the Wollondilly LEP 2011. 	 <p>Figure 19: 1980 Historical aerial imagery of the site, showing vacant farmland.</p>  <p>Figure 20: 1990 Historical aerial imagery of the site, showing the centrally-located farmhouse, built during the 1980s.</p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Reason for Removal	Photo
I218	Cottage	18 Webster Street, Picton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the site inspection and desktop research of the cottage, CPH recommend the removal of the item from the Wollondilly LEP 2011. Extensive modifications have been made to the exterior of the site, resulting in limited to no surviving fabric remaining. For example, two chimneys present in the c.1909 photograph of the property have since been removed. Additionally, the original windows and doors have been removed and replaced with contemporary counterparts, which has greatly altered its aesthetic and historic significance. As noted at 8.3, should this item be removed from Schedule 5 Part 1 of the Wollondilly LEP, it is recommended that this item be assessed as neutral in the contributory ranking plan for the Picton HCA. 	 <p>Figure 21: The Cottage at 18 Webster Street has been extensively modified from its original state, with little to no surviving fabric remaining.</p>  <p>Figure 22: c.1909 View of Webster Street in foreground c.1909, with 18 Webster Street appearing to be closest to the train.</p>

9.2. Schedule 5 Part 2 - Heritage Conservation Areas

CPH does not recommend the removal of any Heritage Conservation Areas listed under Schedule 5 Part 2 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. Of the two Conservation Areas within the Study Area, CPH were only able to access and assess C2 - Picton Conservation Area, which CPH recommend is expanded. CPH recommend that C5 - Yerranderie Conservation Area be assessed at a later time as it was not accessible during the course of the current assessment.

9.3. Schedule 5 Part 3 - Archaeological Sites

CPH does not recommend the removal of any Archaeological Sites listed under Schedule 5 Part 3 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*. Instead, CPH recommend 9 Archaeological Sites be the subject of archaeological assessments in order to assess the existence of potential archaeological deposits, structures or features associated with the construction and use of these sites. These archaeological assessments will provide the appropriate recommendations to amend existing sites and, where necessary, propose the removal of sites where the archaeological potential of a site is identified as non-existent.

10. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL HERITAGE LISTINGS

As identified earlier, Wollondilly Council, the local Wollondilly community and City Plan Heritage nominated items to be investigated in this Heritage Study. These items were nominated as potentially having heritage significance.

Assessment of these potential items was informed by a physical inspection of the item and desktop research. Some items nominated by the Wollondilly Council or local community could not be accessed by CPH during their site inspections due to limitations discussed earlier (Limitations), however this did not prevent the item from being listed. Desktop research of these potential items often identified historical significance associated with these sites. As well as this, contemporary photographs of these items were discovered, which informed CPH of these items' current integrity.

10.1. Modifying Nominated Heritage Listings

Before undertaking the assessment of the nominated items, CPH have amended some of the nominated heritage listings. This is because some nominated items shared the same history or curtilage with other nominated items and thus their amalgamation made sense. Additionally, some nominations were vague, not identifying a specific item or location to be assessed but identifying a general area that 'may have' items of heritage significance, something which CPH could not investigate due to limitations identified earlier. Finally, a nomination was changed from a section of road referred to locally as 'Spaniard's Hill' to the actual Spaniards Hill in proximity. These reasons for amendments are addressed below.

10.1.1. Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse

Both the 'Jarvisfield Mineral Springs' and 'Mineral Springs Guesthouse' were two potential heritage items nominated for listing that are historically associated with one another. The Mineral Springs were first utilised in the late 19th Century as a healing and recreation centre for visitors to Picton. These visitors would stay at the Mineral Springs Guesthouse, which was constructed in the late 1940s.

These two items have therefore been grouped together to form the item 'Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse'.

It is noted that the term 'Jarvisfield' is the correct term for the name of Henry Colden Antill's landholding at Picton, however the term was historically also called 'Jervisfield' and 'Jervisville' interchangeably.

10.1.2. Rumker Observatory Hill

It is not known whether any physical evidence of the Rumker Observatory structure existed on the site. Instead, CPH have amended the potential item to be 'Rumker Observatory Hill' to shift the assessment of this from a physical structure to the physical landscape.

10.1.3. Burragorang Valley Group

The various items identified as located in Nattai and NPWS Land are all within the Burragorang Valley. These nominations included:

- Nattai - the area below and near Nattai Village
- Nattai - Nattai River foreshore and river inflow area
- NPWS Land - Sheehys Creek
- NPWS Land - Up Tonali Arm and River
- NPWS Land - Wollondilly River and down Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang
- NPWS Land - Along Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang, up to Wollondilly river to Council boundary
- NPWS Land - Sheepwalk Road (and nearby) Center Ridge
- NPWS Land - Colong stock Route

- NPWS Land - Foreshore area Tonalil Bay to Higgins Bay
- NPWS Land - Lacys Creek
- NPWS Land - Greenwattle Creek foreshore and creek
- NPWS Land - Cox Arm of lake, Cedar, Kedumba and Scots Main Range
- Yerranderie Road, from Byrnes Bay to Yerranderie (and nearby)

The specific items identified within this Burragorang Valley Group is located at Appendix A: Burragorang Valley Group.

10.1.4. Thornton's Weir

The original 'Wilton Road, Wilton' nomination was extracted from the Aboriginal and European Survey Report prepared by Kayandel Archaeological Services. This nomination provided general recommendations as to probable sites surrounding the Wilton area as potentially having heritage sites. This nomination was vague and did not provide a clear location and item for CPH to investigate.

Instead, CPH reviewed this Aboriginal and European Survey Report and identified one specific recommendation referring to 'Thornton's Weir', located at Allens Creek, Wilton (near Alkoomie Place), as a site that has heritage listing potential. As such, CPH have modified this nomination to instead assess Thornton's Weir as a potential heritage item.

10.1.5. Spaniards Hill

The original nomination identified the 'Hairpin Bend on Menangle Road' as having potential heritage significance. This is because the bend is sometimes referred to by locals as 'Spaniard's Hill' for its association with an early Spanish settler in the Douglas Park region. The specific nomination requested the hairpin bend also be signposted to mark this association.

CPH have amended the nomination to instead assess Spaniards Hill, which is a landscape in close proximity to this hairpin bend, and not the hairpin bend itself. This is because the hairpin bend would not meet the criteria for listing at a local level. Wollondilly Shire Council are free to erect a sign at the hairpin bend to commemorate Spaniards Hill should they decide to.

10.2. Assessment of Potential Heritage Listings

The assessment of potential heritage Listings resulted in the following recommendations, outlined in Table 10. See the table at Appendix F for assessment of each nominated item and why these recommendations have been made.

Table 10: Identification of potential heritage listings

Recommendation	Number of Items	Items
List as Heritage Items or Heritage Conservation Areas under Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011	34	Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse
		Razorback Bridge
		Brookside Bridge
		Mt Hercules Causeway
		Picton Police Station and Lock-up
		Picton Reservoir
		Railway Underbridge (Thirlmere Way)
		Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane)

Recommendation	Number of Items	Items
		Tyrone Cottage
		Vault Hill Landscape Conservation Area
		Rumker Observatory Hill
		Amy Villa Cottage
		Stationmaster's Residence
		Dalkeith
		Tite's Refrigeration Ice Store
		Former Petrol Station & Workshop
		Gaudry's Cottage
		Farm Dams
		Condell Park Homestead
		Broughton Pass Bridge
		Aston Cottage
		Burraborang Valley Group
		Bindook
		Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group)
		Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group)
		Mrs' Barnes Boarding House
		Staff Road Workers Houses and Aboriginal Scar Tree(s)
		Burraborang Valley
		Glenrock Reserve
		Spaniards Hill Landscape Conservation Area
		Barrallier's Camp
		University of Sydney Farms - Camden Campus
		Store (former)
		Picton Public School Administration Building
No listing is recommended for these items as they fail to satisfy the criteria for listing or are outside the scope of this Heritage Study	7	Homestead
		Picton Official Residence
		Sunning Hill
		Menangle Street Cottages
		T Intersection
		Water Well
		Cordeaux Flying Fox and Tramway
	5	Buckling Stoned-Lined Embankment

Recommendation	Number of Items	Items
Update an existing listing to include information about this nominated item		Former Quarry Site
		Hitching Post
		Wooden Mileposts
		Stone Bridge
Nominate for State heritage listing	4	Suspension Bridge over Nepean River
		Imperial Hotel - subject to comparative assessment to ascertain if State level listing is justified
		Vault Hill Cemetery
		Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir
Investigation is ongoing for sites previously identified outside the Study Area	4	Chiddys Bridge
		Cedar Creek Bridge
		Scroggies Bridge
		Ghost Bridge
Requires further assessment to determine significant fabric, extant and curtilage. Until undertaken, no listing is recommended.	2	Old Hume Highway
		Thornton's Weir
Nominate for National heritage listing	1	Burraborang Valley

11. REVIEW OF HERITAGE CONSTROLS WITHIN THE WOLLONDILLY LEP 2011 AND WOLLONDILLY DCP 2016

The following sections involve a review of the heritage planning controls and objectives included in the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* and *Wollondilly DCP 2016*. Recommendations have been made where required. It is important to note however that both Aboriginal and historic heritage legislation are currently being reviewed in NSW. The *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Culture is Identity) Bill 2022* was introduced into the Legislative Council by Reverend the Hon Fred Nile MLC on 21 June 2022 and a Parliamentary Inquiry commenced into the Private Members Bill on 11 August 2022. The NSW government department responsible for the Aboriginal cultural heritage reforms is Aboriginal Affairs NSW within the Department of Premier and Cabinet, but it is unclear at this stage what the timeframes are for the introduction of the new legislation, or what the statutory and regulatory ramifications will be.

Similarly, in 2021 the NSW Government commenced a review of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* to determine how historic heritage can be better protected in NSW. To date, the Government published a discussion paper in April 2021 for public dissemination and discussion, with the Standing Committee following up and publishing their report to the Government on 22 October 2021, and the Government response being released on 10 December 2021. While noting that the intent of the Heritage Act is generally sound, the Standing Committee recommended 26 reforms to improve the operation of the Heritage Act and system more widely, to be more responsive to the needs of heritage owners and to deliver improved heritage conservation outcomes. The Government response supported in full or in principle 25 out of 26 of the Committee's recommendations and is currently in the process of drafting a Heritage Bill to amend the current Act, which will undergo further consultation once it has been released. Again, it is unclear at this stage what the timeframes are for the introduction of the new legislation, or what the statutory and regulatory ramifications will be.

11.1. Wollondilly LEP 2011

The existing heritage controls and objectives noted in the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* under section 5.10 *Heritage Conservation* reflects the NSW Government template 'Standard Instrument - Principal Local Environmental Plan' (the standard instrument) that was implemented through a change in law in 2005. As such, no changes are proposed to the existing heritage controls and objectives contained in the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

11.2. Wollondilly DCP 2016

The *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, which came into force on 20 January 2016, provides general information and guidelines for the management of heritage places in the Wollondilly. CPH has undertaken a review and recommended areas for change have been provided below. Currently, key heritage related information and controls are located under Part 5 - Colonial Heritage (General), Part 6 - Heritage (Specific Locations) and Part 7 - Aboriginal Heritage.

CPH have extensively revised Part 7 - Aboriginal Heritage to reflect the updated guidelines and regulations to provide a more nuanced view of Aboriginal heritage as both tangible archaeological material culture, as well as the intangible cultural aspects of Lore, religion, traditional knowledge, and Aboriginal perspectives of cultural landscapes.

11.2.1. Volume 1 Part 5 - Colonial Heritage (General)

Heritage Definitions

A Heritage Definitions section is recommended for inclusion to ensure clarity and understanding for developers. An example of such is set out in the table below.

Heritage Places	A collective term used for Heritage Items, Heritage Conservation Areas, and Archaeological Sites
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Heritage Items	Heritage Items can include buildings, sites, places, archaeological items, mature trees and landscapes of both state and local significance. Items of State significance are identified on the State Heritage Register. Items of State and Local significance are identified in Schedule 5 Part 1 of the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> 2011.
Heritage Conservation Area	A Heritage Conservation Area is more than a collection of individual Heritage Items; it is an area in which the historical origins and relationships between various elements creates a sense of place that is special and therefore worthy of retention. Heritage Conservation Areas are identified under Schedule 5 Part 2 of the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> 2011. Controls specific to these identified Heritage Conservation Areas are found in Volume 1 Part 6 of the <i>Wollondilly DCP</i> .
Archaeological Site	Archaeological sites are places where there is physical evidence of past human use or habitation of the location, such as stone tools, stone arrangements, shell middens, carved trees, rock art or ruins. Archaeological Items are identified under Schedule 5 Part 3 of the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> 2011.
Archaeological Feature	Archaeological features are components/items of archaeological sites and encompass a wide range of items including hearths, post holes, pits etc.
Development in the Vicinity of a Heritage Place	A development within the vicinity of a heritage item, culturally significant heritage place or heritage conservation area must be assessed to determine whether it will have any impact on the significance of the heritage place and how this impact can be mitigated. A Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) may be required.
Aboriginal Heritage	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is the collective term used for both tangible and intangible aspects of Aboriginal occupation, association and belonging with Country. This includes intangible cultural values that form part of the lore, storylines, ceremonies, traditional knowledge and sense of belonging to Country. It also includes material culture made and used by traditional societies such as stone tools, stone arrangements, scarred trees, as well as symbolic material culture as defined by rock art and carved trees. Where a development proposes harm to an Aboriginal site or relic, the applicant must contact NSW Heritage (Department of Premier and Cabinet) for compliance with the statutory requirements.
Contributory Buildings	Contributory Buildings are buildings that make an important and significant contribution to the character of a heritage conservation area of heritage streetscape and have a reasonable to high degree of integrity and date from a key development period of significance. Contributory buildings are defined as buildings which are from a significant historical period layer, highly or substantially intact or significant historical period layer, altered yet recognisable and reversible.

Heritage Significance

In addition to a heritage definitions section, a 'Heritage Significance' section is recommended for inclusion. This will aid in demonstrating why particular heritage places are listed under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011. An example of such a 'Heritage Significance' section is outlined below.

The Heritage Branch of NSW Heritage (Department of Premier and Cabinet) has established widely accepted criteria to be used in ascertaining heritage significance. In summary, a building, relic or place may have heritage significance for reasons of historical, aesthetic, scientific or social significance; or a combination of these. In addition, a place could be considered to be of particular note due to its rarity or representativeness.

It is important to note that a heritage place does not need to be completely intact or in good condition for it to qualify as having heritage significance. Instead, the place's ability to demonstrate the above criteria is important. Many heritage items have undergone change overtime, including extensions and alterations, however these have not had an adverse impact upon the identified significance of this item. Before any alterations or new works are proposed to a heritage place, there must be a thorough understanding of its heritage significance. Once a heritage place's heritage significance is known, decisions about changes can be more easily and appropriately made.

Development in Vicinity of Heritage Sites

It is important that items that are in the vicinity of heritage places are subject to planning controls that ensure any development in proximity to it does not impede on the heritage significance of the heritage place. The current framework of Volume 1 Part 5 does not specifically make it clear that items in the vicinity are bounded by these heritage controls. The example below makes clear that any items in vicinity to heritage places are also bound by heritage controls where the development may affect the heritage significance of a heritage place.

Heritage Impact Statement (HIS)

Council requires a HIS to be provided with a development application where, in the opinion of the Council, the heritage significance of the following could be affected:

- A heritage item (see Schedule 5 Part 1 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011)
- A heritage conservation area (see Schedule 5 Part 2 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011)
- An archaeological site (see Schedule 5 Part 3 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011)
- Development in the vicinity of any of the above heritage places

The size and content of the HIS will vary depending on the heritage place involved, the scale of the proposed development and the impact the development would have on the heritage significance of the heritage place. A HIS must be prepared by a qualified and experienced Heritage Consultant and be carried out in consultation with the Council. Further guidelines for preparation of Heritage Impact Statements can be found on the Heritage (Department of Premier and Cabinet) website [[Statements of heritage impact | NSW Environment and Heritage](#)].

Repairs of Heritage Items

Clause 5.10(3) of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 outlines situations where consent is not required for development of a heritage item. One example of such is Clause 5.10 (3)(a)(i) & (ii), which states:

(3) Development consent under this clause is not required if-

(a) the applicant has notified the consent authority of the proposed development and the consent authority has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development-

(i) is of a minor nature or is for the maintenance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place of heritage significance or archaeological site of a building, work, relic, tree, or place within the heritage conservation area, and

(ii) would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place, archaeological site or heritage conservation area

This clause is in place to exempt those undertaking repairs and maintenance works to heritage items from requiring consent to undertake these repair works. However, it is recommended that Council

implement a process to ensure these repair works are compliant with the heritage significance of heritage items. Currently, the Council provide written heritage advice concerning what works are permissible and the preferred materials used. However, there does not appear to be an oversight process to ensure that repair works to heritage items are complying with this heritage advice. Without implementation of an oversight framework to ensure heritage design advice is complied with, there is a risk that repair works undertaken may be unsympathetic to the heritage values of a property.

As such, CPH recommend the provision of a compliance statement process that requires those that undertake maintenance works to heritage items to confirm that their works have followed the heritage advice provided by council.

11.2.2. Volume 1 Part 6 - Heritage (Specific Locations)

6.1 Objectives

The first clause of Part 6 – Heritage (Specific Locations) deals with the objectives of this section. Specifically, these clauses relate to items which are identified as Heritage Conservation Areas under Schedule 5 Part 2 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

CPH recommend adding a second objective that discusses the reason as to why these heritage locations are guided by these specific controls. An example of such an objective is:

b) To protect the aesthetic values of specific locations that have been identified as having local heritage character

6.2 Application

Clause 6.2 identifies that development of sites within these specific locations are guided by both the controls within Part 6 Heritage (Specific Locations), as well as with the general controls that were discussed at Part 5 – Colonial Heritage (General). This clause also prevents uncertainty by stating that “where there is an inconsistency between Parts 5 and 6 of this volume, Part 6 shall prevail to the extent of this inconsistency.” CPH agree with the need to provide developers with clarity as to which provisions apply when undertaking development in these heritage conservation areas.

CPH do note that an error is present in this clause. The current clause states, 'These controls apply in addition to the controls contained in *Part 6* of this volume,' when in fact it should state 'These controls apply in addition to the controls contained in *Part 5* of this volume.'

6.4 Heritage Conservation Area - Picton

This 6.4 Heritage Conservation Area – Picton distinctly deals with the specific controls that are relevant for development of properties within the Picton Conservation, which is defined in the *Wollondilly LEP 2011* as item C2 ‘Picton Conservation Area.’ As ascertained in Clause 6.2 Application, these controls apply in addition to those within Part 5 – Colonial Heritage (General), and that should there be an inconsistency between the two, the controls within Clause 6.4 shall prevail.

The current breakdown of the Picton Heritage Conservation Area (“HCA”) into 8 distinct precincts is supported, with CPH proposing the addition of a ninth (9th) precinct for controls relevant to the Argyle Street cottages within the HCA’s extended boundaries. As the HCA consists of a number of buildings over a large area, as well as numerous landscape elements like that of Stonequarry Creek, it is important that the distinct precincts and their character are maintained with specific controls. For example, it would not be appropriate for controls relating to development of buildings within the Commercial Centre Precinct be applied the same to sites within the Campbell Street Precinct.

It is recommended that Map 1 – Picton Heritage Conservation Area Precincts is updated to include the northern extension of the HCA along Argyle Street to the Eliza Place / Regreme Road roundabout. This precinct should be labelled ‘9. Argyle Street Cottages.’ It is also recommended that the southern boundary of the map along Menangle Street is amended to exclude those lots on the eastern side of the road, namely Lot 6 DP 121180 (previously Lot 21 DP 32503), Lot 1 DP 2704 and Lot 2 DP 2704. This is because the subdivision of Lot 21 DP 32503 into numerous recent c.2021 residences, and the

installation of Camellia Court detracts from the original subdivision of Menangle Street. Further discussion of this can be seen at Schedule 5 Part 2 - Heritage Conservation Areas.

The Character Description of each precinct identifies the existing significant sites within that area, the histories of these significant sites and each site's contribution to the historical character of that particular Precinct. Each of the existing Character Descriptions are historically accurate and reflect the importance of that area, specifically in relation to the towns development across the 19th and 20th Centuries. CPH do not recommend any changes in relation to these Character Descriptions. CPH recommend adding the following Character Description for the newly added Precinct 9 – 'Argyle Street Cottages':

The Argyle Street cottages have local significance as evidence of the town's early residential development in the late 19th Century. The precinct is home to a number of heritage listed and contributory Victorian and Federation-era cottages along Argyle Street, between the Regreme Road / Eliza Place roundabout in the north and the Argyle Street / Margaret Street intersection to the south. Most of these cottages were built between 1890-1910 as the township of Picton began to develop into a municipality. These cottages provide travellers entering into Picton from the north with an aesthetic introduction to the Victorian and Federation-era historic character that the rest of the township possesses.

The Objectives of each of the 8 precincts within this clause are all supported by CPH. They identify the reasons as to why development of properties within these precincts are to follow these controls, and how through these controls the precincts can maintain their visual aesthetic values. CPH recommend adding the following Objectives for Precinct 9 – 'Argyle Street Cottages':

Objectives

- *To ensure development is sympathetic to the heritage character of Argyle Street*
- *To ensure that the design and materials used in new buildings, restoration and renovation of existing buildings is appropriate to the scale and form to the character of the Argyle Street Cottages Precinct.*
- *To encourage the removal or upgrading of non-contributing elements in the area so as to enhance the setting of the contributory elements*
- *To ensure development reflects the traditional architectural design and form of the existing cottages in the precinct*

Controls – General

Each precinct within the Picton HCA has controls that are relevant to the development of properties within these areas. Some precincts have controls that are unique to their area, with these addressed in the next section. This section will include recommended general controls that should be included for all precincts.

It is recommended that the front façades of items which are identified as contributing to the Contribution Ranking Map should be retained in its current state, with no additions made to these front façades. This is to highlight the aesthetic qualities of each of these traditional buildings, whether they be made of weatherboard or brick. By highlighting these visual qualities of contributing items through limiting development of the front façade, the traditional Victorian and Federation era character of the Picton HCA is upheld.

A general control should also be included in each precinct that requires the existing setback of buildings from the street be respected. Some existing dwellings along Menangle Street for example do not follow this traditional setback, which results in these dwellings detracting from the overall aesthetic value of the streetscape. By ensuring this setback is maintained in future development, the traditional late 19th and early 20th Century historic character is promoted.

A general control should be added to each precinct that requires development of contributory buildings be supported by detailed documentation. An example of this recommended objective is:

Additions to contributory items within this precinct required detailed documentation be submitted to the consent authority before developmental approval can be granted. This documentation should address

the controls present within Part 5 – Colonial Heritage (General) and Part 6 – Heritage Locations (Specific) Clause 6.4 – Heritage Conservation Area – Picton.

This reinforces the requirement that items that are marked as contributory need to have development that respects and promotes the heritage character of this HCA. It is important that the façades of contributory buildings are promoted in redevelopment to maintain the character of the heritage conservation area.

Another general control that can be added to each precinct is one that addresses development of neutral and detracting buildings. A control that, for example, requires development to address how it promotes and respects the heritage significance of the precinct which ultimately leads to more sympathetic development across the whole HCA. By requiring developers of neutral or detracting buildings to identify how alterations, modifications and redevelopment of their site will respect the heritage significance of the precinct specifically and Picton HCA more generally, the character of heritage items and contributing buildings will be protected.

Controls - Specific

Most of the precincts within Clause 6.4 'Heritage Conservation Area – Picton' also identify controls that are to be specifically applied to development within these precincts. This is because some areas within the HCA are distinctly different to that of other precincts, and their protection through specific controls are required. For example, the Stonequarry Creek Precinct has controls that address development in proximity to the historic creek, whereas 'Webster Street' precinct contains controls that require attention be paid to the setting of the nearby Victoria Park. For the most part, these controls are supported by CPH and recommend their retention. Only some specific controls are recommended for adjustment.

In relation to front fencing of properties within the HCA, it is recommended that controls are amended to focus on maintaining the original front fencing of a property. Both the 'Larkin Precinct' and 'Menangle Street Precinct' have specific controls that require fences be constructed of a "wire mesh with wooden supports posts", however some properties within these precincts have different original fences, including timber picket fences, wrought iron fences and low-lying Colorbond steel fences. Instead of imposing the one specific type of fence, it is encouraged that the aforementioned traditional fences be encouraged in development, particularly when neighbouring properties have these similar traditional fences. It is recommended, therefore, that controls for these precincts be amended to state:

Fences must be respectful of the precinct that the development is within. For existing properties, the original front fencing is to be retained. For new development, fencing should be reflective of that which surrounds the new development, whether that be timber picket fencing, wrought iron fencing or timber posts with infilled wire mesh fencing.

In relation to the newly created Precinct Nine – 'Argyle Street Cottages', the following specific controls be included:

Controls

- *Development must be designed in sympathy with the best characteristics of this historic late Victorian – early Federation period streetscape*
- *New development, including infill, must have regard to the importance of Argyle Street as the historic northern gateway to Picton and reflect the architectural characteristics of existing buildings, particularly those which are heritage-listed.*
- *Fences must be respectful of the precinct that the development is within. For existing properties, the original front fencing is to be retained. For new development, fencing should be reflective of that which surrounds the new development, whether that be timber picket fencing, wrought iron fencing or timber posts with infilled wire mesh fencing.*
- *Development in this Precinct must be constructed in accordance with the flood controls contained in this Volume.*

Further Review

As CPH were only able to access and assess the Picton Conservation Area as part of their site inspections, it is important that the controls of the other Specific Locations are reviewed at the same

time these other heritage conservation areas are reviewed. These other Specific Locations will require different objectives and controls from that of the Picton HCA as they will have different aesthetic values and historic characters different to that of the late 19th and early 20th Century Picton township.

11.2.3. Volume 1 Part 7 - Aboriginal Heritage

The existing *Wollondilly DCP* 2016 was reviewed in relation to the provisions it sets out under Part 7 – Aboriginal Heritage and the following section discusses relevant changes that are recommended based on reviews of relevant documentation and updates associated with regulations such as the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019*, the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW 2010: now Heritage NSW) and the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW 2010a). The updated guidelines and regulations provide a more nuanced view of Aboriginal heritage as both tangible archaeological material culture, as well as the intangible cultural aspects of Lore, religion, traditional knowledge, and Aboriginal perspectives of cultural landscapes..

The following sections are recommended for inclusion into the DCP and replacing the existing sections on Aboriginal heritage under Part 7.

Aboriginal Heritage

This section on Aboriginal heritage provides a framework to advise development applications in relation to known or potential Aboriginal objects, features or sites and Aboriginal Places in order to satisfy the statutory provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NP&W Act), the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019* and section 79C of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. It also provides advice on how development of land will be assessed when there are no known Aboriginal heritage items listed on registers such as the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).

Council must consider the statutory provisions set out in Part 6 of the *NP&W Act* that regulate the process used to determine whether a development or certain actions will or will not harm Aboriginal objects, which is defined to mean destroying, defacing, damaging or moving an Aboriginal object. Aboriginal objects are defined by the *NP&W Act* under *Section 5 Definitions* to mean ‘*any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft for sale) relating to Indigenous and non-European habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.*’

This section aims to ensure that both tangible objects and archaeological sites and intangible cultural, spiritual and religious Aboriginal heritage values are assessed in a culturally, scientifically, and legally appropriate manner in the development process and afforded the appropriate level of assessment, protection, management or mitigation that is consistent with statutory requirements. It aims to categorise appropriate means of identifying, managing, conserving and protecting archaeological sites, Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance, as well as setting out the appropriate steps when impacts or mitigation measures are required before a development application can be enacted. It explains the process to achieve compliance under the requirements with respect to Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance.

The DCP acknowledges the relationship that First Nations People have with Country is ancient, complex and essential to the health of the ecology, fabric and stability of the landscape. This ancient relationship goes back at least 65,000 years for the Continent, some 50,000 years for NSW, and at least 40,000 years for the Cumberland Plain. Aboriginal culture was and continues to be dynamic because of the unique balance achieved between Aboriginal People and nature, one of the principles being to live with a sense of responsibility rather than entitlement. This ancient relationship and understanding embodies why consultation with the local Aboriginal community is advisable at all stages of the development application process.

Objectives

- a) Preserve and manage sites of known or potential Aboriginal cultural and archaeological sites that are important to Aboriginal people in the Wollondilly Shire LGA
- b) Ensure development is designed to care for and connect to Country

Controls

1. Development applications must identify any areas of Aboriginal heritage value that are within or adjoining the area of the proposed development, including any areas within the development site that are to be retained and protected.
2. Development Applications must also identify the management protocols for any identified areas and sites of Aboriginal heritage value.

12. CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

CPH have undertaken a shire-wide Heritage Study of heritage sites within the Wollondilly LGA (excluding the townships of Appin, Menangle, Thirlmere and Warragmaba) for the purpose of assessing existing heritage items protected under Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011, and to review the eligibility of sites proposed by council and the local community for heritage listing. The Heritage Study also included a review with recommendations of the existing controls related to heritage in the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011 and the *Wollondilly DCP* 2016. This Heritage Study was commissioned as part of the Wollondilly's commitment to heritage protection in the face of growing development pressures.

The heritage review resulted in the investigation of 236 existing heritage items under Schedule 5 Part 1 of the *LEP*, two heritage conservation areas under Part 2, and 12 archaeological sites under Part 3. Wollondilly Shire Council and the local community also proposed 22 amendments to existing heritage sites to ensure these items are more appropriately protected, as well as nominated 64 new potential heritage items to be investigated. The review of these potential heritage items indicated that several shared the same history with other nominated items and so CPH amalgamated 12 items into one group ('Burratorang Valley Group') and another two items into a second group ('Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse'). The investigation of potential heritage items ultimately resulted in a total of 34 new heritage items being nominated for heritage listing.

A major component of this heritage study was the historical research of each site to understand its heritage significance and its suitability for heritage protection under the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011. An ancillary component to the historical research included a review of previous thematic historical studies of Wollondilly Shire LGA, since this provides the research framework for historical and archaeological investigations of heritage items, cultural landscapes, conservation areas and archaeological sites, as well as highlighting the relevant historical themes that collectively define the historic character of Wollondilly Shire. The history also included a preliminary investigation of the Aboriginal thematic history for Wollondilly Shire and provided a framework to guide future research into Aboriginal cultural heritage. The review of Aboriginal historical themes – whilst acknowledged as being preliminary in nature – is an important contribution to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage which has not been considered previously in the Wollondilly Shire. This is reflected in the fact that the sum of Aboriginal heritage listings in the Wollondilly Shire consists of only two heritage items out of the current total of 294 heritage items listed under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011, and no heritage listings under the six heritage conservation areas listed under Part 2 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011, nor are any included in any of the 14 archaeological sites listed under Part 3 Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011.

CPH recommends therefore that Wollondilly Shire Council prepare assessment guidelines for Aboriginal cultural heritage to assist proponents, Wollondilly Shire Council and the Aboriginal community in providing culturally and scientifically appropriate levels of cultural and archaeological (scientific) investigations. These guidelines should also identify the relevant Aboriginal stakeholders, in addition to providing an accessible document that can guide proponents and Council in determining the appropriate level of investigation required when assessing a development application in relation to Aboriginal cultural and archaeological heritage.

CPH also recommend expanding the current advice and guidelines for Aboriginal cultural heritage because it is in effect invisible to the vast majority of the population in contrast to historic heritage which tends to be easily recognisable and highly visible. This high visibility in the landscape for historical archaeology and built heritage explains why so many historic heritage items are listed on *LEP* and State Heritage Inventories in contrast to the paucity of Aboriginal heritage listings. Importantly, Aboriginal objects, features, sites or places will only be listed if the subject lands have previously been part of an Aboriginal heritage assessment of some form. It is also the reason why a search of the AHIMS database is not a good indicator for identifying potential Aboriginal heritage constraints and why the minimum requirement for assessing Aboriginal heritage constraints should be a due diligence study that includes a pedestrian archaeological survey of the subject site. An excellent example of what CPH propose is Shellharbour City Council's *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Development Assessment Toolkit* which is available at the Shellharbour City Councils website under 'Cultural and Heritage Advice' webpage (Cultural and heritage advice | Shellharbour Council (nsw.gov.au)). This document was

prepared to provide a detailed explanation of Aboriginal heritage requirements specifically referenced to Shellharbour City Council's own *Development Control Plan 2017*.

In summary, the heritage study revealed a rich and diverse environmental, Aboriginal and colonial history for the tangible and intangible components of Wollondilly Shire's cultural heritage. The challenge of managing these heritage assets in the future against the competing tensions of development, economic and agricultural growth versus conservation, which are being amplified by the increasingly destructive effects of climate change, requires a strategic approach based on sound cultural and scientific principles developed across a diverse range of stakeholders, including Traditional Owners and Custodians, private and government land owners and managers, various heritage and scientific experts and the local community. To date, Wollondilly Shire Council has managed to engage successfully with the local community and a number of historic and built heritage specialists to produce heritage studies on a wide variety of historic and colonial heritage, as well as facilitating studies for 294 heritage items, six heritage conservation areas and 14 archaeological sites that have resulted in their inclusion as scheduled sites under the *Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan 2011* and the State Heritage Register. Subsequent studies will need to take a strategic approach that incorporates the natural sciences – in particular those relating to climate change – with cultural and archaeological studies that engage with Aboriginal and local community stakeholders, as well as specialists from the disciplines of archaeology, climate change and environmental studies. Investigating this archive using culturally and scientifically appropriate research frameworks will enhance and add value to our efforts to conserve and manage Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage in the Wollondilly Shire.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

After conducting a site inspection and undertaking physical and documentary investigations, this study recommends consideration of the following key actions for the Wollondilly's environmental heritage.

Existing items under Schedule 5 Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011:

1. Nominate four (4) items for listing on the State Heritage Register under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*.
 - Suspension Bridge over Nepean River (I78)
 - Vault Hill Cemetery (I208)
 - Imperial Hotel (I199) - subject to comparative assessment to ascertain if State level listing is justified.
 - Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir (I278) - to be included within the curtilage of SHR # 01373 Upper Canal System (Pheasant Nest Weir to Prospect Reservoir)
2. Amend 32 existing items as detailed in Section 7.1 Review of Schedule 5 Part 1 'Heritage Items' (Appendix D), Section 8 Review of Existing Heritage Conservation Area Boundaries and Section 7.3 Review of Schedule 5 Part 3 - 'Archaeological Sites' (Appendix E). This includes amending addresses, property descriptions, item descriptions and mapping associated with the item. A summary of these recommendations is provided below.

Table 11: Table showing recommended amendments to existing heritage items, conservation areas and archaeological sites.

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
I18	Bargo Cemetery	Amend the address from 15 Great Southern Road, Bargo to 9 Great Southern Road, Bargo
I26	Bargo Public School	Amend the property description to list Part Lot 1 DP 782052
I53	Camden Park Estate - House and Gardens	Amend the address from 'Remembrance Driveway' to 160 Camden Park Road, Camden Park
I72	Mountbatten Group - house, chapel and garden building	Amend the item name, replacing 'chapel' with 'stable.' The chapel is a misidentification of the historic structure within Lot 1 DP 576136,

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
I105	Mount Hunter Public School	Amalgamate with item I106 and Amend listing name to 'Mount Hunter Public School and Residence'
I107	Mount Hunter Creamery	Amend the address and property description to 179 Burragorang Road and Lot 103 DP 1187951
I114	Mowbray Park Group - gateway, buildings, weir, trees and grounds	Amend the SHI database so that I115 'Farm Buildings and site of former Pictona Stud.' is not hyperlinked when one searches for I114.
I130	Industry Housing Group	Amend the property description to Lot 52 DP 1168144 and Lots 5-8 DP 36147
I135	Macquarie House	Amend the existing item description of I135 Macquarie House to include mention of the Hitching Post
I148	Fairley Residence (former)	Amend the property description to Lot 90 DP 1264465.
I149	Railway Bridge (Hole in the wall)	Description in the SHI form has been amended to include the railway loop and tunnel on the site. Previously only the bridge was only noted.
I169	Houses	Amend the existing item to include 20 Wild Street and rename as 'Cowper & Wild Streets Housing Group'
I175	Jarvisfield - House and Barn	Amend the LEP property description to be Part Lot 3 and Part Lot 4 DP 873571. CPH also recommend amending the property description of the State Heritage Register (SHR) listing curtilage to include the Part Lot 4 DP 873571 that is within the Jarvisfield complex.
I179	House	Amend the property description to Lot 2 DP 1064470
I184	Picton Railway Station Group, including stationmaster's residence	Remove the stationmaster's residence from I184 so as to make I184 identical to the curtilage of the SHR listing (SHR #01224). Create a separate listing for Picton Stationmaster's Residence (PI13).
I186	Furniture Store	Amend the property description to Lot 12 DP 1225815
I188	Former Wollondilly Shire Hall	Amend the Property Description to Lot 70 DP 1279596.
I206	Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek	Amend the item description to include reference to the embankment as a significant fabric of the bridge.
I213	Cottage Group	Remove 8 Webster Street (Lot 3 DP 1110161) property from the group listing
I219	Cottage	Amend the property description to Lot 1 SP 86229.
I240	The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing	Extend the curtilage of the existing item to include the waterfall and caves behind the property. Undertake an archaeological study for the site to locate the convict graves.

Item No.	Name	CPH Recommendations for amendments to existing listing
I267	Charleville	Amend the item address to include only 260 Bents Basin Road, Wallacia, and amend the property description to only Lot 17 DP 546709 (remove 258 Bents Basin Road from listing)
I272	Cottage, Silverdale Werombi 1185 Road,	Amend the item description to include the fibro cottage to the listing
I285	Aboriginal Sites Shelter	Amend the address from Fairway Drive, Wilton to Stringybark Creek, Wilton, keeping the property description the same, also undertake an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment to relocate the rock shelters and assess their current condition
I297	Abbotsford Silos	Amend the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 59 Abbotsford Road, Picton, and the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to Lot 102 DP 1271107.
I298	Byrnes Exhibition Dairy (2 buildings)	Amend the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 11 Abbotsford Road, Picton, and the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to Part of Lot 101 (no. 11 Abbotsford Road) and Part of Lot 102 (no. 59 Abbotsford Rd) in DP 1271107.
C2	Picton Conservation Area	Amend the boundaries of the Picton HCA to include properties along Argyle Street between Margaret Street and Eliza Place / Regreme Road on the north; and extend on the southeast corner as shown in Figure 4 of this report
A3	Wooden Mileposts	Extend the listing to include two additional mileposts below: a) Mount Hercules Road (near the junction with Old Razorback Road), Razorback b) Old Razorback Road (south of Apps Gully and before the junction with Old Hume Highway), Razorback. Undertake conservation measures as recommended in Appendix E.
A6	Stonequarry Creek Quarry site	Extend the boundary to include 14 Victoria Street at Lot 1 DP 548596
A7	Abbotsford - house, ruins, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit	Change address and property description - 11 and 59 Abbotsford Road, Picton (Lots 101 & 102 DP 1271107)
A8	Remnant sandstone kerbs, gutters and culverts	Amend the address to include Menangle Street West (adjoining 123 Argyle Street) and 217 Menangle Street, Picton
A11	Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)	Amend the address and property description to be 145 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback (Part Lot 32 DP 1012256). An archaeological assessment of the old road relics - including detailed mapping - is also recommended

3. Reclassify one (1) Heritage Item listed under Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011 as an Archaeological Site under Part 3 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011.
 - Brownlow Hill Road Bridge (I48)
4. No further action is required for two (2) items:
 - Farm buildings and site of former Pictona Stud (I115). The site could not be inspected in order to confirm whether the farm buildings have been destroyed by flooding therefore the listing should remain as it currently is.
 - Industrial Housing Group at 15-23 Antill Street, Picton (I130). The proposed amendment to remove 17 Antill Street is not considered justified and thus the listing should remain as it currently is.
5. Remove six (6) existing items from the *Wollondilly LEP*. These items do not satisfy heritage listing criteria due to extensive modifications and impacts to the items' heritage values.
 - Kalinya Gardens, 60 Great Southern Road, Bargo (I19)
 - Cottage, 91 Hawthorne Road, Bargo (I27)
 - Mount Hunter Public School Residence (I106) amalgamated with (I105)
 - Farmhouse, 2 Werriberri Road, Orangeville (I125)
 - Farmhouse, 160 Dwyers Road, Pheasants Nest (I126)
 - Cottage, 18 Webster Street, Picton (I218)
6. Extend the boundaries of Picton Heritage Conservation Area (Picton HCA) (item no. C2) to include:
 - Properties to the north along Argyle Street between Margaret Street and Eliza Place / Regreme Road roundabout;
 - Properties to the south on the eastern side of Menangle Street to incorporate dwellings located at 246 Menangle Street and 248 Menangle Street.
7. Undertake 12 archaeological assessments including three (3) existing Heritage Items and nine (9) Archaeological Sites to confirm each site's archaeological potential and guide future conservation and heritage classification.
 - Mount Hunter Creamery (I107)
 - The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing (I240)
 - Aboriginal Shelter Sites (I285)
 - Cawdor Creamery site (A2)
 - Wellington Iceworks - ruins, silos and tanks (A5)
 - Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site (A6)
 - Abbotsford - house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottages, outbuildings and tree on hill summit (A7)
 - Former Stonequarry Creek Swimming Pool (A9)
 - Oakdale Timber Mill relics (A10)
 - Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road (A11)
 - Mt Hercules Homestead - ruins, well, trees and slab garage (A12)
 - Myrtle Creek Bridge ruins (A13)
8. Retain all existing heritage items under Parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 5 of the *Wollondilly LEP* 2011, except where they are recommended to be removed or modified in as noted above and in Sections 7, 8 and 9 of this report.
9. Review the existing Yerranderie Conservation Area (listing no. C5) when physical access to the site can be organised.

Potential items recommended for listing under Part 1 and Part 3 of Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011:

Of the nominated 64 potential items 34 have been nominated for heritage listing in Part 1 - Heritage Items; two (2) recommended for further archaeological assessment; seven (7) were not found meeting the threshold for listing and not recommended for listing; five (5) were recommended for incorporation into the existing listings of heritage items where they have associations; four (4) were outside of the study area; three (3) Wooden Mileposts have been nominated for inclusion within the existing item 'A3' listing; one (1) Hitching Post have been nominated for inclusion in the existing item 'I135' listing; and the remainder of the nominated items (8) have been nominated as groups rather than as individual items under Burratorang Valley Group as detailed below:

10. List 34 nominated items as heritage items under Schedule 5 Part 1 of the *Wollondilly LEP 2011*.

Refer to Section 10 and Appendix F of this report for details of the nominated items listed below:

- Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse (PI01)
- Razorback Bridge (PI02)
- Brookside Bridge (PI03)
- Mt Hercules Causeway (PI04)
- Picton Police Station and Lock-up (PI05)
- Picton Reservoir (PI06)
- Railway Underbridge (Thirlmere Way) (PI07)
- Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane) (PI08)
- Tyrone Cottage (PI09)
- Vault Hill Landscape Conservation Area (PI10)
- Rumker Observatory Hill (PI11)
- Amy Villa Cottage (PI12)
- Stationmaster's Residence (PI13)
- Dalkeith (PI14)
- Tite's Refrigeration and Ice Store (PI15)
- Former Petrol Station and Workshop (PI16)
- Gaudry's Cottage (PI17)
- Farm Dams (PI18)
- Condell Park Homestead (PI19)
- Broughton Pass Bridge (PI20)
- Aston Cottage (PI21)
- Staff Road Workers Houses and Aboriginal Scar Tree(s) (PI22)
- Bindook (PI23)
- Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group) (PI24)
- Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group) (PI25)
- Mrs' Barnes Board House (PI26)
- Burratorang Valley Group (PI27)
- Burratorang Valley (PI28)
- Glenrock Reserve (PI29)
- Spaniards Hill Landscape Conservation Area (PI30)
- Barrallier's Camp (PI31)
- University of Sydney Farms - Camden Campus (PI32)
- Store (former) (PI33)
- Picton Public School Administration Building (PI34)

11. Of the 64 nominated items (Table 4), two (2), Old Hume Highway and Thornton's Weir, requires further archaeological assessment, including a physical inspection of the site, to determine

significant fabric, extent and curtilage and thus each items' suitability for listing. Until results of these investigations and assessments are known, no listing is recommended for these items.

12. Four (4) nominated bridges have been excluded due to being located outside the Study Area. A brief heritage assessment and site inspection indicated they likely did not meet the threshold for heritage listing
 - Chiddys Bridge, Oaks Road near Sandy Lane, Thirlmere
 - Cedar Creek Bridge, Cedar Creek Road, between Burns Road and Mullholands Road, Thirlmere
 - Scroggies Bridge, Scroggies Road (over Cedar Creek), Thirlmere
 - Ghost Bridge, Bridge Street, Thirlmere
13. Nominate one (1) item, Burratorang Valley, for inclusion in the National heritage listing.
14. No listing is recommended for seven (7) nominated potential items as detailed in Section 10.2 of this report. The nominated items listed below do not meet the criteria for listing. Further information can be found in Appendix F as to why they do not satisfy the criteria.
 - Homestead, 3-5 Cowper Street, Picton
 - Picton Official Residence, 82-84 Argyle Street, Picton
 - Sunning Hill "The Castle", 30 Radnor Road, Bargo
 - Menangle Street Cottages, Picton
 - 'T' Intersection, Menangle Road and Camden Road, Douglas Park
 - Water Well, 65 Menangle Street, Picton
 - Cordeaux Flying Fox and Tramway, Unknown location (within private and public property heading south from rail line at Douglas Park)

Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2016

15. For Volume 1 Part 5 of the *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, incorporate Heritage Definitions, Heritage Significance, Development in Vicinity of Heritage Sites and Repairs and Maintenance of Heritage Items sections to aid developer understanding of heritage and its significance.
16. For Volume 1 Part 6 of the *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, amendments are recommended to 6.1 Objectives, 6.2 Application and 6.4 Heritage Conservation Area - Picton. A ninth (9th) precinct is recommended for addition to this heritage conservation area - Argyle Street Cottages - which should include specific objectives and controls.
17. For Volume 1 Part 7 of the *Wollondilly DCP 2016*, incorporate Aboriginal Heritage, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Definitions, and the proposed approach. This will aid developers in understanding Aboriginal cultural heritage and its applicability to their land.

General Recommendations

18. Undertake a detailed study of Aboriginal cultural heritage in partnership with the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Wollondilly Shire. This should include a consideration of archaeological, environmental (landscape evolution and climate change), cultural, historical and anthropological components to the study.
19. Undertake a detailed study to understand the future challenges for Wollondilly Shire in relation to climate change and how this may exacerbate the risks associated with geohazards such as landslides or increase the frequency and intensity of climatic events such as flooding or bushfires for all heritage assets within the LGA and how this will potentially impact heritage conservation efforts.

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APPENDIX A:

Burraborang Valley Group Items

The following tables identify the items listed within the Burraborang Valley Group and their approximate location

The area below and near Nattai Village

The old 'Jump Up' road (built 1868)	Stone rings for horse drawn wagon 'tyre' refitting	Packed rock dam for teamsters' water supply up the mountain.	Oakdale Mine water supply pump stations, pipeline and reservoir (used prior and after Warragamba Dam)	Oakdale Mine water supply pipeline
Several old house site remains	Water Board maintenance site including vehicle service pit (Warragamba clearing operations)			

Nattai river foreshore and river inflow area

Baron hut site	Hill house site	Stockyard	Steam powered sawmill site (including boiler in situ)	2 x house sites nearby (1 with chimney made from river cobblestones)
Old slab house site	Franklins old hut site	Hut orchard remains	O'Brien house and farm building remains	Several hut site and farm sites
Sawmill site with old car at junction of Alum & Nattai Rivers	Grave of James Taylor (1870 headstone)	Taylor house and orchard remains (south of grave)		

Sheehy's Creek

Memorial Plaque (death at waterfall)	Concrete weir	O'Brien house and farm site	Old mine	Parts of original Council packed rock Sheehys Creek Road
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Chalker family occupation site (during depression years)				
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Along Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang, up to Wollondilly River to Council boundary

Part Upper Burragorang school site	Norris house site	Hut remains	Old council road and bridge	Daley house site
Jarvis house site	Quig house site	Old boiler (half buried)	Wollondilly Hotel site (with old vehicle, tennis court and race track posts)	Piedmont school remains
Taylor hut remains	Britton hut remains	Patterson house, sheds, yard and septic system remains	Sandstone step remains	Turner house, farm and vehicle service pit remains
Water Board camp site, concrete slabs for hut and tent sites, fire tanker stand and elevated tank stand (construction of W4 fire road 1967-71)	Hut site with motor bike side car remains	Old tobacco kiln remains	Old hut remains	Colemans Creek or Beloon school remains, with school teacher (Hepburn, 1870?) grave site nearby
Maxwell house site, orchard, shed and farm remains	Murphy's Flat house site remains	Taylor's house site, sheep yards and sheep dip remains	Several old hut remains	Old miners hut and mine with agricultural equipment

Wollondilly river and down along Wollondilly arm of Lake Burragorang

Old plough	Jooriland school site and Federal truck	Jooriland property complex with many intact buildings and equipment	Roses old house site and farm remains	Riley house site remains (Aboriginal Reserve)
Shipp sandstone house mostly standing (only remaining sandstone building on the foreshore and in the valley)	Hut and stock yards	Donahoe house and farm remains	'Apple Grove' house and farm remains	Old car remains
'Kingsford Park' house and farm remains with old- wheeled hay rake and other farm equipment	Houses remains and 2 x farm dams			

Up Tonal arm and river

Chiddy house chimney part remains	High wooden pier house foundation remains	Tonali kerosene shale mine skips, engine, winch gear, timber truss bridge and other timber frames	House site remains with flagging shed flood and old Buick car with gas producer	Other hut remains
Sheep dip	Model T Ford	Several old mine shafts	Zuchetti house farm and stockyard remains	

Sheepwalk road (and nearby Center Ridge)

Mine site (Barytes & Feldspar)	Beekeeper hit and site (bottles set in 4's to hold bee boxes so ants could not reach them)	Stock yards	Farm dam	Packed rock part of original Sheepwalk Road
Feld house with stone chimney (made from local rock with fossils visible), farm and farm equipment				

Colong Stock Route (and nearby)

Colong Stock Route survey marks (1890s various)	Hell hole mine site	'Big Hill' house buildings and sheep dip remains	House and building (was slab shed) remains near Alum Hill	House and farm site with chaff cutter near Square Rock
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Foreshore area - Tonal Bay to Higgins Bay

House and farm remains, with old truck and bottle arrangement for bee boxes	Site of Aboriginal reserve 10159			
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Lacy's Creek

Old hut site	Old sawmill site with engine and equipment	Old house remains (with chaff cutter)	Old horse drawn cart	
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Greenwattle Creek foreshore and creek

Old house site	Beekeeper's hut site	c.1920s Chevrolet car	Old farm dam	
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Cox Arm of Lake Burragorang, Cedar and Kedumba, also Scots Main range

Old sign (cleaning operations)	Old Pontiac car	Old Buick car made into tractor	Old house sites	'Kowmung House' site
'Bran Jan' house site with several vehicle remains	Old stock yards and fences	Packed sandstone road to Wentworth Falls		

Yerranderie Road from Byrnes Bay to Yerranderie (and nearby)

Yerranderie Road / Main Road 259 with old culverts	Aboriginal Reserve 26 with Sherritt house remains and old plough	Feld old house and farm remains	Feld old house remains with old Chrysler ute (Steve Carlon)	Old roadside well
Bee bottles	Sheep dip	McMillan house and farm remains	'McAloon' house and farm remains	Scarlett house and farm remains (with old Buick car)
Williams house and farm remains	Charcoal pits	'Twin Peaks' house, shearing shed and building site and remains	Myall Ridge & Feldsworth mine site and remains	

APPENDIX B:

European Thematic History

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The Wild Cattle

In June 1788 when two bulls and four cows (two of which belonged to Captain Arthur Phillip) disappeared into the untamed scrub on Sydney's fringes, the Colony's primary concern was the loss of essential breeding stock and the future food supply of an already malnourished population. The convict charged with the movements and feeding of Phillip's cattle, far from the prying eyes of his master and undoubtedly bored by his solitary occupation, kept an increasingly lax eye on his charges. Despite orders to the contrary, he developed the habit of slipping home for his noon-day meal; the cattle were disinclined to await his return at a designated place and naturally began to follow the more succulent vegetation lining the riverbanks.¹

We can only imagine the blind panic of the errant herdsman, returning from his illicit lunch, to find his charges vanished into the bewildering Sydney scrub. A two-day search proved fruitless and shame-faced the unnamed convict reported to Phillip that he had placed his own stomach ahead of the Colony's well-being. Several search parties were subsequently sent out, but all returned empty handed, defeated by the thick scrub and rugged terrain. Although winter was starting, the climate was considerably warmer than an English winter and the search parties were hampered by poor provisions and lack of water.²

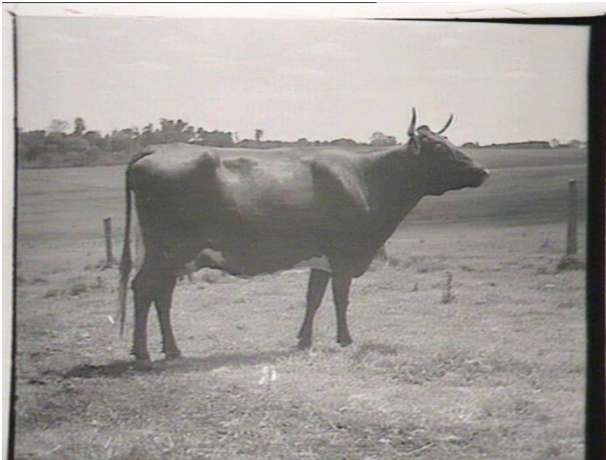


Figure 1: Photograph of cattle at Grafton, similar in appearance to that which escaped from the colony and roamed the Wollondilly region. Source: NSWSA: Government Printing Office 1-47894, 'Cattle at Grafton', File Number FL2063480

Anxious to find a scapegoat for this disaster, the herdsman prudently blamed an escaped convict named Corbet who had made a succession of raids upon the huts and livestock of isolated settlers. Painted as a daring outlaw, Corbet supposedly used the 'stolen' cattle to buy the friendship of the natives; a great feast was reported to have ensued in which the chief menu item was the Governor's roast beef. Poor Corbet was

¹ Hunter, Captain J. (1802), *An Historical Journal of the Transactions at Port Jackson and Norfolk Island*, p.31.

² Fowler, L. R. (1988), *A History of the Forbidden Land: Wollondilly Shire*, Wollondilly Shire Council, p.37.

far simpler than the wily herdsman had suggested and was so terrified by a series of earth tremors on 22nd June 1788 that he turned himself in at the Governor's farm.³ He strenuously denied having anything to do with the escaped cattle and his denial was supported by his obviously half-starved condition and the fact that the 'natives' were terrified of the escaped cattle. Believing them to be demons, they gave them a wide berth. Nonetheless, the hapless Corbet was tried on 24th June, condemned to death and executed the following day. It was a sorry little saga of ineptitude, opportunism and blind justice that typified the management of the fledgling settlement.⁴

Winter passed uneventfully and Spring was in its first flush when reports filtered back to the administration of a herd of wild cattle near Rose Hill. An escaped convict known as 'Black Caesar' claimed to have sighted the herd (now augmented by two calves) under the care of 8 or 10 natives. This unlikely story was treated as the ravings of a lunatic and the story of the escaped cattle began to take on a mythical quality; five years passed before anything more was heard of them. Lieutenant William Cummings on an expedition southward met a party of Gundungerra who attempted to describe a '*...large animal with horns*' that Cummings took to be a bull.⁵ The elusive cattle were not to be found but Cummings returned to Sydney flushed with success and bearing the skeleton of one of the escaped beasts. We can only imagine his disappointment (and embarrassment) at being informed that what he had found was a "manatee" or Diprotodon, a kind of giant wombat that had once roamed the Cumberland Plain and met its demise at the bottom of a muddy lake.⁶

Despite these failures and the total absence of the cattle for nearly six years, the idea of finding them seemed to capture the imaginations of explorers and government alike. In 1792 an expedition under Governor Hunter's direction at last confirmed their existence. Hunter himself set out with Captains Collins and Waterhouse and George Bass (who would achieve fame in his own right). After two days of hard riding from Prospect Hill they reached the banks of the Nepean River near Camden, climbed Mount Taurus (Menangle) and were amazed to see below them

*'... a herd of fine cattle, upwards of forty in number, grazing in a pleasant and apparently fertile pasturage.'*⁷

The herd was subsequently proved to be descended from the Black Cape cattle that had originally escaped. Hunter foresaw the possibility of a beef export industry and immediately issued a proclamation protecting the herd backed up by punitive measures so severe that cattle rustling became a crime blacker than murder

³ White, J. (1962), *A Journal of a Voyage to NSW*, pp. 142-143.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid, and Collins, D. (1910), *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales*, pp. 33-34, 76 & 365.

⁷ Collins, op. cit., p.365.

of one's fellow man. The area in which the cattle had been found was called 'The Cow Pastures' and it was from this humble and unlikely beginning that the settlements of Picton, Camden and Menangle would eventually grow.⁸

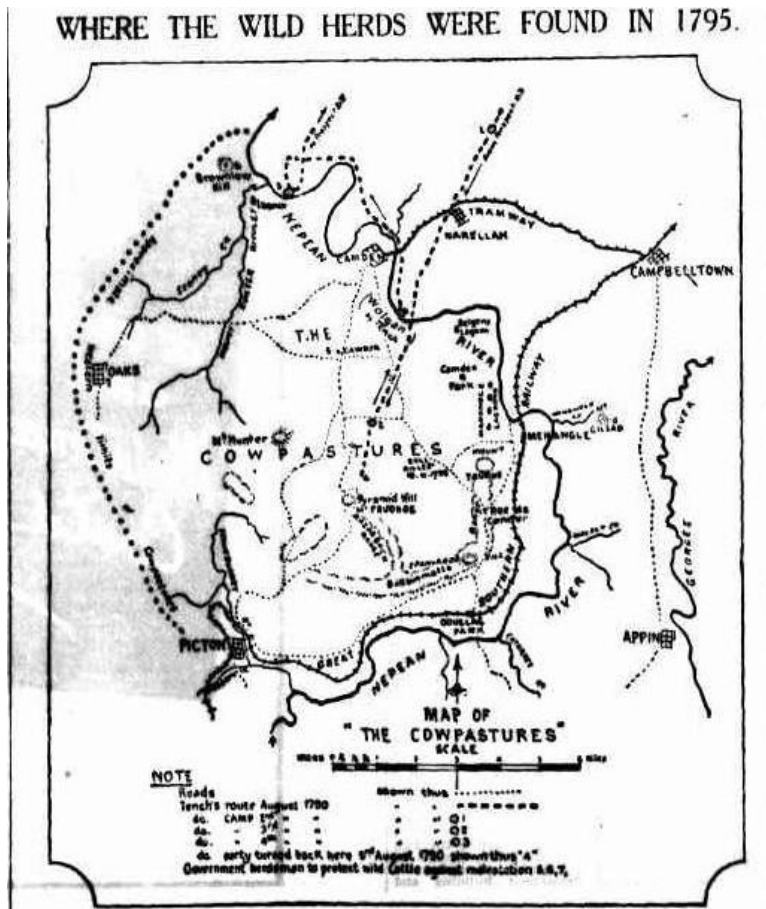


Figure 2: Map of the Cowpastures area, as described by the Sydney Morning Herald, illustrating the area where the cattle were found in 1795. Source: The Sydney Morning Herald, 13 August 1932.

Over the coming years the cattle would prosper mightily, breeding and transforming from the tame beasts that had arrived in 1788 to a band of audacious and temperamental animals, untouched by human hand and uncontrollable. George Caley, engaged in a quiet exploratory collecting trip in October 1801 was confronted by a herd of 162 cattle advancing menacingly on his party. Caley's men were able to drive the animals back by shouting and running at them, but it had been a tense escape for the party. In his pursuit of interesting botanical specimens Caley had inadvertently stumbled on the 'bullbed':

⁸ Ibid and *Hunter Papers*, A1787, correspondence from Hunter to Joseph Banks, 21st December 1795.

*'I observed with interest ... a kind of esplanade of about 150ft in circumference entirely denuded of herbage and perfectly beaten down and levelled ... I think this esplanade must have been the battle-field of the bulls The marks of the fight were evidenced by the trees around being denuded of their bark ...'*⁹

The body of a gored bull was found in a ditch nearby – the loser in some savage contest – the horns of which Caley took as a souvenir. By the end of 1801, numbers were estimated to be between 500 and 600 head, now running over land grants belonging to various men under Governor Philip Gidley King's command.¹⁰ By 1803, King had tired of reports of wild cattle running rampant through the scrub and of the government's inability to capitalise on them. With Rev. Samuel Marsden he conceived of a plan to entice the wild beasts with a small herd of tame cattle and rounding them up with men and horses. The Colony's first official attempt at droving was an exciting affair starting with an attempt to head 200 cattle towards the Nepean. Marsden, who had the physique of a lumpy featherbed and rode accordingly, watched in astonishment as the herd headed for the hills, disappearing up the precarious tracks in a thunderous black torrent. Marsden was considered to be the best farmer in the Colony but he was no match for the wild cattle.¹¹



Figure 3: Oil portrait of Governor Philip Gidley (unknown artist), c.1800. Source: NSWSA: 'Item 01: Portrait of Governor Philip Gidley King =, ca.1800 / oil portrait by unknown artist' ca.1800 ML 1257, File Number FL9115392.

⁹ *Historical Records of New South Wales ("HRNSW")*, Vol. 5, Appendix A., Barrallier's Journal, p. 753.

¹⁰ *Historical Records of Australia ("HRA")*, Vol. 3, p. 11.

¹¹ *HRA*, Vol. 5, p. 591

Naturally as the herd increased in numbers, the rate of cattle rustling grew apace. The growing population of emancipated convicts on land grants in the area had to feed themselves somehow and the Governor's herds were simply too tempting to ignore. In an attempt to protect the herd further, King forbade anyone to cross the Nepean River without a signed permit from himself. His 1803 proclamation, as seen in the Sydney Gazette of 10 July 1803, warned:

*'...any Person whatever frequent the Cow Pastures or pass the Nepean, without a Permit signed by the Governor, stating for what purpose that proclamation is given, He or They will on Conviction, be put to Hard Labour for Six Months as a Vagrant. And if any Person whatever, not authorised, shall presume to Kill any of the above Black Cattle, Male or Female, they will be Punished to the utmost extent of the Law.'*¹²

His 1803 proclamation slowed the rate of theft and prompted him to personally inspect the state of the herd, accompanied by Mrs King. They found the herd to be in generally good condition, but it was Mrs King's attendance that captured the public imagination. The Sydney Gazette reported that '*Mrs. King, who we can confidently confirm is the first and only Lady that has ever crossed the Nepean*'¹³ unwittingly started a trend amongst society ladies to do the same. In February 1804 a riding party of ladies and gentlemen left Parramatta for the Cow Pasture Plains, crossed the Nepean and breakfasted on its banks. They proceeded to Mount Hunter, were suitably impressed by the views and returning by a different route were equally impressed by the abundance of wild cattle.¹⁴

Caley and Barrallier also returned to the area in February 1804 during which they explored the Stonequarry Creek and The Oaks, reporting on further herds. Returning via Spring Creek and Bent's Basin, Caley was the first to define the 'Cow Pastures' area in terms of land area and natural boundaries.¹⁵ The upshot of all these expeditions and forays into the scrub was the exploration and mapping of the region. Without the wild cattle, it is unlikely that settlement would have expanded to the outer Cumberland Plain so quickly, or that its agricultural and pastoral potential would have been recognised quite so early. Entirely by accident, cattle breeding became the first and most important industry of the region and along with sheep, would become the backbone of agriculture for the next Century.

¹² *The Sydney Gazette*, 10 July 1803, p. 1

¹³ *The Sydney Gazette*, 11 December 1803, p. 3

¹⁴ *HRA*, Vol. 5, p.171

¹⁵ Caley, G. (1804), *A Journey to ascertain the Limits or Boundaries of Vaccary Forest*, p. 15, ML, and Mitchell, R.E. (1939), *George Caley: His Life and Work*, Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society Vol. 25, Part VI, p. 495



Figure 4: View of the Government Hut at Cowpastures, 1904, painting by unknown artist, Source: NSWSA: 1804 SSV1B/Cowp D/1, File Number FL3143926.

Empire Building

The most significant European individual in the development of The Cowpastures region, which includes the contemporary Wollondilly Shire, was pastoralist John Macarthur. John Macarthur was a pugnacious and irascible character whose early years in the Colony were littered with arguments, slanderous attacks on his detractors and duels. He was responsible for the removal of no less than three governors, all of whom were subsequently proved to be conscientious men doing their jobs. A man of mercurial temperament, he was frequently bombastic and insulting to his peers but unfailingly warm and affectionate to his family. His part in the 1807 Rum Rebellion is an indelible stain on his character and was the apotheosis of Macarthur's win-at-all-costs approach to business. Nonetheless, his contribution to the Colony's development and the establishment of the Australian wool industry cannot be underestimated, and it is in this context that Macarthur played a pivotal role in the history of Wollondilly Shire.



Figure 5: Painting of John Macarthur, who would establish a pastoral empire at the Cowpastures. Source: NSWSA: original held by Government Printing Office at NRS21689, File Number FL1738350.

Macarthur received two grants at the Cow Pastures on 18 December 1805, which would equal a total area of 5,000 acres.¹⁶ Walter Davidson would also receive a 2,000 acre grant on the same day, though John Macarthur would purchase this from him by 1810. Macarthur was provided with convicts to work the estate and sheep from the government flock to add to his own. In addition, Macarthur made a claim on the wild cattle herd, which frequently traversed his grant. Governor King, unable to decide the merits of Macarthur's claim to harvest the herd for his own gain, dithered in giving an answer for so long that he (King) had been replaced by Bligh without a decision ever being reached. Bligh had been appraised of the cattle situation by King and the matter of protecting the government's herds had reached crisis point during the gubernatorial changeover. 1806 had been a year of record floods in NSW, destroying livestock, crops and hopes and by the time Bligh arrived the Colony was in a parlous state.¹⁷ The price of bread and meat had risen so drastically that few emancipated convicts could afford it. Macarthur's flocks at Seven Hills were under attack by bushrangers and the Government's wild herd was providing more bushrangers with a better diet than the majority of the population of NSW.¹⁸

¹⁶ NSW Land Registry Services Historical Land Records Viewer ("NSW LRS HLRV"), Serial Number 3, Page Number 179.

¹⁷ *The Sydney Gazette*, 14 September 1806, p. 1b and HRNSW, Vol. 6, p. 172.

¹⁸ *HRA* Vol. 6, p.641

Into this turmoil stepped Bligh, determined to feed the Colony but unfortunately lacking skills in the diplomacy sector and not yet *au fait* with the social structure of the place. Bligh and Macarthur would retrospectively prove to be two of the Colony's most explosive personalities so it was inevitable that they would clash on a number of fronts. According to an account given by Mr Macarthur on the pair's first meeting, the two clashed, with Bligh refusing Macarthur's claim on the cattle, stating '*...you have got 5,000 acres of land in the finest situation in the country, but by – you sha'n't keep it.*'¹⁹ Bligh's first steps to protect the wild herd studiously ignored Macarthur's earlier claim and suggestions. In October 1805 Bligh set out with Samuel Marsden to see things for himself; a difference of opinion over the dinner table the night before, concerning Macarthur's proposal to breed mutton to feed the starving colony saw Macarthur left behind. Bligh's passage to the Cow Pastures was made more difficult by the still-swollen Nepean River; he made it only as far as Parramatta where he received news that floods had destroyed the Windsor wheat fields. Bligh was in no mood to grant any further land or favours and Macarthur found himself slighted yet again when only 20 of his 30 promised convicts arrived. The insult was compounded when the four tradesmen amongst them were promptly transferred to assist in the completion of St Phillip's Church, Sydney.²⁰

Bligh, like his predecessors, was determined to control prices by selling goods direct from the Government Stores. This naturally conflicted with the interests of Macarthur, the officers of the NSW Corps and other emancipated businessmen and his efforts to control the rum trade brought the matter to a head. When Macarthur illegally imported two stills as part of his plan to undermine the Government's monopoly of the rum trade, Bligh had him arrested and thrown into jail. Unfortunately for the Governor, this attempt to exert his authority provided a rallying call for his many opponents and on the 26th January 1809, Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston, his officers and troops, deposed Bligh and released an indignant and self-inflated Macarthur. The wild herds, meanwhile, were temporarily under no one's control and Macarthur naturally helped himself to what he saw as fair restitution for the indignities Bligh had heaped upon him.²¹

¹⁹ Bonwick, James (1882), *First Twenty Years of Australia: A History Founded on Official Documents*, London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, p. 126

²⁰ Ellis, M. H., *Lachlan Macquarie, His Life Adventures and Times*, p. 271

²¹ *HRNSW*, Vol. 6, pp. 434 & 358



Figure 6: Painting (by unknown artist) of the arrest of Governor Bligh by Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston during the Rum Rebellion of 1809. Source: NSWSA: [The Arrest of Governor Bligh] 808 Safe 4/5. File Number FL3203677.

When Lieutenant-Colonel Foveaux returned to Sydney he chose not to reinstate Bligh and instead assumed command himself. The British Government, who had thus far been preoccupied with Napoleon's movements in Europe, suddenly took a greater interest in the business of the Colony and whilst they were not unduly concerned about the deposition of the Governor, they were alarmed at the profiteering of the 102nd regiment. On the advice of the military's latest rising star, Sir Arthur Wellesley (later named Duke of Wellington), the 102nd was recalled and replaced with the 73rd regiment, under the newly minted command of Lieutenant-Colonel Lachlan Macquarie. Having just completed 25 years of sterling service in India, Macquarie was justifiably horrified at his impending exile in New South Wales.²² Forced to abandon his plans to consolidate his assets in Mull, Macquarie set about kitting out his new regiment and provisioning them for a journey to the other side of the world. Determined to have good men by his side, he seconded Henry Colden Antill as his aide-de-camp. Antill would later honour his commanding officer by naming his Picton grant Jarvisfield in honour of Macquarie's late wife, Jane Jarvis.²³

Macquarie's arrival on 28th December 1809 with the Dromedary and the Hindostan, carrying his second wife Elizabeth and the Black Watch troops, signalled the end of the rum wars and the start of a period of great vigour in the Colony's short but colourful history. Appalled by the general air of neglect, poorly constructed buildings and ill-kempt inhabitants, Macquarie resolved to inspire change. He commissioned

²² Ellis, op. cit., p. 165.

²³ Macquarie Letterbooks, A796, Macquarie to Castlereagh, 11th April 1809, p. 15, Mitchell Library.

buildings of brick and stone, had Sydney's streets surveyed and widened, planned new streets and commenced construction of the turnpike to Parramatta all within the first 10 months of taking up the Governorship. By November, he was ready to survey the Cow Pastures and the wild herds.²⁴

The riding party consisted of himself, Elizabeth, the Deputy Surveyor-General (James Meehan), Captain Antill, Dr Redfern and Gregory Blaxland, all of whom would leave their mark on the Colony. Camping overnight in their Bengal tents, the party crossed the Razorback Range and reached the Stonequarry Creek a day after setting out from Parramatta. Two days were spent surveying the district on horseback before turning for home. They reached Parramatta on 22nd November 'highly gratified with what they had seen.'²⁵

In October 1811 Macquarie wrote a detailed despatch to Lord Liverpool in which he reiterated the necessity for protecting the Government herds and particularly the need to keep the Cow Pastures free of human habitation. He bravely stated:

*'...that the Stock Keepers and Shepherds belonging to those Gentlemen (Macarthur & Davidson), [were] availing themselves of their remote Situation [to] kill and destroy numbers of the Wild Cattle.'*²⁶

Macquarie followed this up with a Government Order in April 1812 restricting entry only to Macarthur, Davidson, their employees and those with the express permission of the Governor. However, by November it was clear that the pressure to release more land for settlement was outweighing any perceived benefit to be gained from the wild herd. Nonetheless, the British Government continued to support an exclusive policy regarding settlement of the Cow Pastures and the herd remained largely untouched.²⁷ A combination of tardy correspondence from Earl Bathurst in London, George Evans' reports of the pasturage on the other side of the Blue Mountains, and the 1812-1816 drought ultimately led to the release of the Cow Pastures for wider settlement and the relocation of the wild herds to the west and south.²⁸

The early settlers in the Appin and Menangle districts had not been above a little cattle-napping of their own and by April 1817 this, combined with the four year drought, had reduced the herd to one quarter of its earlier size. Efforts to entice the wild herd to mix with tame herds strategically placed in stockyards along the Nepean River had failed and their only contribution to the wellbeing of the Colony had been to support a growing number of bushrangers and other dubious characters. Macquarie instigated plans for the

²⁴ HRA Vol. 10, p. 671 and *The Sydney Gazette*, 17 November 1810, p. 2a, and *The Sydney Gazette*, 28 November 1810, p. 2a.

²⁵ *The Sydney Gazette*, 15 December 1810, p. 1a-c.

²⁶ HRA, Vol. 7, p. 380.

²⁷ HRA, Vol. 7, pp. 595, 667 & 718.

²⁸ HRA, Vol. 8, pp. 150-1, 295 & 640.

mustering and slaughter of the herd and stockyards were built at Brownlow Hill, The Oaks and Stonequarry Creek (Picton). Outstations were erected at the junction of the Warragamba and Nepean Rivers and Mulgoey Forest.²⁹

Initially crediting Macarthur with the idea of building a cattle yard in the Cow Pasture in which to contain the herd before slaughtering it, Macquarie subsequently claimed the idea as his own. He continued to deny Macarthur's claims on the cattle, including one audacious account from Macarthur to the tune of £7, 266, 13s, 4d; by Macarthur's reckoning, the Government owned him 5 pence per pound of beef for every wild cow that grazed on his land. Naturally, Macarthur estimated that the entire herd had, at one time or another, grazed upon his exclusive property.³⁰ By January 1820, Macquarie was jubilantly reporting the reclamation of 230 head of wild cattle and their incorporation into the tame Government herd. His victory was soured by the accidental death of George Johnston, the man who organised the muster; Johnston was replaced by his less experienced brother David. By the time Macquarie and Elizabeth sailed for England in February 1822, a total of 872 wild cattle had been captured and either integrated with the Government herd or slaughtered and salted down for consumption.³¹

Macquarie was replaced by Sir Thomas Brisbane and Macarthur heaved a sigh of relief. Under Macquarie's rule, benevolent though it was in most regards, Macarthur had received no further land grants or convicts and had been unable to expand his empire. Within 7 months of taking up office, Brisbane (acting on orders from Earl Bathurst) authorised the granting of Macarthur's long awaited 5,000 acres (actually 4,368 acres at 'Brisbane Farm').³² Hard lobbying in London by Macarthur's sons, John Jnr and James, resulted in a further 3,630 acres being granted close to the existing grant on the 27 May 1823. These grants were 2,065 acres at 'West Camden' and 1,565 acres at "South Camden".³³ Macarthur finally had the beginnings of an empire in his hands.³⁴

Whilst this flurry of paperwork was being taken care of, John Henry Wild of Cawdor had been commissioned to exterminate the remaining wild cattle. Before he could start, he was ordered to stop and just as he was turning his attention to other matters, he received another set of orders to divide the herd into three groups and send them in batches to Bathurst. Before this plan could be enacted, he received yet another order to herd them into temporary cattle yards at Cawdor and destroy them. Perhaps in anticipation of another rescission order, Wild went to work quickly and presided over the shooting and burning of a large proportion

²⁹ *Wentworth Papers*, 1 December 1819, p. 209, and Oxley to Dixon, 10 September 1827.

³⁰ *HRA*, Vol. 9. pp. 9-12 & p. 682.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 682 & *Macarthur Papers to Elizabeth*, A2898, 9 December 1816.

³² NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-172.

³³ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-173 & 14-174.

³⁴ *HRA*, Vol. 9, pp. 71-2

of the remaining beasts.³⁵ On 5 October 1825, Brisbane granted the Macarthurs a further 10,400 acres (5,000 acres at 'Cawdor' and 5,400 acres at undefined land, bounded by the Nepean River, Mount Hunter Rivulet and the prior 'Cawdor' grant)³⁶ finally fulfilling the Earl of Bathurst's 1822 promise. This final grant contained most of the defunct cattle station buildings at Cawdor and cemented the Macarthur grip on the area.³⁷ Macarthur himself had died in 1824, but his family would fulfil his expectations beyond anything that even he had imagined. By 1826 the remaining wild cattle had been sold at Government auction, bringing to a close this first and vivid chapter in the history of European settlement of the Wollondilly.



Figure 7: Portrait of Sir Thomas Brisbane, Governor of the Colony who granted land to John Macarthur, expanding his pastoral empire. Source: NSWSA: 'Portrait of Sir Thomas Brisbane, Aetatis LXXIV / from the painting for the Royal Society by Sir John W. Gordon 1848, Fr. Schenck, lithographer, 50 George Street, Edinburgh', File Number FL3274027.

Exploration

The first recorded European foray into the lands south and west of Sydney was led by Watkin Tench, the most amiable and wide-eyed observer of the Colony's first years. On 26 June 1789, Tench set out from Rose Hill accompanied by Mr Arndell (assistant surgeon to the Colony), Mr Lowe (surgeon's mate of the *Sirius*), two marines and a convict. Five miles of slogging through prickly scrub brought them in sight of 'Carmethan hills' (the Blue Mountains), described by Tench as a '...great chain of mountains extending from

³⁵ Martin, J. B. (1883), *Reminiscences*, p. 24.

³⁶ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-185 & 14-186.

³⁷ Jervis, James (1946), *The Journals of William Edward Riley*, JRAHS, vol. 32 pp. 244-5

north to south as far as the eye can see. European sensibilities were not yet accustomed to the Australian landscape – it's muted colours, unexpected precipices and unrelenting light – and even the eternally optimistic Tench was taken aback by “...*the trackless immeasurable desert, in awful silence...*” stretching before them.³⁸



Figure 8: Portrait of Watkin Tench in uniform of the Royal Marines, 1787. Source: NSWSA: FM5/651 'Photographic copy of a miniature portrait of Watkin Tench in uniform of the Royal Marines, 1787'. File Number FL14298193.

Two days later Tench and his party reached the banks of the Nepean River and were suitably impressed by its depth and flow. The entire party found the going very hard and after four days were forced to turn back, defeated by the ravines. Nonetheless, Tench's enthusiasm for wider settlement in the area was not dampened and he was determined to return as soon as possible.³⁹ His duties at the Rose Hill outpost and the general affairs of the colony kept Tench busy, and it was not until the following August that he was able to mount another expedition to the west. Accompanied again by Lowe and also Captain Johnson and Lieutenant Hill, they set off for a week's exploration travelling generally SSW. They crossed the Nepean and forged onwards until halted by 'Pyramid Hill,' on the northern side of the Razorback Range. From the top of the hill Tench and his men saw, for the first time, where the Colony's escaped cattle had ended up.⁴⁰

³⁸ Tench, W., *Sydney's First Four Years: A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay and A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson 1788-1791*, republished Sydney, 1979, pp. 153-4.

³⁹ Knox, op. cit., p. 61

⁴⁰ Tench, op. cit., p. 174



Figure 9: Watercolour painting by Robert Marsh Westmacott (1801-1870) of a view in the Cowpasture district, c. 1840-1846. Source: NLA, PIC Volume 162 #T672-T703 NK762/1-32 – Drawings of New South Wales, 1940-1846, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-138708297>

The following years of European exploration of the Wollondilly, and the state of New South Wales in general, was heavily guided by Aboriginal people. The presence of Aboriginal people within European expeditions often enabled the groups to travel along the best path, reach further on their journeys before supplies were exhausted, track new supplies and find existing bullocks that may have escaped, and ease tensions when Aboriginal groups were encountered.⁴¹ The guidance these Aboriginal people provided can be divided into four groups: hired help, passers on, camp followers and professionals.⁴²

Hired help were generally independent men who had at least some basic understanding of English, had names which European explorers noted down (whether Aboriginal or Anglicised names) and offered their assistance for a set price, which for example could be food, tomahawks and blankets.⁴³ These helpers would also not venture into territory they did not know, especially into isolated lands inhabited by Aboriginal

⁴¹ Baker, D. W. A. (1998), *Exploring with Aborigines: Thomas Mitchell and his Aboriginal guides*, ANU Press Vol. 22, pp. 36-50.

⁴² Ibid, p. 36.

⁴³ Ibid, p. 37.

tribes who were considered ‘myall blacks’ or those who had no contact with Europeans.⁴⁴ Passers on were considered local groups of Aboriginal tribes who encountered European explorers on their expeditions, and provided some basic assistance to these explorers in order to minimise trouble. Passers on generally spoke no English, and though feeling some apprehension to white explorers, did not attack them for fear of reprisals in the future.⁴⁵ One instance of such was that with Thomas Mitchell, who accompanied by 17 other European men, were followed on either side by around 100 Aboriginal men, who escorted the explorers off their land without engaging in any physical altercation.⁴⁶

Generally, Aboriginal Australians who attached themselves to the expedition’s camp were considered camp followers. These types of guides did not specifically direct the expedition through country, but instead made themselves useful in moments requiring their contribution.⁴⁷ This could be finding watering holes during the hot weather, conversing with Aboriginal tribes the camp would meet, or assisting and serving the professional Aboriginal guides in the expedition.⁴⁸ The final category of guide, professionals, were skilled navigators and diplomats who were able to converse with other Aboriginal groups to supply information and geographical information to aid in their explorations. These professionals were well respected by the European explorers as they greatly aided in enabling the expeditions to travel further, faster and safer.⁴⁹ When Ensign Francis Barrallier, for example, explored the Burraborang Valley around Nattai, the services of an Indigenous man named Gogy were utilised, which included interacting with encountered Indigenous people, building huts for the Ensign to sleep in and guiding European men to find new supplies for the camp.⁵⁰

The next expedition into the Wollondilly was by two ex-convicts (Wilson and Knight) sent in search of the Wild Cattle and guided by members of the Tharawal tribe. Having located the cattle and reported back to Governor Hunter, they returned with Henry Hacking to confirm the sighting. Having returned successfully a second time, Hacking was sent out again with Captains Collins and Waterhouse, and the surgeon George Bass to confirm the precise location of the herd and to offer the administration a more substantive report than that provided by two ex-convicts. The party reached the top of Spaniards Hill, Menangle (whose name

⁴⁴ See ‘myall’ in Ramson, W. S. ed 1988, *Australian National Dictionary*, Melbourne, p. 415.

⁴⁵ Baker, D. W. A., *Thomas Mitchell and his Aboriginal Guides*, p. 40.

⁴⁶ Mitchell, T. L. (1839), *Three Expeditions into the Interior of Eastern Australia*, London, Vol. 1, pp. 120-121.

⁴⁷ Baker, D. W. A., *Thomas Mitchell and his Aboriginal Guides*, p. 42.

⁴⁸ Mitchell, T. L. (1839), *Three Expeditions into the Interior of Eastern Australia*, London, Vol. 2, pp. 3-4, 29, 86-87, 346 and Mitchell, T. L. (1848), *Journal of an Expedition into the Interior of Tropical Australia*, London, pp. 25-26

⁴⁹ Baker, D. W. A., *Thomas Mitchell and his Aboriginal Guides*, p. 48.

⁵⁰ ‘Barrallier’s Journal (1802)’, HRNSW, Vol. 5, 1897, Appendix A, 748-825, translated into English, accessed online at <https://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks12/1203731h.html>.

comes from a later Spanish settler Jean Baptiste Lehimaz de Arrietta), and found a herd of about 40 grazing contentedly in the valley below.⁵¹

Their mission accomplished, Hacking and his party returned to Sydney well satisfied, but not so George Bass. Bass was yet to make his reputation as an explorer but his '*... ardour for discovery was not to be repressed by any obstacle nor deterred by danger...*' and his appetite had been whetted by the rugged terrain around Menangle.⁵² Seven months after the Hacking expedition Bass set out with two unnamed companions who would be amazed and not a little disturbed by Bass' intrepid approach to terrestrial exploration. The same fearlessness that would take him out of the heads of Sydney Harbour in a vessel only 2 feet longer than himself, saw him dropping over the edge of ravines with a rope around his waist and his goggle-eyed companions holding the other end from above. This headlong approach took Bass through the most rugged and precipitous country yet encountered by Europeans on the Australian continent. He passed through The Oaks, Oakdale and the lower Burragorang Valley, near Brimstone Gully, heading on a roughly westerly trajectory into the dry sandstone country beyond.⁵³

It was a journey noted for its ardour and privation, both of which would become the hallmarks of virtually all Australian exploratory expeditions to come. The expedition party was vastly unprepared for the harshness of terrain, climate and lack of water they would face. Their thirst was so great that at one point they were reduced to sucking moisture from mud and rocks. It is Bass who is generally credited with the real discovery of the Cow Pasture Plains and his report back to Governor Hunter prompted a gubernatorial inspection and the formal naming of the area.⁵⁴ Bass returned the following September to attempt tracing a route from the Cow Pastures to the coast. Such was Bass's confidence in tracing the correct route that he arranged for a whaleboat to await his arrival at Garie Beach. After two days spent crossing the George's, Woronora and Hacking Rivers, in addition to numerous small creeks and rivulets, Bass and his party arrived within triumphant sight of the whaleboat.⁵⁵

⁵¹ Wood, G.A. (1926), *Explorations under Governor Phillip*, JRAHS, Vol. 12, p. 17

⁵² Scott, Ernest. (1914, 2nd ed. 2001), *Life of Matthew Flinders*, p. 84

⁵³ Peron, J. (1809), *Voyage into the Southern Hemisphere*, pp. 289-90 and Mitchell, R.E. (1952), *Bass's Land Explorations*, JRAHS Vol. 37, part IV, p. 129

⁵⁴ Ibid, and Peron, op. cit.

⁵⁵ HRNSW, Vol. 3, p. 129



Figure 10: Sketch of a view within the Cowpastures area by Conrad Martens, drawn in 1835 following early settlement of the area. Source: NSWSA: Sketchbook of views and botanical studies in the Illawarra district, 1835 / drawn by Conrad Martens (1801-1878), 1838 PXC 389, File Number FL9721132.

Escape to China

Most Australian histories covering the convict period are peppered with references to the fabled route to China in Sydney's southwest. However, it is the Wollondilly area that is pivotal in this tale, and which would prove so irresistible to numbers of hapless escapees. At the root of the problem was a discontented group of Irish convicts whose gullibility was easily exploited by more knowing convicts and Marines. Various preposterous tales circulated through Sydney from 1791 onwards, the two most popular being the existence of a terrestrial route to China and the existence of a white colony on the other side of the Blue Mountains, where it was unnecessary to work for a living. These stories seem barely credible, but in the mind of an illiterate Irish convict faced with the unrelenting harshness of transportation, it was only natural that tales of an antipodean utopia would take hold.

Governor Hunter was increasingly alarmed at the prospect of escaped convicts vanishing into the bush, beyond the limited reach of his governance and devised a devious but brilliant plan to foil them. He arranged for the Irish band to select their four most robust members on the pretext of sending them on an exploratory mission over the mountains, accompanied by three of his own men as guides.⁵⁶ Before arrangements could be finalised, Hunter learned of a counterplan in which the four convicts would be joined by thirty others in the bush, overpower their guides, kill them, steal their armaments and make for the fictitious colony; Hunter was equal to the task.⁵⁷ The intrepid John Wilson, who despite his criminal proclivities seemed to have a knack for ingratiating himself with the authorities, was given charge of the party and on Hunter's instructions proceeded to lead them through the roughest country he could find west of Rose Hill. They had not been long on their journey when a group of unidentified natives showed Wilson 50 skeletons with knives, old shoes and other European articles scattered about. They were believed to be convicts who had lost their way and perished south of Wilton. The Irish convicts and Hunter's soldiers were so horrified by this that they turned and fled back to Sydney, squashing all rumours of the lost paradise on their return.⁵⁸

Wilson, Roe and Hunter's young servant and the expedition's diarist, John Price, had instructions to continue their explorations and duly continued onto the Nepean River which they crossed with some difficulty at Carriage Creek.⁵⁹ The next day saw them passing through the country that lies in the bend of the Nepean River at Wilton, where they met a party of natives hunting kangaroos. Wilson, who spoke several indigenous dialects, talked with them and learned of good country growing plenty of corn and potatoes in the south-west. Confident of their advice he changed course and scrambled down the Upper Bargo Rivulet where, in a cave on the wall of the Nepean Gorge, they found salt deposited in sand. On the 26th and 27th of January, they were moving roughly through the Bargo area and camped at night in the Bargo Brush. On the morning of the 27th they encountered a group of Gundungerra people from the southern highlands and Wilson was surprised to learn that they spoke a different language and dressed differently to the people of the Sydney basin and Cumberland Plain.⁶⁰

Wilson's group are the first recorded Europeans to have met the Gundungerra and sighted the Wingecarribee River and the distant plains of the Southern Highlands. Despite dwindling food supplies Wilson pressed on and by the 30th of January had reached the Wollondilly River, not far from its junction with the Wingecarribee River at Bullio. By this stage Wilson had clearly caught the exploration bug (and

⁵⁶ Ibid., p. 130.

⁵⁷ Ibid., p. 131.

⁵⁸ Whitley, Thomas. (1901), *The Reputed Passage of the Blue Mountains in 1798*, JRAHS, Vol. 1, P. 188 and Collins, D., *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales*, Vol. 2, p. 43.

⁵⁹ Cambage, Richard Hind. (1919), *Explorations beyond the Upper Nepean in 1798*, JRAHS, Vol. 6, p. 3.

⁶⁰ HRNSW, Vol. 3, Appendix C, p. 820.

was no doubt enjoying the freedom of being so far removed from the centre of authority back at Port Jackson) and was all for building a 'native canoe' and following the river. His companions were exhausted and their clothing in a sorry state – their shoes were gone and their feet badly bruised by rocks; they begged him to return to civilisation.⁶¹

Ignoring their pleas, Wilson continued on to Berrima, then Bong Bong (now Moss Vale) and eventually climbed Mount Gibraltar on the outskirts of Bowral. Believing themselves to be the first Europeans to survey the grassy meadows of the Highlands, they were surprised to hear gunfire; their answering shots received no reply and it is most likely that escaped convicts and/or bushrangers in the act of poaching wild cattle were equally surprised to hear an answering volley and prudently remained silent.⁶² Fortuitously, Wilson killed a kangaroo to feed his companions and it was this meal that would sustain them through the 6-day return journey through barren country already familiar to Wilson. Price wrote in his diary:

*'We must all have perished with hunger...had it not been for the indefatigable zeal of Wilson to supply us with as much as would support life.'*⁶³

Subsisting largely on roots and grubs procured by the tireless Wilson, on the sixth day the men reached a forest ten miles from Prospect, where they halted to cut up their remaining clothing to bind their lacerated feet. It was a remarkable journey, largely responsible for the identification and subsequent settlement of much of the Cumberland Plain and southern districts, for which Wilson and his men have received scant credit in the historical record. Roe and Price retired from the field of exploration after their return and it is likely that their health was some time in recovering.

Wilson, on the other hand, was eager to lead another expedition and Hunter, on receiving the salt sample, ordered him to guide Henry Hacking back to the cave. A short five weeks after his return, Wilson was on his way back accompanied by Hacking, a new diarist who may have been John Kennedy (uncle of Hamilton Hume) and a previously unknown native named Collins.⁶⁴ On this second expedition Wilson repeated his earlier success in locating the wild cattle, obtained a second salt sample from the original cave and discovered a network of similar caves. The party followed the Nepean River downstream until they reached its junction with the Bargo River where they found another salt cave.⁶⁵

They continued following the Nepean on its northerly course, locating several salt caves along the way and passed several creeks including the Myrtle and Redbank. Upon reaching the site of Picton, Hacking turned

⁶¹ Ibid., p. 822.

⁶² Ibid., pp. 822-3.

⁶³ Ibid., pp. 822-3.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ HRNSW, vol. 3, p. 824.

for Sydney in order to deliver the salt samples whilst the remaining men agreed to accompany Wilson for an additional 10 days of exploring in the southwest. Hacking is credited with naming Stonequarry Creek because its sheer sides resembled one. Wilson's reduced party came across frequent traces of cattle until they entered a '*nasty, scrubby, stoney country*' relieved only by the discovery of the Thirlmere Lakes. After two days of struggling through this rugged country they climbed '*a exceeding high mountain*' (Mount Jellore) from where they were afforded an expansive view of the river and mountain range.⁶⁶

Subsisting on dry biscuit rations of 2 each per day and whatever Wilson managed to catch in the way of protein, the men were able to continue further south. Wilson's penetration so far into the southern districts with such slender provisions is one of the greatest tales of exploration and endurance in the Colony's early history. His ability to live off the land and follow the example of indigenous people was remarkable for a man of his time and is undoubtedly responsible for keeping himself and his men alive and in relatively good health. On this expedition Wilson made it as far as Towrang, just north of Goulburn, via Sutton Forest, and returned via Bundanoon.⁶⁷

Governor Hunter was so pleased with the outcomes of this expedition that he took personal care of the expedition diaries. Unfortunately for the Colony, he took the diaries with him when he returned to England and much of the knowledge contained in them was lost. It is largely due to this oversight on Hunter's part that Wilson's exploits are not more widely recognised. Hunter's replacement commissioned the Ensign Francis L. Barrallier to explore virtually the same territory and it is Barrallier who is generally credited with the first detailed exploration of the Wollondilly area.

Ensigns and Botanists

Barrallier had arrived in Australia in April 1800 and in July was appointed an ensign to the newly formed New South Wales Corps, more colourfully known as the Botany Bay Rangers. He was widely regarded as a competent engineer and an able explorer whose success was largely the result of his pleasant personality and ability to manage his men without conflict. Under instruction from Governor King, Barrallier set out in May 1802 to find a way over the Blue Mountains; had he stuck to the ridges he might very well have been successful. In his first exploration, Barrallier reached as far as the Nattai River, establishing a depot in October 1802.⁶⁸ Barrallier would return to this depot with '*...four soldiers, five convicts, and a mixed crew*

⁶⁶ Knox, op. cit., and HRNSW, Vol. 3, p. 825

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Barrallier's Journal (1802), HRNSW, Vol 5. 1897, Appendix A, 748-825.

of Aboriginal guides and their families⁶⁹ in November 1802 to further explore the area around the Burragorang Valley. Although he did not find a way over the mountains, he was able to penetrate a distance of some 147 miles into the plains and foothills of the range and in doing so discovered significant tracts of land suitable for agriculture and grazing.⁷⁰ Barrallier's career was unremarkable after his return from the mountains and he returned to England, having served in a variety of foreign theatres, in 1819, where he achieved lasting fame by erecting Nelson's Column in London.

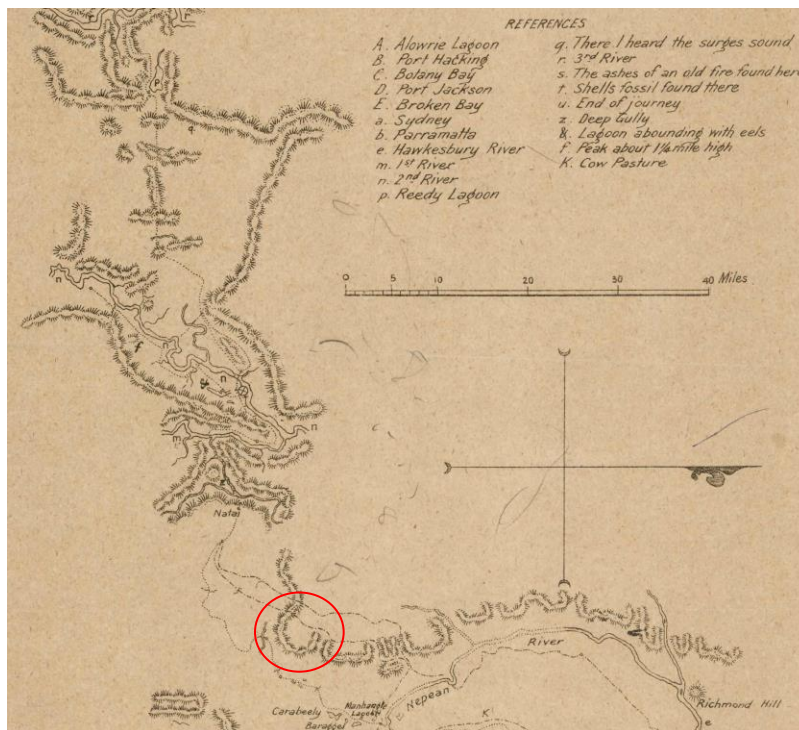


Figure 11: Detail from 'Sketch of the discoveries made in the interior of new South Wales in 1802' by Francis Barrallier, showing the location of the 'Natai' depot (circled in red). Source: State Library NSW, 'Sketch of the discoveries made in the interior of NSW in 1802, File Number FL9190382.

Whilst Barrallier was preparing for his attempt to cross the mountains, a little-known botanist by the name of George Caley was already at work in the Wollondilly area, collecting botanical specimens and generally reporting in great detail on his opinions of the country in which he found himself. Caley had been born the son of a horse-dealer but showed an early interest in botany and began to teach himself the principles of this most favourite of Victorian sciences. In 1795 he was bold enough to write to Sir Joseph Banks who, between his own scientific studies, philanthropic activities, hectic social life and indiscriminating sexual

⁶⁹ Lhuede, Valerie, (2004), Francis Barrallier, Explorations No 35 (Institute for the Study of French Australian Relations (ISFAR)), p. 11

⁷⁰ *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Angus & Robertson, 1949, np.

proclivities, had little time for low-born would-be botanists. Banks condescendingly agreed to give Caley a job as his gardener, in order to *further his knowledge* of matters botanical. From this position, Caley was able to obtain a position at Kew Gardens and was subsequently given free passage to Australia, where he fetched up in April 1800.⁷¹

Banks granted him a modest salary to collect botanical specimens, arranged for him to receive government rations and a small cottage to live in near Parramatta; Governor King intended to establish a botanical garden nearby of which Caley would have charge. Caley was assiduous in his collection of specimens and sending them off to Banks, who he also kept apprised of the comings and goings of the Colony generally. The two men kept up a lively correspondence throughout Caley's time in NSW and it is largely through this and Caley's report to King on his exploratory journeys that we know so much about the early European exploration of the Wollondilly area.⁷²

Starting in October 1801, Caley made 12 separate recorded expeditions into Wollondilly Shire giving us an unrivalled account of the area's geography, flora and fauna at the time. He provided the colonial administration with invaluable information on fertile and barren land, areas suitable for settlement and impassable cliffs. Caley was the first to make the connection between topography and Sydney's unpredictable weather patterns combining to result in a successful expedition or an unmitigated disaster:

*'Though these hills ... are in general considered as impassable, yet I cannot rank them as such ... should a party go out in fine weather and travel a considerable distance, and then wet weather to some on, a stop would be put to travelling further. Remaining still consumes the provisions. If wet weather continues, hunger will force a retreat. Many of the valleys will be flooded. In travelling through the thickets will be as hard as being up to the neck in water, and in consequence will destroy their clothing, necessaries etc. But yet again a party conducted under an intelligent and frugal person, provided the weather happens favourable, might gain the object of the pursuit.'*⁷³

Between them, Caley and Barrallier carried out the most comprehensive survey of the Wollondilly Shire and beyond before or since. Little would be added by subsequent explorers, beyond the discovery of the Warragamba River by George Evans in 1804 and a number of smaller tributaries in the years that followed. Evans was also responsible for proving conclusively that the Hawkesbury and Nepean Rivers were one. Explorers who followed in their footsteps merely fleshed out the topographical details laid down by the earlier explorers. It was not until 1812 that the Cox, Burragorang, Barnaley and Condongbarrow Rivers

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Letter from Caley to Banks, quoted in HRNSW, Vol. 4, p. 881.

were discovered, again by Evans and a direct route was found from the Picton area through to today's Wallacia and Luddenham (rather than via the more circuitous Prospect route).⁷⁴ Evans made no further explorations in the Wollondilly and was subsequently sent to check the claims of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in November 1813.

The district slumbered in relative peace until 1818 when Sir John Jamison, accompanied by Thomas Jones (a botanical specimen collector) and 2 marines followed Evans' route to the Warragamba Gorge. They carried their boat past 5 falls and eight rapids before setting up camp at Johnston Brook. The next day they encountered and named Molle's Falls, where they were forced to sleep the night on a ledge precariously balanced above the turmoil of water below.⁷⁵ The following day they left the river to climb a 'high mountain' where they could see the government depot on the Cox River and the Warragamba River south of Regent's Glen. Having no axe with which to mark a tree they left a bottle containing information hanging on a Swamp Oak on an island in the Warragamba, which they prosaically named Bottle Island. On 13th December 1818, they left the Cox River depot in an attempt to prove that the Erskine River was in fact the Cox; three days later Jamison's supposition was proved correct, and their return journey took them through country already mapped out by Caley.⁷⁶

In the following years Appin became the starting point for most expeditions into the south and south-west and naturally developed as the main coaching point for travellers to the south as well as Wollongong. The Colony's urgent need for productive farming land prompted Macquarie to encourage explorations by the Surveyor John Oxley and his men. Despite repeated attempts by the Surveyor-General's department, it was not until 1827 that a proper government survey of the Burragorang Valley was carried out. Under Oxley's instructions Robert Dixon set out alone on 17th September 1827 and made it as far as the Warragamba River before being stopped by the scrub and deep ravines. He returned to The Oaks, re-equipped and set out once more for the Burragorang. Despite two bullocks falling on a steep track descending into the valley, Dixon was able to send back a sketch map of the area on 4th November. Within a few days he sustained a bad fall with his horse in which both were injured. Alone in the bush in a virtually inaccessible valley he dragged himself into the shade and bled himself of two cups of blood as a first aid measure. On the 20th November his horse died and Dixon lay alone, delirious and awaiting the same fate.⁷⁷

However, Dixon was to be denied his moment of Victorian melodrama and was able to move again in time to greet the next shipment of supplies by pack bullock. He was so thankful to see the bullock driver that he

⁷⁴ Knox, op. cit., pp. 74-76.

⁷⁵ Jervis, J. (1934), *Discovery of Burragorang Valley*, JRAHS Vol. 20, p. 177.

⁷⁶ Jamison, Sir John, unpublished journal, Mitchell Library, no page.

⁷⁷ Jervis, op. cit., p. 184

quickly sketched a portrait of him. Ignoring his deteriorated physical condition, he refused to return to Sydney until he had completed his surveys. By March 1828 he had surveyed the Wollondilly River as far as Cordeaux Station, Bullio, leaving his bullocks nine miles behind. Before finally returning to Sydney, he surveyed the Cox River to Kedumba Creek, below Wentworth Falls; it was left to surveyors Govett and White to build on Dixon's work.⁷⁸

Pastoral Expansion

The Antill Family

Henry Colden Antill was born in New York (USA) in 1779 but grew up in Canada. Pursuit of a military career saw him joining the British Army in 1796 serving in the 73rd Highland Regiment. In 1799 at the tender age of 20, he found himself in Mysore, India, serving with Lachlan Macquarie with some distinction. Severely wounded in the 1799 uprising, he retired from active service but had made firm friends with Macquarie and attached himself to Macquarie's retinue. The Regiment sailed for Australia in 1809 with Antill appointed Macquarie's aide-de-camp the following year.⁷⁹

In 1818 Antill married Eliza Willis, the daughter of an emancipated convict and Sydney merchant. Antill's marriage to Eliza is indicative of a strong emotional bond between them for at this time, the daughters of emancipated convicts, known colloquially as 'currency lasses', were considered persona non grata in the colonial social strata and Antill was a man of some standing in so circumscribed a world. He resigned his commission in Macquarie's service in 1821, and having made the decision to settle permanently in NSW, received a 2,000 acre grant near Picton on 9 July 1822 that he named Jarvisfield (Portion 146 in the Parish of Picton).⁸⁰ Two further grants totalling 900 acres (named 'Coldenham') were made on 6 July 1833,⁸¹ but it was Jarvisfield that would become the principal Antill family seat.⁸²

In 1823 the Antills built a small wooden cottage at Jarvisfield and this would remain their principle residence until 1864. A second house of brick was erected a short distance away around 1850, as a home for one of their sons, John Macquarie Antill. Eliza and Henry produced 9 children and all accounts suggest they were an unusually tightly knit family. This second house was eventually converted to a laundry and remained in use until the 1950s, when it was demolished.⁸³ After Antill Snr died, Jarvisfield passed to John Macquarie

⁷⁸ Ibid., p. 185.

⁷⁹ Antill, James Macquarie. (1946), "Major Henry Colden Antill of Picton NSW (1779-1852)", JRAHS, Vol. 22, Part III, p. 172.

⁸⁰ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-4

⁸¹ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 33-24 & 33-25.

⁸² Bertie, C.H., "Pioneer Families of Australia – The Antills", *The Home*, 1 September 1932, p. 42.

⁸³ Martin, J. B., *Reminiscences*, 1883, p. 24 and Liz Vincent, Interview with James Macquarie Antill by Liz Vincent, 9 October 1994.

Antill, who built the present house in 1864. John lived there until his death when the property passed to his son Robert Henry (Harry). Harry never married, but there were plenty of Antill relatives around and his brother Guy was the next to take over Jarvisfield; his spinster daughters eventually let the house to the Maldon Cement Works in c.1950s-1960s, who made major alterations to the structure prior to its resumption by Wollondilly Shire Council and its eventual redevelopment as Antill Park Golf Club.⁸⁴

Stargard – Astrological Discoveries by Picton's earliest resident

On the same day that the Jarvisfield grant was made (9 July 1822), a 1,000 acre grant was also made to Charles Louis Rümker, the government astronomer.⁸⁵ Born in 1788 at Burg Stargard (Germany), Rümker (who also went by Christian Carl Ludwig Rumker) had an illustrious career and was perhaps the most important scientist in the early years of the Colony. Engaged by Sir Thomas Brisbane as a scientific assistant he accompanied him to Sydney and worked as his assistant at the Parramatta Observatory. Awarded the Silver Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1822 for his rediscovery of Encke's Comet, Rümker went on to catalogue some 12,000 stars as well as making numerous important observations of comets. His 1,000 acre grant on the west side of the Nepean River was largely a gift in return for his services to science and which he poetically named Stargard, in honour of his first and only love – the cosmos.⁸⁶ Rumker's grant included much of the land between Picton's Stonequarry and Myrtle Creeks although it excluded land set aside for the government village. Stargard included the sites of Island Park, Reservoir Hill and the George Inn.

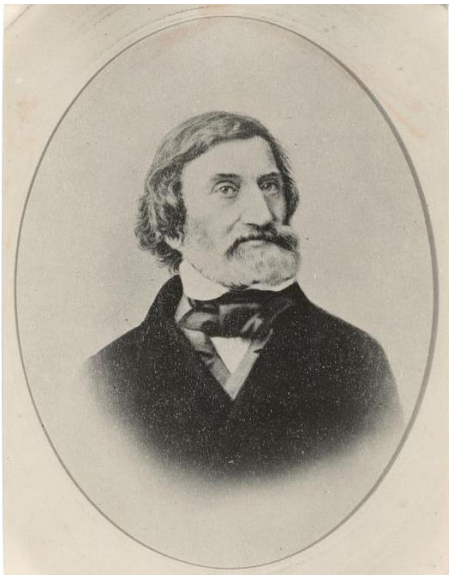


Figure 12: undated photograph of Charles Rumker, early astronomer and recipient of land at Picton. Source: Powerhouse Museum, 'Photographs, paintings and prints from the Sydney Observatory', Object # 38142.

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-42.

⁸⁶ *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1949, np.

Following Rumker's resignation from the Government Observatory at Parramatta in June 1823 due to a falling out with Brisbane and fellow astronomer James Dunlop, he retreated to Stargard where he continued to take astronomical observations. Rumker was allocated at least three convict servants and at least ten cows from the Government herd; by December 1823 he was selling wheat to the Colonial Government. He established an observatory on Reservoir Hill, taking advantage of its elevated position away from any aerial interference or pollution. Utilising a four-foot telescope, Rumker discovered three comets, including two in the Constellation Lion in October 1825, sending numerous reports to his learned friends in Europe.⁸⁷ Rumker would publish these findings in the *Memoirs of the Astronomical Society Journal* in 1827.⁸⁸

At Stargard, Rumker lived the 19th Century equivalent of life as a confirmed and eccentric bachelor. A visitor to Picton, A.E.G. Boyes wrote to his wife in 1824 describing Rumker as:

'...a spare, meagre form approaching squalidness. . . eyes sunk deep in his head, his whiskers down over his shirt collar, his black hair reaches his middle guiltless of a curve... limbs appeared to be hooked and eyed to his body and with an air the most distraught he rolled about as if unhinged by intoxication. A coat that was perhaps black, permitted a dirty piece of cotton to be seen at every bend through various formed crevices that time had worn its texture. His waistcoat had disappeared altogether and what was left of an old pair of kerseymere trousers was nothing to speak of.

Like another Cincinnatus he flew from the Court to the ploughed field and was standing at the door of his hut just as I have described him, serving out salt pork to his men when we rode by to the door. The inside of the domicile well corresponded with the external indications, the logs of which it was built, had, owing to the dry weather, retracted from each other, so that he could have an eye to every inch of his farm without moving from his box, for chair he had none. On the table was a broken basin, a blunt-edge knife, black and corroded, a German Ephemeris for 1818, and a four-foot telescope on a mahogany case coated with clay was lying on the sod.

On the table were lying also half a melon, one side shrivelled, implying frugality even to the use of this simple luxury; particles of tea and sugar, a bone spoon of colour of rusty bacon, ration accounts interspersed with unintelligible characters similar to those in Moore's Almanac. The bed, simplicity itself, a discoloured blanket and an old stuff cloak spread

⁸⁷ Ross, Jane, <http://www.stargard.com.au/History%20of%20Stargard.html>.

⁸⁸ Rumker, Christian (1827), 'Astronomical Observations – Observations taken at Stargard, and the Paramatta Observatory, New South Wales, in the Years 1825 and 1826', *Memoirs of the Astronomical Society Journal*, pp. 100-103

*upon three bars of ironbark received the weary limbs of the philosopher when eager for repose.*⁸⁹

In 1825 Sir Thomas Brisbane advised Earl Bathurst that *Mr Rumker rendered himself obnoxious to myself and family and completely failed in the fulfillment of his original engagements with me when I found him devoted alone to his own objects and pursuits, consequently he became of no further use to me*.⁹⁰ Brisbane also requested in letters to Earl Bathurst that Rumker stop receiving land grants. This rivalry which dominated Australia's early astronomical scene would be resolved when Brisbane was recalled to England in 1825, and was replaced by Ralph Darling. Rumker would return to Paramatta Observatory, becoming Australia's first Colonial Astronomer, before departing back to Europe. On his return to Hamburg, he was appointed Director of the School of Navigation.⁹¹ Today, the highest point of Reservoir Hill is dedicated to Rumker's achievements.

In 1834 Rumker decided to dispose of Stargard which by now was vastly improved and considered a prime pastoral property. The sale advertisements waxed lyrical on the fat cattle and healthy pastures and described Rumker's squalid cottage as:

*'...the beautiful homestead consisting of two thousand and two hundred acres of land with a capital cottage, barn, stables, stockyards and all requisite buildings. One hundred acres cleared and stumped into paddocks. The tenant can, if he wishes it take the growing crops at a fair valuation.'*⁹²

The property languished on the markets until 1844 when it was sold to Reverend William Lumsdaine, who would become an early pioneer of the Picton township. Rumker never returned to Australia, spending twenty-five years as the Superintendent of the Hamburg Observatory and Nautical School. In 1854 Carl Ludvig Christian Rumker received the Royal Astronomical Society's Gold Medal for his contribution to astronomy. He died on 21 December 1862 and is buried at Lisbon.⁹³

⁸⁹ Quoted in Beckett, Gordon (2012), *Guiding the Colonial Economy: Two Studies on the Role of Funding and Servicing the Colonial Finances of NSW*, Singapore: Trafford Publishing, pp. 254-255.

⁹⁰ HRA (1917), *Brisbane to Bathurst, 13 and 23 May 1825*, Vol. 2, p. 480, 606-614.

⁹¹ Bergman, G. F. J. (1967), *Rumker, Christian Carl Ludwig (1788 – 1862)*, Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 2, available from: <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/rumker-christian-carl-ludwig-2615>.

⁹² See, for example, 'Advertising', *The Australian*, 6 June 1834, p. 1.

⁹³ Bergman, Rumker, *Christian Carl Ludwig (1788 – 1862)*.

Other Early Grants in the Wollondilly – The Oaks and Douglas Park

Between November 1822 and June 1823, a flurry of smaller grants were made around Picton. These included Abbotsford (400 acres to George Harper);⁹⁴ Clifton (500 acres to Thomas Cowper);⁹⁵ Fairy Hills (1,000 acres to Philip Cavanagh);⁹⁶ Milton (1,000 acres to R. Crawford)⁹⁷ and Stilton (800 acres to Alexander Still).⁹⁸ Land clearance began to take place, slowly and with the help of assigned convicts and by 1831, Thomas Cowper had wheat and maize under production. Cowper's father, on the adjacent property, optimistically set up a dairy that was soon producing butter and cheese for sale in Sydney; between them the two properties also produced pork for commercial sale and bred horses, both important commodities in colonial New South Wales. Most of the other settlers grew a mixture of crops including barley, oats, maize, tobacco, potatoes and wheat. The soil around Picton turned out to be particularly fertile and the area rapidly grew to become the most productive region in the wider Sydney settlement. It certainly outstripped Parramatta where the convict James Ruse was still scratching around in the thin Parramatta soil with only limited success. By 1848, the cultivated lands in the district had expanded to encompass cabbages, melons, cucumbers, radishes, cauliflower, turnips, grapes and almonds, all of which had been planted and were flourishing at Jarvisfield.⁹⁹

Settlement in the Douglas Park area began on 6 August 1821 with the granting of Moreton Park to Jean Baptiste Lehimaz d'Arietta (whose land grant included the hill renamed Spaniards Hill in his honour).¹⁰⁰ In the following year on 9 July 1823, Arthur Douglas received a grant¹⁰¹ that he named Hoare Town, which would eventually become the settlement of Douglas Park. Sir Thomas Mitchell also received grants nearby, named Park Hall on 13 December 1834 and 14 February 1835.¹⁰² Mitchell established grape vines and other crops on his estate and from 1844 began leasing out small allotments of the estate to tenant farmers.¹⁰³ A remarkable manor house would be built at Park Hall, which today is known as the St Marys Towers.

⁹⁴ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-55.

⁹⁵ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-123.

⁹⁶ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 18-18.

⁹⁷ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 18-29.

⁹⁸ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 18-121, and Steele, J. (1904), *Early Days of Picton*, The Australian Historical Society Journal, p. 158.

⁹⁹ JRC Planning Services (1990), *An Outline Thematic History of the Wollondilly Shire*, pp. 13-14.

¹⁰⁰ Ballyn, Susan (2001), Jean Baptiste Lehimas de Arrieta – The First Spanish Settler?, *La Trobe Journal*, No. 68, p. 43 and NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-2.

¹⁰¹ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 14-3.

¹⁰² NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 32-194 & 34-73.

¹⁰³ Holmes, K. (2004), *Draft Historical Context Report: Wollondilly Shire Heritage Review*, p. 16.

In 1823 John Henry Wilde, previously identified as minding the Governor's escaped cattle, received a grant at The Oaks in return for his services.¹⁰⁴ Wild's grant remained the only one in the region until 3 December 1833 when Thomas Inglis and his family took up residence at Craigend,¹⁰⁵ establishing a farm on land that included ochre, which was used by local Indigenous tribes for ceremonial purposes and rock art.¹⁰⁶ At the same time Wild received his Oaks grant, William Bradbury received 100 acres at Wilton.¹⁰⁷ Bradbury was keen to acquire more land in the area and gradually bought out most of his neighbours; by 1862 he owned most of the surrounding land, known as the Wilton Park Estate. In 1892 the estate was purchased by Samuel Hordern, one of the prolific and influential merchant families of the period. The Hordern's owned several country estates all over the southern highlands and tablelands principally for horse-breeding and as retreats from the blazing Sydney summers. Hordern used the Wilton Park Estate to breed Clydesdales, which were used to haul the firm's delivery carts in Sydney.¹⁰⁸

The Macleay's and Brownlow Hill

Alexander Macleay arrived in the Colony in 1825 to take up the position of Colonial Secretary, under Darling's governorship. In England, he had been an active and prominent member of the Linnean Society and in NSW he continued his interest in entomology and botany, collecting many important specimens of rare plants and animals.¹⁰⁹

In September 1841, Darling made him a grant near Camden, called Brownlow Hill, for 1,663 acres,¹¹⁰ which he promptly gave to his third son, George, a fellow Linnaean who shared many of his father's interests. Despite the grant in 1841, Macleay operated the Brownlow Hill estate from at least 1827, with different accounts identifying the estate in the late 1820s and throughout the 1830s. Macleay Senior, who did not enjoy working under Bourke when he took over from Darling, was forced into retirement by Bourke in 1835. Macleay retired to his house at Elizabeth Bay where he concentrated on growing and collecting rare plants.

George Macleay accompanied Charles Sturt on his second expedition,¹¹¹ *...as a companion rather than as an assistant*, and shared in the difficulties and dangers of the journey to the mouth of the Murray and back. Early in April 1830, when the whole party was practically exhausted, Sturt recorded that *'...amidst these distresses Macleay preserved his good humour and did his utmost to lighten the toil and to cheer the men.'*

¹⁰⁴ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 23-264

¹⁰⁵ NSW LRS HLRV, Primary Application No. 8420

¹⁰⁶ Holmes, K (2004), Draft Historical Context Report, p. 16.

¹⁰⁷ NSW LRS HLRV, Serial – Page No. 18-5.

¹⁰⁸ Holmes, K (2004), Draft Historical Context Report, p. 16

¹⁰⁹ Fletcher, J. J. (1893), *The Macleay Memorial Volume*, The Linnean Society of New South Wales, p. VII.

¹¹⁰ NSW LRS HRLV, Serial – Page No. 73-207.

¹¹¹ Macmillan, David. S. (1967), Macleay, Sir George (1809 – 1891), *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 2.

Their provisions had just about come to an end when they were fortunately able to kill some swans. They subsisted on these until two of the party, who had been sent on ahead, returned with supplies from a depot they had established on their outward journey. After a short rest, Macleay was sent on with dispatches, but Sturt thought it wise to keep the rest of the party on the plain for a fortnight to allow them to recover from their exertions. Macleay had proved himself to be a hardy and excellent explorer, and he and Sturt formed a close friendship only broken by Sturt's death. After his return, Macleay went to live at Brownlow Hill and made his home there for nearly 30 years. He appears also at one time to have had a station on the Murrumbidgee. The house at Brownlow Hill was believed to have been designed by John Verge as a favour to Macleay Senior, for whom Verge had also designed Elizabeth Bay House.

George's chief interests were farming and horticulture and, though not a working zoologist, he had an interest in the subject. In 1836, he was appointed to the committee of the Australian Museum and botanical garden, and later on he was made a trustee of the museum. In 1854 he became a member of the old legislative council, and at the first election of the legislative assembly in 1856 he was elected as member for the Murrumbidgee. In 1859 he removed to England, was elected a fellow of the Linnean Society in 1860, and a member of the council in 1864.¹¹² He died at Mentone in the south of France on 24 June 1891. His first wife, Barbara St Clair Innes, lived at Brownlow Hill with him; she died in 1869. His second wife, Augusta Annie Sams, survived him at Mentone. There were no children of either marriage, so Brownlow Hill passed out of the Macleay family following George's death.¹¹³



Figure 13: Sketch by Conrad Martens of the Entrance to Brownlow Hill, dated 5 August 1870. Source: NSWSA: Album of sketches of Sydney and surrounds / Conrad Martens (1801-1878), 1835-1870 PXC 970, File Number FL 198872393.

¹¹² Fletcher, J. J. (1893), *The Macleay Memorial Volume*, p. XLV.

¹¹³ Macmillan, David. S. (1967), *Macleay, Sir George (1809 – 1891)*.

Sidman's account of the history of the area, written in the 1930s, claims that the first home was on the flat above Mt Hunter Creek and that a stone quarry was opened on the estate, although this is not corroborated by other authors. Despite a lack of detail, there are references to her brothers improvements on the farm in letters sent by Fanny Macleay to William, another brother in Cuba, and when Baron von Hugel who visited the '*charming house*' in 1834 as it was nearing completion. Von Hugel considered the farm (Glendaurel), two miles away from the new house, as having no equal of any he had seen in NSW for its '*cleanliness and orderliness*', and differing considerably from others such as Regentville, possessed paddocks cleared of stumps. A large garden and a small pond with many platypus adjoined the farm which von Hugel commented '*...would certainly be better located near the homestead, when this is completed.*'

Records held by the Royal Botanic Gardens indicate that G. Macleay Esquire was sent a number of plants during this period. In June 1832 he was sent 12 Olive Plants and 6 ornamental shrubs and in July 1834 he received 50 vine cuttings, one Evergreen Oak, two White Broom and 12 ornamental shrubs. As one of the colony's prominent farmers, George Macleay received two sets of cuttings, 40 from Mr Busby's vines, one set being for Captain Dumaresq in June 1836.

Conrad Martens drew the homestead in 1836, showing that it was sited on a flattened hill, which was not completely cleared of its native vegetation.¹¹⁴ Adjacent land to the west was added to the property through a grant to George Macleay. In 1836 George Macleay wrote to his sister requesting Loudon's *Encyclopaedia of Gardening*. Macleay's ornamental additions of a sundial bearing the inscription 'George Macleay 1836' and a Maldon sandstone vase on a pedestal situated in the centre of flower beds cut in the lawn are clear indications of the sophistication with which the garden was planned and developed. Other additions such as the aviary in the flower garden appear to have been inspired by Thomas Shepherd's lectures and modelled on illustrations and ideas, especially Mrs Lawrence's garden Drayton Green, from Loudon's *The Gardener's Magazine*, many illustrations and articles from which appeared in his 1838 publication *The Suburban Gardener and Villa Companion*.

More plants were sent from the Botanic Gardens to G. Macleay in 1844 – the most unusual inclusion for the time was Eucalypts and Melaleuca trees not usually planted by the colonists, especially in the country. By February L'Avergne was '*very busy with grapes*', preparing enough for 30 gallons of wine. Journal entries in March mention figs, a new white grape named 'Cornoshant' and walnuts growing in the garden. Both the von Hugel and Boswell accounts indicate clear connections between William Macarthur at Camden Park and the Macleay's at Brownlow Hill. Sales of plants noted in William Macarthur's notebooks indicate

¹¹⁴ Martens, Conrad (1840) Brownlow Hill, Cobbitty, New South Wales, 1840 [picture], National Archives of Australia, nla.obj 134384291

that during the early 1850s, a number of significant additions were made to the garden, some of which are still a feature of the property today.

When George and Barbara Macleay returned to England in 1859, the property was leased by Jeremiah Downes. Brownlow Hill was sold to Severin K. Salting in 1862 and again leased to Downes who purchased the property from Salting in 1875. In the intervening period it was managed as a series of tenant farms, a practice also adopted by the Macarthur family on the part of their nearby Camden Park Estate known as Cawdor Farms. Martens sketched '*the well-established garden at Brownlow Hill*' in 1871 and species depicted then are still clearly recognisable in the garden.

The property, which was inherited by Jeremiah's son Frederick in 1887, and also sketched by W. Hardy Wilson, was owned by the Downes family for over a Century, who managed a dairy on site. Glendon, another 19th century dwelling, is situated at the north of the property. When John Fairfax wrote his account of the early properties around Sydney, he remarked that Brownlow Hill was *as beautiful now as it was then*, and so it remains today.¹¹⁵

The Macarthurs, Belgenny Farm & Camden Park

Note: The geographical proximity of Belgenny Farm and Camden Park is such that both properties were effectively treated as one during the Macarthur's occupation. The division of the two properties between two shire boundaries is a modern one and bears no relationship to any historical division between the two. From an historical perspective they are as one.

Belgenny Farm was the centre of the Macarthur's early farming activities at Camden, prior to the development of the Camden Park Estate. It was known to them as the Home Farm and Macarthur pioneered and refined most of his experimental farming techniques at Belgenny, before introducing them at the adjoining Camden Park. A 910 acre portion on the left bank of the 2,024 acre grant Macarthur received at the Cowpastures in 1805, which would become Belgenny Farm. Later Camden Park House was also built there.¹¹⁶

It is not known precisely when Macarthur began running sheep at Camden. He was certainly running them on his Parramatta property (Elizabeth Farm) as early as 1805 and may have moved some of his stock to Camden at this time. By the time he left for England in 1809, leaving all the properties in the stewardship of his wife Elizabeth and nephew, Hannibal, sheep were well and truly established at Camden. Lachlan Macquarie camped not far from Belgenny Farm in 1810 and was:

¹¹⁵ Heritage NSW, State Heritage Inventory, 'Brownlow Hill Estate', Heritage Item ID 5051301.

¹¹⁶ Mylrea, P. (2001), *Belgenny Farm 1805-1835*, The Early Years of the Macarthurs at Camden, Belgenny Farm Trust and Camden Historical Society, p. 1.

‘...visited by Mrs Macarthur, who had come the evening before to the Cow Pastures to look after her farms and fine numerous flocks of sheep in this part of the country. [On the following day] we called at Benkennie on Mrs Macarthur, with whom we sat for a little while in a small miserable hut.’¹¹⁷

Clearly the Macarthur’s had erected some rudimentary structure to accommodate them on their periodic visits, predating the fine homestead that would eventually become their seat of power until the building of Camden Park House. When Macquarie passed through again in 1815, another house had been erected – a modest weatherboard cottage.¹¹⁸

During this period wool production was the main commercial activity in Camden with most of the clip being sent to England. The quality of the wool was dubious with the clip often being dirty and coarse, bringing a lower price than Macarthur might have hoped for. By 1813, the sheep were being routinely washed prior to shearing and Elizabeth was organising for the erection of a wool store at Belgenny Farm.¹¹⁹



Figure 14: Oil painting of Elizabeth Macarthur, who helped establish and operated the Macarthur pastoral empire whilst John was in England with his sons on an enforced sojourn. Source: NSWSA: 30/8/1955-1/9/1955 copy of oil painting, Government Printing Office 2 – 06724, File Number FL2088498.

¹¹⁷ Macquarie, L, *Governor of New South Wales: Journal of His Tours in New Wales and Van Diemen’s Land 1810-1822*, republished 1979, pp. 8 & 10.

¹¹⁸ Macarthur Onslow, S. (1973), *Some Early Records of the Macarthurs of Camden*, p. 314.

¹¹⁹ Macarthur Papers, *Sundry Accounts and Stores*, A4192, January 1823.

John Macarthur's enforced sojourn in England hung heavy on his hands. Although he attended to his numerous business interests in England, he itched to return to New South Wales and expand his Antipodean empire. In 1817, he was finally allowed to return and his embarkation at Portsmouth must have caused the captain some consternation as Macarthur required the fitting up of a special greenhouse on board in which to transport grape vines and olives he had purchased in France and Switzerland, in addition to a large quantity of agricultural equipment and machinery. James and William accompanied their father, and their return signalled the start of major development at Camden.¹²⁰

As soon as the Macarthur men returned, they embarked on a building program at Belgenny Farm and by 1826 there was a comfortable cottage, stables, coach house (later converted to a creamery) and various outbuildings, all facing a central yard in the typical English manner. The cottage consisted of an eastern and western wing separated by a courtyard, with extensive views of the river flats. It is not known who designed the cottage, although there is some speculation that it was the work of Henry Kitchen. However, it could just as easily have been taken from any of the numerous pattern books that existed at the time and Elizabeth Macarthur had already shown herself to be an able architect and would undoubtedly have heavily influenced its design in any case. By 1824 the cottage had become the principal residence for James and William.¹²¹

The cottage was also where Elizabeth Macarthur stayed on her visits to the farm, and where the family entertained visitors. A letter from Elizabeth to her son Edward in 1830 gives a vivid insight into the place at that time:

'...so well am I pleased with my sojourn here and so much has my health been benefited by the change. I cannot tell you how delighted I have been with the wonderful improvements I daily discover – not in a fine house, mind, for the same little cottage is still all the residence ...

*I will not attempt to give any description of the Garden which you saw begun – it is now finished, and in the nicest possible order enriched with the finest fruit trees – and adorned with the choicest flowers – the walks are so well raised that you may walk in the garden immediately after heavy rain without soiling your shoes.'*¹²²

¹²⁰ Mylrea, P., op. cit., pp. 4-5.

¹²¹ Ibid., p. 8.

¹²² Elizabeth to Edward Macarthur from Camden, 27 December 1830, contained in Macarthur Onslow, S., op. cit., p. 462.

Around 40 male convicts were based at Belgenny and formed the core of its workforce. They were housed in barracks on the site, although their exact location is not known. By 1828, there were 71 workers at the farm; 56 of these were assigned convicts, four were ticket-of-leave men and the remainder were emancipated convicts. Only two were female - a ticket-of-leave woman of 35 and a 26 year old 'currency lass,' i.e. born in the Colony of ex-convict parents.¹²³

Of the 69 male employees, 25 were employed as shepherds – an indication of the extent of the Macarthur flocks. A further 22 were classed as general labourers, under the direction of four overseers, and the remainder filled the miscellany of positions necessary to the running of any large estate: ploughmen, carters, grooms, blacksmiths, butchers, a wool sorter, a miller, a dairyman, a shoemaker and a gardener. In addition to the various farm workers, the Macarthur's retained a footman and house servant and clerk who kept the farm records in order. With the exception of the shepherds who were stationed throughout the property, the estate staff all lived and worked in close proximity to the main complex of buildings.¹²⁴

Of some surprise and noteworthiness was the absence of female servants on the estate. This was a direct reflection of John Macarthur's attitude to convict women, whom he regarded as "...*generally so depraved and the cause of so much disorder*."¹²⁵ Such was Macarthur's prejudice that even roles traditionally filled by women, such as cooks and laundresses, were filled by male convicts. But at the centre of this male domain was the indomitable Mrs Macarthur whose will was as unbending as her husband's.

By 1825 the Macarthur land holdings at Cowpastures had increased to 27,698 acres through a series of grants, judicious purchases and fortuitous exchanges. Although wool production remained the primary activity, the land was also under cultivation for wheat, corn, maize and grape vines. In 1822, Macarthur sent to England 68,000 kilograms of fine merino wool – so fine that it received two medals, one for quality and one for quantity.¹²⁶

The quality of the Macarthur wool was attributed to their stringent shearing, cleaning and sorting methods. When William Riley visited the property in 1830, he witnessed first-hand the Estate's workers in action:

'For the primary operations of washing, the River, which forms the boundary of the property for several miles affords a splendid and never failing stream. Spacious pens, formed on an inclined plane adjoining the bank contain the sheep submitted to this process and in them they are well drenched with water and so soften the impurities of the wool in the first

¹²³ Mylrea, P. op. cit., p. 10.

¹²⁴ Ibid., p. 11.

¹²⁵ Quoted in ibid., p. 11.

¹²⁶ Ibid., p.p. 14-15.

*instance, till they can be well rubbed as the next step in hot soap suds contained in large tubs from which they are handed over to undergo the further process of being thoroughly cleaned in the bed of the stream. They are then allowed to crawl out and dry themselves in a clean pen, littered with straw, the fleece becoming fit to shear in the course of 2 days. ...A young German has come out for the purpose of sorting the fleeces...From the shearing shed the wool is removed in carts to the storehouse which is kept very clean and then packed into distinct bins according to its quality until put into bails.*¹²⁷

This attention to detail and the willingness to labour intensively over so mundane and laborious a task was what gave the Macarthurs the edge over their competitors and cemented their hold on the wool trade. Apart from wool production, John Macarthur was keenly interested in wine making and was instrumental in establishing the Australian wine industry. During his English sojourn with his sons, Macarthur spent part of 1815-16 on a walking tour of Europe with them. They were interested in learning about viticulture and wine making and collecting vine cuttings, which came back to Australia with them.¹²⁸

The first vines were planted at Belgenny and flourished; the harvest and first vintage were awaited with eager anticipation. It was a bitter disappointment when the first vintage ‘...*did not answer expectation*’ and the cause was soon traced back to the vines themselves. Prior to Macarthur’s embarkation for his return trip to New South Wales, the vines he and his sons had collected were placed in the care of a London nursery man. Unfortunately for Macarthur, of the 25 valuable vine varieties he collected, only two travelled to Australia – the remainder were inferior vines of unknown provenance that the nurseryman mistook for the French vines.

In time the Australian Agricultural Company imported high quality French vines and with John Macarthur as one of its principal backers the inferior vines were quickly replaced. By 1827 the Belgenny vineyards were producing ‘...*good wine, but in very small quantities.*’ After 1830, the vines were transplanted to the Camden Park Estate where a substantial villa was under construction for the family. Macarthur continued to promote and pioneer winemaking and the Camden Park Estate became the first commercially successful winery in New South Wales. Gradually, the main centre of commercial and pastoral activity shifted from Belgenny Farm to the Camden Park Estate, which enjoyed huge prosperity and was arguably the largest employer in the district for many years.¹²⁹

¹²⁷ Quoted in James Jervis, *The Journals of William Edward Riley*, JRAHS 1946, vol. 32, pp. 252-3.

¹²⁸ Mylrea, P., op. cit., p. 16.

¹²⁹ Ibid., pp. 16-17.

In 1834, work was begun on a new house on the adjoining Camden Park Estate; designed by Henry Kitchen and later modified and extended by John Verge, it became the most famous house in the district. The house was extended in the 1880s and despite some modification, survives largely intact.

Following the wheat rust epidemic of 1867 and the discovery of grazing land around Wagga Wagga, Macarthur and others shifted the focus of their pastoral pursuits from sheep to dairying. Once again, the Macarthur estates, this time Camden Park Estate, led the way. Redundant buildings were converted to creameries, dairies erected and new technologies introduced as soon as they became available. Small dairies dotted the landscape, although almost all owed their survival, to some degree on the Macarthur estate. Dairying culminated in the introduction of the Rotolactor in the 1950s and spawned a new industry – tourism.



Figure 15: Sketch by Conrad Martens of the view from Camden Park dated 16 August 1870. Source: NSWSA: Album of sketches of Sydney and surrounds / Conrad Martens (1801-1878), 1835-1870 PXC 970, File Number FL 198872392.

By the 1980s dairying was in decline with most smallholders selling out to the larger dairying concerns, such as Dairy Farmers and the deregulation of the industry in the 1990s all but put an end to dairying in the district. However, a number of independent dairy farmers managed to stay afloat and today dairying is making something of a comeback in the district.

Settlement in the Burragorang Valley

Settlement of the Upper and Lower Burragorang and Cox's River began in 1828 when J. Smithers, Hugh Byrne, J. Farrell, William Danby and Timothy Lacy obtained grants.¹³⁰ Lacy, who was just 22 when he received the first grant of the Burragorang, would expand his agricultural reach across the Wollondilly River with multiple grants throughout his six decades in the region.¹³¹ Further grants were made between 1825 and 1833 and Surveyor Robert Dixon submitted a plan for 12 farms to the Surveyor-General's Office in 1833. Dixon also surveyed grants in the Upper Burragorang (portions 2-8 in the Parish of The Peaks) but the grants for these were not issued until 1838. Most of those who took up these wild and isolated claims were retired members of the 48th Regiment of Foot, with one notable exception: The Hunt family who remained in the valley until 1933. Around the same time Surveyor Dillon marked out 80 acres in the Parish of Nattai for Patrick Carlon (Carolan). The grant was named Carlon's Town and became the nucleus for the Carlon family's substantial holdings in the Burragorang.¹³²

Between 1834 and 1840 large tracts of land were leased in the Mount Colong area, down to the banks of the Nattai River and through the Lower Burragorang along the Cox's River to Black Gooler. As the demand for land increased these areas were subdivided and settled by families whose names are still associated with the Burragorang: Fitzpatrick, Pearce, Reilly, Blattman, Byrne, Carlon, Collins, Dunn, Gorman, Maxwell, Murphy, Quig, Smith, Shoobridge and Woollams. Reservations were made for several villages, but these were later revoked when it became apparent they were unnecessary.¹³³

The supremely difficult task of surveying the country between Mount Colong and the Tonalli Ranges fell to G.B. White in 1833. The first intrepid soul to take up land in the Colong district was Edward L. Moore, who purchased a total of 99 acres between 1867 and 1879; he named his selection Colong Station. Over the following years he purchased a number of other small holdings in the area and his sons, John and Frederick purchased additional larger holdings.¹³⁴ Other pastoralists followed in the 1890s and early 1900s and once the Blue Mountains were opened from the northwest in the 1860s, the Kowmung Valley was used as stock run. Before long, bridle trails had appeared on the Kanangra Tops and the Gingra Range, along Scott's Main Ridge through Byrne's Gap and down to Lannigan's Creek.

¹³⁰ See, Jervis, J., *Discovery of the Burragorang Valley*, JRAHS Vol. XX, p. 190, and NSW LRS HLRV, Primary Application No. 31569.

¹³¹ 'Obituary', *Freeman's Journal*, 2 July 1887, p. 15.

¹³² Gleeson, Damien John. (1964), *Carlon's Town: A History of the Carlon Family of the Burragorang Valley to commemorate the centenary of the death of Patrick Carlon 1807-1883*, p. 12.

¹³³ Jervis, J., *Discovery of the Burragorang Valley*, op. cit., p. 195.

¹³⁴ Den Hertog, S. (1990), *The History of the Burragorang Valley From the Records*, p. 9.



Figure 16: Photographs of the Burragorang Valley, c.1900, taken by Albert James Perier (1870-1964). Source: NSWSA: Home and Away 34669, File Number FL3419488.

As more farming and agricultural allotments of land were granted and sold, small communities began to establish themselves across the Valley. Multiple schools were constructed in the region, including at Jooriland and Upper Burragorang. Besides the farming and agricultural work, different industries began operating around the Lake, with remains of sawmills, beekeepers' huts and mines present today. The region also became an increasingly popular tourist destination for Sydneysiders in the first half of the 20th Century, with Guesthouses like 'Mountain View', 'Burragorang House' and 'The Knoll' providing accommodation in the scenic valley. Popular activities that attracted tourists to catch the direct bus from Martin Place to the Valley included fishing, swimming, hunting, bushwalking, tennis and dancing.¹³⁵ Finally, Aboriginal Reserves were established within the Valley, including AR 10, AR 159 and AR 14,937.¹³⁶ These Reserves

¹³⁵ 'The Burragorang Valley', *The Oaks Historical Society Inc Newsletter*, September 2019; den Hertog, Sonja (1990), *The History of Burragorang Valley from the Records*, p. 17

¹³⁶ NSW Department of Community Services (1998), *Connecting to Kin – Guide to Records*, p. 347

dictated where Aboriginal tribes were allowed to live, regardless of where their cultural connection with the region was, and enforced specific laws upon them.



Figure 17: Photograph of the c.1850s Jooriland homestead, with shearing shed (left) and shearing quarters (right) visible and still standing. Source: Yerranderie Management Committee.

At Yerranderie more permanent settlement began much later and was precipitated by the advent of silver mining. Silver and lead ore were discovered there in 1871 and it was not long before both were being extracted on a commercially viable scale. The surveyor Clive Manning had leased 960 acres at Yerranderie in 1881, with the intention of establishing a farm and Private Town there. As it happened, a Government Town was established on the eastern portion of Manning's land and Manning's Private Town never eventuated. By 1899 a number of hopeful prospectors had obtained permission to search for minerals and carry out mining operations on part of Manning's conditional lease. As news filtered out of the find, particularly silver veins, more and more miners were attracted to the workings and a village of tents sprang up to house them. Married miners were the first to erect humpies and bark huts and galvanised iron sheds

to house businesses soon followed.¹³⁷ Mrs Barnes' Boarding House, one of the surviving buildings in the town and now operating as a museum, tended to the children of these miners.

By 1904 'The Peaks Mining Settlement' as it was known boasted a permanent population of 17, but a proper township had not yet been established. The development of the two town centres – Private Town and Government Town – was haphazard until 1907 when the settlement experienced rapid expansion. Part of Michael Quig's estate, located 3km north of Private Town, was subdivided to form what became known as 'Quigtown'.¹³⁸ On 17th February 1907, 71 Torrens Title allotments were auctioned and most were sold with an average price of £12 per block. The proposed subdivision of the Government Town was slightly more complicated. Around 1903 Manning had suggested making part of his large holdings available for the establishment of a village. When nothing had happened by 1905, Yerranderie residents requested that part of Manning's estate be resumed. Manning fought the resumption in Court even though the selected land was on "...the summit of a spur from the Far Peak Mountain' that was of no pastoral or mining value. He lost the case when the Department of Mines boldly decided to resume 'to the centre of the earth' rather than the more modest depth of 50 feet originally proposed. The subdivision containing 119 blocks went to auction in April 1910, but resistance from the Private Town residents was strong.¹³⁹



Figure 18: Photograph of a hut in the town of Yerranderie, taken by Max Duapin in the early 20th Century. Source: NSWSA, File 7: Album of photographs, 1940 / photographed by Max Dupain (1911-1992), 1940 PXA 28, File Number FL431836.

¹³⁷ Den Hertog, S. and Mills, R. (1984), *The Township of Yerranderie*, p. 9.

¹³⁸ Ibid., p. 16.

¹³⁹ Ibid., p. 19.

The first buildings erected in Government Town were of timber and iron, and apart from these few rudimentary structures the new town had little to entice the residents of Private Town away. In an attempt to enhance the permanency of the new settlement, the Government erected two brick buildings – a residence for Manning that was later converted to a police station, and a Court House built at Manning's insistence in 1906. A third brick building – a Catholic Church – was erected a short distance away in 1907, at the end of what was Kerry Street. Despite the presence of such fine new buildings, the popularity of Private Town did not diminish, although most of its residents were happy to use the new Church when it suited them.¹⁴⁰

At its peak, Yerranderie was home to about 2,000 people; even after 1925 there were still three mines operating there. In 1927 the price of metals dropped dramatically, and the population dwindled to about 500 souls. As the Depression continued, all the mines were closed and with no prospect of renewed activity in the field, only a handful of miners remained; they all had left by 1958. Yerranderie's fate was sealed by the construction of Warragamba Dam. Rising waters slowly submerged the Wollondilly Bridge, isolating the township from the nearest settlements at Oakdale, The Oaks and Camden. Yerranderie became a ghost town and then faded into memory until the mining boom of 1968-72 renewed interest in the silver field. Although mining was not resumed, the attention prompted Miss Valerie Leheude to purchase the Private Town and a surrounding 1,100 acres with the intention of restoring the town as a permanent tourist attraction. Today Yerranderie is visited by people from all walks of life and from all over the world. Miss Leheude's work has ensured its conservation for generations to come and it provides a unique and vivid insight into life in the Burragorang in the 19th century.¹⁴¹

¹⁴⁰ Ibid., p. 19.

¹⁴¹ Den Hertog, S., op. cit., p. 11.



Figure 19: Photograph (1903-1920s) of a horse team transporting silver ore from the Yerranderie silver mines. The wagon was built by the Bennett Wagon Works in St Marys, this one belonging to Fred J Sheldrick who ran a haulage and cartage business in the Wollondilly. Source: Penrith City Library.

Traversing the Wollondilly

Roads

When Europeans first began to explore the Wollondilly area, all transport was on foot. Most of the early explorers did not even bother with packhorses, as the rugged terrain and thick scrub simply made the going too slow; horses were inclined to be more of a hindrance than a help. Although the area was criss-crossed with innumerable Aboriginal tracks, which Aboriginal guides utilised when on expeditions with early European explorers, the Europeans on their own couldn't (or perhaps didn't want to) see them, instead forging their own paths. Some of this obstinate refusal to take the easiest route was fuelled by the romantic ideals of the day – the lonely, half-starved explorer, boldly going where none had gone before, to find new territory for King and Country. This image did not sit well beside the reality of a well-populated country with well-worn transport routes and few mysteries.

Explorations to the Wollondilly and further south resulted in the inevitable widening of settlement and the need for safe and practical transport routes. By 1832, convict road gangs were hard at work linking Sydney and Goulburn with a road that would become the main artery for all goods and people between Sydney and the southern district. Major Antill was able to influence the construction of the road to such a degree that its route was altered to take it across the Razorback Range – hardly the most direct or practical route south at the time. Nonetheless, Antill's agitation bought welcome trade and news to the isolated population around

Picton and contributed towards the growth of the town.¹⁴² Relics of this original route, as well as wooden mileposts are visible today along Cawdor Road, Remembrance Driveway and Mount Hercules Driveway.



Figure 20: Sketch by Conrad Martens of the Razorback Range, showing the steep and windy route, c. 1850. Source: NSWSA: 'Colonial sketches: an album of views of Sydney and NSW / E. West, F. Terry, Conrad Martens et. al., 1822-1859 DL PXX 30, File Number FL3255070.

The first road from Picton to the Burragorang Valley followed what was probably Barrallier's route on his 1802 expedition. The Reverend James Hassall followed the same route on his way through to Wombeyan Caves in 1844:

*'Starting from Camden, we passed the Oaks district and entered Burragorang, descending the mountain at what was called "The Pass" [at Nattai]. This place was somewhat improved since I had gone down with my father about eight years before. On that occasion we had to let the horses down partly with a rope, to prevent their falling over a precipice alongside us, three or four feet off, and I, too, had to submit to be lowered by rope.'*¹⁴³

¹⁴² *Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser*, 15 April 1840.

¹⁴³ Quoted in den Hertog, op. cit., p. 15.

By 1840 a second track was in use by residents, although it had not been officially surveyed; it led to a precipice known as 'The Jump Up.' Like Barrallier's track, horses, carts, goods and less agile people had to be lowered over its lip by rope. By 1863 a road had been constructed as far as the old Nattai Post Office, well down Nattai Mountain. A steep road branching off from the present road to the Burragorang Lookout, it is still negotiable on foot. Although the road was well constructed, it was still an arduous trip (in both directions) for the bullock teams and later lorries that used it to access the silver mines. It was not until 1870 that this road was extended past the Nattai Post Office, but even then it was described by contemporaries as being a bullock dray road, at best.¹⁴⁴

Proper villages were never established in the three main centres of the valley and farms were scattered along the river flats with no roads to connect them, other than a few rough tracks. These were negotiable only on foot, horseback or inclement weather by horse and cart. Rivers and creeks had to be forded every few miles; the main crossing points of the Wollondilly, Cox and Nattai Rivers were by bridge but at all other points small rowboats were provided by the local Council. When the rivers were in flood, crossing at any point was impossible and valley residents were effectively isolated from both the outside world and each other.¹⁴⁵ Other crossings, like Blaxland's Crossing at Wallacia, Rockford Crossing at Tahmoor and the crossing at Broughton Pass (before construction of the bridge in the late 19th Century) were likewise dangerous during flooding events, with reports of people drowning whilst traversing on horseback not uncommon.

The advent of the motor car did not make travelling to or in the Burragorang any easier – merely more adventurous. Due to the vastness of the Valley and the isolation of farm sites and residences, vehicles certainly were popular amongst residents of Burragorang Valley, with the charred remains of many abandoned Buick pickup trucks visible today. From the 1920s, several guesthouses were established in the area, principally attracting summer holiday makers and honeymooners. River crossings were numerous and frequently, the guest house proprietors had to use their own horses to pull cars across the lapstone riverbeds.¹⁴⁶ Cedar getting continued in the Burragorang into the early 20th century and precipitated the building of new and better roads. In 1907 the Cedar Road from the western end of the valley to Camden was opened to facilitate the movement of logs. Vestiges of this road are still visible between Gingra Range and Scott's Main Range, particularly around Gape's Gap.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁴ Ibid, p. 15

¹⁴⁵ Ibid, p. 15.

¹⁴⁶ "The Australian Motorist", December 1924, The Oaks Historical Society Newsletter, September 1986.

¹⁴⁷ Baker, Michael (1984), *The Catholic Bushwalker* (40th Anniversary Edition) p. 9.



Figure 21: Photograph of the ruins of an old Federal truck, located near the Jooriland school site. The Valley has multiple vehicle ruins that demonstrate life in the Valley before its flooding in 1958. Source: Yerranderie Management Committee.



Figure 22: Photograph (early 20th Century) of a worker in the Valley transporting goods along the tracks. Source: NSWSA: 'Box 53: Myles Dunphy lantern slides of 2nd Kowmung trip with Gallop, Katoomba, Yerranderie and Picton Lakes, ca. 1910-1930 SLIDES 44/Box 53, File Number FL753105.

Bridges

The Stonequarry Creek separating Lower and Upper Picton presented a real barrier to travellers wishing to make their way onto the Great Southern Road, with its meandering nature necessitating crossings at several points. The easiest crossing point was the site of the present Stonequarry Bridge, in Argyle St. The first bridge was built sometime in the 1820s but was washed away by a flood in 1832. The people of Picton managed without a bridge until 1834 when the earlier bridge was finally replaced. The second bridge survived until around 1860 when it too was destroyed by floodwaters. By this time trade had increased to the point where the population couldn't survive without a proper crossing and a replacement was completed within a year. This third bridge remained in use until 1899 when it was replaced by the more substantial structure we have today.¹⁴⁸

The Stonequarry Viaduct was built between 1863 and 1867 under the supervision of John Whitton, Engineer in Chief of the New South Wales Government Railway and the 'father' of the NSW rail system. It was the first viaduct to be built on the NSW rail system and remains the oldest surviving viaduct in NSW. Whitton designed it to carry two separate lines from the outset, thereby ensuring its continued use into the present, when all too often increased rail traffic saw the closure of many single line structures unable to cope. Following the principles of viaduct design developed by the Romans, the structure stands 75 feet high and is one of the most prominent and easily recognised landmarks in the district.¹⁴⁹

The Victoria Bridge, which crosses Stonequarry Creek to the west of the railway station, was built in 1897 and gave access from the railway to Upper Picton. Built by William Ford under contract to the Department of Public Works, its ironbark construction has been impervious to floods and weather of all kinds.¹⁵⁰ The use of Allan trusses for the timber bridge ensured it could carry more loads than the prior McDonald trusses could, which has greatly extended the lifetime of the bridge. Though narrow by today's standards (only one lane of traffic can pass), the Victoria Bridge, like the Railway Viaduct, is a significant historic landmark of Picton.

¹⁴⁸ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 January 1934 and Parliamentary Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly 1861, Petition of Felix Swainston.

¹⁴⁹ Vincent, Liz (1996), *A Brief History of Picton*, p. 13.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid*, p. 13.



Figure 23: Photograph of Victoria Bridge from c.1948. Source: NSWSA: 'Victoria Bridge, looking along bridge from west side', 6/1948 Government Printing Office 1 – 44224, File Number FL2008981.

Similar to the Victoria Bridge is that of the Maldon Suspension Bridge, constructed in 1903 and built by James McCall. The Maldon Suspension Bridge utilises Warren trusses and an uncommon 'stiffened suspension' type that makes the bridge aesthetically unique. The bridge's location, across the picturesque Nepean River, enabled farmers like the Sheils and Samuel Hordern, operator of the Wilton Park Stables, to easily travel from Wilton to Maldon and Picton. Indeed, it was speculated that the Sheils utilised their influence in the region to guide the decision to construct the bridge.¹⁵¹

Broughton Pass was often a dangerous travel route for those heading south from Campbelltown, with the original structure built along the water line often unsafe in flooding. The prior bridge was also notoriously steep, so much so a traveller would trust his own legs to traverse it rather than the insecurity of a seat on horseback or vehicle.¹⁵² A stone pier and timber superstructure bridge was built well above the waterline in 1885 by Bryce Henry, with the timber superstructure replaced with a concrete one in 1938-39.

¹⁵¹ Ross, Jan, 'Fact or Fiction: 'Picton's Periphery'', *Picton News*, 29 November 1995, p. 4.

¹⁵² 'Sydney Water Supply', *Sydney Mail*, 3 June 1882, p. 876-877.

The Railway

All of the towns in the Wollondilly area, and Picton particularly, have relied on passing traffic for their trade and for transport routes out of the district to open new markets for produce. The Great Southern Road fulfilled this role in the first half of the 19th Century and the area's principal business was tourism – catering to the needs of travellers stopping over on their way south. For example, the Picton Mineral Springs, located on the Stonequarry Creek just south of the Picton township, attracted tourists and medical patients alike for its purported healing properties, from at least the 1860's. Despite the presence of the great arterial road linking north and south, travel was still rough, tiring and often dangerous and the economic growth of the area, whilst steady, was by no means booming. The coming of the railway would provide the first real impetus to wider settlement and business growth.

Construction of the southern line resulted in an immediate and obvious population boom – fettlers and navvies and their families took up residence in Picton and boosted school enrolments and church congregations as a result. Initially housed in tents close to the railway line, these families were the catalyst for local builders and speculative developers to start real estate development in the area. The cottages on Campbell Street and Webster Street are early examples of railway workers' cottages constructed post 1860 in Picton, whilst aesthetically pleasing dwellings constructed on Menangle Street were built as more people migrated to the growing township. Indeed, more than half of Picton's surviving 19th Century building stock relates specifically to the railway boom of the 1860s. Most of the hotels, like the Imperial Hotel (formerly Terminus Hotel) and the Great Southern Hotel, and major public buildings were built at this time. The 1860s marked a golden decade in the history of the town, with Picton experiencing further development in the early 20th Century.¹⁵³

The first line of rail from Picton, known as the Loop Line, was constructed in 1867 and ran from the station over the viaduct, veered left upwards to the toll collector's cottage and over Argyle St and then through the Redbank Tunnel (also known as the Mushroom Tunnel as mushrooms were commercially grown in them during the 1950s). The line then continued onto Thirlmere, Buxton, Balmoral, Hilltop, Colo Vale and eventually all the way to Mittagong. For the first time, small villages that had existed in relative isolation were able to forge links with neighbouring towns and larger centres. Goods could be traded and the social isolation of much of the district ended. In 1892, the line between Campbelltown and Picton was duplicated as a response to increased traffic.

¹⁵³ Ibid, pp. 21-22

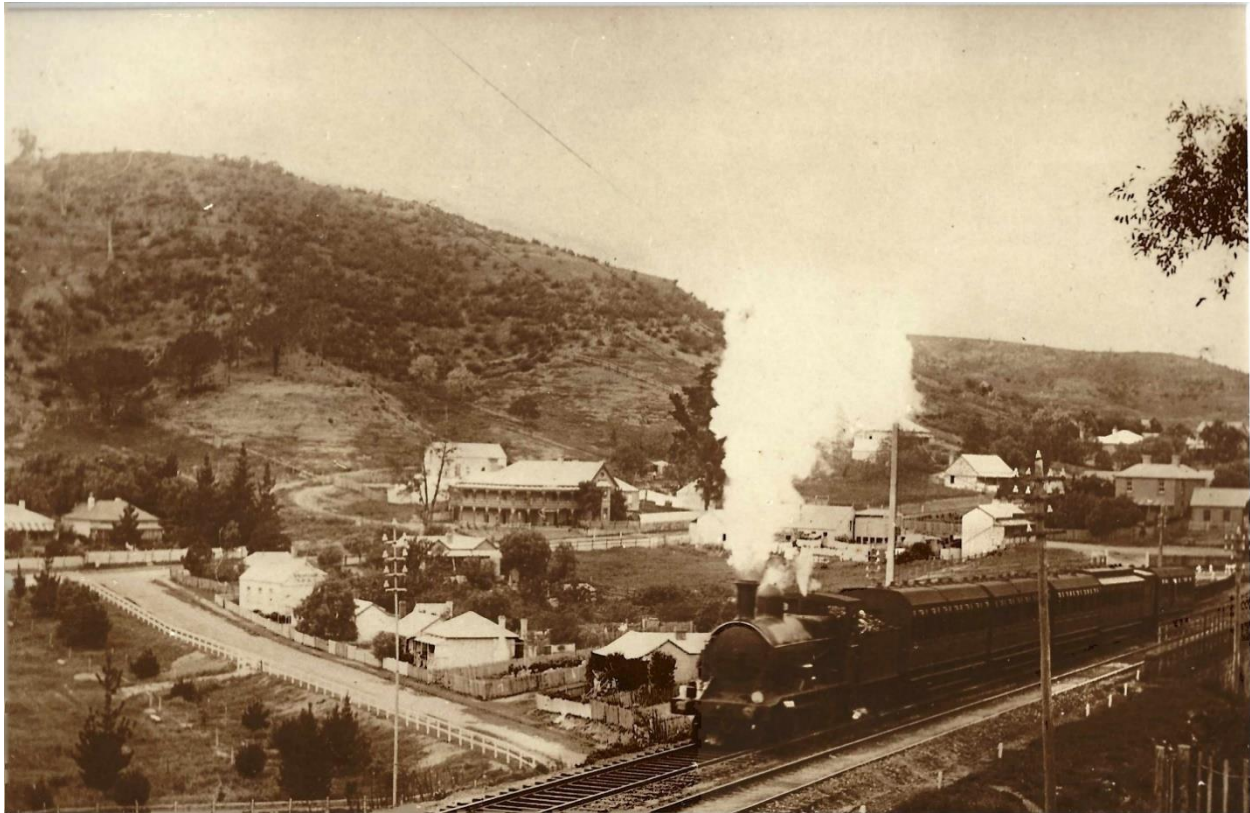


Figure 24: Photograph taken in c.1900 of the Great Southern Railway (foreground). The photograph also captures the streetscape of Menangle Street (with the Imperial Hotel centre) and Webster Street (with workers cottages left foreground) at that time. Source: Unknown - Courtesy of Ms Silvana Nichols

The Loop Line had always been troubled by the steep grades affecting much of the track and so, in 1914, work commenced on the Picton-Mittagong Deviation. What began as a deviation however soon became the main line. Known as the Great Southern Rail Line, this deviation linked Upper and Lower Picton with Tahmoor (then Myrtle Creek), Bargo and Mittagong, bringing with it increased trade and population pressures. Much like the prior small villages, the townships of Tahmoor and Bargo would see their residential development boom in the late 1910s – mid 1930s due to the presence of the railway in these small villages. The coming of the railway forever changed the face of Picton and the wider district and virtually all development in the first half of the 20th Century was a direct result of the rail link with Sydney.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁴ Ibid, p. 22.

Law and Order

The responsibility for maintaining law and order in Picton in the first decades of the 19th Century was given to Major Antill. He was appointed resident magistrate for Stonequarry Creek in 1825 and held the position until his death in 1852; in 1829 his powers were increased when he was appointed Superintendent of Police. By 1830 Antill controlled not only most of the productive land in the Picton area, but also the development of the town and the meting out of justice. In short, he had been handed, by virtue of the absence of any other qualified person in the vicinity, his own little kingdom and he would ensure that the Antill hold on the district would continue beyond his death.¹⁵⁵

The first court cases were held at Jarvisfield; from 1829 cases were heard in a small timber hut near the entrance gates to the property, which also served as a Protestant church on Sundays. For the most part, Antill dealt with the petty infractions of convicts – pilfering from the government stores, failing to report for assigned duty on time etc. The first recorded serious crime in the district was the murder of George Millar, a convict employed to watch bullocks at Razorback.¹⁵⁶ A fellow convict, Charles Smithwick, for reasons unknown, drove an axe handle into Millar's head on 6 August 1832, killing him.¹⁵⁷ Smithwick, a violent Irishman already serving a life sentence for murder in his home county of Tipperary, apparently took the opportunity to settle some old resentments brewing since his transportation. Smithwick, whose original sentence of execution had been commuted to transportation was hung in NSW instead of Ireland on 27 February 1832.¹⁵⁸

The Wollondilly Scrub also became a haven for bushrangers of all sorts. As noted earlier, escaped convicts in search of the fabled route to China generally made it no further than Picton and its environs. Although many died in their fruitless pursuit of freedom and others returned to Sydney '*...so squalid and lean the very crows would have declined their carcasses*',¹⁵⁹ a number survived and settled down to make a permanent nuisance of themselves. Although bushranging had been rife in Tasmania since its earliest settlement, it was not until 1825 that bushrangers began to enter the popular consciousness in NSW. Most were absconders from the convict road gangs working on the Great South Road and almost all were Irish, inclined to rhetoric and possessing a certain flashness that appealed to the Australian public.

Despite their popular appeal, the majority of bushrangers were not worthy of the Robin Hood stories that followed them. In the fastness of the Burratorang Valley, gangs were able to cover a considerable territory

¹⁵⁵ Antill, R.H., "Early Days", *Camden News*, 27 August 1896, np.

¹⁵⁶ 'Execution', *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 28 February 1832, p. 3.

¹⁵⁷ 'Law Intelligence', *The Sydney Herald*, 27 February 1832, p. 3.

¹⁵⁸ *Proceedings of The Old Bailey*, trial transcripts for Michael Smithwick, no date., and *Ibid*.

¹⁵⁹ Collins, D., op. cit, also recorded in Tench, W., op. it.

ranging from Bargo to Berrima, terrorising travellers and merchants everywhere. One example of such terrorising occurred in 1843 to a travelling couple near the Bargo River, who were held up by two bushrangers. Mr James Crispe, then owner of the Tahmoor House, a successful inn on the Great South Road, assisted local constables in confronting and apprehending the armed bushrangers. One of the future owners of the inn, Mr James Mann, would also have an encounter with bushrangers. After locking his children and wife in the nursery, Mann had to play diplomatic when his establishment was visited by bushrangers who had just murdered a teamster's wife on the banks of the nearby Myrtle Creek.¹⁶⁰

A more notorious example is that of John Lynch, alias Dunleary, who developed a taste for holding up bullock drays and eventually murder. On a crime spree that took him through the Razorback Range, down to the Illawarra, across to Berrima and back to Razorback, he murdered a total of 10 people (including an 18 year old boy, a 13 year old girl and a young Aboriginal guide). Careful always to bury the bodies in the most inaccessible of places and masquerading variously as a farmer, bullock driver and Sydney merchant, the law eventually caught up with him and he was hanged in 1842.¹⁶¹ Lynch confessed to his murders before he was hanged, with his confession replicated in the Sydney Herald.¹⁶² He is considered Australia's deadliest serial killer who acted on his own.



Figure 25: Artist Dan Russell's Impression of the murder of Mary McNamara by John Lynch at Wombat Brush, near Berrima.
 Source: Truth Newspaper (Sydney), 16 October 1949, p. 23.

¹⁶⁰ NSW Roads and Maritime Services (2018), *The Old Hume Highway: History Begins with a Road*, p. 30.

¹⁶¹ Jervis, James (1978), *A History of the Berrima District*, pp. 38-40.

¹⁶² 'News from the Interior', *The Sydney Herald*, 2 May 1842, p. 2.

Before Lynch got his bushranging career underway another escaped convict had made a name for himself and was eventually immortalised in a series of ballads including 'The Wild Colonial Boy.' John Donohoe was a short, freckle-faced, blond-haired, blue-eyed Irishman. Unremarkable in appearance with a snub nose and scar beneath above his lip, he was sentenced to life transportation in 1823 for '*intent to commit a felony*' – the catch-all charge aimed at rounding up Irish dissidents and removing them. Donohoe did not last long in the penal system before breaking free. His bushranging territory ranged from the Hunter Valley to the Illawarra and from Sydney through Liverpool and Campbelltown to the Bargo Brush and as far south as Yass. Throughout 1828, barely a week passed without 'Bold Jac' executing a hold-up somewhere. Governor Darling's attempts to capture him repeatedly failed and Donohoe appeared to live a charmed life until 1830 when the mounted troopers finally caught up with him and shot him on a hot summer afternoon amid the gumtrees at Bringelly.¹⁶³

The Bargo Brush rapidly developed a reputation for lawlessness and settlers took to travelling in convoys. A simple slab lock-up had been built on the northern bank of the Stonequarry Creek in 1825, but it soon proved inadequate and not much of a deterrent. Complaints were made to the colonial authorities in 1835 about the great number of robberies in the area but a new lock-up was not forthcoming until 1848. Mounted troops in the area were increased but bushranging continued relatively unchecked until well into the 1860s when wider settlement, and increased police presence and the ability to deal with criminals locally effectively curtailed it. The present lock-up, police station and courthouse in Picton were completed in 1865,¹⁶⁴ the region's oldest surviving police station and court house. This establishment of law and order in Picton was necessary during the aforementioned residential boom of the town caused by the construction of the railway.

The mining town of Yerranderie similarly needed the establishment of effective law and order to curtail crime occurring in the region's most remote corner. With the discovery of silver in the mines at Yerranderie around the turn of the Century, many residents attempted to 'make it rich'. This, in conjunction with the isolation of the town, led to cases of robbery and even murder occurring across the minefields. A police court was therefore established on H C Manning's private residence, before a permanent (and still surviving) structure was erected by at least 1904. Similarly, a police station operated in the Yerranderie township from at least 1904, likely earlier around 1900 as references are made in the NSW Police Gazette about Constables 'McCarthy and Love at Yerranderie.'¹⁶⁵ The police building, which also still survives to this day, was constructed by 1907, originally a secondary country residence of Manning before its

¹⁶³ Jervis, J., *A History of the Berrima District*, pp. 38-40, and also Hughes, Robert (1986), *The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia's Founding*, pp. 238-240.

¹⁶⁴ Vincent, L., *A Brief History of Picton*, self-published, p. 12.

¹⁶⁵ 'Apprehensions', *New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime*, 29 June 1904, Issue 26 p. 270.

conversion into a police station. The Yerranderie police and courthouse saw various crimes over its approximately 35 year existence, include instances of sheep stealing,¹⁶⁶ animal cruelty,¹⁶⁷ breaking and entering,¹⁶⁸ assault,¹⁶⁹ road damage¹⁷⁰ and public nuisances (eg. camping on the main roads limiting access to the town,¹⁷¹ and allowing pigs to stray into the town and cause damage¹⁷²).

Religion in the Wollondilly

Not surprisingly, Major Antill controlled most aspects of life in early Picton and his influence and generosity extended to religious and spiritual well-being. But before Antill donated land and funds for the erection of churches, services were already taking place in homesteads and outbuildings scattered throughout the district, courtesy of the Rev. Thomas Hassall.

Thomas Hassall

Hassall had arrived in the colony, via Tahiti, in 1798 along with his missionary parents and siblings. Given the best education the colony could afford, Thomas was able to secure work as a clerk in the offices of Robert Campbell and James Birnie.¹⁷³ Life in a strictly religious household with zealous missionary parents clearly influenced Hassall and, in 1813, he opened the colony's first Sunday School, operating from the drawing room of his parents' house. The school grew rapidly, with Thomas recruiting his younger sisters to help. When the enrolments reached 150 children, it was obvious that the Hassall drawing room could no longer contain them and the school was transferred to Parramatta, under the supervision of the Reverend Samuel Marsden, whom was mentioned earlier watching the wild cattle thundering across the valley.¹⁷⁴

Hassall continued to be heavily involved in the running of the Sunday school and went on to become the superintendent and secretary of the New South Wales Sunday School Institution, founded in 1815. However, Marsden was at odds with the young man's missionary fervour and suggested he leave the movement and seek ordination, which Hassall duly did. After studying at Lampeter College in Wales for 2 years, he returned to NSW bearing a letter from Mrs Macquarie recommending him for future ministry in

¹⁶⁶ 'Local and General', *The Campbelltown Herald*, 7 December 1904, p. 2.

¹⁶⁷ 'Camden Police Court', *Camden News*, 22 March 1934, p. 4

¹⁶⁸ 'Yerranderie Police Court', *Lithgow Mercury*, 18 December 1912, p. 2.

¹⁶⁹ 'Yerranderie Police Court', *Camden News*, 17 March 1910, p. 3.

¹⁷⁰ 'Municipal Council', *The Picton Post*, 10 April 1912, p. 4

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

¹⁷² Ibid, and 'Cruelty to Animals, *The Southern Mail* (Bowral), 6 April 1934, p. 4.

¹⁷³ Stewart, Jean (1999 unpublished), *The Hassall Family Papers*, pp. 58-59

¹⁷⁴ Ibid., pp. 58-59.

the colony. On the strength of this letter and his former connection with Marsden he was appointed curate at St John's, Parramatta.¹⁷⁵

In 1822 Hassall prudently married Marsden's eldest daughter, thereby cementing his relationship with one of the most powerful and influential figures in the colony. After serving for two years as Chaplain on Macquarie Island and then at Bathurst, Hassall was appointed to the newly formed parish of Cowpastures. Initially residing with his brother at Macquarie Grove whilst casting about for a suitable property, the Hassall's purchased the estate of the late Charles Hook. An 1,100 acre farm with a near complete residence near Cobbitty (reputedly the work of John Verge, who as mentioned prior built residences at Belgenny Farm and Brownlow Hill), they renamed the property Denbigh and it became the base for Hassall's ministry.¹⁷⁶

The Cowpastures parish was an extensive one taking in Goulburn, the Illawarra, Cobbitty, Berrima, Bong Bong and all the country in between. Hassall was an excellent horseman, and he was reputed never to have missed a service in his 40 years of ministry to the parish. As he rode the parish circuit, he stayed in homesteads along the way and performed marriages and christenings for the colony's most isolated citizens. His large circuit and thunderous arrival in each far-flung outpost earned him the sobriquet 'The Galloping Parson.'¹⁷⁷

Hassall was something of a loose administrator with little time for parish council meetings or church politics. He preferred to spend his time ministering to his growing flock and augmenting its numbers through evangelical preaching. He erected churches all over the parish including St Thomas' Mulgoa (1836), Narellan School Church (1839), St Mary Magdalen Church South Creek (1840) and St Paul's Cobbitty (1842).¹⁷⁸ Gradually the boundaries of the Cowpastures parish were narrowed and by 1840 it consisted of Cobbitty/Narellan, Cabramatta, Vermont, Glenderuel, Mulgoa Forest and Camden. When Hassall wasn't galloping around the district he was at Denbigh, taking an active interest in the running of the farm and was affectionately known as the 'Squire of Denbigh.' The farm itself had become a large and prosperous establishment permanently employing a blacksmith, carpenter, shoemaker, dairy man, gardener, brickmaker and schoolmaster, all living on the property in houses of rammed earth. Denbigh also supported numerous convict labourers, many of whom the Hassall's supported in their petitions for pardon.¹⁷⁹

Thomas Hassall died suddenly in 1868 after getting a 'chill' on his way to Winbourne, a neighbouring property. He was buried in the churchyard at St Paul's Cobbitty and some 600 people attended his funeral.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid., pp. 60-61.

¹⁷⁶ Ibid., pp. 61-62.

¹⁷⁷ Ibid., pp. 62-63.

¹⁷⁸ Ibid., pp. 62-63 and *Minutes of the Church Building Committee, St Thomas' School Church Narellan, 1856-1884.*

¹⁷⁹ Ibid., pp. 66-67.

The small church was filled to overflowing – a church that Hassall had been responsible for establishing. In his will he left a considerable amount of land to the Cobbitty church to ensure its continued growth.¹⁸⁰

Although Hassall was directly responsible for the growth of the Anglican church in the district, Antill continued to support all Christian denominations and in 1844 donated land in Menangle Street for the erection of a Catholic church (St Anthony's). Built by John Bollard of Upper Picton, the modest chapel was completed sometime in 1845. This simple timber building was replaced in 1880 by a more substantial structure that was itself replaced in 1901 by the present building. The 1880 building was subsequently used as a school and is still in use as a hall.¹⁸¹



Figure 26: St Anthony's Catholic Church on Menangle Street, built in 1901. Source: Wollondilly Shire Council, June 2022

¹⁸⁰ Ibid., pp. 67.

¹⁸¹ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 14.

Antill's Churches

At around the same time as the construction of the second Catholic church (1880), Mother Mary McKillop's order of St Joseph was established in Picton. The nuns were initially housed at Mrs Connellan's property in Argyle Street prior to the erection of a prefabricated building for them. In 1911 they moved into a new two- storey building constructed by the church where they stayed until 1975 when it was demolished to make way for the present convent.¹⁸²

In 1847 Antill donated land for the erection of a Protestant church (St Mark's Anglican Church) and initiated a subscription list. The foundation stone was laid in 1850 but the building progressed slowly due to lack of funds, and it was not until 1854 that sufficient funds had been raised to allow building work to continue. Edmund Blackett was commissioned to design the building and he cannily reused his design for St Thomas's Narellan (a design that would appear in many country parishes in NSW). Local stonemasons, carpenters and ironworkers were employed and the stone and cedar for its construction were also locally obtained. St Mark's Anglican Church was completed in 1856, the gallery added in 1858 and extended again in 1872 to include a small vestry and larger chancel; the transepts were added in 1885.¹⁸³



Figure 27: Photograph of St Mark's Anglican Church on Menangle Street West. Source: Wollondilly Shire Council, June 2022.

¹⁸² Anon., *The Centenary of the Sisters' of St Joseph Picton: 1880-1980*, np.

¹⁸³ Antill, R.H., 'St Mark's Picton', *The Picton Post*, 11 May 1927.

Antill made further land grants for the erection of Catholic, Presbyterian, Anglican and Methodist chapels. The Catholic grant was located on the corner of Hill and Argyle Streets but was never built on; it was leased out for grazing and eventually sold by the church at a considerable profit. The Presbyterian community declined Antill's offer for reasons never specified and eventually built their own chapel (Picton Uniting Church) in Lumsdaine Street in 1887, on land donated by a parishioner, William Coull. The Anglicans took up their grant on the corner of Cowper and Argyle Streets and St Paul's Mission Church was built there in 1886. The church was closed in 1914 and the building dismantled and moved to Bargo. Anglican worshippers relocated to St Mark's on Menangle Street West, originally a Presbyterian church but now open to all Anglicans.¹⁸⁴

Christianity in the Regions

Besides Picton, the Wollondilly region is home to numerous Christian churches that catered to the spiritual needs of the area's early settlers. The Oaks township itself possesses three churches, one Catholic church (St Aloysius) and two Anglican churches (St Luke's and St Matthew's). The St Aloysius Catholic group, which includes a church, presbytery, convent and schoolhouse, was erected by Father John Rigney, Parish priest from Camden, between 1861-1868. This was the primary Catholic church built in the 19th Century outside of Picton. Nearby at 26 Merlin Street is St Luke' Anglican Church, whose foundation stone bears the date of 1890. The St Matthew's Anglican Church is the oldest in the region, with the slab church a surviving relic from 1836.



Figure 28: Photograph of St Aloysius Church (foreground) and presbytery (background), taken c.1992. Source: Wollondilly Shire Council

¹⁸⁴ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 15.

The most prominent rural churches across the Wollondilly were those that belonged to the Anglican Church of Australia, followed by Presbyterian and Methodist churches, which now come under the umbrella of the Uniting Church. These churches were predominantly traditional timber weatherboard clad buildings that are modest in shape and form, though there are exceptions, like St Luke's Anglican Church in Wilton (brick building) and the St Mary's Towers (converted a sandstone manor house to a religious retreat complex from 1904). Anglican churches include those at Mount Hunter (built c.1900), Silverdale (c. 1915), Werombi (1896), Theresa Park (c. 1890), Cawdor (1880) and the aforementioned brick church at Wilton (1902). Meanwhile, Glenmore (built 1860), Mount Hunter (1910), Cawdor (1902) and Oakdale (c.1900) have examples of surviving older Uniting Church buildings. Even the isolated mining village of Yerranderie possesses a surviving Roman Catholic Church, which was built in 1908 around the same time as the town's other Anglican church, though this has not survived.



Figure 29: Photograph of the Yerranderie Roman Catholic Church (also known as St Senan's Catholic Church) in December 1910. The first service held at the church was on 18 December 1910, conducted by Reverend Father Considine, thus this could be the date of this photograph. Source: Lithgow Mercury.

Pubs, Mineral Springs and Farmstays –Recreation and Leisure in the Wollondilly

The First Hotel

The first known inn in the Wollondilly area was that of Klensendorff's Inn (local heritage item 'Tahmoor House') at Myrtle Creek (today known as Tahmoor), built as a family residence by an ex-convict, Edward Doyle. Upon his emancipation, Doyle had received a 50-acre Crown grant in August 1822,¹⁸⁵ building a simple Georgian homestead for his wife and four children. The property proved to be ideally situated for operation as wayside inn and Doyle appears to have operated, unlicensed, for at least two years.¹⁸⁶

In 1824 Doyle sold the property to William Klensendorff, a German who had served in the British Navy and arrived in the Colony in 1818. By April 1825, Klensendorff was operating as licensed innkeeper although he was known to have been trading at least a year earlier as the explorers, Hume and Hovell, stopped for one night at the Inn in 1824 on their way south. Klensendorff had a somewhat elastic interpretation of the licensing laws and was brought before the Magistrates at least once for serving liquor to convicts.¹⁸⁷

By 1830 Klensendorff had tired of playing innkeeper, although he clearly enjoyed the profits to be derived from it, and sold the license (but not the property) to Ralph Hush, who renamed it the Traveller's Inn. On Hush's departure in 1835, James Crispe took over as licensee, purchasing the property and adjoining land from Klensendorff in 1836.¹⁸⁸

Crispe was known for his '*...courtly bow and polite but somewhat grandiose style of welcome...*' and also for his bravery when encountering bushrangers. As mentioned before, Crispe on one occasion in 1843 was involved in the arrest of bushrangers in the Bargo Brush area, confronting and disarming the men before the constables arrested them.¹⁸⁹ From 1840 to 1870, the inn changed hands numerous times and the various licensees invariably declared bankruptcy. The building of the Great Southern Railway line took trade away from Tahmoor and the inn was no longer a viable proposition. Finally, it reverted to its original use, as a private residence and was eventually renamed Tahmoor House, today also operating as a bed and breakfast after being renovated by Selling Houses Australia in 2018.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁵ NSW LRS HLLRV, Serial - Page No 14-114

¹⁸⁶ Heritage NSW, State Heritage Inventory, 'Brownlow Hill Estate', Heritage Item ID 2690128.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸ Ibid.

¹⁸⁹ Heritage NSW: State Heritage Inventory, 'Tahmoor House', Heritage Item ID 2690128.

¹⁹⁰ Tullis, Ashleigh, 'Historic Tahmoor home, renovated by Selling Houses Australia, snapped up', *The Illawarra Mercury*, 14 May 2018.

The Hotels of Picton

The first official inn license in Picton is believed to have been granted in 1837 to Lawrence Ryan for the Sun Inn, at Upper Picton. However, the presence of a settled community and the number of travellers passing through district on their way south tends to support the existence of sly grog shops and unlicensed inns well before this.¹⁹¹

The most famous of Picton's inns, the George IV, was built by George Harper in 1839 on Argyle Street. Originally named the Stonequarry Inn, its first tenant and publican was Thomas Dunsdon, and it was Dunsdon who renamed it George's Inn after George Harper. Known locally as simply 'the George' it quickly became the most popular watering hole for miles around. It was not renamed the George IV Inn until the building was purchased in 1968.¹⁹² Interestingly, in 1844, the licensee was one James Crispe, recently declared bankrupt and formerly of the Traveller's Inn, Tahmoor.



Figure 30: Watercolour painting of the George IV Inn at Picton, 1932, by M. J. MacNally. Source: NSWSA, MacNally, Matthew James (1874-1943), 1932 SV1B/Pict/1, File Number FL3151608.

In an era when inns were often ramshackle structures hardly bigger than a common outhouse, the George was atypically large. Catering for travellers on the Great Southern Road as well as locals, it originally had

¹⁹¹ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 16.

¹⁹² Ibid., p. 16 and *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 March 1839 and 21 February 1840.

21 rooms, a 20-stall stone stable, coach house, sheds, laundry and accommodation for staff. Located on 75 acres of securely fenced paddocks and yards, the George was able to supply many of its own fruit and vegetables and catered well to the needs of its clientele.¹⁹³ Its commodious accommodation, refreshing ales and ability to cater to ‘officers and gentlemen’ clearly made up for its difficult location adjacent to the Creek – the road from the Creek was so steep that coaches had to be hauled up it with ropes and pulleys.

In 1842, the Commercial Hotel was established in close proximity to the George; it’s location and indeed its very existence prompted a letter of complaint from Dunsdon to the Colonial Secretary. With a keen eye for his own business interests, Dunsdon watched balefully from the George as other inns began to appear in Upper Picton – just far enough away to make a formal complaint useless, and just close enough to impact on his business. Inns of this period included The Rose and Crown (at Redbank Creek), an unnamed Inn on the corner of Bridge and Argyle Streets, The Farriers Arms (later known as Milton Villa and later replaced by a BP garage) and The Joiners Arms (on the northern bank of Redbank Creek). The Farriers Arms was also used as a Cobb & Co. stop to the great annoyance of Dunsdon, who would have sorely loved the Cobb & Co. business for himself.¹⁹⁴

Inns and Hotels across the Wollondilly

Inns further afield appeared at Razorback, including the prosaically named The Razorback Inn, erected on land from the Antills in c.1850s.¹⁹⁵ The license was held by Mr. Oliver Whiting and Mrs. Whiting, who would later move from Razorback to Menangle Street in 1863 to open the Great Southern Hotel. This move was facilitated by the construction of the railway line and station at Picton, which considerably increased traffic to the area. This hotel started life as a small wooden hut and was transformed in c.1885 into the imposing edifice we know today. Mr Whiting would pass away in 1882, and Mrs Whiting died in 1889, which leads to believe that the construction of the double storey hotel was facilitated by the presence of new owners. The hotel eventually closed by at least 1923,¹⁹⁶ with the building converted to a block of flats that are still occupied today.¹⁹⁷ The Razorback Inn, otherwise known as the Brookside Inn, continues to operate to this day

With the abundance of inns and hotels across almost every town within the shire, the quest to stand out led to historic hotels being built and designed with aesthetics in mind. A great example of this is the aforementioned Imperial Hotel, a two-storey hotel which possesses Victorian Filigree and Picturesque Gothic architectural features. Also blending multiple architectural styles is that of the Hotel Bargo, built in

¹⁹³ Ibid., p. 16.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid., pp. 16-17.

¹⁹⁵ ‘Early Days of Picton’, *The Picton Post*, 13 June 1923, p. 2.

¹⁹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁹⁷ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 17.

1925 and demonstrating Inter War Georgian Revival, Italianate and Filigree features. At Cawdor, the Camden Valley Inn is just as aesthetically unique despite only demonstrating one architectural style. Built in 1939 as a milk bar for the Cawdor Creamery (later becoming a hotel by the mid-1960s), the building is a picturesque two-storey Inter War Old English structure.

By the early 20th century, even the isolated Burragorang Valley could boast two hotels – the Wollondilly Hotel (at the Wollondilly Bridge) and the Silver Mines Hotel at Yerranderie. Both were popular watering holes for locals and visitors alike. Guesthouses were established in the valley in the early 1920s and reached a peak in the 1930s when bushwalking achieved widespread popularity. Tourist guides and maps of the area refer to a number of guest and boarding houses including The Commodore's Ranch (on the banks of the Cox's River), several along on the banks of the Wollondilly, Mountain View, Burragorang House, Hillside Guest House and Yarrington Villa (Central and Lower Burragorang). All were strategically sited to take advantage of magnificent views and most offered a range of entertainments such as tennis, golfing, horse riding, boating, swimming, fishing and dancing. Hearty homecooked meals were also a feature and the Burragorang Valley remained a popular holiday destination until well into the 1940s. By the 1950s the area had been eclipsed by more exotic locations and its popularity steadily waned. A number of guesthouses struggled on until the mid-1950s, after which with the construction of the Warragamba Dam isolating access to the valley, they quietly closed their doors with the valley returned to its former somnolent state.¹⁹⁸

Tourism and Celebration

Besides the multiple inns across the shire, there were numerous leisure spots and community facilities that provided residents with leisure activities and social interaction. Tourism itself was identified as a critical industry for the region to aid in its development, with Picton the critical attraction. A poem produced by a Picton native (signed "M") was replicated in The Southern Mail (Bowral) in 1938, highlighting Picton's tourist industry and the need to attract more tourists from Sydney to see the town flourish. Extracts from this poem reads:

"... For the city folk grow tired of the theatre and the races,

They'd be glad to stop in Picton if they knew our pleasant places...

"... We've a really lovely golf links, but THEY don't know it is there,

So their cars pass through and do not stop, but no one seems to care

¹⁹⁸ Den Hertog, op. cit., p. 17 and Blue Mountains Tourist Map, 1932

There's a park around the corner, that they would think just great!

But they can't go through to picnic 'cause someone's locked the gate!

And when they're tired and dusty, and longing to be cool

Does anyone inform them "Picton's got a swimming pool?"

So they speed along the highway, that wanders up and down;

And pass through sleepy Picton, and do not stay in town.

Now it's up to us to stop them, and encourage them to stay

For we've lots of things to offer them and they've the cash to pay

And the future growth of Picton, if we mean to make the grade,

Lies in the passing traffic – we must get the tourist trade!"¹⁹⁹

The Picton Mineral Springs and Guesthouse, located along Stonequarry Creek just south of Picton, was one such popular attraction during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries for its healing mineral water. Its growing popularity and the aforementioned need to capitalise on tourism led to the establishment of the nearby Guesthouse off Matthews Lane (then named Mineral Springs Road) in the mid-1940s. Further along Stonequarry Creek within the Lower Picton area, a popular swimming pool was constructed in the summer of 1935, which provided residents and guests with a popular outdoor activity during the summer months.²⁰⁰ This would not operate for long however as waterflow from the creek struggled to reach the pool despite multiple modifications, with the local Council closing the popular tourist spot in 1940 to prevent infections.²⁰¹ Besides the tourists' destinations, the 20th Century also saw the construction of multiple community facilities, like the Soldiers Memorial School of Arts building at Picton, the Silverdale Progress Hall, the Buxton School of Arts and Mount Hunter School of Arts. These would host local balls, dances, games and trivia nights, functions and fundraisers, whether for local organisations and branches of the Red Cross, building funds that help financed the construction of community buildings, or specific causes for people in the village. The Silverdale Progress Hall, for example, hosted a fundraising night for the Croke parents after their three children passed away when their house in Silverdale burnt to the ground.²⁰² Even distinctive

¹⁹⁹ 'Picton', *The Southern Mail (Bowral)*, 21 October 1938, p. 2.

²⁰⁰ 'Many Visitors and Tourists Attracted', *The Picton Post*, 12 February 1936, p. 2.

²⁰¹ 'Swimming Pool "Closed"', *The Picton Post*, 13 March 1940, p. 2.

²⁰² 'Benefit Dance at Silverdale', *Nepean Times*, 28 July 1938, p. 4.

residences in some towns would host these community events, like ‘Dalkeith’ at Picton²⁰³ and ‘Yeovil’ at Tahmoor.²⁰⁴ These were generally the homes of well-off, prominent community figures who were influential in local social, political and communal organisations. In addition to these sites constructed for leisure and fun, a number of existing heritage sites, particularly rural sites across the Wollondilly, have been converted recently into accommodation and experience locations that attract tourism to the region. Sites like Mowbray Park, Glenmore House and The Hermitage were purchased in the latter half of the 20th Century, sympathetically restored and repaired from their previously poor state, and advertised as farmstays, providing tourists and commercial sponsors alike with a snapshot of rural living in the Wollondilly.²⁰⁵ Some smaller sites, like the Federation Queen Anne style ‘Kedron’ homestead at Wilton, Tahmoor House at Tahmoor and the ‘Pepperfield’ Dairy Cottage at Mount Hunter have been adaptively reused to operate as bed and breakfasts or Airbnb’s.²⁰⁶

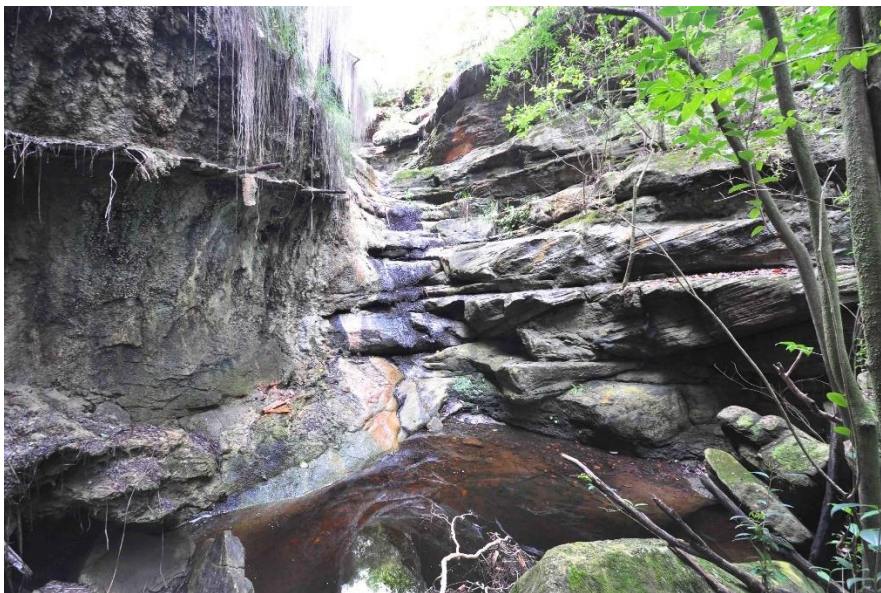


Figure 31: Photograph of the Picton Mineral Springs, taken by Peter Kabaila in 2014. These Mineral Springs, though difficult to access, were popular amongst residents and tourists alike. Source: Wollondilly Shire Council.

²⁰³ ‘Social Evening’, *The Picton Post*, 1 April 1943, p. 2.

²⁰⁴ ‘Country Women’s Association’, *The Picton Post*, 16 November 1932, p. 3.

²⁰⁵ See, for example, Robertson, Mickey (2016), *The House and Garden at Glenmore: Landscape. Seasons. Memory. Home*, Sydney: Murdoch Books.

²⁰⁶ See ‘ABN 99 679 395 378’, Australian Business Register, available from:

<https://abr.business.gov.au/ABN/View/99679395378>, and ‘Garden Retreat in Picturesque Mount Hunter’, Airbnb, available from:

https://www.airbnb.com.au/rooms/31601335?adults=1&children=0&infants=0&location=Wollondilly%2C%20NSW%2C%20Australia&pets=0&check_in=2022-12-05&check_out=2022-12-10&federated_search_id=0f3dfe73-25ce-420a-a495-11af92072ae0&source_impression_id=p3_1668642629_TFCJasH5%2B1y1yBUI

Education

*'Schools were not so much in evidence as now (1901) and the mastering of the three Rs was made much subservient to the felling of trees and the clearing of the scrub.'*²⁰⁷

For much of the first century after European colonisation, countless children were not fortunate enough to receive even an elementary education. Without the force of government legislation, most children were taught life skills in the home and paddock working alongside parents clearing scrub, farming and in businesses with barely a nod to literacy and numeracy. Even later when schools were available, periods of busy farm work resulted in a dramatic decline in attendance, conversely during slow times the schools were packed to the rafters. Mount Hunter Public School, formerly Westbrook Public School, experienced this particularly in the late 19th Century, where attendance rates declined due to children being prevented from attending as they had to help their families with harvests. 'Enrolment drives' were conducted by the local teacher Mr. William Rollo, who visited these families directly to persuade parents to send their children to school.²⁰⁸ The children of wealthy settlers were often educated at home using private tutors and governesses, while others were lucky enough to be taught reading and writing skills by their parents at home or attended church schools, like that the former schoolhouse built next to the Glenmore Uniting Church in the mid-1860s.

When the first European settlers and their children came to the Wollondilly area there were no educational institutions, so the new immigrants set about making a life for themselves, part of which was the development of community facilities like schools for the education of their offspring. By the mid-19th Century, public and denominational schools existed in many areas of the colony including Upper and Lower Picton, which made education more accessible to the local settlers. In 1866, the Council of Education was formed to administer public schools in NSW, taking over from the Board of National Education; a similar body, the Denominational Schools Board looked after church schools. However, the introduction of the *Public Instruction Act* 1880 had the most profound effect on education in NSW, establishing compulsory instruction and withdrawing government funding from private and denominational schools.

The first formal school in the district appears to have been a Catholic school in Picton, conducted by Margaret Connellan from around 1852; the school was later taken over by the Sisters of St Joseph and operated from a number of different sites in the town.²⁰⁹ Shortly after Mrs Connellan opened her school,

²⁰⁷ Fraser, J., quoted in Bayley, W.A. (1959), *Green Meadows: Centenary History of Shellharbour Municipality NSW*, p. 28.

²⁰⁸ 'Mount Hunter Public School', NSW Department of Education, available from: <https://mthunter-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/history-of-mount-hunter-school.html>

²⁰⁹ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 20.

the Church of England established a small school on a site next to St Anthony's Church on Menangle Street; the building was known locally as the "Pisa House", presumably because of its extreme narrowness and rather precarious construction.²¹⁰

The history of each small local school is mirrored many times over in Picton. The first government school, the Upper Picton National School, was opened in 1856. Located on land off the unmade section of Rumker Street and close to the railway line, it was hardly the most salubrious location. The first teacher was John Joseph Haynes, whose two sons John and Richard were educated at the school and went on to become, respectively, a journalist and a barrister. John went on to found the Bulletin newspaper with J.F. Archibald and later became a Member of Parliament. The school was closed in 1875 and the building briefly became a boarding house before its purchase by Albert Dowse, who converted it to a cordial factory.²¹¹

The Lower Picton School opened in temporary premises in February 1868 and operated there for one year until the permanent school with attached residence was completed. The school was located on the site of the present Shire Hall, which was actually constructed around the school and still contains a portion of it. From 1875 onwards the school was known as Picton Public School. It moved to its present site, half way between Upper and Lower Picton on Lumsdaine Street in 1910 and became a Central School in 1942 meaning that a secondary education was now available for local children. In 1958, Picton High School opened at the southern-most end of the town, meaning the Central School converted into Picton Primary School.²¹²

The first building at Appin Public School was erected in 1867 and it served both as a schoolroom and teacher's residence. It was the first school in NSW to be built after the passing of the *Public School's Act* of 1866. The foundation stone was laid by Miss Larkin, the daughter of Edward Larkin of Windmill Hill, and it was opened by Inspector Clemens, who was presented with a gold key by the parents and citizens of Appin.²¹³

Schools around Picton were constructed of varied materials, some of weatherboard, some brick (like that at The Oaks) and others of stone. The local builders and committees did their best to provide reasonable buildings, but by today's standards most would be considered intolerable. All were simple structures frequently following model designs for educational buildings of the time, (especially public schools); most had a residence attached for teacher and family. Regardless of the fabric, each type brought different trials

²¹⁰ 'Early Days of Picton', *The Picton Post*, 30 May 1923, p. 2.

²¹¹ Vincent, L., op. cit., p. 20

²¹² Ibid, pp. 20-21.

²¹³ Sansom, Ian, *Heritage Impact Statement of a proposed new administration building and library on the existing heritage building at Appin Public School*, 2006, p. 4.

to the pupils forced to endure the extremes of weather within its walls. Students shivered in winter when the gusts of wind blew through the cracks in the weatherboard walls; the stone buildings refrigerated the local youth. Summer was easier to bear in stone and brick classrooms, but the weatherboard barely gave any protection against the soaring temperatures.²¹⁴ If it was not the weather that damaged the early schools, it was the insects and animals that caused significant damage, like the public schools at Theresa Park and the school residence at Mount Hunter. Without fail, every school was always inadequate for the needs of the teacher and student – there was never enough space, nor material to go around. Throughout the late 19th Century and early 20th Century, school buildings were constantly being renovated and upgraded to address their inadequacies.

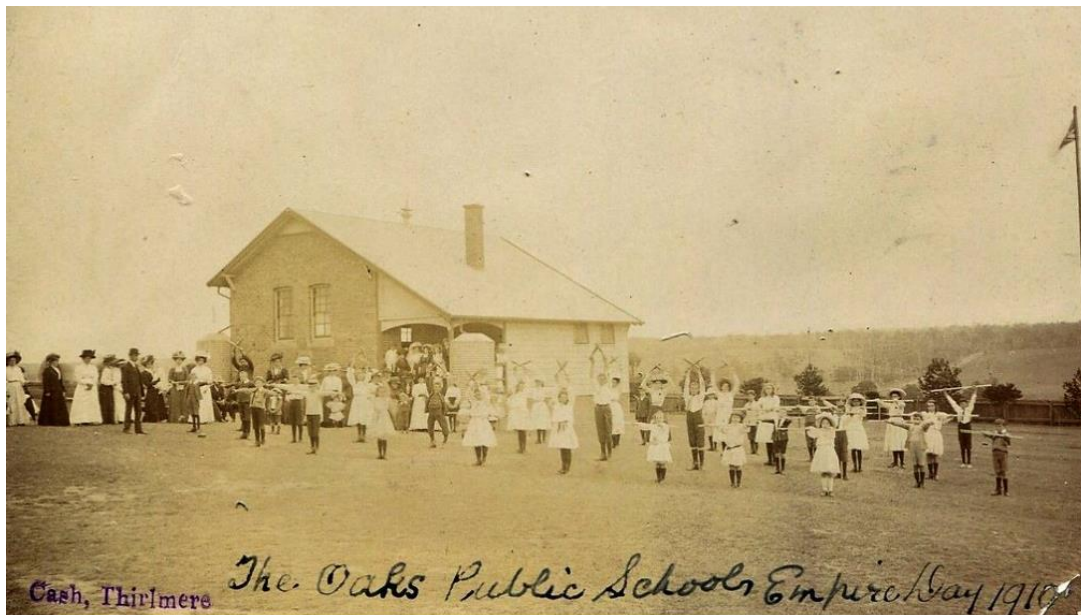


Figure 32: Photograph of The Oaks Public School brick building, as well as children, parents and staff. The photograph was taken when the community were celebrating Empire Day in 1910. Source: Flickr – Aussie Mobs, available from: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/70994841@N07/33379396351>.

Education in the Burragorang Valley

Not surprisingly, education in the isolated Burragorang took a little longer to establish than elsewhere in the district. Initially, four halftime schools were established in 1870: Bimlow linked with Malumbi; Beloon linked with Toonulli; Hayes and Jones (previously a teaching station) and St Joseph's (linked with Cox's River). These four schools provided education facilities for around 140 children, of whom about 30 regularly

²¹⁴ Bayley, W.A., 1959, p. 69.

attended. In time, the Valley's education facilities were expanded to 8 half-time schools, 6 provisional schools and 5 public schools.²¹⁵

Originally known as 'Coleman's Creek School,' Upper Burragorang Public School was established as provisional school in late 1904, with 24 children attending. An application for the school had been made a year earlier but heated debate over the location of the school delayed construction. As not all families lived on the same side of the Wollondilly River, access could be very problematic, but eventually a site on east bank was agreed upon.

Local residents were the driving force behind getting the school built, which was no mean feat given that there was no road to the school – only a rough bush track – and construction materials had to be carried 30 miles through rugged country. Yerranderie teamsters were only able to transport materials to a point 4km from the construction site; from that point onwards the material was carted by Norman J. Maxwell who was largely responsible for establishing the school. Maxwell himself built the school building – a 20 x 12 ft weatherboard structure with an iron roof – for which the Department of Education paid him the princely sum of £25.²¹⁶

Maxwell was never fully reimbursed for the cost of the school's construction and became somewhat embittered. The Department had no title to the building and only leased the site from Maxwell. After the school's closure in 1918 Maxwell offered to buy the building outright, with a view to maintaining it permanently as a school. The Branch of the Agricultural Bureau of NSW requested to the Minister for Education to have the school reopened in 1923,²¹⁷ but only a partially subsidised school would operate throughout the 1930s. Requests were made by locals to have the school become a public school again, with a census of school-aged children conducted and sent to the Director of Education in 1933.²¹⁸ Though it never became a public school, the building was still standing and in good repair when this portion of the valley of flooded in the 1950s by the Sydney Water Board.²¹⁹

Upper Burragorang, Bimlow and Nattai River schools followed similar patterns of opening and closure. All were lost in the flooding of the valley in the 1950s by the Water Board.²²⁰

²¹⁵ Freeman, Ashely Thomas (2009), "Every locality, however remote, and every family, however humble": the formation of the Half-time schools of New South Wales 1866-1869', Charles Sturt University.

²¹⁶ Den Hertog, op. cit., p. 28.

²¹⁷ 'Burragorang News', *Camden News*, 6 September 1923, p. 8.

²¹⁸ 'Burragorang News', *Camden News*, 31 August 1933, p. 2.

²¹⁹ Den Hertog, op. cit., p. 28.

²²⁰ Ibid., pp. 33-35.

Yerranderie Public School

Of the handful of schools established in the Burraborang Valley in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, only the Yerranderie School survived the flooding of the valley. Today, only its foundations remain but it is a potent reminder of the grim determination of parents to provide their children, however isolated, with the accoutrements of civilisation.

A half-time school linked with Silverstone was established at Yerranderie in February 1900. Classes were held in a small bark hut erected by locals on the western corner of Harold Clyde Manning's conditional lease. Following the closure of the Silverstone School in December 1905, Yerranderie School was converted first to a provisional school and then to a public school by October 1906. As the rapidly expanding mining field attracted increasing numbers of miners and their families, the hut built to accommodate 12 pupils became totally inadequate. It took several petitions to the Department to get the school extended and to obtain a new teacher (the previous one having been transferred without replacement).

The Department initially proposed to move the small Piedmont schoolhouse to Yerranderie, but parents insisted that a new building was needed '*sufficiently capacious to accommodate 80 children*.'²²¹ Eventually the Department conceded defeat and transferred the disused Werriberri schoolhouse and contents from The Oaks to the Yerranderie school site, close to the old bark hut which was left standing as shelter.

By 1908, over 100 children were enrolled, and the schoolhouse was so overcrowded that the verandah was enclosed to provide an extra classroom. The Department ignored repeated requests for extensions to the building although it did deliver a quantity of weatherboards apropos of some future, unspecified building works. Nothing happened for another three years as the authorities remained unconvinced (rightly as it turned out) of the permanency of the both the mining field and the settlement around it. However, they did consent to the opening of an evening school in 1909 for male students aged 16-33 years.²²²

By June 1911 there were 150 school-age children in the town with another 169 under school age. A further petition to the Department and to the Government Medical Officer stressing the need for improved facilities resulted in an instruction from the Department to admit no further pupils until extensions had been completed; this was accomplished in 1912. Despite the extension, sanitation remained a problem. During the 1919 influenza epidemic, the school was used as a temporary hospital and refuse from the patients was deposited in the school cesspits that were left open. A string of petitions from concerned parents

²²¹ Jon Viggart Bartlett to Department of Public Instruction, 11 April 1906.

²²² Ibid., pp. 33-35.

resulted in the old pits being filled and new ones sunk, but not before disease and infection had a chance to wreak havoc.²²³

Although mining at Yerranderie went into a steep decline after 1925, the population remained sufficiently high to keep the school open; it continued to operate until 1950.

Wollondilly and Wartime

Australia's involvement in both World War One (WWI) and World War Two (WWII) saw numerous impacts to life in the Wollondilly. The most obvious impact is that of the people of the area who served overseas during the wars as part of Australia's military forces. Enrolment in the region was notable amongst men of serving age for a number of reasons. Chiefly, these were the need for good and regular pay, and seeking adventure overseas.²²⁴ Many of the residents of the Wollondilly had only ever lived in their local area, whether that be towns like Picton or even more isolated regions like communities in the Burragorang Valley. The sense of adventure provided by serving overseas in Europe, particularly whilst representing the proud and prestigious British Empire, allured men to put down their work tools and pick up the rifles.

An example of a local resident who served in WWII is that of Gordon Charles Totterdell,²²⁵ who resided at the heritage-listed 'Yeovil' residence with his family, which included his father Duncan Charles Totterdell, and mother Emily Grimston Totterdell. In June 1941, Gordon's family and the Tahmoor community were notified that Gordon was missing, unsure even which theatre of war he was last located in.²²⁶ It would be later revealed that he was captured in June 1941 as a Prisoner of War in Italy, which he would remain in for the rest of the war, eventually returning home to Tahmoor with a hero's welcome in August 1945.²²⁷ Unfortunately during the war, both his father and mother passed away in 1943²²⁸ and early 1945²²⁹ respectively, never knowing whether their captured son would return home safe. The enlistment, medical and service records of other brave individuals in the Wollondilly that served during the wars can be found on the *National Archives of Australia* Records Search.

Besides the service of local residents overseas, the Wollondilly also contributed to the war militarily. The present Airfield at The Oaks was constructed in 1942 as a satellite field and dispersal strip for Camden

²²³ Ibid., p. 36.

²²⁴ Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) (2021), 'Enlisting in the Australian forced during World War 1', DVA ANZAC Portal, available from: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/ww1/military-organisation/enlistment>

²²⁵ 'Totterdell Gordon Charles', *National Archives of Australia*, Service Number NX23348, Item ID 4658206.

²²⁶ 'Local Soldiers Missing', *The Picton Post*, 18 June 1941, p. 2.

²²⁷ 'Welcome Home to Pte. G. Totterdell', *The Picton Post*, 23 August 1945, p. 1.

²²⁸ 'Obituary', *The Picton Post*, 5 August 1943, p. 3.

²²⁹ 'Death of Mrs. Totterdell', *The Picton Post*, 15 February 1945, p. 2.

Airport.²³⁰ The site functioned as an emergency landing base for pilots should they need to make it, as well as a site to hide aircraft should the main Camden airbase have come under fire. The most active involvement this airfield saw was that on 30 September 1943, where 20-year-old Sergeant Stanley William Smethurst crashed his Kittyhawk A29-455 aircraft at The Oaks Airfield whilst participating in an army cooperation training exercise, dying at the scene. The exercise was a practice strafing run on gun positions, which had been erected on the airstrip and arranged in conjunction with the 54th Australian Anti-Aircraft regiment. Sergeant Smethurst, from Pakenham East, Victoria, was buried at the Camden War Cemetery.²³¹

Another site within the Wollondilly that aided with the war effort was that of the Mushroom Tunnel, located on the prior loop line deviation at Picton. Unused following the construction of the deviation in mid 1910s, the Mushroom Tunnel, also known as the Redbank Tunnel, would house ammunition and other military supplies during WWII. This was due to its hidden position away from the view of any enemy Japanese spy planes should they have surveyed the area around the Camden airbase.

It was not just those on the frontlines participating in Australia's war efforts, with the home front active during WWI and WWII. One such active participant in the region was that of the Red Cross, with established branches at Picton, The Oaks, Menangle and Camden. The Picton branch of the Red Cross held monthly meetings during WWII at the Soldiers Memorial School of Arts to raise funds and comforts (socks, clothes, scissors, handkerchiefs etc.)²³² that were sent to the Red Cross headquarters and distributed onwards to those fighting in Europe, North Africa and Asia. Dances and games were held by local branches in community halls to also raise funds for the Red Cross. These were widely attended as they offered the chance for the local community to have a social occasion during the wars whilst also being seen as helping the war effort. It was not just the communities contributing money and comforts to the war, with local farming estates also contributing valuable resources. For example, under the request by the C.S.I.R.O, Mowbray Park produced opium poppies during WWII, the first in the country to produce any great quantity. These were grown on 5 acres of land within the estate and greatly helped with the supply of morphine to Australian troops overseas.²³³ It is without doubt that the local Wollondilly community answered the call to help the Australian war effort, whether via service or contribution.

²³⁰ 'RAAF, The Oaks NSW – Aerodrome Works', *National Archives of Australia*, A705, 7/1/1370, Item ID 163087.

²³¹ 'Smethurst, Stanley William', *National Archives of Australia*, A705, 166/38/294, Item ID 1078657.

²³² For example, 'Red Cross Society', *Barrier Miner*, 14 February 1917, p. 1, and 'Picton Red Cross', *The Picton Post*, 16 July 1941, p. 2.

²³³ Heritage NSW, State Heritage Inventory, 'Mowbray Park Group – gateway, buildings, weir, trees, grounds', Heritage Item ID 2690288.

Post-War Reflection

Following the ends of WWI and WWII, as numerous local residents failed to return home from their service, the Wollondilly community were in mourning. Initial celebrations of Germany signing the armistice on 11 November 1918 were reported in the *Camden News*,²³⁴ though this would make way for reflection. Various communities established various memorials and shrines to immortalise those lost in the war. For example, the Mount Hunter community constructed a remembrance shrine near the Mount Hunter Public School on 19 July 1919 to commemorate the 40 men from the village who died during the war.²³⁵ This 19th of July was a Peace Day for the district, where the community came together to celebrate the freedoms they possess due to the sacrifice of their fathers, brothers and sons.

Another example of a memorial shrine is that which was built at Brownlow Hill on 19 November 1921. This was erected on a portion of the Brownlow Hill estate, just past the nearby church, with Mrs. Downes of Brownlow Hill unveiling it. Like the unveiling at Mount Hunter, this was well attended, with a picnic hosted in the day followed by a concert in the evening.²³⁶

Similarly, the township of Picton remembered those lost during WWI with the erection of the Soldiers Memorial School of Arts building in April 1926. The proposal to erect some monument had been proposed four years prior in 1922, where a crowd of more than 100 people at the council meeting voted unanimously in favour of the monument.²³⁷ A large timber roll for WWII servicemen and servicewomen from the region was established in 1953.



Figure 33: Photograph of the unveiling of the Mount Hunter Memorial, built outside Mount Hunter Public School, on Peace Day – 19 July 1919. Source: Roy Dowle, Roy Dowle Glass Place and Film Collection.

²³⁴ 'Germany has Signed the Armistice', *Camden News*, 14 November 1918, p. 1.

²³⁵ 'Mount Hunter Public School', NSW Department of Education, available from: <https://mthunter-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/history-of-mount-hunter-school.html>

²³⁶ 'Brownlow Hill', *Camden News*, 1 December 1921, p. 7.

²³⁷ 'Picton Soldiers' Memorial', *The Picton Post*, 17 May 1922, p.2.

Services and Utilities

Local Government

Picton was proclaimed a municipality in April 1895, long after the initial settlement of the area and the economic boom of the 1860's. Although attempts had been made through various community organizations and private enterprise to lay out and pave the major streets and provide basic services to town dwellers, it took the formation of a local council to make all the necessary improvements that we now take for granted.

The first council elections were held in May 1895 and John Wright McQuiggin was elected mayor; the first meetings were held in the School of Arts Building (not the present building that was constructed in 1926 on Menangle Street). By 1915, the Picton School on the opposite side of the road had been altered to function as a Shire Hall, and the Council moved its meetings there. At around the same time, another Council was proclaimed at The Oaks and it was inevitable that the two would overlap. In 1939 a poll was taken on the subject of amalgamation and the vote was 97% for and 3% against. The amalgamation of Picton Municipal Council and Wollondilly Shire Council was announced on 17th April 1940 and became effective on 1st May that year. The administrative offices were moved from The Oaks to the more centrally located Picton Town Hall, newly renamed the Wollondilly Shire Hall.

Utilities

Picton received its first reticulated water supply in 1899, built by the Department of Public Works but administered by the Council.²³⁸ Water was pumped from the newly constructed Bargo Weir into the Picton Reservoir, which sat upon Reservoir Hill off Argyle Street, meaning that for the first time, Picton residents could turn a tap and see the water gushing out. The local Council owned the Picton Reservoir for some time, generating revenue from it when the Rail Department would borrow water to cool down their trains. The water system was handed to the Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board in 1954 and Council ceased to be responsible for the water supply from that time onwards.

In 1913, Picton residents were able to talk to each other and the outside world with the arrival of the telephone. The first subscribers to the Picton exchange were the Commercial Banking Co., The Club Hotel, H. Hinton, W. Larking, Dr Parry, Pickard Stores and F.G. Waley. Others soon followed, despite scepticism from some like the Railway Station.²³⁹ Between the telephone and the railway, Picton would become connected with the wider world.

²³⁸ 'Picton Water Supply Scheme', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 October 1897, p. 5.

²³⁹ 'Picton Railway Station Telephone', *The Picton Post*, 17 September 1913, p. 6.

In 1922, Mrs Gilmore, the wife of Picton's then Mayor, pulled the switch and turned on the first electric streetlights. The electric plant and 60 lights in the town cost £6,085 and the Picton Post described in loving detail the operation of the plant.²⁴⁰

The Nepean River County Council (NRCC) was responsible for electricity supply for the region from 1954 to 1979. The NRCC was eventually amalgamated into Prospect County Council (becoming Integral Energy in 1995). Their building is now used as a Library.²⁴¹

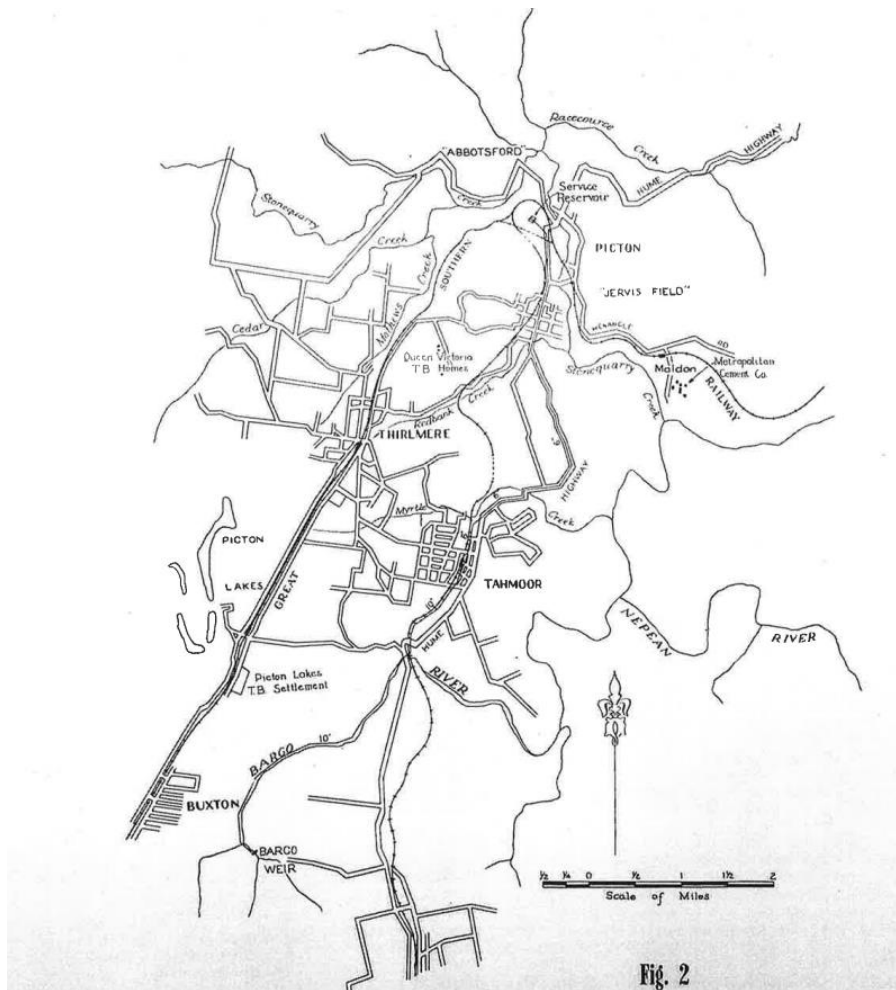


Figure 34: Plan of the trunk main, from Picton Weir at Bargo to the Picton Service Reservoir, 1952. Source: C. B. Haigh, Sydney Water Board Journal.

²⁴⁰ *The Picton Post*, 4 October 1922.

²⁴¹ Vincent, L., op. cit., pp. 22-23.



Figure 35: Nepean River County Council office, Picton, in 1956 (Source: <https://camdenhistorynotes.com/tag/nepean-river-county-council/>)

Postal Services

Postal services between Brownlow Hill, Camden, Picton, Appin, East Bargo (Wilton) and Burragorang were available as early as 1832. Different individuals would take on the task of establishing a post office, whether that be a local store, the lock-up in Picton or private residences.. A post office at The Oaks was established in 1858 and Douglas Park followed in 1860. At Brownlow Hill, the Wasson residence at 615 Werombi Road would serve as the area's post office for almost 40 years between 1870-1910 as Mrs Wasson and her son Joseph Wasson served as postmistress and postmaster respectively.²⁴² The Wilton Post Office, established in 1872 had the distinction of the longest serving postmaster in the district – David White – who served from 1891 to 1939. A dedicated post office building was erected at Picton in 1892.²⁴³

A mail service between Campbelltown and Wollongong was established in 1832 and by 1835, Appin had joined the circuit. Despite Picton's position as the pre-eminent town in the district, Appin surged ahead in the area of communications. A money order office opened in 1868, a telegraph office in 1880 and the installation of the first telephone (in the post office) in 1888. A public phone was installed in 1905 and in

²⁴² 'Obituary', The Picton Post, 14 December 1932, p. 5.

²⁴³ Homes, K., op. cit., p. 24.

1914 a private line was run from the post office to Cataract Dam. The first telephone directory in 1918 had only one subscriber.²⁴⁴

Access to the Burragorang Valley was naturally more difficult but an intermittent mail service operated variously from Picton and Camden. The Nattai Post Office was established in 1900 and The Oaks and Yerranderie daily mail coaches met there and the Burragorang mail was forwarded on from that point. Smaller receiving offices had also been established at Upper Burragorang (1877), Burragorang (1858) and Cox's River (1874). The Yerranderie Post Office opened in 1910 and operated until mining ceased and the village was deserted in 1958.

Newspapers

For much of the 19th Century, Wollondilly residents had to rely on infrequent news in the Sydney journals. The *Town and Country Journal* ambitiously attempted to represent the interests of city and rural dwellers and frequently included short articles on the happenings in the district. References to Picton and the growing settlements in the Wollondilly were sometimes made in the larger Sydney Newspapers like The Sydney Morning Herald and The Daily Telegraph, however these were infrequent and likely already reported on by local outlets. By 1880, Campbelltown and Camden had their own newspapers (The Campbelltown News and Camden News respectively), with Picton following suit in 1886 with the establishment of the Picton Argus. In 1885 a rival newspaper, the Campbelltown and Picton Penny Post began operating and the two coexisted, somewhat acrimoniously, until 1898 when they were amalgamated into the Picton Post and Advocate. Articles from The Picton Post, Camden News and many other newspapers from the 19th and early 20th Centuries (up until the mid-1950s) are available online on the National Library of Australia's Trove Database.²⁴⁵ Several local newspapers have existed since the 1970s including the Wollondilly Trumpeter, Wollondilly Advertiser and the District Reporter.²⁴⁶

The Development of Picton

Antill's grip on the district resulted in the development of a small private town on his estate. In 1829, it consisted only of a lock-up, blacksmith's shop and a single lonely cottage in Menangle Street, in addition to Jarvisfield itself, but it would form the nucleus of more organised settlement in the years to come. George Harper's attempt to emulate Antill's private town failed; Harper's Stonequarry would never develop along the same lines as Picton and Harper's early failure was a portent of things to come.

²⁴⁴ Ibid., p. 24.

²⁴⁵ Trove – National Library of Australia, available from: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

²⁴⁶ Ibid., p. 24.

In July 1841, Antill advertised the subdivision of Jarvisfield in the Sydney papers and called it the Village of Picton. The advertising was extensive and fulsome, spruiking the advantages of the area, blocks with frontages to the Great Argyle Road, the presence of public buildings and services such as regular post. Antill hoped to attract other prosperous gentlemen like himself, successful merchants, and the colony's more successful and influential persons. Little mention was made of the rugged terrain or back-breaking labour involved in getting the land under cultivation, nor the isolation from the main seat of power in Sydney.²⁴⁷

Antill's subdivision was successful enough to attract the attention of the Government, which began to lay out its own town to the immediate south of Antill's settlement. Surveyor Galloway drew up a plan of half-acre blocks that were offered for sale in 1847; all were sold by 1855. Following the policy of the time, land was held back for grants to churches and for the erection of a school and courthouse. The government named its newest settlement Picton causing untold confusion with Antill's town of the same name until it was renamed Upper Picton in 1847. A petition to rename the Government town Redbank failed, but the name has lingered in memory and long-time residents still refer to the area as Redbank.²⁴⁸

Interestingly, despite the Government interest and investment in Upper Picton, it was Lower Picton that really thrived. Arguments erupted over the location of important public buildings and Antill generally won. Each time the government called tenders for the erection of a building in its town, Antill would offer land in Lower Picton and he was such an effective lobbyist that the building would ultimately be erected on his land. Residents of Upper Picton naturally felt cheated as they saw the essential services they had been promised being drawn to the private town; having no real influence in government their protestations went unheard. As the years passed Antill's town flourished, become the centre for trade and business, whilst the government town languished. Eventually the two halves of the settlement would be united into a single entity and all resentments would vanish; today there is little evidence or memory of the early division and the two towns that struggled to grow side by side.²⁴⁹

Initially Menangle Street developed as the main commercial area with construction of hotels like the Terminus (now Imperial Hotel) and the Great Southern Hotel in the 1860s, although development gradually spread into Argyle Street. From the 1840s a butcher was operating in addition to a blacksmith, farrier and general store (later the Jarvisfield Store). With the boom to the town caused by the construction of the railway, the area around Menangle prospered, with construction of hotels like the Terminus Hotel (now Imperial Hotel) and the Great Southern Hotel illustrating this development. Suburban development would

²⁴⁷ *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 July 1841.

²⁴⁸ Vincent, Liz. (1995), *The Forgotten Village of Picton*, Picton, np.

²⁴⁹ Ibid.

follow, particularly in streets like Campbell Street and Webster Street which housed many railway workers. By the early 1900s, Picton could boast most of the amenities and necessities of any prosperous country town with bakers, bootmakers, haberdashers, stock and station agents and even a furniture store. By the end of the 19th Century almost all the commercial focus had shifted to Argyle Street, centred between the four hotels, which formed the focal points of the town centre. Menangle Street developed as a civic precinct at the Argyle Street end, particularly with construction of the Shire Council building and Soldiers Memorial School of Arts building. The rest of Menangle Street would serve as a residential precinct away from the town centre, with numerous cottages and houses constructed in Federation-era styles with patterned bullnosed roof verandahs, iron balustrades and corbelled brick chimneys.

Industry

Timber

Red cedar (*Cedrela toona ciliata*) was one of the most widely distributed and useful timbers in Eastern Australia. With a natural distribution from Ulladulla in the south to the northern tip of the continent, it provided colonists across the eastern seaboard with their houses, furniture, wagons and other useful implements. A lofty tree reaching 150 feet (45m), the astringent bark was also a valuable remedy for fevers and dysentery and could be used to cure leather (resulting in a dark purplish hue). The large sprays of flowers also yielded a rich dye, and the root bark was said to be a powerful narcotic. The Illawarra and Wollondilly districts were particularly abundant in cedar and to the first Europeans, the giant cedar forests seemed limitless.

Up until 1821 it was illegal to cut cedar, the trees (and land) being Crown property. Unfortunately for the colonial administration, its control did not extend to the outer limits of the Cowpastures and they were forced to admit that there were a number of *'illegal residents'* in the Illawarra *"...cutting down, sawing and clandestinely transmitting from thence large Quantities of Cedar and other timber, the property of the Crown."*²⁵⁰ It was pointed out that this practice was in direct violation of the Colonial Regulations, prejudiced the revenue and, most alarmingly, *"...encouraged desertion from the public service."* In order to control the cedar (and general timber) industry (and presumably to curtail the defection of public servants), it became a prosecutable offence to be found in possession of cedar, cutting it or removing it.²⁵¹

By 1837 at least five licensed sawyers were working in the district – Abel Saint, William Lunnan, James Cotter, Edmund Whittle, Jonathon Wheeler and Samuel Wheeler. The Wheelers (father and son) were employed at the Camden Park Estate and were presumably felling timber on John Macarthur's behalf. At least some of this timber would have been used to erect the buildings on the Estate, although Macarthur

²⁵⁰ Quoted in Graham Neaves Architect, *Conservation Management Plan for the former "Denmark Hotel" at 202 Princes Highway, Bulli NSW*, June 2019.

²⁵¹ *General Order of the Colony of New South Wales*, 14 August 1819.

also sold a certain quantity for profit. The principal cedar grounds were in the Kowmung River Valley, around Thirlmere Lakes and on the edges of the Illawarra Escarpment.

Macarthur, along with several other prominent businessmen engaged in the timber trade complained strenuously about the new regulations, which appeared to be founded as much on fear of a lost Government fortune and prejudice against the men who risked their lives to bring the cedar out. The cedar getters developed a reputation for hard living, hard drinking and questionable proclivities fuelled by the Government's proclamation that:

*'...vice of the most abominable kinds was practised amongst these cedar hordes, to the total annihilation of every correct principle.'*²⁵²

Physically, it was a tough life, not only because of the sheer size and weight of the trees, but the impenetrable nature of the forest, which first had to be cleared. A run was established by clearing undergrowth to allow for a clear fall. The fallen trunks were cut into 12-foot lengths and the sections were then taken to the sawpit and cut into planks. The sawpits were about 10 feet deep - to allow for the full length of the saw on the downward stroke - cut into the forest floor. The planks were balanced on wooden beams above the pit and one sawyer stood on the plank whilst his mate stood at the bottom of the pit. A third member of the team knocked in a wedge to hasten the sawing.²⁵³ The three men working in concert could cut as many as 2,000 feet of timber in a normal working week and their world was circumscribed by the monotonous rasp of the saw and the arc of sky wheeling above the pit.

The cedar cutters and operators formed a world of their own, segregated into three distinct classes. The first class were Sydney residents who employed sawyers to cut for them and who obtained the rights to cut from a specified area. They owned wagons and employed teams of men to shift the cut from the cutting grounds to the nearest port and also owned large ships to transport the timber to Sydney. When their own sawyers couldn't meet the demand, they purchased cut cedar from other sawyers. The second class consisted of the sawyers themselves, most of whom cut for the Sydney operators or to anyone else who would purchase from them. They lived in the midst of the cedar grounds, moving only when the supply of timber had been exhausted. The third class consisted of men who owned and ran the carts and teams that hauled the cedar from the pits to the loading points, but otherwise had no interest in the cedar itself; they were effectively running a highly specialised haulage business.²⁵⁴

²⁵² *The Sydney Gazette*, 1 July 1826.

²⁵³ *Ibid*, p. 28.

²⁵⁴ Jervis, J., *op. cit.*, p.138.

Access to the cedar grounds was difficult, with getting the cut timber out almost impossible at times. In the early days, logs were floated downstream on the Kowmung River towards Penrith, but this was not always successful. In 1907 a Cedar Road was built to the Kowmung but transporting the timber to the Camden sawmills was still highly dangerous.

From 1860 onwards sawmills proliferated, and many small mobile mills operated, moving from site to site to mill the more inaccessible hauls – in the end it had proved easier to move the mills than to haul the uncut timber. William Whifield operated a mill near Thirlmere Lakes between 1850 and 1900 and other mills were located at The Oaks, Brownlow Hill, Werombi, Picton, Yerranderie and Bargo. By the end of the 19th Century virtually every town in the district had at least one sawmill.²⁵⁵ Relics of surviving sawmills can be found today at Oakdale and within the Burragorang Valley.

The construction of the southern railway line produced an immediate demand for ironbark sleepers and with the cedar grounds exhausted, sawyers turned their attention to the extensive stands of native hardwoods. The construction of the Avon, Nepean, Cataract and Warragamba Dams in the 20th Century provided a further boost to the local timber industry, with sawmills closed and reopened in different locations all over the shire. By the middle of the 20th Century timber supplies were becoming scarce and much of the forested land was resumed by the Sydney Catchment Authority and the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service for reserves. Today, only one sawmill is operating in the district (at Werombi named 'Hayter's Sawmill'), and timber required for construction comes from outside the district.²⁵⁶

Mining

Mining has had a major economic and environmental impact on the Wollondilly for more than a century. The discovery of silver at Yerranderie created a series of major mining sites and processing plants in the Burragorang Valley in the early 20th Century, encouraged the growth of East and West Yerranderie townships and forced the clearing of a dray road right through the valley, up the escarpment to Oakdale and on to the Camden railhead.²⁵⁷ The rise of coal dovetailed neatly with the decline of silver in the 1920s and prospecting in 1925 resulted in the development of the Nattai-Bulli and Wollondilly collieries in 1930. Collieries at Wollondilly Extended followed in 1935, Oakdale in 1948 and a series of 9 new collieries between 1957 and 1977. The collieries in the Nattai region reached Sydney and the Illawarra via lorries that carried it across Burragorang Road. During WWII when the runway at The Oaks Airfield, utilised by the

²⁵⁵ Holmes, K., op. cit., p. 29.

²⁵⁶ Ibid., p. 29.

²⁵⁷ JRC Planning Service, op. cit., p. 24.

Royal Australian Air Force, intersected with Burraborang Road, the runway required constant repairs due to damage caused by the oversized lorries.²⁵⁸

During the first 20 years of coalmining in the Wollondilly, the mines were exceedingly inefficient and bolstered by government subsidy. The general recovery of the industry and the rise of the Clutha Development in the 1950s had a lasting and profound impact on the Wollondilly. On roads where once the silver drays had lumbered, increasing numbers of coal trucks hurtled between Oakdale, Camden and Picton. Large-scale shaft mining on the Warragamba escarpment and Oakdale plateau, and the Tahmoor Mine adjacent to the rail line and with its own dedicated siding, changed, the landscape of the Wollondilly. The headworkings of the Nepean collieries reared their massive heads above St Marys Towers and the ventilation shafts at Appin guard the entrance to Northhamptondale. The opening of the Dendrobium Mine in late 2005, straddling three shire boundaries, has ensured the continuation of mining in the area. Coal mining was and still is a significant presence in the district.²⁵⁹

Water

Dam building and the movement of water from the district's rivers to Sydney has been a major influence on the area since the late 19th Century. It began with the construction of the Upper Nepean Canal, taking water from Broughton's Pass to the Prospect Reservoir. The canal was built between 1880 and 1888 and is part of the Upper Nepean Scheme, Sydney's fourth water supply. This scheme, first proposed in 1869, harnessed the headwaters of the Nepean River and its tributaries, the Cataract, Cordeaux and Avon Rivers, to ensure a reliable, high-quality water supply for the rapidly growing city.

The Upper Canal is an engineering marvel and is entirely gravity fed. It consists of tunnels, open canals and aqueducts that convey water 62 km from Pheasants Nest to Prospect Reservoir. The canal passes under part of the Mount Annan Botanic Garden via a 686 m tunnel and is mainly cut through natural sandstone bedrock, but some sections, especially where it passes through shale, are lined with sandstone, brick or cement. It is believed that sandstone quarried from the north face of Mount Annan was used for this purpose and as capping on the brick aqueduct south of the tunnel. The canal provides water for Camden, Campbelltown and Liverpool, also Wilton, Appin and Douglas Park. Until 1960 when the Warragamba Dam was completed, the Upper Nepean system supplied most of Sydney's water.²⁶⁰

The 1900-1902 drought precipitated the construction of the first dam, expressly to provide a more consistent water supply to Sydney. The Cataract Dam was built between 1903 and 1907 by Lane and Peters. The construction of the dam was notable for the first use of electricity on a construction site, the first use of

²⁵⁸ National Archives of Australia, 'RAAF, The Oaks, NSW - Aerodrome works', NAA: A705, 7/1/1370.

²⁵⁹ JRC Planning Service, op. cit., p. 24.

²⁶⁰ Water NSW, 'Warragamba Dam', available from: <https://www.watarnsw.com.au/supply/visit/warragamba-dam>

pneumatic drills and the first time that construction materials, such as concrete, were manufactured on site. It took four years to fill the dam, which has a capacity of 20 thousand million gallons, and when it was finally full, an overflow had to be constructed to prevent damage to the dam wall.²⁶¹

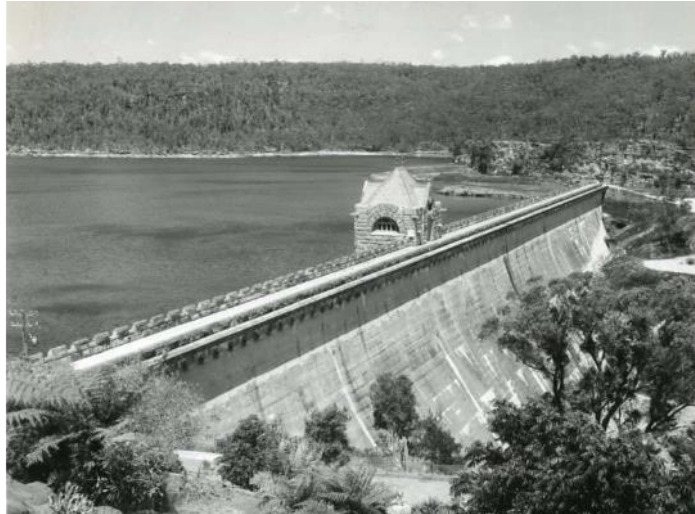


Figure 36: Photograph in 1982 of the Cataract Dam, constructed between 1903-1907. Source: Wollongong City Library, Illawarra Mercury Image Collection.

The Nepean Dam, constructed between 1903 and 1935, is the fourth and last of the water supply dams in the Metropolitan Catchment to provide a secure water supply to satisfy the demands of industrial, commercial and residential development of metropolitan Sydney up to the 1960s. The Nepean Dam township provided four and five roomed cottages for the workers, as well as a public school and recreation hall. Work on the dam continued until March 1930, when the depression compelled the Board first to curtail and then suspend work completely. Work recommenced in June 1933 and continued without interruption until the dam was finished in 1935.²⁶²

The four dams of the Metropolitan Catchment – Cataract, Nepean, Avon & Cordeaux - were completed between 1907 and 1936 and collectively represent the largest major water supply scheme undertaken in New South Wales in the first half of the 20th Century, and are one of the major engineering feats undertaken in Australia at any time.²⁶³ The construction of the system of dams marked a natural progression from the

²⁶¹ Percival, S. (1992), *Chronicles of Appin*, pp. 41-2.

²⁶² Heritage NSW, State Heritage Inventory, 'Nepean Dam, Heritage Item ID 5051477.

²⁶³ Ibid.

Upper Nepean Water Supply Scheme, which was inaugurated in the 1880s as the principal water supply source for metropolitan Sydney.²⁶⁴

The design and construction of the dams was principally under the one Government authority - the Water Supply and Sewerage Branch of the NSW Department of Public Works. This Branch was led at different periods by two of Australia's leading water supply engineers - Leslie A.B. Wade and Ernest M. de Burgh. The completion of the dams necessitated the introduction of overseas derived forms of construction technologies that were subsequently developed as standard practice in major civil engineering works. Similarly, the technologies of water delivery required for the dams were on a scale and complexity hitherto unseen in New South Wales.²⁶⁵

²⁶⁴ Ibid.

²⁶⁵ Ibid.

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APPENDIX C:

Aboriginal Thematic History

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Aboriginal Thematic History

Introduction

'...academic historians have struggled to incorporate Aboriginal history telling into their practice, because Aboriginal views of the past are non-linear. Aboriginal conceptions of history fold both the recent and ancient past together, linking them to present connections with family and landscape. 'Time is multi-layered and mutable. Many view the recent and ancient past as something personal, familial, geological and omnipresent...Many Indigenous Australians do not sense any great chasm dividing the present from the past.' This becomes a problem when dealing with periods of time prior to European colonization, when traditional archives do not exist, and has sometimes contributed to the representation of Aboriginal history as timeless and unchanging. The new historiography of Australia's deep past has required the forging of links with Aboriginal peoples and the foregrounding of Aboriginal perspectives as well as a respect for Aboriginal ways of seeing and utilizing their own histories. The study of Australia's deep past thus offers us more than an insight into the history of human migrations and changing social and economic systems over many millennia. It has also become a central focus for calls for reconciliation and the genuine acknowledgement of Aboriginal sovereignty in present-day Australia (Mawson 2021: 1479-1480).'

The relationship that First Nations People have with Country is ancient, complex and essential to the health of the ecology, fabric and stability of the landscape. This ancient relationship goes back at least 65,000 years for the Continent (Clarkson et al 2015; Clarkson et al 2017), some 50-46,000 years for NSW (Bowler et al 2003) and at least 40,000 years for the Cumberland Plain (Nanson et al 1987; Stockton and Nanson 2004; GML 2018). This timeframe coincides with major climatic shifts resulting in major sea level changes with accompanying landscape adjustments to those shifts (Attenbrow 2002). Examples of this shift include the relocation of estuaries as sea levels rise or fall, changes in the length and sinuosity of drainage lines, and the location and size of wetlands. Understanding those landscape changes within the framework of archaeological and historical enquiry is essential because the nature of those shifts had ramifications for the availability of water, the nature and distribution of plant and animal communities, the size of the continental shelf, and the relative position of rivers and coastlines responding to sea level changes. These climatic shifts and associated landscape adjustments required an intimate and holistic understanding of the natural world to allow for flexibility in adapting to episodic fluctuations in the nature, extent and carrying capacity of natural resources (Head 2017). Aboriginal culture was and continues to be dynamic because of the unique balance achieved between Aboriginal People and nature, one of the principles being to live with a sense of responsibility rather than entitlement (Pascoe 2014).

Prior to 1788, what we now call the Wollondilly Shire was occupied by three Aboriginal tribes: the Dharug along the north, the Gundaungurra in the centre, south and west, and the Tharawal occupying the eastern side (AIATSIS 1996). In writing a thematic history for the Aboriginal archaeology and history of the Wollondilly Shire, we need to first understand the almost incomprehensible antiquity of that history stretching back 40,000 years. If we were to subdivide the last 40,000 years into 1000 mm, the historic invasion and occupation of Australia by the British of the last 234 years pulls up with a paltry 5.85 mm on this scale (this drops to 3.6 mm if we compare it against 65,000 years), the remaining 994.15 mm being the domain of Aboriginal People's ancestral settlement and history of the Wollondilly Shire. Thus, in writing a thematic history of Aboriginal settlement, we must also consider the massive climatic, eustatic (sea level

changes), hydrological and vegetation changes against the backdrop of natural geomorphological processes, that are becoming increasingly impacted by the historic and modern anthropogenic land management and developmental changes the landscape has been subject to since 1788. Before 1788, the evolution of the landscape was predominantly driven by natural processes, although the cultural influences of Aboriginal land management practices such as firestick farming (also known as cultural burning) were important in shaping and managing the structure and distribution of ecological communities (Gammage 2012; Sutton and Walshe 2021). The introduced land management changes by the British instigated landscape changes involving large scale clearance, the development of agricultural infrastructure such as dams and buildings, and the associated development of homesteads, villages, towns and now cities that have and continue to have a detrimental effect on the survival, nature and extent of Aboriginal cultural, archaeological and historic heritage in the Wollondilly Shire.

Aboriginal Cultural Landscapes

The Wollondilly Shire is a diverse Aboriginal and historical cultural landscape that embodies the best elements from both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal world views. The varied landscapes of Wollondilly Shire are the result of millions of years of geological evolution, sculptured by the processes that are responsible for the movement, deposition and erosion of soils and sediments (geomorphology) inevitably influenced by the coming and going of ice ages and the ebb and flow of sea and river levels, and their size, shape and position. In order to explore the thematic histories that have been identified for this heritage study, we must briefly review the nature of Aboriginal lifeways in terms of social, economic, spiritual and environmental perspectives in order to provide an appropriate framework for enquiry.

First and foremost is the fact that without exception, in 1788 all the Aboriginal People of Australia were living a lifestyle that archaeologists now describe as complex hunter gatherers, in contrast to the Torres Strait Islander Peoples who were agriculturalists. Importantly, all the creative, economic, social and religious activities revolved around belonging to Country with all of its obligations and whilst trade, war and conflict – in line with all human societies – was practised by Aboriginal societies, the driving force behind them was not profit or the accumulation of wealth as in western societies. Traditional Owners may have raided their neighbours over issues of countering magic or engaging in acts of revenge or jealousy (for example, by abducting women or engaging in a ritualised fight to see justice served), but the invasion and annexation of a neighbours' Country was unheard of. This is the result of the way The Law was structured and lived, ensuring that such an act would be considered illogical, irreverent and unlawful. Importantly, 'unlawful' meant and continues to mean a lot more to Traditional Owners than it does to western cultures, and that trying to take over someone else's Country was simply not in the world view of Aboriginal People. It would have been as outrageous a suggestion to an Aboriginal person as insinuating that one could cut a person's arm off and attach it to your own body (without the aid of modern medicine and science I might add), i.e. not just unlawful, but preposterous, ridiculous and quite simply the realm of the mentally challenged. However, this early view by Europeans - that still instils many modern Australians views - that Aboriginal culture was stuck in some form of stone age 'time warp' has stifled how non-Aboriginal Australians have perceived and assigned significance to Aboriginal heritage. It also resulted in a knock-on effect whereby the accepted

methods of studying Aboriginal cultural heritage have been embedded almost exclusively in simplified archaeological theories and methods, often uninformed by and to the detriment of the cultural, anthropological or scientific aspects of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

As mentioned earlier, the Wollondilly Shire was occupied by three Aboriginal groups, including the Dharug, Gundaungurra, and the Tharawal tribes. The pre-1788 landscape was not wild or bush as non-Aboriginal people would describe it, but part of what Bill Gamage described in his books title as 'The Greatest Estate on Earth,' stating '*There was no wilderness. The Law – an ecological philosophy enforced by religious sanction – compelled people to care for all their country. People lived and died to ensure this* (2011: 1).' In other words, the cultural landscape was exactly that – a landscape created and crafted over thousands of years not by the shovel, saw, plough or cattle, but by careful selection, positioning and management of ecological communities through cultural burning and the liberal use of the digging stick. Therefore, the application of Aboriginal Law on clan and tribal estates was active, specifically tailored to the ecological mosaics on Country and '*alert to season and circumstance, committed to a balance of life* (Gamage 2012: 1 – 2).' This idea of Australia being a managed landscape was first noted by the eminent anthropologist Norman Tindale (1959: 42 - 43 quoted in Sutton and Walshe 2021: 61):

'Man, setting fire to large area of his territory at all times of the year convenient for his hunting, often causes destruction far beyond that done by nature (that is, lightning).

Thus man probably has had significant hand in the moulding of the present configuration of parts of Australia. Indeed much of the grassland of Australia could have been brought into being as a result of his exploitation...

Perhaps it is correct to assume that man has had such a profound effect on the distributions of forest and grassland that true primaeval forest may be less common in Australia than is generally realised...

Next to the firestick the womans [sic] digging stick was probably the most effective instrument in altering the patterns of plant growth, removing a considerable portion of the more edible forms of vegetable life.'

The term 'fire-stick farming' was subsequently used by Rhys Jones in 1969 to indicate that people were altering the land to increase the available food, but this was not the only reason as people used this technique to harvest macropods and small grass-dwelling animals, keep country open and safe from snakes and thus keeping travel routes open, and to allow for new grass shoots to attract game to make hunting easier and more predictable (Sutton and Walshe 2021: 63). This idea of Aboriginal People being 'ecological agents' has taken scientists many years to come to terms with, i.e. for our scientific methods and theory to mature to a point where we can accommodate this ancient knowledge:

'Furthermore, as botanists, zoologists, anthropologists and geologists continue to investigate the complex relationships between Aboriginal culture, the plant communities, animal species and the physical environment in general, it emerges that complete dependence on natural bounty is a poor characterisation of the Aboriginal economy. It now appears that this economy has had a substantial impact on the environment which we characterise today as characteristically Australian (Langton 1998: 39 quoted in Sutton and Walshe 2021: 65).'

The scientific and cultural revolution that challenged the traditional western views of ‘primitive societies’ or ‘the noble savage’ of the 19th and mid- to late 20th Century by archaeologists and anthropologists is encapsulated in the following quote:

‘Economic approaches to pre-European contact history have evolved from an initial view of prehistoric Australians as simple foragers to a greater understanding of the complex connections between the social and physical dimensions of resource exploitation in hunting and gathering societies (Langton 1998: 39 quoted in Sutton and Walshe 2021: 65).’

It also led to a more perceptive understanding that there was no evolutionary trajectory that allowed the more ‘advanced’ agriculturalists to somehow have intellectual or economic reasons to believe that they are more complex and developed than the ‘primitive’ hunter-gatherers of Australia and ‘...underline[s] the danger of perceiving the transition between hunting and gathering and specialised husbandry as a one-way process that in some absolute sense constitutes progress (Layton et al 1991: 261).’ The modern and more nuanced view of Aboriginal society has finally led researchers to realise that it is a product of a unique, ecologically and scientifically informed and sustainable, carbon neutral society based on the cumulative experience of thousands and thousands of years:

‘What is wrong with a stable economic system that maintains the integrity of the environment and people’s relationships with it, using minimal interference with natural cycles? Had people in fact achieved states of ‘equilibrium’ or settled relationships with the environment that enabled their stable continuation for extensive periods? Why should this be characterised as an unfinished project...Or was it in fact accomplished, bedded down for long eras, and adjusted to climatic and sea-level changes over centuries? Was not a minimal footprint in fact the key accomplishment? (Sutton and Walshe 2021:77).’

The fact that today we are struggling with the results of an uncontrolled industrial revolution that has led us into the human era – or Anthropocene – and the effects of climate change and the destruction and collapse of ecological systems, challenges any view that somehow seeks to elevate agricultural-based societies over complex hunter gatherers. Aboriginal society evolved and developed *successfully* over a time period of at least 40,000 years in the Wollondilly Shire. It is unclear at this point in time whether our modern society that began to take root in the Enlightenment of the 17th Century of Europe and grew into the industrial revolution and ultimately resulted in the increasingly disastrous effects of climate change will survive the 21st Century, let alone stretch into a time scale that encapsulates tens of thousands of years. Only time will tell, but the cultural, archaeological and sedimentary record is a testament to the ingenuity and sustainability inherent in Aboriginal cultural heritage. Investigating this record using culturally and scientifically appropriate research frameworks will enhance and add value to our efforts to conserve and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage in the Wollondilly Shire. It may also provide Australians with insights into non-western paradigms and perspectives which can inform heritage conservation strategies that can be translated into how we meet the challenge of the Anthropocene and ameliorate the effects of climate change into the future.

In the modern world, we may find it hard to understand either the nature or importance of this cultural relationship between Aboriginal People and Country, but there are plenty of scientific examples we can use to illustrate what has happened since that dispossession. Fire regimes, vegetation patterns and hydrology were all managed as part of responsibility towards Country by

Aboriginal People and the example we will use will focus on is fire. (Incidentally, it is here that history crosses over into ecology and fire management, and touches upon the importance of culturally informed strategies across a variety of categories in landscape conservation management). It is unclear how long firestick management has been practiced as a landscape tool by Aboriginal People in Australia, with definitive evidence in the Cumberland Basin only around 10,000 years ago (Williams et al 2015). However, as firestick management is built and tailored to specific ecological communities and is seasonal by nature, we can assume that its tempo and character has adjusted since the end of the drier and colder climatic regime of the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM; 27-17,000 years ago), and the warmer and wetter temperatures of the Holocene (the last 11,700 years). The cessation of fire-stick farming has meant that the intensity and frequency of burning in the landscape has actually increased since 1788 as large tracts of land were indiscriminately burnt to allow for agriculture and infrastructure to be built (Bowman et al 2012; Lawrence and Davies 2019). As Bowman et al (2012:37) explain (Figure 1):

‘(a) In the pre-human period, lightning-started fires would have infrequently burnt large areas, creating a broad-scale habitat mosaic to which various species had become adapted. (b) Aboriginal fire management was characterised by a high frequency of fires that burnt much smaller areas, producing a fine-scale habitat mosaic that supported most of the pre-human wildlife assemblage, with the notable exception of the Pleistocene megafauna. (c) Under European management, fires that had a similar frequency as the earlier Aboriginal period burnt large areas, thereby obliterating the pre-existing habitat mosaic created by Aboriginal fire management.’

With around 70% of Australia’s plant species being either fire tolerant or actually encourage fire regimes, the removal of cultural burning which once controlled ‘*fuel by ceremony, and by constant, careful burning* (Bowman et al 2012)’ has had a massive knock-on effect on the ability of vegetation to re-seed or re-sprout and has created the conditions alongside climate change for the killer fires we are witnessing as a result (ibid; Gammage 2014; Lawrence and Davies 2019). This is depicted in the different landscape burning regimes illustrated in the model of Figure 2. It is becoming increasingly clear however that when the increasing pressures due to climate change are coupled with changes in sedimentation rates, the continued presence of exotic species and the ongoing absence of Aboriginal land management regimes, the restoration of pre-1788 environments are impossible (Lawrence and Davies 2019). This has direct consequences for landscapes such as those of the Wollondilly Shire and how people will be able to live, work and interact with the natural and anthropogenically altered environment in the future. It is the principal reason why the long-term management of Aboriginal cultural heritage – in all its aspects – is not just about applying and complying with legislation. It also requires the direct intervention of Aboriginal People to apply their cultural knowledge if we are going to conserve and preserve the cultural values that reside within the Wollondilly Shire landscape for future generations.

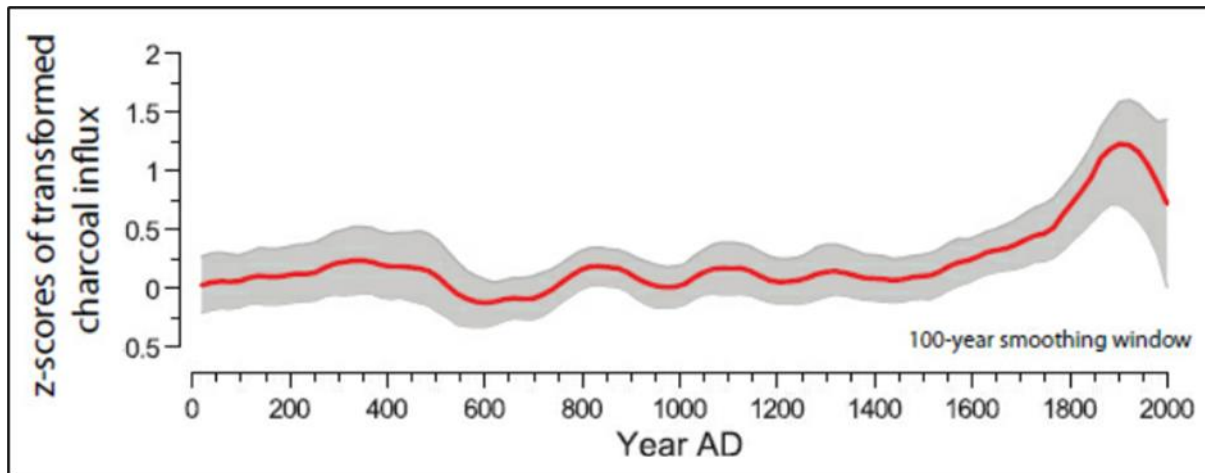


Figure 1. Reconstruction of biomass burning for the last 2000 years for Australasia (20°N–50°S, 100°E–177°W). The curves have been smoothed using a window of 100 years (bold red curve). (Source: Figure 1.5: pp10 in Money et al 2012).

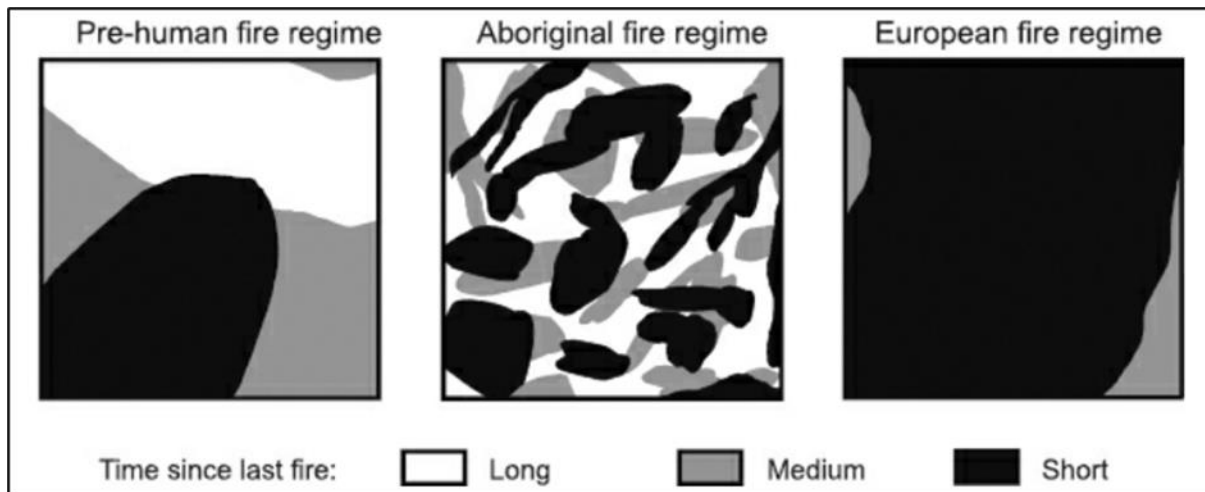


Figure 2. Graphical representation of likely changes in the spatial scale and frequency of fires in a hypothetical Australian landscape. (Source: Figure 2.4: pp37 in Bowman et al 2012).

Thus, Aboriginal cultural landscapes are the result of a very ancient and complex world view that dictated thought, action and interaction with land, plants, animals, resources and people through the application of The Law. If we consider that the application and evolution of Aboriginal Law's has an antiquity of at least 40,000 years in the Wollondilly Shire, we begin to realise that modern science and heritage – originating as it does from Europe's age of The Enlightenment in the 17th and 18th Centuries – should be viewed as the measure of 5.85 mm of British history compared with the 994.15 mm of Aboriginal history on this continent (using the analogy from the start of the chapter), i.e. with caution. It also helps explain the imbalance between Aboriginal and historic heritage listed in local environmental and development control plans. Historic heritage tends to be obvious in the landscape, even to the untrained eye, but Aboriginal archaeology takes the experienced eye of the archaeologist to define, and even more importantly acknowledges that the

only way to understand and manage cultural landscapes requires cooperation and consultation with the Traditional Owners or Custodians of Wollondilly Shire. The future therefore demands a more nuanced scientific and cultural approach to Aboriginal cultural heritage with Traditional Owners or Custodians at the forefront of this process. This is the only way for Traditional Owners or Custodians to facilitate and educate non-Aboriginal people on culturally appropriate ways with which to reconcile and acknowledge Aboriginal cultural landscapes, and all that that entails in order to appropriately engage with Aboriginal heritage in a respectful and cross-culturally meaningful manner.

Characterising Aboriginal Historical Themes

The Heritage Council's publication New South Wales Historical Themes (2001) only defines two main Australian themes that are directly relevant to Aboriginal cultural and archaeological landscapes – Peopling Australia (Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures) and Developing local, regional and national economies (environment – cultural landscape) – with the other themes only partially paying any attention to comparisons or aspects of how Aboriginal cultural landscapes and archaeological sites could be applied to the national and state themes. The original themes were however written from an historical perspective, and this does not necessarily appreciate the timeframes involved, the complexity of the archaeological record or acknowledge the fact that this record was created against a backdrop of climatic and environmental changes that encompassed the ebb and flow of ice ages. The historical themes also assume that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspectives on what is important historically and culturally are the same, and this is obviously not the case. It would therefore be prudent to revisit the question of Aboriginal historical themes from both an indigenous and archaeological (scientific) perspective, a task that is beyond the scope of the current study. In acknowledging this complexity, we can however suggest some preliminary themes that are relevant for the Aboriginal cultural heritage of Wollondilly Shire:

Theme 1: The nature, timing and geography of initial Aboriginal occupation of the Wollondilly Shire.

Theme 2: Into and out of the Ice Age: climatic changes and Aboriginal settlement patterns.

Theme 3: The long hot summer: the stabilisation of climates in the Holocene and the mid-Holocene intensification debate on Aboriginal settlement patterns.

Theme 4: First Contact, impressions and exploration of the Wollondilly Shire.

Theme 5: Conflict, massacres and the re-writing of Aboriginal history.

Theme 6: The road to truth and reconciliation: a history of continuing Aboriginal struggles.

These themes acknowledge the long time periods involved and the vast changes that the landscape has gone through. These climatic shifts and accompanying landscape adjustments are important considerations because they required Aboriginal societies to make huge modifications to how and where their societies accessed resources and equally importantly, where clan or tribal estates were located as sea levels rose and fell, either exposing or inundating large tracts of the continental shelf and enlarging or drowning large river valleys like the Hawkesbury River in Broken Bay or the Parramatta River in today's Port Jackson. The Nepean River would have been much more of a focus for Aboriginal settlement in times of climatic deterioration, but the Wollondilly Shire also has the Thirlmere Lakes system which we know was a refugia for water loving

vegetation and ecological communities that shrank in other areas of the Woronora Plateau and Cumberland Basin because of the drier conditions.

The current approaches to Aboriginal historic themes take an almost static view of Aboriginal society and overemphasise the historical accounts that paint a picture of a society that was as seen as a curiosity and throw-back to the stone age by the British and Europeans generally (Mawson 2021), an attitude that was well reflected in books and journal articles until quite recently (e.g. British Pathé 1933; Chewings 1937; Mulvaney 1961; Sahlins 1974; Sharp 1952; Sollas 1911; Spencer 1914; Tylor 1894). The investigation of Aboriginal history and archaeology continues to pursue themes that do not appreciate the immense timeframes and climatic changes, largely because most archaeological studies do not collect environmental or landscape data but focus on stone artefacts, often without an understanding of their context. The six proposed categories for investigating Aboriginal historical themes are offered as a better representation and appreciation of Aboriginal cultural heritage. Themes 5 and 6 also acknowledge the hitherto hidden or obscured aspects of post-contact Aboriginal history, although CPH recommends that the themes should also be reviewed and updated by the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Wollondilly Shire who will have their own unique perspectives on Aboriginal cultural heritage and the last 234 years of occupation.

Table 1 expands on how the Heritage Council's local themes can be matched with State and National themes to assess Aboriginal cultural heritage within a statutory framework and looks more closely at how the State and Local themes can be matched and investigated from an Aboriginal cultural and scientific perspective. What is immediately obvious is that the six themes selected for the Aboriginal thematic history do not fit into any single theme of National, State and Local categories selected by the Heritage Council of NSW (2001). This reflects the very different characteristics of Aboriginal cultural heritage compared to historic heritage and highlights the fact that they represent fundamentally different social and economic systems: one based on working with nature, the other based on working against nature. As a hunter-gatherer based economy prior to 1788, there is little value in trying to categorise the pre-1788 Aboriginal cultural, archaeological or scientific record into historical themes based upon categories designed specifically for an agricultural society founded on a market (profit) based economy that the British imported. In other words, the existing historical themes were designed by historical archaeologists and historians to investigate colonial and post-1788 historical themes, with Aboriginal themes moulded to fit the historical categories, rather than acknowledging that the two societies are mutually exclusive. There are of course historical themes that are relevant to Aboriginal culture, but all of these are within timeframes that occur *after* traditional Aboriginal society was impacted and no longer represented a traditional hunter-gatherer society.

With these limitations in mind, the characterisation of Aboriginal historic themes should be considered a work in progress rather than a final draft, in large part due to the fact that it needs to be reviewed and updated by Traditional Owners or Custodians of the Wollondilly Shire. These themes and how they are applied is explored further in the next section on the specific themes chosen for the Wollondilly Shire's heritage review.

Table 1. Showing correlation of National, State and Local themes relevant to Aboriginal cultural Heritage (Modified from Heritage Council of NSW 2001: Table 1).

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Notes	Examples of Local Themes
1 Tracing the natural evolution of Australia,	Environment - naturally evolved	There are two aspects to this theme: (1) Features occurring naturally in the physical environment which have significance independent of human intervention. (2) Features occurring naturally in the physical environment which have shaped or influenced human life and cultures.	A geological formation, fossil site, ecological community, island, soil site, river flats, estuary, mountain range, reef, lake, woodland, seagrass bed, wetland, desert, alps, plain, valley, headland, evidence of flooding, earthquake, bushfire and other natural occurrences.
2 Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures	Activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practises, past and present; with demonstrating distinctive ways of life; and with interactions demonstrating race relations.	Place name, camp site, midden, Bora ground, stone arrangement, rockshelter, rock art, songline, increase site, resource gathering zone, natural mythological sites, fish trap, trade route, massacre site, protest site, places relating to self-determination, keeping place, resistance and protest sites, places of segregation, places of indentured labour, places of reconciliation.
2 Peopling Australia	Migration	Activities and processes associated with the resettling of people from one place to another (international, interstate, intrastate) and the impacts of such movements.	Aboriginal mission, places associated with the Stolen Generation.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Agriculture	Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture.	Aboriginal camps on farm properties, Aboriginal seasonal picking camp.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Commerce	Activities relating to buying, selling and exchanging goods and services.	Aboriginal trading routes and places, Aboriginal ration/blanket distribution points, Aboriginal tourism ventures.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment – cultural landscape	Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings.	Evidence of Aboriginal land management, Aboriginal clan or tribal boundary, Aboriginal Ancestral beings associated with natural landmarks or places

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Notes	Examples of Local Themes
			(Natural mythological sites), Aboriginal sites associated with Men's or Women's business, Aboriginal fishing or resource exploitation spot, Bora ground, Aboriginal stone alignment, fish weir, place important in arguments for nature or cultural heritage conservation
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Events	Activities and processes that mark the consequences of natural and cultural occurrences.	Aboriginal places of protest or demonstration, Aboriginal massacre site.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Exploration	Activities associated with making places previously unknown to a cultural group known to them.	Aboriginal trade route, Aboriginal trade routes reflecting original exploration routes because of Aboriginal guides.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Fishing	Activities associated with gathering, producing, distributing, and consuming resources from aquatic environments useful to humans.	Aboriginal shell midden, Aboriginal fish trap or weir, Aboriginal increase site associated with fishing, natural mythological site associated with fishing
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Mining	Activities associated with the identification, extraction, processing and distribution of mineral ores, precious stones and other such inorganic substances.	Aboriginal stone quarry, Aboriginal ochre quarry.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Science	Activities associated with systematic observations, experiments and processes for the explanation of observable phenomena.	Aboriginal stone arrangements associated with the seasons and night sky, natural mythological site, archaeological research site.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Technology	Activities and processes associated with the knowledge or use of mechanical arts and applied sciences.	Aboriginal places or archaeological sites evidencing changes in tool types, Aboriginal scarred trees.
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure	Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.	Aboriginal clan or tribal boundary, Aboriginal carved tree, Aboriginal burial grounds, Aboriginal rock engravings or painted art.
4 Building settlements,	Accommodation	Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and	Aboriginal built shelter, hut or structure, Aboriginal rockshelter.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Notes	Examples of Local Themes
towns and cities		particular types of accommodation.	
6 Educating	Education	Activities associated with teaching and learning by children and adults, formally and informally.	Aboriginal initiation site, Aboriginal place where Men's or Women's business is conducted or taught, songlines, natural mythological sites.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Domestic life	Activities associated with creating, maintaining, living in and working around Aboriginal persistent places, houses and institutions.	Aboriginal domestic artefact scatter or midden, Aboriginal dwelling.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Creative endeavour	Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Aboriginal rock art site (pecked, engraved or painted), Aboriginal carved tree, Aboriginal ceremonial site, Aboriginal increase site, Aboriginal stone arrangement.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Leisure	Activities associated with recreation and relaxation.	Aboriginal camp sites, Aboriginal Places.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Religion	Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship.	Aboriginal ceremonial or initiation sites, places associated with Men's and Women's business, Aboriginal stone alignments, songlines, Aboriginal carved tree or burial ground, natural mythological site.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Social institutions	Activities and organisational arrangements for the provision of social activities.	Aboriginal mission, school or orphanage.
9 Marking the phases of life	Birth and death	Activities associated with the initial stages of human life and the bearing of children, and with the final stages of human life and disposal of the dead.	Aboriginal Women's business sites, Aboriginal burial site or cemetery, Aboriginal carved tree, massacre site.
9 Marking the phases of life	Persons	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups.	Aboriginal ceremonial or initiation sites, places associated with Men's and Women's business, Aboriginal stone alignments, songlines, Aboriginal Ancestral beings

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Notes	Examples of Local Themes
			associated with natural landmarks or places (natural mythological sites).

Aboriginal Thematic Histories of Wollondilly Shire

The following sections frame and discuss the proposed Aboriginal historic themes that are relevant for the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the Wollondilly Shire. What is missing from the next section is an Aboriginal stakeholder perspective on the nature of these themes and how they can be applied to the extant heritage of the Shire. CPH recommends that Council engage the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Wollondilly Shire to revise or update the themes suggested by this study and afford them with their own opportunity to present their unique perspective on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Historic Theme 1: The nature, timing and geography of initial Aboriginal occupation of the Wollondilly Shire.

This theme is in many ways the most enigmatic because it relies upon the archaeological and environmental archive that sits within the bedrock, soils and sediments in the landscape, with direct evidence of this earliest phase of occupation yet to be found in the Wollondilly Shire. Importantly, the evidence for the earliest Aboriginal settlement of the Wollondilly Shire is inexorably tied up with the sedimentary archive – of which it forms a part of – and therefore the study of the early occupation or potential occupation of the Shire is as much a study of how, why and when layered sediments were deposited (known as stratigraphy), as it is to see if there are either direct or indirect lines of evidence for archaeological signatures. The early Aboriginal archaeology of Australia is sparse, which is largely a function of three factors. Firstly, early Aboriginal populations were not only much smaller than later Holocene populations but scattered over a much wider area of Australia because the landmass was larger by as much as a third more than today (scientists call this landmass Sahul). Secondly, the physical traces of this early archaeology are much less likely to survive because of the much longer timeframes involved and the higher probability of the archaeology being destroyed – or at least reduced in volume - over this time. And thirdly, the archaeology is much harder to detect (or see) and access because it is either buried within and beneath metres of sediments or, submerged on continental shelves or river valleys drowned by the post glacial world's sea level rises. Thus, investigations looking into the earliest Aboriginal archaeology must include stratigraphic exploratory methods that allow researchers to investigate deposits potentially metres below modern ground surfaces. Additionally, archaeological evidence for the early and later settlement of Wollondilly Shire may include both direct and indirect evidence. Artefacts and features such as hearths (fireplaces) are obviously unequivocal archaeological evidence, but indirect evidence based for example on proxy data like pollen (e.g. unusual or ecologically unusual plant species in any given location), charcoal (e.g. evidence of firestick farming) or chemistry (e.g. elevated levels of phosphorus resulting from human waste) - whilst harder to interpret - also need to be accounted for if we are to maximise our chances of uncovering the earliest evidence of human occupation within Wollondilly Shire.

The archaeological record for this initial Aboriginal occupation is therefore generally sparse. It is confined to only two sites found on the lower reaches of the Hawkesbury River downstream and north of the Shire, one site on the floodplain of the Parramatta River at Parramatta Park north of the Shire, and two rockshelters in the Blue Mountains to the north and west. We do know however from other areas of Australia, such as the mountains of Tasmania, that early occupation of rockshelters located large distances away from coastal areas or influences was taking place as early as 40,000 years ago (Cosgrove 1999; 2007). The earliest archaeological evidence for example at the rockshelters of Parmerpar Meethaner and Warreen in the remote headwater catchments of the Forth River valley in northern Tasmania date to around 40,000 years ago and indicate that the technological and ecological knowledge to exploit these less watered valleys almost certainly predated the occupation of Australia (ibid). Consequently, although less attractive and obviously less resourced than the large, reliable river valleys, the rugged sandstone country of the Woronora Plateau's may yet provide evidence of early occupation in the headwater catchments of the Shire. The most recent ancient archaeological discovery was on the Pleistocene alluvial terraces of the Parramatta River at Parramatta Park, NSW, providing evidence of Aboriginal occupation and use of the area on and around the river from at least 40,000 years ago (GML 2018). This reinforces and echoes an earlier archaeological investigation at Cranebrook Terrace near Penrith which produced a date of c.41,000 years ago (Nanson et al 1987; Stockton and Nanson 2004). Other old sites include a rockshelter with rock art at Kings Table, Wentworth Falls with dates of approximately 22-14,500 years ago putting the sites occupation firmly within the colder, drier and windier extreme conditions that would have prevailed in the Blue Mountains during the Last Glacial Maximum (Stockton and Holland 1974; henceforth 'LGM'), another rockshelter at Shaws Creek K2 in the Blue Mountains Plateau dating to ~14,500 years ago, as well as a terminal Pleistocene site dating from between 15-11,000 years ago from a source bordering dune on the Hawkesbury River at Pitt Town (Williams et al 2012). South of Wollondilly Shire there are two other sites that fall within this early period, Burrill Lake which was occupied some 20,000 years ago (Lampert 1971), and Bass Point which dates from around 17,000 years ago (Bowdler 1970). Although coastal locations today, the dates for both Bass Point and Burrill Lake place them at the height of the LGM (c.27-17,000 years ago) when sea levels were some 120 m lower than today, meaning that the coastline was at least 5-10 kms east of the modern shoreline, depending on the continental shelves topography (Albani et al 2015). The evidence from this range of archaeological sites suggests a settlement pattern across a diverse range of terrestrial and aquatic food resources that required flexibility in terms of mobility and range since sea levels, coastlines and the relative position of rivers and wetlands changed dramatically over these time frames (Attenbrow 2002).

The landscape settings for this early archaeological evidence are diverse and include stratified (layered) rock shelter deposits (Stockton and Holland 1974; Kohen et al 1984), alluvial sequences (Nanson et al 1987; Stockton and Nanson 2004; GML 2018) source bordering dunes (Williams et al 2012; Bowdler 1970), particularly on the margins of large river systems such as the Hawkesbury-Nepean Rivers (Williams et al 2012), and lake systems (Lampert 1971). The Wollondilly Shire therefore includes several important river valleys with tributaries located in the gorge landscapes of the Woronora Plateau such as the Nepean and Wollondilly Rivers, with both part of the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment, and the upper reaches of the Georges River which

drains from Appin (Advison 2021). It also has the Thirlmere Lakes, which is a well-studied refugia (Forbes et al 2021) during the otherwise drying trend gripping the landscape 40,000 years ago when Aboriginal settlement is known to appear in the area, with the dry trend peaking during the LGM, only finally giving way to the increasingly warmer and wetter climates in the last 11,700 years, a period known as the Holocene. In other words, Wollondilly Shire has the potential landscape contexts to retain some of the earliest archaeological evidence in the Sydney Basin, including Thirlmere Lakes, the alluvial floodplain settings of the Wollondilly and Nepean Rivers and their tributaries, as well as within rockshelter settings in the sandstone country on the Woronora Plateau.

The investigation into the nature, timing and geography of the earliest Aboriginal settlement of the Wollondilly Shire has not been a theme of previous archaeological investigations in the area. This is despite the Thirlmere Lakes forming part of a long-term climatic study analysing environmental trends from around the time of the Last Interglacial (or warm period) ~129-116,000 years ago to the present (Sherborne-Higgins 2019; Forbes et al 2021), but without an accompanying archaeological component. It would therefore be prudent to undertake an Aboriginal archaeological assessment for the Wollondilly Shire in the future, with a particular focus on the main river systems and their alluvial sequences, the Thirlmere Lakes system, and the potential for early occupation in the rockshelters of the sandstone country. Importantly, potential archaeological deposits associated with floodplains and the Thirlmere Lakes will not just be confined to surface contexts but may be located metres to tens of metres below modern-day ground surfaces. Therefore, any future archaeological review that considers the earliest evidence of Aboriginal settlement in the Wollondilly Shire will require a stratigraphic perspective, i.e. the potential for surface contexts and subsurface contexts to have archaeological deposits or artefacts associated with them, must also be investigated. Importantly, any Aboriginal archaeological study for the Wollondilly Shire should be managed through a cultural framework since it is highly likely that cultural knowledge will not only reinforce the historical themes but add several layers of cultural complexity to an otherwise scientifically dominated process.

Historic Theme 2: Into and out of the Ice Age: climatic changes and Aboriginal settlement patterns.

When Aboriginal People had begun settling the area we now know as the Wollondilly Shire some 40,000 years ago, the climatic trend for Australia was that of a continent generally drying out since the end of the previous Last Interglacial (~129-116,000 years ago), with this process ultimately cumulating in the coldest, driest and windiest period demarcated as the LGM, or the last ice age (Forbes et al 2021; Mooney et al 2021). This trend brought with it the coldest, driest and windiest conditions that Aboriginal People would have ever experienced in their occupation of Australia, accompanied by a much larger landmass because of the exposure of the continental shelf, with the Proto-Parramatta for example meeting the coastline some 10 km east of North and South Heads, some 40 kms (as the crow flies) from its current tidal position at Parramatta Park. This lowering of sea levels would have seen an accompanying drop in water tables meaning wetlands would dry up in some areas and migrate closer to the much lower river base levels within a very much expanded drainage network exposed by falling sea levels. Additionally, the expansion of the continental shelf conjoined Tasmania and New Guinea to Australia and created a landmass one third larger than today known as Sahul (Attenbrow 2002).

The trend into the last ice age meant therefore that resources shifted location, and the main river systems of Wollondilly Shire (Nepean, Wollondilly and Georges Rivers) became entrenched within alluvial floodplains that could be tens of metres lower than today's floodplains. With falling rivers came falling water tables (which are linked to river and sea levels), meaning that any wetlands associated with the river systems would also have shifted closer to where rivers had relocated. A shift in the location and position of water and associated aquatic resources would also have meant an accompanying shift in Aboriginal settlement patterns to relocate closer to water and aquatic resources. Importantly, the Woronora Plateau would also have been further removed from its modern position in relation to the coastline and 120 m higher in relation to the relative sea levels of the time, i.e. the cooler, drier and windier conditions would have been compounded by the Shires different relative landscape and elevated topographic position in comparison to today's setting. Again, we do not as yet have any direct archaeological evidence from the Wollondilly Shire for this timeframe, but the proximity of archaeological evidence from within rockshelters at Kings Table and Shaws Creek K2 in the Blue Mountains, two areas to the south at Burrill Lake and Bass Point, and most importantly, the Terminal Pleistocene occupation of a source-bordering dune on the Hawkesbury River downstream of the Nepean, indicates that Aboriginal People were using the landscape around – and almost certainly within – Wollondilly Shire during the last ice age.

There is therefore a high probability that archaeological evidence resides within the alluvial sequences of the now-drowned river valleys – particularly along the middle and lower reaches of river systems. In terms of Wollondilly Shire, this includes numerous tributaries of the Nepean River at Menangle (Navigation and Foot Onslow Creek), Cawdor (Matahil Creek), Theresa Park (Eagle and Wattle Creeks), Mount Hunter (Spring Creek and Mount Hunter Rivulet), Brownlow Hill (Flaggy Creek), The Oaks (Werriberrie Creek) and the Nepean River's floodplain itself between the suburbs of Brownlow Hill north to Wallacia. These alluvial floodplain settings are arguably some of the most archaeologically sensitive areas for the earliest potential occupation of the Wollondilly Shire by Aboriginal People, and have the potential to illustrate how, where and why people shifted their campsites during the more challenging climatic trends of the last ice age. This potential archaeological sensitivity also extends to the Thirlmere Lakes, since we have sedimentary archives covering this period that clearly demonstrate the location was a refugia for plant (Forbes et al 2021; Sherborne-Higgins 2019), and therefore by extension animal and human populations.

Interestingly, as outlined earlier, the expectations for this phase of occupation are that Aboriginal settlement patterns are more likely to be located in close proximity to water, which is the case for all the earliest regional archaeological sites except for the rockshelters at Kings Table and Shaws Creek K2. The Kings Table rockshelter is also located at a considerable elevation (c.700 m ASL [above sea level] today), a factor that would have made the location even less attractive during the height of the last ice age. So why were these areas occupied during these harsh climatic regimes? Although we don't have a definitive answer at this time, there is a high probability that the earliest archaeological evidence in these marginal ice age landscapes was linked to responsibilities for caring for Country, religion, Men's or Women's business or combinations thereof. In other words, there are likely to be cultural rather than just economic or subsistence

factors determining the settlement patterns of the earliest and oldest archaeological sites in the Shire. It further reinforces the need for a cultural, as well as scientific, perspective on the Aboriginal 'historic' themes.

Historic Theme 3: The long hot summer: the stabilisation of climates in the Holocene and the Mid-Holocene intensification debate on Aboriginal settlement patterns.

As humanity entered the Holocene 11,700 years ago and bid farewell to the ice age climates of the Pleistocene (for ever?), the final pieces of the landscape jigsaw puzzle were emplaced as we entered the last major climatic shift into the warmer and wetter conditions of this epoch. The early Holocene saw the inexorable rise of sea levels continue from the end of the Pleistocene, with Broken Bay and North and South Heads breached by the rising oceans around 10,000 years ago, and the estuaries of the Hawkesbury-Nepean and Georges Rivers taking on their modern characters by about 7-7,500 years ago (Czastka 2021). Sea levels did not however stop there but carried on rising to a Mid Holocene high of +/- 1-2 m ASL, which lasted until about 2,000 years ago, when sea levels fell and finally stabilised at approximately the levels we see today (Lewis et al 2013; Murray-Wallace and Woodroffe 2014). The stabilisation - more or less - of coastlines into broadly their modern character by the Mid Holocene meant that the highly productive estuarine zones also expanded considerably over this period. At the same time, the oceans were drowning Pleistocene river valleys, and rivers took on positions relative to the new sea levels and topography of coastlines, with an accompanying rise in the size and area covered by wetlands on the mainland (ibid; Attenbrow 2002; Forbes et al 2021).

It is during the Holocene and in particular from the Mid Holocene, that archaeologists begin to observe an increase in the number of archaeological sites, a characteristic that many archaeologists have interpreted as a proxy for an increase in Aboriginal populations from this time, coinciding with the onset of the Holocene climatic optimum (9-6,000 years ago) (Lourandos 1983; 1985; Lourandos and Ross 1994; Williams et al 2015). There is no doubt that the number of archaeological sites begins to increase from the time of the Holocene but making a connection with a supposed increase in the number of people at the same time ignores other lines of evidence. Firstly, there is the simple fact that between the end of the last ice age and the Mid Holocene (~14,700 to 6,000 years ago) a third of the Australian landmass disappeared beneath the rising sea levels, as we have already discussed, i.e. even a stable or falling Aboriginal population over this time would look larger because it was forced to occupy a considerably smaller geographical area. Secondly, the exploration of the drowned river valleys and continental shelves of Australia for Aboriginal archaeological signatures is very much the exception rather than the rule (Holdgate et al 2011; Ward et al 2015), with only a handful of studies available in relation to the thousands of pedestrian archaeological surveys and excavations that have taken place in terrestrial environments (Lourandos 1983; 1985; Lourandos and Ross 1994; McDonald and Rich 1993; McDonald 2007; White and McDonald 2010; Williams et al 2015). Thirdly, there is the question of the preservation of archaeological sites or artefacts which become increasingly rare the further back in time we go. Lastly, there is the simple fact that more recent archaeological sites tend to be more visible (or more easily 'detected') because they are at or close to a modern-day surface, as opposed to older Early Holocene or Pleistocene sites which can be metres to tens

of metres below ground surfaces (Attenbrow 2002; Attenbrow and Hiscock 2015; Benjamin and Ulm 2021; Davies et al 2015).

The archaeological evidence for the Early to Mid-Holocene reflects the challenges that Aboriginal populations were going through because of shrinking land masses and the need to reorganise the relative position and overall size of clan or tribal estates for Aboriginal populations at or near coastal areas such as the Wollondilly Shire. As such, Aboriginal archaeological sites dating to this period have the potential to demonstrate the nature or changing nature of landscape use, modifications in diet, as well as the reorganisation of technology or the social structures of clan and tribal groups (Hiscock 2007: 162). The history of archaeological investigations in the Wollondilly Shire is a recent phenomenon largely driven by the need to manage cultural resources within statutory frameworks. As a result, there are no previous systematic research-driven regional or local reviews of Aboriginal archaeology within the Shire that focus on the unique landscape of the Woronora Plateau to the south, and the southern flank of the Cumberland Basin (Plain) in the north. Although connected, the rugged character of the sandstone geology of the plateau is very different to the more gently undulating hill topography of the Cumberland Basin's shale geology. The archaeological expectation therefore is that these two very different geological settings would give rise to very different types of settlement and use, in large part due to the differences in how resources and water would be distributed across each bedrock type. An obvious but relevant example would be rock art or rockshelters: both types of these archaeological site types require sandstone geology, and that is confined to the Woronora Plateau and the eastern edge of the Blue Mountains Plateau within the confines of Wollondilly Shire. Unfortunately, there are no published reports on the Aboriginal archaeology specific to the landscapes of the Woronora Plateau, but there are multiple studies available for the Cumberland Plain. Whilst these differences in geomorphology, geology ecology are acknowledged, it is beyond the scope of the current study to present an archaeological model of settlement for the plateau country, and we are forced therefore to rely on what we know for the Cumberland Plain. Key factors that would be considered important for attracting settlement on the Woronora Plateau would however include the presence (or former location) of 'dells (sensu Young 1982; basically a type of swamp)' around the headwaters of the deep gorges providing access to water, plant and animal resources, with the rugged relief of the gorge landforms also providing suitable geological settings for rockshelters and water (Figure 6), in addition to the Thirlmere Lakes providing a reliable long term refugia and therefore focus for Aboriginal settlement in the Wollondilly Shire.

The archaeology of the Cumberland Plain has been subject to investigations for over 50 years and the perceptions as to the nature of Aboriginal settlement patterns have evolved considerably over this time (Kohen 1986; Smith 1988; 1989; White and McDonald 2010; Barham 2008; Czastka 2021). These studies have determined that there are certain characteristics that define Aboriginal settlement patterns of the Cumberland Plain, at least since the transition into the Holocene (14,700 years ago), but more likely since sea levels stabilised at the current levels around 7,500 years ago. Key factors that determine the location of archaeological sites in the Cumberland Plain include landform, distance to water, geology, stream order for creek lines and aspect (White and McDonald 2010).

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal activities that have a high visibility in the landscape such as base camps or persistent places (Morgan et al 2018) are more likely to be located on landforms such as ridgelines, elevated river terraces or flat, benched areas on slopes protected from prevailing wind conditions. Conversely, there are locations more likely to reflect activity-specific but low-density archaeological signatures which have a lower detectability in the landscape such as gathering plant resources or hunting game on the periphery of swamps, waterholes or creeks. Additionally, low density archaeological signatures are also more likely to be located in seasonally wet or permanently waterlogged areas, attributes that make them unlikely to characterise anything but short-term, activity specific visitation.

For the Cumberland Basin (Plain), the work of White and McDonald provides the standard archaeological view for factors that determine Aboriginal settlement patterns, and these can be summarised as (2010: 32-34):

Stream order: the proximity of water and/or its seasonal availability/permanence is considered one of the fundamental aspects determining the location of archaeological sites that reflect long-term, persistent occupation, particularly on certain landform elements such as ridgelines and alluvial terraces.

Landform element: carrying on from the first point, landform elements in close proximity to water are considered archaeologically sensitive and include floodplains - and in particular elevated terraces above floodplains - as well as ridgelines and slope landform elements that are benched (i.e. relatively flat) and sheltered away from prevailing wind directions.

Aspect: again, this carries on from the preceding point where the orientation of open land surfaces may have influenced people's choices of locations for short-term camping verses residing in semi-permanent base camps. Attractive attributes include the fact that north-facing slopes tend to be drier and provide shelter from the colder southeast or southwest winds, and slopes that face the northeast receive morning sun in winter and are sheltered from the hot afternoon sun in summer.

Geology: the nature of the geology influences site types and their location. So, for example, the rugged relief of the Hawkesbury Sandstone gorges of the Cumberland Plain are a prerequisite for the location of rockshelters and rock art (painted or engraved), whereas the gently undulating topography of the shale geology provides the landscape setting for the open archaeological sites of floodplain, river terrace, slope and ridgeline landforms.



Figure 3. The confluence of the Nepean and Warragamba Rivers by E.B. de la Touanne c.1823 (Source: <https://collection.qagoma.qld.gov.au> Accession No. 2007.193).

However, questions remain as to the significance of these characteristics when they ignore for example the drowned river valleys of the Georges River in Botany Bay or the Hawkesbury River in Broken Bay (Barham 2008; Czastka 2021). Other attributes, such as the largely negative impacts of post-Contact land management practices, are also not generally considered as contributing factors influencing the nature, condition and survival of the archaeological record in the Cumberland Plain (Czastka 2021; 2021a).

In summary, the archaeology of the Holocene is therefore very different to the earlier settlement of the continent, and as we have discussed, this reflects a combination of environmental and climatic factors. The majority of the extant Aboriginal archaeology within the Wollondilly Shire will fall within the Holocene timeframe, but as we have seen the detectability, nature, extent and significance of archaeological signatures will vary depending on where and when the archaeology was emplaced. Thus, the theme of the Holocene could be subdivided based on chronological and environmental factors into three phases:

Early Holocene (11,700 - 7,000 years ago): this marks the onset of the post-glacial world where the climatic trend reflected generally warmer temperatures with increasing rainfall and accompanied by rising sea levels. The end of this phase finds sea levels reaching levels analogous to modern-day heights.

Mid Holocene (7,000 - 2000 years ago): this encompasses a period of time when sea levels fluctuated approximately one to two metres above present-day levels, but the variation in climate or sea level is minor in comparison to the changes that preceded this phase.

Late Holocene to Contact (2,000 – 234 years ago): this phase is marked by the final stabilisation of sea levels at their modern-day levels with an accompanying climate that was until recently stable.

The archaeological theme for the Holocene is therefore more complicated than it may look at first because of the interplay of climatic, environmental and human factors as we move closer to the present. There may be a case for splitting this theme into the three constituent chronological phases outlined above in the future, but the current reality is that there is simply not enough archaeological data - or enough dated archaeological data - for these phases to be established using the existing archaeological archive. These phases should however be used to guide how future Aboriginal heritage studies use research designs, as well as identifying what accompanying methods or techniques are considered relevant to their study.

Historic Theme 4: First Contact, impressions and exploration of the Wollondilly Shire.

'While, as all students of history know, the story of contact between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in this region is not one from which anyone could extract pleasure or pride, there is nonetheless opportunity here for us to confront the past, consider and understand the facts as they are recorded, and act so as to eradicate dispossession, prejudice, and injustice from the future...Comprehensive (regional) Australian histories of the future ought not be written without substantive reference to Aboriginal perspectives (Organ 1990: xiii).'

Earlier heritage studies of the Wollondilly Shire have reviewed the early history of first contact and exploration into what we now call the Wollondilly Shire, noting that Watkin Tench was the first European to find the Nepean River somewhere near the present-day Penrith in 1789 (Holmes 1993: 8). Tench is also credited as leading the first Europeans to cross into what is now the Wollondilly Shire. He led an exploration party over a week in August 1790 accompanied by Mr Lowe (surgeon's mate of the *Sirius*), Captain Johnson and Lieutenant Hill, crossing the Nepean and travelling in a SSW direction to reach 'Pyramid Hill' on the northern flank of the Razorback Range, a point from which Tench and his companions were to sight the colony's escaped cattle for the first time (Oehm 2006; see below). The only other European figure associated with the area at this early time was John Wilson, an ex-convict who had gone bush in 1792 and obviously lived with members of the Gundungarra tribe since he was purported to have lived there for some time (ibid). Described by David Collins as '*...a wild, idle young man who preferred living amongst the natives to earning the wages of honest industry* (quoted in Chisholm 2006),' Wilson managed to be accepted into Aboriginal society to whom he was known as 'Bun-bo-e' and must have joined a clan, since he was observed to be heavily scared by tribal markings and dressed in only a kangaroo skin (Chisholm 2006). There can be no doubt however that the tribes of the Wollondilly Shire would have either seen or interacted with the British before their incursions into the Shire itself because of their obligations and connections with the coastal tribes such as the Dharawal and Gadigal.

The Wollondilly Shires real claim to historical fame really begins, however, with the escape of some cattle from the convict settlement in Sydney Cove in June 1788 that made their way to the Cowpastures, at the same time providing what would have been many Aboriginal Peoples first impressions of some of the foreign invaders! The First Fleet had picked up four cows and two bulls at the Cape of Good Hope on the journey to Australia, but the cattle escaped within five months of landing and eventually made their way to the grasslands on the Nepean Rivers floodplain, an area that was to become known as Cowpastures (Figure 4). The animals obviously flourished because when they were rediscovered by a couple of kangaroo hunters in 1795, the herd had grown 'to a fat, sleek, fierce herd of about 60 animals (Karskens 2020: 87).' It did, however, convince the settlers of the viability of breeding cattle in the country, and it became common for herds to be let loose in the bush to graze. As Karskens observed (ibid), '*successive governors regarded the wild cattle with a kind of reverence, as a miraculous asset to the colony*' and instigated protective measures by declaring the areas to the west and north sides of the Nepean River out of bounds to settlers. In 1803, Governor King issued a proclamation in July banning any unauthorised entry south of the Nepean River to stop poaching of the wild cattle (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, Sunday 10 July 1803 page 1). By 1806, the herd had grown to 3,000 and had spread to other parts of NSW, and wild cattle could still be seen into the 1930's and 40's, for example 'in the upper reaches of Mumdebah Creek near the foot of Mount Guouogang (Else-Mitchell 1939: 129-130).'



Figure 4. View upon the Nepean River, at the Cow Pastures New South Wales 1824-1825 Joseph Lycett (SLNSW).

The first real direct impacts that the Gundaungurra, Tharawal and Dharug People would have felt in relation to the invasion however was the smallpox epidemic introduced by Europeans, which started in April 1789 and swept through and decimated Aboriginal populations. Although we will never know the exact figures of Aboriginal People who perished as a direct result of the epidemic, epidemiological studies of the outbreak have suggested that up to 80% of the Aboriginal population died as a result of the disease (Boon 2017: 301). Contemporary accounts provide some insight into the horror that decimated the Aboriginal populations in Sydney and the Cumberland Plain and reduced the Gadigal – the clan on whose land Sydney town was built – to three people (Attenbrow 2002: 22 – 23). For example, in 1821, Reverend William Walker listed nine tribes attending one of the Annual Feasts instigated by the British but described only two of the tribes as numerous: the ‘Cowpastures tribe’ under Boodberrie, and the ‘Five Islands tribe’ at Illawarra. Of the other tribes attending, Walker described the ‘tribe’ at Liverpool ‘*had not more than 15 – 20,*’ the ‘*Kissing Point tribe is very small*’ and Botany Bay ‘*not numerous* (Walker 1821 quoted Attenbrow 2002: 22).’ The tribes of the Wollondilly Shire would however continue to live as hunter-gatherers on their traditional lands until at least the 1840’s.

The various tribes of the Wollondilly Shire do not have any detailed historical accounts specifically targeting their customs or lifeways; rather, they crop up in various colonist’s accounts associated with particular places, for example the Cowpastures tribe or the Broken Bay tribes mentioned earlier. It became common for Aboriginal People to be identified by their memberships to these groups, particularly after the 1820’s, which is why clan affiliations are so difficult to identify from the historical evidence. And it is not until the 1870’s that the names Darug, Dharawal, Darginung, Guringai and Eora for example were used to refer languages in various documents and publications (Attenbrow 2002: 30 - 31). One colonist – Reverend William Ridley – did collate word lists in the latter half of the 19th Century, calling one of the languages Turuwul, which he said had been spoken by the extinct tribe of Port Jackson and Botany Bay. The problem with these lists however was only pointed out by later scholars demonstrating that they were mixtures of more than one language. This mixing of languages was attributed to the fact that so many people ended up moving from places like the Burragorang Valley (in Wollondilly Shire), Illawarra and the south coast to La Perouse from the 1850’s onwards. The second language recorded by Ridley was attributed by him to tribes from Appin, Cowpasture, and the George’s River, all three places located on or running through Wollondilly Shire (ibid: 32). It took however the work of one of Australia’s pioneering linguists and anthropologists – R.H Matthews - at the beginning of the 20th Century to provide details on the distribution of certain languages relative to other dialects. As this related directly to the Dharruk (whom he also referred to as Dhar’ook or Dharook [and we have referred to as Darug]) and Gund’dungur’ra (Gundaungurra) and include details on geographical locations, it is worth providing the numerous quotes documented by Attenbrow (2002: 32):

‘The Dharruk speaking people adjoined the Thurawal on the north, extending along the coast to the Hawkesbury River, and inland to what are now Windsor, Penrith, Campbelltown, and intervening (Matthews 1901: 155).

The Dhar’-rook dialect, very closely resembling the Gundungurra, was spoken at Campbelltown, Liverpool, Camden, Penrith, and possibly as far east as Sydney, where it merged into the Thurawal. A very old Dharrook blackfellow, named “Jimmy Lownds”, [sic] only recently deceased, informed us

that the Gundungurra and Dharrook natives could converse together with but very little difficulty (Matthews and Everitt 1900: 265).

The Dhar'rook and Gun'dungur'ra tribes respectively occupied the country from the mouth of the Hawkesbury river [sic] to Mount Victoria, and thence southerly to Berrima and Gouldbourn, New South Wales. On the south and south-east they were joined by the Thurrawal, whose language has the same structure, although differing in vocabulary (Matthews 1901a: 140).

To the north and north-west of the Thoorga are the Thur'rawal. Dhar'rok, Gun'dungur'ra and Ngoonawal tribes. Adjoining the Thoorga on the south are the Jirringaŋ, Thâwa and other communities. The speech of all the tribes mentioned is similar in grammatical structure, although differing more or less widely in vocabulary, and constitute a language which differs in several important respects from that of the natives of other portions of New South Wales.

The above aggregate of tribes covers the territory between the Hawkesbury River and Cape Howe, extending inland til met by the great Wiraijuri [sic] nation...(Matthews 1902: 49).'

Mathew's work referred to Darginung, Darug, Dharawal and Gundungurra as dialects, placing the Thurrawal (Dharawal) speaking people over the southeast from Port Hacking to Jervis Bay and extending 'for a considerable distance (Matthews 1901: 127).' Attenbrow goes on to summarise the evidence for the three tribes of the Wollondilly Shire areas geographical distribution as (2002: 34):

- *'Darug, hinterland dialect – on the Cumberland Plain from Appin to the south to the Hawkesbury River in the north; west of the Georges River, Parramatta, the Lane Cover River and Berowra Creek;*
- *Dharawal – from south side of Botany Bay, extending south as far as the Shoalhaven River; from the coast to the Georges River and Appin, and possibly as far west as Camden;*
- *Gundungurra – southern rim of the Cumberland Plain west of the Georges River, as well as the southern Blue Mountains.'*

The geographical distribution of the three tribes that inhabited the Wollondilly Shire had links with the Sydney and Botany Bay areas, and may therefore explain the reason for the migration of many of the tribes remaining individuals from one of their last refuges around the Burragorang Valley in the 1840's to La Perouse in the 1850's. We do know however that many members of the various clans and tribes of Wollondilly Shire must have remained living in the area since Matthews (1908) was transcribing traditional knowledge about songlines and the mythology of the Gundungurra in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, and notably Werriberrie's (Billy Russell) *My Recollections* of the area were published as late as 1914 (Figure 5). The descendants of the Traditional Owners are still very much a part of their cultural landscape and their stories, history, culture and experiences since the invasion need to be told, not by non-Aboriginal writers, but by the Traditional Owners themselves.

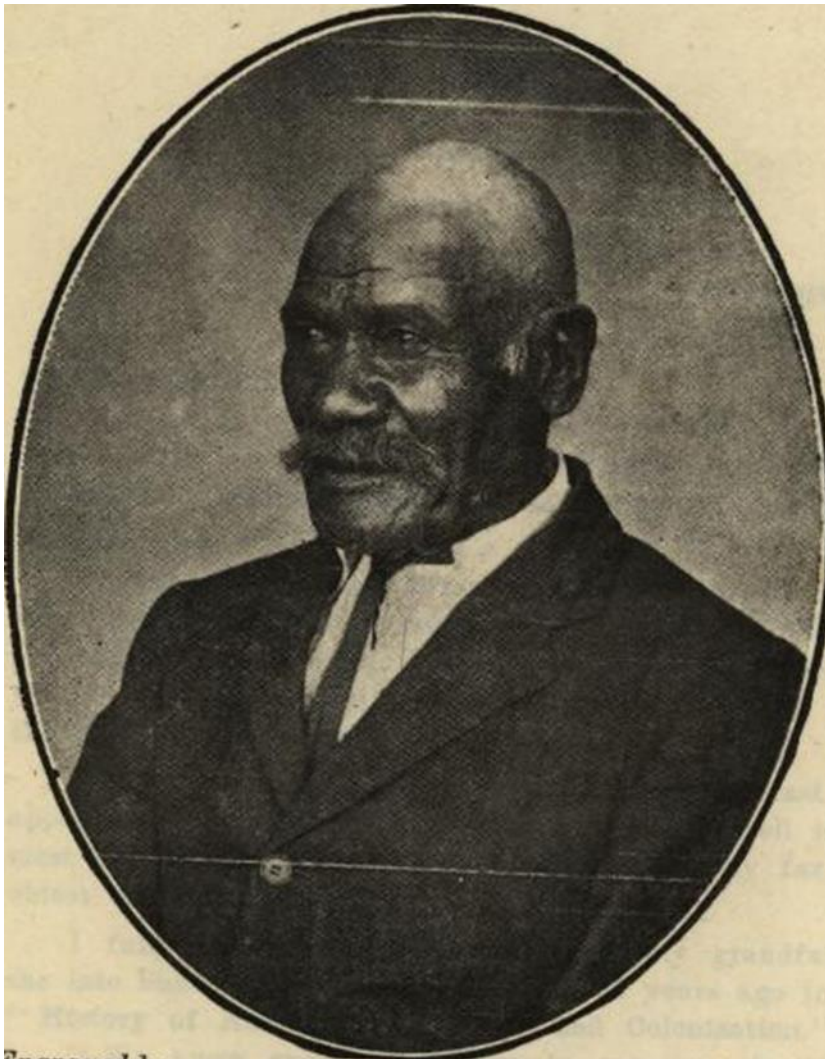


Figure 5. William Russell 'Werribenie.' The Chief Man of the Gun-dun-gorra Aborigines of the Burraborang Valley. Age 84 at 1914 (Source: Russell 1914; Photo by Roy Dowle, The Oaks).

Historic Theme 5: Conflict, massacres and the re-writing of Aboriginal history.

In the 1968 Boyer lectures, W.E.H Stanner - an eminent anthropologist - began a remarkable and awkward conversation amongst Australians by introducing the concept of '*the great Australian silence.*' These lectures were at the forefront of an emerging trend calling upon '*historians to ensure this pervasive forgetfulness of the Indigenous population ceased* (Beasley 2013: 30).' As the historian Michael Organ noted (1990: xxix – xxx):

'...the undeclared war waged between Europeans and the Aborigines of New South Wales from 1788 to about 1850 - formalized by Governor Macquarie's punitive expeditions of 1816 in which Aborigines to the west and south of Sydney (around Camden and Appin) were killed and taken "prisoners of war" by local Army regiments.

The significance of this campaign is largely unrecognized by white historians and the public at large, yet such an omission from the white history of Australia is understandable - though unforgivable -

when we remember that it has taken almost 200 years for Europeans to accept their own convict heritage, and it will surely take many more before the rather unpalatable realities concerning the first contacts with the Aborigines between 1788-1850, and the subsequent slaughters, abuses, and disregard at the hands of the white settlers, are exposed and accepted.'

This perspective permeates the review of primary historical sources on the Aboriginal People of the Illawarra and South Coast regions by Organ, clearly and accurately summarising these issues so well that it is worth quoting, particularly since it is a reflection of a perspective that is only now – 32 years later – being recognised and acknowledged by the broader Australian public (Organ 1990: xxviii – xxix):

'Captain Cook is still widely viewed as the 'discoverer' of eastern Australia, and the Aborigines, with their long history of settlement of this land and conservation of its resources, have been neglected, belittled, and considered of no consequence to contemporary society.

The truth of the matter is that the role of Europeans in the conquest of the Australian Aborigines was long considered too shameful for inclusion in standard white histories, which until quite recently have concentrated on political and economic developments within white society. Both the convicts and the Aborigines were only ever mentioned in passing and in generalised terms.

The reasons for these omissions will become obvious to any reader of this study or student of black-white relations in Australia over the past 200 years, for they reflect the darker side of this country's history, with widespread racism, an overpowering lust for land, brutal barbarity, and ignorance of Aboriginal cultures, common, amongst the introduced white population.

The fact that the Aborigines had a completely different concept of history from the Europeans; possessed no written records of their history and cultures prior to 1788 - though a rich oral and visual tradition existed and still exists; and were secretive regarding their beliefs and traditions, made European comprehension of their civilization difficult from the outset, especially when the great majority of whites did not bother to pursue an interest...

Today most Australians look with horror upon many of the practices which were considered so enlightened and humane by eighteenth and nineteenth century Europeans in their dealings with - the original Australians - these included the removal of children from families; the creation of special camps and reserves (the first concentration camps); the alienation of traditional lands; the rejection of all aspects of Aboriginal culture and religion; and the wholesale slaughter in the name of 'putting the poor savage out of his misery' (c.f. Reynolds, 1982). All such practices were presented under the auspices of colonisation, civilization, Christian charity, and progress, yet today we realise that in truth they were merely masking greed, racism, and inhumanity.'

There is a sense of the inevitable when we begin exploring the breakdown of relationships between Aboriginal People and the European invaders in the early days of the Australian colony and echoes the violent and one-sided history of all encounters between Europeans and First Nations People across the globe from the time of Columbus in the 15th Century. These sentiments also provided Europeans with a sense of superiority, offering up a feeling of an evolutionary inevitability about the whole process of colonisation that is still being echoed by former serving Australian Prime Ministers like Tony Abbot as recently as 2018 (refer to next theme for more details). The reality is that there was always going to be tensions that would eventually resolve themselves into armed conflicts as an economy based on commerce and profit encountered and overcame – in many instances through violence and death – a hunter-gatherer economy built on a sense of responsibility and balance.

Unusually for a European settler, Governor Arthur Phillip was initially well-disposed towards Aboriginal People in the first two years of his governorship, but the British were under no illusions that they were not welcomed by the local inhabitants, particularly as limited resources of food around Sydney Cove were rapidly consumed, and starvation led to armed conflicts between settlers and local Aboriginal People. The conflict in and around Sydney Cove may have spread in the first year or two but the outbreak of a smallpox epidemic amongst the Aboriginal population in 1789 (refer to theme 4 for more information) effectively wiped out any initial resistance by killing at least half of the indigenous population.

One of the interesting aspects of early colonial archaeology is that many – if not most – of the principal locations chosen initially for settlement by Europeans included complimentary attributes that were also seen as important by the Aboriginal People who had inhabited these areas beforehand. Factors such as access to water as a resource for food, drink, and use as a travel route, elevated ridgelines for commanding views as well as for use as tracks, and fertile floodplains for grazing animals or growing crops by Europeans translated to resource rich areas utilised by the Aboriginal inhabitants, as well as their marine and terrestrial pathways. Dispossession, starvation and disease were the outcomes faced by Aboriginal People from 1788 as they realised that European values were not aligned with their own as traditional lands were lost and traditional foodstuffs replaced by European crops and animals. The loss of access to water was particularly devastating for Aboriginal People as water ways were slowly cut off by the granting of land to settlers along prized river frontages originally around Sydney Cove and Parramatta, but quickly spreading to other areas of the Cumberland Plain before pushing south into the Wollondilly Shire and north into the Hunter valley.

Fast forward to the early 1800's and the Aboriginal People of the South Coast once described as '*far more happier than we Europeans*' by Cook in 1770 were now perceived as '*of a hideous Aspect, wore frightful beards, & hitherto were estranged to every race but their own & if the report of their civilised countrymen be true, they still adhere to their primitive cannibal habits*' (*The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser*, Sunday 18 March 1804, quoted in Elder 1998: 21). Increasing pressure and expansion out of the Cumberland Plain – west across the Blue Mountains to the Bathurst Plains and south and southwest into Appin and the Cowpastures and the south coast – began a repetitive tit-for-tat killing spree between the Europeans and Aboriginal population as traditional food resources became scarce and access to water was restricted or cut-off from the Traditional Owners (Elder 1998: 23). Like Phillip before him, Governor Macquarie was initially well-disposed to Aboriginal People and understood that '*it was enough so to convince any unprejudiced Man that the first personal attacks were made on the Part of the Settlers, and of their servants*' (General Order issued by Macquarie on 18 June 1814). This conciliatory attitude was slowly chipped away by the continued killings that rocked the Appin-Cowpastures-Bringelly district, so much so that by 1816 Macquarie ordered three detachments of the 46th Regiment of the district on a punitive expedition with orders to either capture or shoot any Aboriginal People they came across. This culminated in the worse massacre ever recorded for the Wollondilly Shire area with the massacre of men, women and children in the Airds and Appin districts on the 17th April 1816 by the party of soldiers led by Captain James Wallis, his own words echoing the warped and twisted sentiments of the time:

'I formed line ranks, entered and pushed on through a thick brush towards the precipitous banks a deep rocky creek. The dogs gave the alarm and the natives fled over the cliffs. A smart firing now ensued...

...I regret to say some had been shot and others met their fate by rushing in despair over the precipice...I led up two women and three children. They were all that remained...

Twas a melancholy but necessary duty I was employed upon. Fourteen dead bodies were counted in different directions...I regretted the death of an old native Balyin and the unfortunate women and children (quoted in Elder 1998: 25).'

The fact is it took until 1838 before the first Europeans in NSW were 'brought to trial, found guilty, and hung for barbarities committed against the Aborigines, despite many blatant cases both before and after that date for which the authorities took no action (Organ 1990: 37).' Non-Aboriginal cultural and historical perceptions of the 'positive' experience of colonisation of Australia are reflected in the history books and until recently the real history 'remained hidden in archival collections, or [was] simply cast aside by so-called learned historians more interested in enhancing the myth of the valiant explorer and pioneer settler 'taming' the land, than in exposing the realities and harsh inhumanity of conquest following the invasion of 1788 (Orban 1990: xxix).' Fortunately, these attitudes are slowly being eroded as evidenced by the 2022 ground-breaking SBS documentary 'The Australian Wars.' This documentary has also rekindled a wider debate with the Australian War Memorial's promise of a 'deeper depiction' of the frontier wars (ABC 2 October 2022) and provides a backdrop to the debate in Australia about an Aboriginal Voice to Parliament that emerged as a result of the ground-breaking 'The Uluru Statement' in 2017 (From the Heart 2017).

Historic Theme 6: The road to truth and reconciliation: a history of continuing Aboriginal struggles.

'It is a question of the country's ability to deal with history, because history is not something that dwells in years gone by; it is something that dwells among us now and it prescribes the way in which we will behave in the future. Indeed it incites us to behave in different ways in the future. The success with which this country deals with its past is absolutely critical to the future that the country lays down for itself. To deal successfully with that past is to admit the truth of the past and admit the facts of what has happened (Noel Pearson 1995 quoted in Commonwealth of Australia 2012: 13).'

The attitudes of the British invaders were embedded in the concept of Terra Nullis (belonged to no-one):

'It follows that ultimately the basis of settlement in Australia is and always has been the exertion of force by and on behalf of the British Crown. No-one asked permission to settle. No-one consented, no-one ceded. Sovereignty was not passed from the Aboriginal peoples by any actions of legal significance voluntarily taken by or on behalf of them (Commonwealth of Australia 2012: 22).'

It was this concept of denying Aboriginal rights to ownership - arguably one of their most sacred laws - that allowed the British settlers to justify and propagate the invasion and dispossession of traditional lands and the murder, rape and enslavement of its First Nations People (Organ 1990: xxx). The historical and in many ways the contemporary position of Aboriginal People in Australia's post-Contact society is further exemplified by the fact that the Australian Constitution (contained in clause 9 of the *Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900* (Imperial), a statute of the United Kingdom's Parliament) makes no mention in the preamble of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander People's (Commonwealth of Australia 2012: 14):

‘Whereas the people of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania, humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God, have agreed to unite in one indissoluble Federal Commonwealth under the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and under the Constitution hereby established.’

More importantly, at Federation only two references were included in the body of the Australian Constitution (ibid):

- *‘The Commonwealth Parliament was denied power to make laws with respect to people of ‘the aboriginal race in any State’. Section 51(xxvi), the so-called ‘race power’, conferred on Parliament the power to make laws with respect to ‘the people of any race, other than the aboriginal race in any State, for whom it is deemed necessary to make special laws.’*
- *Section 127 provided: ‘In reckoning the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth, or of a State or other part of the Commonwealth, aboriginal natives shall not be counted.’*

Is it surprising therefore that until recently, Aboriginal people and their culture was – if mentioned at all - at best a curiosity and at worse an encumbrance to white Australia's vision of progress. The nature of the dialogue and the language used of the time certainly confirms this, as the following two examples illustrate:

‘...the moment the Commonwealth obtains any legislative power at all it should have the power to regulate the affairs of the people of coloured or inferior races who are in the Commonwealth (comments made by Australia’s first prime minister in 1898 [Official Record of the Debates of the Australasian Federal Convention, Third Session, Melbourne, 20 January – 17 March 1898, at 240]).’

‘I think the cry throughout Australia will be that our first duty is to ourselves, and that we should as far as possible make Australia home for Australians and the British race alone (James Howe 1898 [Official Record of the Debates of the Australasian Federal Convention, Third Session, Melbourne, 20 January – 17 March 1898, at 251]).’

Compare this attitude with a perspective from the 1960’s that ‘revea[ed] only too clearly a widespread attitude of white superiority to all coloured peoples, and ready acceptance of the view that the welfare of such people in Australia was of little importance (Sawer 1966),’ and we can begin to appreciate the magnitude of change in attitudes, belief and understanding of mutual histories between non-Aboriginal – and in particular Anglo-Celts – and the First Nations People of Australia since that time. This attitude was also responsible for the creation of missions and the justification for the concepts behind the enacting of the laws around the Stolen Generations, one of the earliest being the *Victorian Aboriginal Protection Act* of 1869, with NSW following this in 1883 when the *Board for the Protection of Aborigines* was established (Australian Museum 2020).

The tyranny of time has done little to quell these racist attitudes in some circles, including former Liberal Prime Ministers such as Tony Abbot, to make blatantly racist statements, for example: ‘What happened on the 26th of January 1788 was, on balance, for everyone, Aboriginal people included, a good thing because it brought Western civilisation to this country, it brought Australia into the modern world (2018)’ or his statement referring to Aboriginal People living on Country ‘What we can’t do is endlessly subsidise lifestyle choices if those lifestyle choices are not conducive to the kind of full participation in Australian society that everyone should have (2015) (SBS 22 January 2018).’ Clearly, there are some individuals and sections of society that will never want to see reconciliation, truth telling, treaty or a voice to parliament for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Australia. Unfortunately, this debate is still a work in progress, but acknowledging, researching and

publishing alternative historical themes that are more representative of First Nations People's experiences in the Wollondilly Shire – both historically and today – is the right step in acknowledging and reconciling '*the great Australian silence*.'

In keeping with the modern spirit of this theme therefore, CPH acknowledge that it should be written by the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Wollondilly Shire in a manner that they choose to approach it, using their own cultural protocols that should be worked out with Council before any studies begin. For example, some types of cultural information will obviously be sensitive and cannot therefore be directly placed on *State Heritage* or *Local Environmental Plan* registers. Rather, knowledge holders and site boundaries can be identified, and protocols emplaced that allow for direct consultation with the knowledge holders in cases where Aboriginal sites or Places curtilages may be impacted or encroached upon as a result of development.

Discussion

It is clear from even a cursory review of the available historical data and previous heritage studies for Wollondilly Shire that all previous studies have emphasised the history and heritage since 1788 to the detriment of Aboriginal archaeology, culture and history. As the review of Aboriginal historical themes illustrates, a study of culture and archaeology cannot be complete without reference to the climatic and environmental changes that have taken place over the last 40,000 years in the Wollondilly Shire. This environmental history is a vital component of any future Aboriginal heritage studies because they provide a framework – a stratigraphic one in this case - where environmental, archaeological and historic data sets can be structured to provide a holistic historical and modern commentary on Aboriginal cultural heritage within the Wollondilly Shire.

One aspect of the historic themes that has not been able to be covered in this review is the *specific* cultural aspects of Aboriginal knowledge since that can only be undertaken by the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Wollondilly Shire. We know for example from the work of Mathews (1901; 1901a) and Smith (2009) about how the Gundungurra named places and where some of the culturally significant sites associated with songlines are located on the Coxs River. But, both bodies of work are based on Aboriginal informants, with Mathews embedding himself in numerous Aboriginal tribes and clans through his work as a surveyor in the late 19th and early 20th Century's, and Smith reviewing the settlers' diaries of Alfred Leonard Bennett (1877 – 1942) about traditional Gundungurra society, in large part based on knowledge divulged and transcribed from Werriberrie, also known as Billy Russell (c.1835 – 1914). It is only appropriate therefore that Wollondilly Shire Council continue this work with the Traditional Owners and Custodians: we know for example of at least one previous study that identified six areas as culturally significant in the Wollondilly Shire's and Campbelltown's LGA's, but this information is culturally sensitive and can only be accessed – if culturally appropriate – by engaging with the knowledge holders themselves directly. Areas that could be mentioned in the public domain from this study included (ibid: 19):

'In addition to the specific cultural locations listed above, a number of other areas were considered to have cultural importance arising from participant's first-hand knowledge of a large number of rockshelter and open sites occurring within these areas. These areas included areas south of Gilead, the catchment of Elladale Creek, a small area north of Menangle and a small location near Bingara Gorge. The importance of the Nepean River was also identified with the riverbanks between

Menangle and Douglas Park being highlighted. In the southern part of the study area participants commented that many sites occurred along the headwaters of the upper creeks at the interface with the relatively flat country where access to both the open hunting grounds and the sandstone shelters occurring along the creeklines was relatively easy. Participants also noted that a large area of land was owned by Tharawal LALC in the Appin region along the south-eastern border of the study area and as yet no decision have been made as to its future use.'

Clearly, a Wollondilly Shire wide Aboriginal cultural heritage study would need to be embedded within an oral historical and ethnographic framework driven by the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Shire. This requires a cultural mapping platform that can be – where culturally appropriate – transferred to the State Heritage Register inventory. The direction, themes and nature of the information and mapping shared under an Aboriginal cultural heritage study of the Wollondilly Shire would be best served by engaging cultural experts from the local community to in effect, write a reverse brief and identify the cultural protocols, themes and methods to be applied in achieving these aims.

APPENDIX D:

Review of Wollondilly LEP 2011, Schedule 5 Part 1 - Heritage Items

Recommended modifications proposed to existing heritage items listed on the Wollondilly LEP 2011

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
118	Bargo Cemetery	15 Great Southern Road, Bargo NSW	Lot 7013 DP 93010	CPH	Address change	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Great Southern Road is associated with a cottage which is situated on the corner of Great Southern Road and Charles Point Road, in front of the cemetery. CPH recommend amending the address from 15 Great Southern Road, Bargo to 9 Great Southern Road, Bargo.
126	Bargo Public School	245-261 Great Southern Road, Bargo	Lots 17 - 21 DP 9024; Part Lot 1 DP 782052	Council	Mapping anomaly	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH recommend amending the property description to only include Part Lot 1 DP 782052. Lots 17 - 21 DP 9024 possess more contemporary structures that do not possess any distinctive heritage significance. As recommended in a letter by Heritage NSW to Wollondilly Shire Council, listing the entire school as a heritage item is not necessarily best heritage management practice. Thus it is recommended to only list the building which possesses heritage significance.
148	Brownlow Hill Road Bridge	Brownlow Hill Loop Road	N/A	CPH	Reclassify as an Archaeological Site	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 and reclassify as an Archaeological Site under Part 3:</u>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a physical inspection of the item, the bridge is considered to be in a ruinous state. Photographs taken of the bridge in 2006 show it was in an intact state at the time of the previous Heritage Study. However, it now appears to be deteriorating due to flooding of the rivulet. CPH recommend an archival recording is undertaken of the bridge as soon as possible to capture the site before it deteriorates further. CPH also recommend the bridge is reclassified as an archaeological site under Part 3 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011.
I53	Camden Park Estate - House and Gardens	Remembrance Driveway, Camden Park	Lots 1 and 2 DP 213696	CPH	Address Change	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorrect address on SHI database sheet on <i>LEP</i> (Remembrance Driveway). The 1835 manor house and nearby extensive gardens are located at 160 Camden Park Road, Camden Park CPH recommend amending the address from 'Remembrance Driveway' to 160 - 180 Camden Park Road, Camden Park.
I72	Mountbatten Group – house, chapel and garden building	2B & 2C Duggan Street, Douglas Park	Part Lot 1 DP 576136 Lot A DP 421246	CPH	Amend item description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The building identified on the listing as a 'chapel' on Part Lot 1 DP 576136 is actually an historic stable structure which has been misidentified.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH recommend amending the item description to replace mention of the 'chapel' with the 'stable'
178	Suspension Bridge over Nepean River	Maldon Bridge Road and Wilton Park Drive, Maldon		Council and Community	Nominate for state listing	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 and nominate for State heritage register listing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To nominate for State heritage listing, the item needs to establish how it is significant to the state of NSW, not just the local community. There are multiple similar truss bridges listed on the NSW State Heritage Register, including that of Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek in Picton. ▪ The Maldon Suspension Bridge utilised Warren trusses and an uncommon 'stiffened suspension' type that give the bridge exceptional research and aesthetic significance, thereby satisfying the state significance criteria. ▪ Based on the construction system of being suspended truss bridge, this item would meet the threshold for SHR listing. ▪ CPH therefore support the Council and Community's proposal to nominate for State Heritage listing.
1105	Mount Hunter Public School	165 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter	Lot 1 DP 816035	CPH	Amalgamate with 1106, Rename item	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH recommends amending this item's description to include the school residence (1105). The residence is incorrectly identified as having a separate address to the public school and so, to ensure consistency, it is recommended the residence is amalgamated with the Public School.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Listing name should be amended to 'Mount Hunter Public School and Residence'.
I106	Mount Hunter Public School Residence	169 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter NSW	Lot 15 DP 5827	CPH	Amalgamate with I105	<p><u>Remove from Schedule 5 (amalgamated with I105):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The listed address for I106 is incorrectly located at 169 Burragorang Road (Lot 15 DP 5827). ▪ Instead, the Mount Hunter Public School Residence is part of the Mount Hunter public school complex, with the site adaptively reused as an administration office. ▪ As they are the same complex located at 165 Burragorang Road (Lot 1 DP 816035), CPH recommends amalgamating this item with I105. ▪ This is further discussed at Schedule 5 Part 1 – Heritage Items of the report..
I107	Mount Hunter Creamery	175 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter	Lot 1 DP 935994	Council	Review in heritage study	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes. Also conduct an archaeological assessment of the site to inform its future listing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal, Wollondilly Shire Council identified this item's status be reviewed as part of the heritage study. This was particularly in relation to its physical location. ▪ After consideration of the aerial photography of the site and historical images, the creamery, now demolished, appears to have been located at 179 Burragorang Road. This was setback from the street elevation,

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<p>behind where the current contemporary residence was erected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though it is destroyed, CPH proposes the address of the item be amended to remove the existing address and physical description, and replace with 179 Burragorang Road, Mount Hunter and Lot 101 DP 1187951. CPH recommends an archaeological assessment be undertaken for the site as soon as possible. This will identify any surviving significance and help determine whether this item be reclassified as an archaeological site under Schedule 5 Part 3 of the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> 2011.
I114	Mowbray Park Group - gateway, buildings, weir, trees and grounds	745 Barkers Lodge Road, Mowbray Park	Lot 102 DP 878280	CPH	Amend website SHI	<p><u>Amend State Heritage Inventory (SHI) listing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When searching this item on the map view of the State Heritage Inventory website, the current listing for I114 Mowbray Park Group is incorrectly hyperlinked to I115 'Farm Buildings and site of former Pictona Stud.' This means that when one clicks on 'View Additional Details' for the Mowbray Park Group item, the user is redirected to the SHI listing for item I115 instead of I114. The SHI map view needs to be amended so that I115 is not hyperlinked when one searches for I114.
I115	Farm buildings and site of former Pictona Stud	45 and 49 Rays Lane, Picton	Lot 133 DP 1123968 Lot 3	Council	Removal of item	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 (with no changes to the listing):</u></p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
			DP 832359			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In 2018, the landowners of the site informed Wollondilly Shire Council that an extreme storm and flood in 2016 had destroyed the historic buildings within the site. Wollondilly Shire Council therefore requested CPH investigate this item to determine whether it should be removed from the heritage list. ▪ CPH could not access the site to confirm the building's destruction, however aerial imagery does show that the buildings which were photographed in the 1992 Wollondilly Heritage Study by JRC planning Services appear to be no longer existing. ▪ Following a desktop geoarchaeological assessment of the site, the destruction of these buildings via flooding cannot be supported. The buildings and the entire site are positioned in the headwaters of Long Gully (a small tributary of Stonequarry Creek) and there is insufficient creek / river length for water to build up to form a flood event of any magnitude, especially one that could erode substantial sandstone masonry. The only identified geomorphic event that could have destroyed the buildings is that of a landslide, however this would have swept away all buildings, including the residence situated next to the historic buildings which still remains intact today (as per aerial imagery). ▪ Based on these findings, it is recommended that the heritage item is retained on Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 until a geoarchaeological assessment which includes a physical inspection of the site is

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons	
						undertaken to determine the survival of any archaeological relics from these historic buildings. Should the assessment find these relics, it is recommended that the Archaeological Site 'Wellington Park Iceworks – ruin, silos and tanks' (item A5) is amended to include the former Pictona Stud and farm buildings. This is because this archaeological site is situated at the same address (45 and 49 Rays Lane) and property description (Lot 133 DP 1123968 and Lot 3 DP 832359) as that of I115, and would provide a more complete archaeological record of the site.	
I130	Industry Group	Housing	15-23 Antill Street, Picton	Lot 15 DP 1093393, Lots 5 - 8 DP 36147	Council and CPH	Review in heritage study	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes).</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ In the <i>Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal</i>, Wollondilly Shire Council identified the residence at 17 Antill Street be reviewed as part of the heritage study (as identified at Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal).▪ CPH do not recommend removing 17 Antill Street from the heritage group.▪ Though the house is the only weatherboard dwelling in the group, it shares the same form and shape as the other houses. The removal of 17 Antill Street would detract from the housing group as any future modifications to 17 Antill Street would likely impact on the heritage significance of the other houses in the group.▪ CPH have identified an error in the property description for the listing, specifically for the

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<p>cottage at 15 Antill Street. The allotment was previously identified as Lot 15 DP 1093393, however it appears to have since been updated to Lot 50 DP 1168144,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH recommend amending the property description to Lot 50 DP 1168144 and Lots 5-8 DP 36147.
I135	Macquarie House	55 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 913 DP 1216048	CPH and Community	Amend item description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One of the potential items identified by the community was the 'Hitching Post', located on the street in front of Macquarie Cottage. ▪ CPH have determined that the Hitching Post was likely constructed at the time of Macquarie House (c.1890s) and used to harness horses delivering patients to the doctors who resided at the cottage. ▪ As the history of the hitching post is linked with that of Macquarie Cottage (i.e. each item is informed by the history of the other), CPH recommend amending the existing item description of I135 Macquarie House to include mention of the Hitching Post. ▪ This is further discussed at 10.2 Assessment of Potential Heritage Listing.
I148	Fairley Residence (former)	426 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 9 Section 8 DP 758843	CPH	Amend property description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <p>CPH recommends amending the Property Description to Lot 90 DP 1264465.</p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
I149	Railway Bridge (hole in the wall)	285 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 1031333	Council	Amend item description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH have amended the item description on the SHI database sheet to address the railway loop and tunnel on site. Previously, only the bridge was mentioned in the SHI form despite the listing covering the whole tunnel and loop around Reservoir Hill.
I169	Houses	6, 8 & 10 Cowper Street, Picton	Lot 11, DP 855203; Lot 10, DP 855203; Lot 1, DP 742837	Council	Amend listing curtilage & rename	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH have amended the item curtilage to include 20 Wild Street and rename the item as 'Cowper & Wild Streets Group' on the LEP, and update the inventory form to reflect these changes.
I175	Jarvisfield - house and barn	4 Jarvisfield Road, Picton	Lot 3 DP 873571	Council	Mapping anomaly	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current listing refers to only Lot 3 DP 873571 when the Jarvisfield complex includes part of Lot 4 DP 873571. CPH agrees with Council's recommendation to amend the LEP property description to be Part Lot 3 and Part Lot 4 DP 873571. CPH also recommend amending the property description of the State Heritage Listing curtilage to include the Part Lot 4 DP 873571 that is within the Jarvisfield complex. The existing gazetted curtilage of the Jarvisfield House and Barn

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						(from May 1984) only includes Lot 3 DP 873571.
I179	House	39 Lumsdaine Street, Picton	Lot 3 DP 562516	CPH	Amend property description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> CPH recommends amending the Property Description to Lot 2 DP 1064470.
I184	Picton Railway Station including stationmaster's residence	1 and 5 Station Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 1120336 and Lot 3938 DP 1218307	Council and CPH	Amend listing	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH agrees with the proposal to remove the stationmaster's residence from I184 so as to make I184 identical to the curtilage of the SHR listing (SHR #01224). ▪ As a result, the Picton Stationmaster's Residence is recommended to form its own separate listing. ▪ This is discussed further at 10.2 Assessment of Potential Heritage Listing.
I186	Furniture Store	28 Menangle Street, Picton	Lots 1 and 2 DP 563577	CPH	Amend property description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> CPH recommends amending the Property Description to Lot 12 DP 1255815.
I188	Former Wollondilly Shire Hall	42 Menangle Street, Picton	Part Lot 1 DP 1272621	CPH	Amend property description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH recommends amending the Property Description to Lot 70 DP 1279596.
I199	Imperial Hotel and Underground Tunnels	196 Menangle Street, Picton	Lot 111 DP 1124137	Council and Community	Nominate for state listing	<u>Additional comparative heritage assessment is required and is beyond the scope of this Heritage Study.</u>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To nominate an item for State heritage listing, the item needs to establish how it is significant to the State of NSW, not just the local community. ▪ Like that which was undertaken with the Maldon Suspension bridge, the Imperial Hotel requires a comparative assessment with other state listed hotel buildings from the late 19th Century to determine whether this hotel should be State listed. CPH undertook an initial investigation into other state-listed hotels, but could not find evidence that supports the Imperial Hotel attracting State heritage listing. This included a brief comparison with the Family Hotel at Bulli, the Bridge View Inn at Rylstone, the Queen Street Buildings Group of Campbelltown and the Royal Hotel at Bathurst. The Imperial Hotel does not possess any identifiable similarities with these hotels' construction eras, architectural types or materials. ▪ Unlike the distinctive aesthetic and technical significance of the Maldon Suspension Bridge (which utilises rare Warren truss engineering technology), the Imperial Hotel does not at first glance possess this exceptional significance. ▪ As such, CPH recommends a more extensive comparative assessment be undertaken to ascertain whether the Imperial Hotel's listing at the State level is justified. ▪ It is noted that the Imperial Hotel may have some association with the Queen Victoria

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						Hospital, specifically being the site of a consumptive house before one was constructed in Thirlmere in 1886. This association would need to be investigated as part of the comparative analysis as it may support the Imperial Hotel's State heritage listing.
I206	Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek	Prince Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 917455	CPH	Amend item description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the potential items identified for listing was that of 'Buckling Stone Lined Embankment', which is situated underneath Victoria Bridge. The Conservation Management Plan produced for Victoria Bridge in 2018 (by NSW Roads and Maritime Services) made reference to sections of the stone lined embankment failing in 2007, which saw repair works undertaken. On its own, the stone embankment does not meet the threshold for heritage listing, however, due to its association with Victoria Bridge, CPH recommend amending the item description of I206 to include reference to the embankment as a significant fabric of the bridge.
I208	Vault Hill Cemetery	Vault Hill, Picton	Lot 106 DP 1111043	Council and Community	Nominate for state listing	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 and nominate for State heritage register listing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To nominate for State heritage listing, the item needs to establish how it is significant to the state of NSW, not just the local community.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Vault Hill Cemetery is the final resting place of Henry Colden Antill, arguably the most prominent early European settler of the Wollondilly region. Henry Antill received one of the first grants in the Picton region, a 2,000-acre allotment where the Jarvisfield estate (State-listed) and Vault Hill Cemetery are located. Henry Antill and his descendants, much like the Macarthur's in Camden, significantly contributed to the development of the region, establishing a successful pastoral industry and involving themselves in local politics and the development of the township of Picton. ▪ As Henry Colden Antill and the Antill family are significant pioneering figures in the state of NSW, Vault Hill Cemetery has strong historical association significance which justifies its listing on the State heritage register. ▪ In addition to having strong historical association significance, the Cemetery was assessed against other State-listed personal Cemeteries on the SHI. This assessment identifies clear similarities between existing State-listed family cemeteries and that of Vault Hill Cemetery. ▪ The Pearce Family Cemetery (SHR Listing #00593) at Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills is listed on the State Heritage Register as having State significance. This is because it is the resting place of the "district's first settler Matthew Pearce and the graves of his descendants." The cemetery is located on lands granted to

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<p>Matthew Pearce and Matthew Woodard Pearce in 1795 and 1835 respectively, who were holders of large pastoral landholdings at Seven Hills. The Pearce family share similarities with the Antill family of Picton being the region's first settlement family, and the cemetery on Vault Hill is much like that located on Seven Hills Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Grange and Macquarie Plains Cemetery (SHR Listing # 01904) is similar to that of the Vault Hill Cemetery in that it contains a cemetery within the landholdings of an original rural grant. The Macquarie Plains Cemetery (established in c.1855) is located within the complex at 3249 O'Connell Road, Bathurst, which was established within the 600-acre landholding granted to early settler John West in c.1821. The cemetery includes the graves of not just West family members but also early settlers of the Macquarie Plains region, with approximately 22 inscriptions present within the ruins. Though the cemetery is not just associated with the West family, it is similar to Vault Hill in that it is located within the landholding of the district earliest settler and contains burials of select individuals associated with the region's early development. ▪ This was a potential item identified by the Council as seen at Potential Heritage Listing that CPH believe would be best to include in this I208 listing. In addition to hosting the cemetery where Henry Antill was buried, Vault Hill is a prominent landscape feature

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<p>in the Picton area, with the township of Picton established between itself and Reservoir Hill to its west.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Due to its strong historical association significance and the comparison with similar State-listed family cemeteries, CPH recommends nominating Vault Hill Cemetery for State heritage listing.
I213	Cottage Group	6, 8, 10, 12 and 18 Webster Street	Lot 1 DP 799452, Lot 1 DP 194143, Lot 7 DP 742265, Lot 6 DP 1110152, Lot 3 DP 1110161	Community, CPH	Amend item, address and property description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One of the community-proposed modifications to the existing heritage items was the removal of the heritage item 'Cottage', located at 18 Webster Street, Picton from the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i> (Item I218) ▪ As addressed at Section 9.1 – Removal of Existing Heritage Items, CPH agrees with the removal of item I218 (justification can be seen at Section 9 of this report). ▪ The cottage is also included in the group listing I213 'Cottage Group', which includes all the listed cottages on Webster Street (6, 8, 10, 12 and 18) as a group heritage item. ▪ In accordance with the removal of the individual heritage item I218 Cottage (18 Webster Street) from the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i>, CPH recommend the amendment of item I213 'Cottage Group' to remove the 18 Webster Street cottage from the group listing. This involves removing mention of the cottage, as well as amending the address and property

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						description to remove 18 Webster Street and Lot 3 DP 1110161.
I219	Cottage	30 Wild Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 86229	CPH	Amend property description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <p>CPH recommends amending the Property Description to Lot 1 SP 86229.</p>
I240	The Hermitage - farmhouse, trees, garden, convict graves and stone terracing	130 Hermitage Road, The Oaks	Lot 101 DP 1007032	Council	Amend item description	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes (extending curtilage) and undertake an archaeological due diligence assessment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH agrees that the curtilage of the existing item should be extended to include the waterfall and caves behind the property, as recommended by Wollondilly Council. This is contained within the exiting Lot 101 DP 1007032 and therefore the property description / address does not need to be amended. ▪ It is also recommended that an archaeological study be undertaken to locate convict graves identified within the site. The current listing identifies the presence of these graves somewhere within the curtilage, however the location is not known. It could perhaps be a misunderstanding from the previous heritage study, as there is known evidence that a child convict, Henry Kable Jnr, was buried at the nearby St Matthews Anglican Church and Cemetery (Item I246). ▪

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
I267	Charleville	258-260 Bents Basin Road, Wallacia	Lots 16 & 17 DP 546709	Council	Amend address	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes (remove 258 Bents Basin Road from listing):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH agrees that 258 Bents Basin Road should be removed from the item's address as it is a different property from the identified sandstone dwelling. Therefore, CPH recommend amending the address to just 260 Bents Basin Road, Wallacia, and amending the Property Description to only Lot 17 DP 546709.
I272	Cottage	1185 Silverdale Road, Werombi	Lot 71 DP 703271	Council	Amend item description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes (include the fibro cottage to the item's description):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Council's request, CPH recommend amending the item description of this item to include the fibro cottage to the listing. The current listing of the slab hut should be extended to include this fibro cottage with corrugated metal roof, timber posts and decorative brackets as it contributes to the heritage values of the slab hut.
I278	Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir	Nepean River	Part Lot 15 DP 1092321	Council	Mapping anomaly	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item I278 'Pheasants Nest Weir' is located within the Nepean River and is associated with the Upper Nepean Scheme - Upper Canal (I16). The State heritage listing curtilage for the Upper Nepean Scheme however does not include the Pheasants Nest Weir, only

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<p>extending along the Upper Nepean Scheme Upper Canal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the 'Upper Nepean Scheme - Upper Canal' is listed on the State heritage register, and the 'Upper Nepean Scheme - Pheasants Nest Weir' is directly associated with this Upper Nepean Scheme, it is recommended that the State heritage curtilage be extended to cover the Pheasants Nest Weir (as seen in Heritage Map HER 011F).
I285	Aboriginal (Rock) Shelter Sites	Fairway Drive, Wilton	Lot 1 DP 270536	CPH	Amend address	<p><u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current SHI form for this item incorrectly identifies 80 Condell Park Road, Wilton as the address. After visiting the 80 Condell Park Road address and undertaking desktop research, including accessing reports that previously identified the shelter sites, it has been determined that this 80 Condell Park Road address is incorrect. Likewise, the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i> address of Fairway Drive is not correct and the item is not located within the curtilage of Lot 1 DP 270536. An archaeological review of the available data indicates that the rockshelter sites are likely located along Stringybark Creek, which runs underneath Fairway Drive, however this would need to be confirmed with a visual inspection and assessment. As such, CPH recommends undertaking an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment around Stringybark Creek to both

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						properly identify the location of the rockshelters and assess their current condition.
I297	Abbotsford Silos	15 Fairleys Road, Picton	Part Lot 1 DP 1086066	CPH	Amend address and property description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Abbotsford Silos are not located at 15 Fairleys Road or Part Lot 1 DP 1086066. ▪ CPH recommend amending the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 59 Abbotsford Road, Picton. ▪ CPH also recommend amending the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to Lot 102 DP 1271107. ▪ As per Council's comments, a Development Application for subdivision is currently under consideration, with the silos proposed to be located on an individual 1-acre residential allotment. If this DA is approved, the address and property description for this item will need to be reupdated.
I298	Byrnes Exhibition Dairy	15 Fairleys Road, Picton	Part Lot 1 DP 1086066	CPH	Amend address and property description	<u>Retain on Schedule 5 with the following changes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Byrnes Exhibition Dairy brick buildings (dairy and milking shed) are not located at 15 Fairleys Road or Part Lot 1 DP 1086066. ▪ CPH recommend amending the address from 15 Fairleys Road, Picton to 11 Abbotsford Road, Picton, and the property description from Part Lot 1 DP 1086066 to Lot 101 (11 Abbotsford Road) and Lot 102 (59 Abbotsford Road) in DP 1271107.



Item No #	Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Requested Amendments	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
						<ul style="list-style-type: none">As per Council's comments, a Development Application for subdivision is currently under consideration, If this DA is approved, the address and property description for this item will need to be reupdated.

APPENDIX E:

Review of Wollondilly LEP 2011, Schedule 5 Part 3 - Archaeological Sites

Recommended modifications proposed to existing archaeological sites listed on the Wollondilly LEP 2011

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
A2	Cawdor Creamery Site	505 Remembrance Driveway, Cawdor	The site could not be relocated.	<p><u>Retain existing item and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this stage the exact condition of the creamery is unclear, largely due to the dense grass and vegetation cover in the general vicinity. CPH recommend an archaeological assessment of the site. Clearly, the structure is not intact, and any recommendations on whether the building (or ruins?) should be retained and conserved would need to be informed by examining its existing condition.
A3	Wooden Mileposts	Cawdor Road (adjoining 505 Remembrance Driveway)	<p>Additional mileposts have been identified that are not currently listed in the group.</p> <p>Mileposts are weathering/long term conservation.</p>	<p><u>Retain existing mileposts and include the nominated potential mileposts into their group listing.</u></p> <p>As part of the community consultation for this Heritage Study, three mileposts were identified by the community as having potential heritage significance. One of the identified mileposts is the existing archaeological item (A3). The other two mileposts were located at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mount Hercules Road (near the junction with Old Razorback Road), Razorback b) Old Razorback Road (south of Apps Gully and before the junction with Old Hume Highway), Razorback <p>CPH recommend including these two identified mileposts into this A3 listing as all three mileposts are located on the same stretch of road and have shared heritage significance.</p> <p>The mileposts are weathering and slowly disintegrating. CPH recommend that conservation would be beneficial to the long-term survival and condition of the mileposts. CPH therefore recommend the following actions be undertaken</p>

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				<p>to highlight their heritage significance and ensure their protection:</p> <p>a) paint in white</p> <p>b) install fencing around the mileposts to both highlight and protect them</p> <p>c) install signage identifying that they are heritage items</p>
A4	Stone Ruin	45 Whitticase Lane, Douglas Park	Ruin is deteriorating.	<p><u>Retain existing item and implement recommendations from prior archaeological study.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The stone ruin was assessed as part of a Historical Archaeological Assessment conducted by Austral Archaeology in September 2019. The assessment proposed the following recommendations to be made. ▪ In consultation with the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), a Research Design is prepared to support an application under Section 140 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977. This Research Design should seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove the excess rubble from the stone ruin and conduct a testing program to determine the nature of the archaeological remains associated with the stone ruin ○ Allow for the stone ruin to be inspected by a conservator in order to establish their stability ○ Prepare an Archaeological Management Plan which will include the results of the archaeological testing and conservators report. The Archaeological Management Plan will include recommendations for the stabilisation of the site, its long-term management and interpretive media that may be relevant

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A copy of this assessment should be lodged by the proponent in the local history section of the local library, and in the library maintained by the DPC. ▪ CPH agree with the findings of the archaeological assessment, and recommend their implementation
A5	Wellington Park Iceworks – ruin, silos and tank	45 and 49 Rays Lane, Picton	<p>Ruin is deteriorating.</p> <p>The extent, nature and associated archaeological potential of the ruin and the potential for associated features, structures or deposits around the ruin has never been assessed.</p> <p>Potentially incorporate 'Farm buildings and site of former Pictona Stud' heritage listing within this relic following an archaeological assessment.</p>	<p><u>Retain existing item, undertake an archaeological assessment and amend the item if required:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The A5 ruin should be assessed by a suitably qualified engineer and heritage architect and a condition report completed. This should inform Council of any long-term structural or integrity issues with the ruin. ▪ Due to the destruction of farm buildings and former Pictona Stud structure that was listed as a heritage item (Item I115, Part 1 Schedule 5 Wollondilly LEP 2011), it is recommended that 45 and 49 Rays Lane (Lot 133 DP 1123968 and Lot 3 DP 832359) is subject to a geoarchaeological assessment. This assessment, which needs to include a physical inspection of the property, should determine if archaeological relics of the prior heritage item exist on site, and would therefore inform whether this A5 item should be amended to incorporate the destroyed farm buildings and former Pictona Stud. The former I115 item is located within the same address and Lot/DP as that of this A5 relic, thus no amendment to the item's curtilage is required. For discussion of the heritage item I115 and its destruction, see Appendix D of the Heritage Study.
A6	Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site	6 Victoria Steet, Picton	The current listing address of 6 Victoria Street does not incorporate the entire quarry footprint.	<p><u>Retain Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site and expand the boundary to 14 Victoria Street - Lot 1 DP 548596.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Though CPH could not physically access the site as part of their site inspections, desktop research of the quarry site has been undertaken. This was because one

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				<p>of the potential heritage items nominated by council was 'Former Quarry Site' at 14 Victoria Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPH consulted previous specialist reports conducted for the site and reviewed the geological mapping of the area to determine that the existing 'Stonequarry Creek Quarry' site (item no. A6), identified at 6 Victoria Street on the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i>, extends down to the property at 14 Victoria Street. CPH recommend an extension to the boundary of the existing A6 'Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site' to include 14 Victoria Street at Lot 1 DP 548596. The SHI form for this item will include a map of this proposed extension. The proposed extension should be accompanied by a full archaeological assessment to inform the exact boundary location of the quarry, as well as identify any ancillary features, structures or deposits that are associated with the use of the quarry.
A7	Abbotsford – house ruins, trees, garden, grounds, underground tank, cottage, outbuildings and tree on hill summit (listed as Abbotsford Silos)	15 Fairleys Road, Picton	<p>Ruins are deteriorating.</p> <p>The extent, nature and associated archaeological potential of the house ruins and the archaeological potential for associated features, structures or deposits around the house has never been assessed.</p>	<p><u>Retain existing item, amend the address and property description, and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Abbotsford site has been subject to recent subdivision, and thus the address and property description for the archaeological site has changed. CPH recommend amending the address to 11 and 59 Abbotsford Road, Picton. CPH also recommend amending the property description to Lots 101 & 102 DP 1271107 The ruins should also be assessed by a suitably qualified engineer and heritage architect and a condition report completed. This should inform Council of any long-term structural or integrity issues with the ruin.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An archaeological assessment of the house ruins and the property is recommended in order to assess whether there are any associated archaeological structures, features or deposits associated with the pastoral use of the property, in particular its early development in the Shire.
A8	Remnant Sandstone Kerbs, Gutters and Culverts	(adjacent to) 53, 55, and 183 Argyle Street / 9 and 14 Campbell Street / 42, 55-57, 65-69, 77, 83, 87, 91-105, 94-98, 108-114, 111-115, 188, 190, 192, 199, 213 and 215 Menangle Street / 8-14 and 38 Picton Avenue, Picton	Deteriorating bitumen roads adjacent to sandstone kerbs.	<p><u>Retain existing item and amend the address to include remnant kerbs at 123 Argyle Street and 217 Menangle Street, Picton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wollondilly Shire Council identified an extension to the A8 item to include the remnant sandstone kerb in front of 123 Argyle Street and 217 Menangle Street, Picton. CPH agrees that the remnant kerbs in in both locations are existing relics from Picton's late 19th Century and early 20th Century development, therefore CPH recommend amending the address to include 123 Argyle Street and 217 Menangle Street, Picton Any road works undertaken in the vicinity of the sandstone kerbs, gutters and culverts should be monitored by an archaeologist to ensure heritage items are protected during works.
A9	Stonequarry Creek Swimming Pool (former)	(Between end of) Picton Avenue and Webster Street	None noted.	<p><u>Retain existing item and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An archaeological assessment of the swimming pool location is recommended in order to assess whether there are any associated archaeological structures, features or deposits associated with the construction or use of the swimming pool.
A10	Oakdale Timber Mill	55 Mill Road, Oakdale	Ruin is deteriorating. The extent, nature and associated archaeological potential of the ruin and the potential for associated features,	<p><u>Retain existing item and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ruin should be assessed by a suitably qualified engineer and heritage architect and a condition report

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
			structures or deposits around the ruin has never been assessed.	<p>completed. This should inform Council of any long-term structural or integrity issues with the ruin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An archaeological assessment of the property is recommended in order to assess whether there are any associated archaeological structures, features or deposits associated with the construction or use of the mill.
A11	Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)	Razorback Road,	Exact number of relics and their condition is unknown, as well as their exact location along Old Razorback Road.	<p><u>Retain existing item and amend as below. Also undertake an archaeological assessment</u></p> <p>As part of the <i>Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal</i>, Wollondilly Shire Council investigated the potential inclusion of other addresses in the item. These alternate addresses and property descriptions were:</p> <p>a) Lot 9 DP 112301 - 39 Old Razorback Road, Razorback</p> <p>b) Part Lot 1301 DP 1034807 - 159 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback</p> <p>c) Part Lot 41 DP 777560 - 157 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wollondilly Shire Council determined there was not enough evidence to justify its amendment I. CPH have investigated further and also determined the proposed amendments to include 157 and 159 Mount Hercules Road and 39 Old Razorback Road are not justified. The proposed imposition onto these adjoining lots is without justification as there is no clear evidence that relics or archaeological features exist within the boundaries of these nearby properties. ▪ In addition, CPH recommend updating the relic to include the 'Stone Bridge' item identified by the community at 145 Mount Hercules Road. This stone bridge is along the same Mount Hercules Road and shares similar features to the existing A11 relics.

Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An archaeological assessment of the old road relics - including detailed mapping - is recommended in order to understand the exact nature, extent and condition of the relics. There is also the potential for previously unidentified additional archaeological features associated with the road to survive along the alignment. ▪ CPH also propose amending the address and property description to include the stone bridge location of 145 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback (Near Lot 32 DP 1012256). The prior address of 'Razorback Road, Razorback' should be updated to 'Old Razorback Road (between Mount Hercules Road and Remembrance Driveway)' until the archaeological assessment is undertaken, whereby the exact address and property description of the relics can be updated.
A12	Mount Hercules Homestead – ruins, well, trees and slab garage	100 Mount Hercules Road, Razorback	<p>The original 1992 listing includes an intact homestead structure, but between 1994 and 1998 the homestead was demolished and most of the demolished building materials were removed from site. Sometime later, some of the historical tree plantings that ringed the property were also removed.</p> <p>The extent, nature and associated archaeological potential of the ruins and the potential for associated features, structures or deposits around the ruin has never been assessed.</p>	<p><u>Retain existing item and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPH recommend that Wollondilly Shire Council undertake an investigation into the exact circumstances resulting in the demolition of a listed historic homestead. ▪ An archaeological assessment of the property is also recommended in order to assess whether there are any associated archaeological structures, features or deposits associated with the construction or use of the former homestead.
A13	Myrtle Creek Bridge Ruins	Remembrance Driveway, Tahmoor	<p>The extent, nature and associated archaeological potential of the bridge and any associated features, structures or deposits has never been assessed.</p>	<p><u>Retain existing item and undertake an archaeological assessment.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An archaeological assessment of the bridge and riverbanks is recommended in order to assess



Item No #	Item Name	Address	Issue	CPH Recommendations / Reasons
				whether there are any associated archaeological structures, features or deposits associated with the use or construction of the bridge.

APPENDIX F:

Assessment of Potential Heritage Listings

Assessment & Recommendations for Potential Heritage Item Listings

Item Name	Address	Property Description	Nominator	Nomination Comments	CPH Recommendation
Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse	60 Matthews Lane, Picton	Lot 4 DP 816022 and Lot 1 DP 155118	Council	c. 1940s curative bath and Guesthouse that attracted tourists state-wide	<p><u>List in Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 under the name 'Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse'.</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (l), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH were unable to access the Mineral Springs or the guesthouse as part of their site inspections. Despite this, a desktop study was conducted and found that the Mineral Springs has historical significance. The springs were mentioned in an 1892 article by Albert J Sach for the 4th Meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science (held in Hobart), as well as in newspaper articles around the turn of the century. The guesthouse was built sometime in the late 1940s and was a popular destination for both locals and travellers who visited the Mineral Springs for their curative powers. Both the Mineral Springs and Guesthouse have remained substantially intact.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of the 'Jarvisfield Mineral Springs and Guesthouse' as having local significance.</p>
Buckling stone lined embankment	Prince Street, Picton (beneath Victoria Bridge)	Lot 1 DP 917455	Council	Stone lining embankment is of heritage significance and should be maintained	<p><u>Include this listing within the item I206 'Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek' (Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011)</u></p> <p><i>Does not meet threshold for listing on its own</i></p> <p>Though CPH could not access this item, desktop research was undertaken and determined that the stone lining embankment shares heritage significance with the 'Victoria Bridge over</p>

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					<p>Stonequarry Creek'. The embankment forms part of the State heritage listed Victoria Bridge, which was constructed in 1897 and is one of the oldest surviving Allan truss road bridges in NSW. Though the embankment has received repairs since 2003, with some sections fully replaced in 2007, the embankment remains a complimentary part of the significant Victoria Bridge.</p> <p>On its own however, the embankment would not meet the threshold for heritage listing. Therefore, CPH recommend amending the item description for I206 'Victoria Bridge over Stonequarry Creek' to include the embankment as part of the bridge's listing.</p>
Razorback Bridge	Remembrance Driveway, Picton (crossing Racecourse Creek)	N/A	Council	c.1890 bridge that shows Picton road engineering	<p><u>List in Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 under the name 'Razorback Bridge'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (e) and (g)</i></p> <p>Razorback Bridge was inspected by CPH and determined to be structurally intact. The bridge was first constructed before 1860 as part of the Great Southern Road that connected Sydney to Melbourne, however flooding destroyed the bridge, requiring it to be rebuilt. It is unknown when this bridge finished reconstruction, however the bridge was widened and realigned in 1956-57, with the superstructure and railings likely replaced. Despite these modifications, the bridge retained its original stone piers, reinforced with concrete as part of the repair works. These original piers would have technical significance as they provide evidence of c.1860 bridge construction techniques.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of 'Razorback Bridge' as having local significance.</p>

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Brookside Bridge	Remembrance Driveway, Picton (crossing Racecourse Creek)	N/A	Council	c. 1890s bridge that shows Picton road engineering	<p><u>List in Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 under the name 'Brookside Bridge'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a) and (g)</i></p> <p>Brookside Bridge was inspected by CPH and determined to be structurally intact. The bridge was first constructed before 1860 as part of the Great Southern Road that connected Sydney to Melbourne, however flooding destroyed the original bridge, requiring it to be rebuilt. In 1894, Brookside Bridge was identified as a boundary marker by petitioners for the formation of the Municipal District of Picton, suggesting that Picton residents considered the bridge significant as the official entry to the town. With road widening and realignment works undertaken in 1965-66, it is likely the original bridge was destroyed and replaced with the current bridge. Despite this replacement, the current bridge is in situ and historically was considered the south-eastern entry point to the town of Picton.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of 'Brookside Bridge' as having local significance.</p>
Mt Hercules Causeway	Mount Hercules Road, Razorback (located between Thurns Road and Mt View Close)	N/A	Council	c. 1850s causeway that demonstrates extensive construction skill	<p><u>List in Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 under the name 'Mount Hercules Causeway'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (e) and (g)</i></p> <p>Though CPH could not access the causeway, desktop historical research has been relied upon. The preliminary research indicates that the causeway demonstrates extensive construction skill, with hand-split sandstone block walls and timber box culverts possibly indicating a c.1850 construction</p>

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					<p>date. The causeway was noted as being in good condition in 2013.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of 'Mount Hercules Causeway' as having local significance.</p>
Homestead	3-5 Cowper Street, Picton	Lot 22 DP 586205	Council	Identified by staff member	<p><u>No listing is recommended.</u></p> <p>The homestead at 3-5 Cowper Street has received extensive modifications to its original c.1920 structure that have compromised the heritage integrity of the building. From Cowper Street, the building appears to have Interwar gable detailing that was included in the original construction of the building in c.1920. However, the building's northern elevation that fronts Wherri Close has received a modern two storey extension that detracts from the building's aesthetic heritage value.</p> <p>As the building does not satisfy any of the criteria for heritage listing, CPH do not recommend listing this item.</p>
Picton Official Residence	82-84 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 2 DP 212204	Council	Cannot seem to locate building	<p><u>No listing is recommended.</u></p> <p>CPH and Dr Martina Muller have undertaken historical research and site inspections of the property however and it appears that this structure does not exist. NSW Heritage Database has a listing for Picton Official Residence at 82-84 Argyle Street. This entry states that the residence was constructed in the 1940s and renovated in 1976. According to historical aerial imagery however, no building occupied Lot 2 DP 212204 in June 1961. This suggests that the NSW Heritage Database entry is incorrect, and the building that occupies the site currently was built sometime after 1961.</p> <p>The official residence may have been within the current Picton Police Station Office complex, which was constructed in the late</p>

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					19th Century. This could not be confirmed, therefore listing 'Picton Official Residence' as a heritage item is not recommended.
Picton Police Station and Lock-Up	86 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 829645	Council	Original structure still present on site	<p>List in <u>Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011 under the name 'Picton Police Station and Lock-Up'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The Picton Police Station Office forms a significant component of a group of civic buildings in Argyle Street, Picton, comprising the Court House, Police Station and two residences. The Police Station situated at 86 Argyle Street was constructed between 1863-1865 and designed by Colonial Architect James Barnet to replace the previously 'extremely uncomfortable' police office located near St Marks Anglican Church. Though the buildings have received a number of internal and external modifications over the years, they have retained their original shape and form and possess original fabric. The building today is intact and an important contribution to the Argyle Street streetscape alongside the Courthouse.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of 'Picton Police Station and Lock-Up' as having local significance.</p>
Picton Reservoir (WS0147)	Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 545361	Council	Original structure still present on site	<p>List as an item under <u>Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Picton Reservoir'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH were able to access the site and determine that the structure is still intact. The Reservoir was built in 1899 by the NSW Department of Public Works and supplied by the Picton Weir at Bargo. Besides providing the town with a vital supply of</p>

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					<p>water, the Picton Reservoir was profitable for the Picton Council in the early 20th Century as the Railway Department spent as much as £1,000 per year for water for locomotives.</p> <p>Due to its critical importance to the township of Picton throughout the 20th Century, CPH recommend the listing of the 'Picton Reservoir' as having local significance.</p>
Railway Underbridge (Thirlmere Way)	Near 802 Thirlmere Way (Great Southern Railway), Picton	Part Lot 3935 DP 1217976	Council	Unsure whether SHR refers to bridge crossing Thirlmere Way or Matthews Lane. Both could be heritage items	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Railway Underbridge (Thirlmere Way)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH inspected the railway underbridge near 802 Thirlmere Way and determined the bridge is substantially intact. The underbridge is a surviving example of the deviation works undertaken to the Picton to Mittagong line between 1916-1919 that allowed residents of Picton to cross the railway when traveling west to Thirlmere. This was convenient for the town as this route avoided the often congested and sometimes dangerous Old Hume Highway. Aesthetically, the bridge is similar to that of I149 Railway Bridge (Hole in the Wall), which was built at the same time and is heritage listed.</p> <p>CPH therefore recommend the listing of the 'Railway Bridge (Thirlmere Way)' as having local significance.</p>
Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane)	Matthews Lane (Great Southern railway), Picton	Part Lot 3938 DP 1218307	Council	Unsure whether SHR refers to bridge crossing Thirlmere Way or Matthews Lane. Both could be heritage items	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The timber overbridge at Matthews Lane that runs over the Railway Line was likely constructed at some stage between</p>

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					<p>1860 - 1900. This is based on the fact that the railway station opened at Picton in 1863, and this bridge would have provided access to the Mineral Springs and Guesthouse which was reported on in the late 19th Century. At the latest, historical imagery shows the bridge standing in 1969.</p> <p>CPH investigated the bridge and assessed the item as intact and having aesthetic significance. CPH therefore recommend the listing of 'Railway Overbridge (Matthews Lane)' as having local significance.</p>
Tyrone Cottage	467 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 537245	Council	Identified by staff member - early 19th Century house - potentially where dances were held	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Tyrone Cottage'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b) (c), and (g)</i></p> <p>The Victorian-style cottage at 467 Argyle Street, like those already listed cottages on Argyle Street (items I131 - I135), Lumsdaine Street (items I177 - I179) and Colden Street (I167 & I168), possesses aesthetic significance for its Federation-era Victorian architecture. The weatherboard cottage was built in 1900-1901 by George Sheil, descendant of the Sheil farming family of Maldon, who named the cottage 'Ann villa', likely after his recently deceased mother Ann Sheil. The cottage would later be renamed 'Tyrone' in 1914 following William Fairley's purchase of the property. William Fairley's father John Fairley was one of the pioneers of the Picton area, operating the dairy farm at Abbotsford, to the northwest of the town.</p> <p>As this building has historical and aesthetic significance, CPH recommended listing 'Tyrone Cottage' as having local significance.</p>
Vault Hill	Vault Hill, Picton	Lot 1 DP 1201967, Lot 100 DP 1201967, Lot	Council	Proposed landscape conservation area for Vault Hill	<p><u>List as a landscape conservation area under Part 2 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Vault Hill Landscape Conservation Area'</u></p>

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		106 DP 1111043			<p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), and (f)</i></p> <p>Though CPH could not access Vault Hill during their site investigation, desktop research of the landscape has provided sufficient information to satisfy its heritage listing. Vault Hill was part of Henry Colden Antill's original grant in Picton in 1823 and has since provided sweeping views of the Picton township as it has developed over time. Atop the hill is the site of the Vault Hill Cemetery, where various Antill descendants and Henry Colden Antill himself are buried. Vault Hill has been preserved overtime despite recent development within Picton threatening its</p> <p>As Vault Hill has historical association and aesthetic significance, CPH recommend the listing of 'Vault Hill Landscape Conservation Area' as having local heritage significance.. It is recommended that the curtilage of the landscape conservation area be that of Part Lot 1 DP 1201967, Lot 100 DP 1201967 and Part Lot 106 DP 1111043.</p>
Rumker Observatory Hill	Reservoir Hill (near 1 Argyle Street), Picton	Lot 25 DP 1087690	Council	Physical structure does not appear to be present on the site - believed to be in vicinity to water tank	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Rumker Observatory Hill'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f)</i></p> <p>As discussed in Section 10.1, CPH recommended modifying this item to 'Rumker Observatory Hill' as it is unlikely that a physical observatory structure ever existed on the site in c.1825-1826. Instead, it is believed that Christian Louis Rumker, the private astronomer to Governor Brisbane who received large land grants at Picton, made significant astrological discoveries whilst watching the stars at 'Stargard', which was Rumker's private property likely located atop Reservoir Hill.</p>

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					CPH recommend the listing of 'Rumker Observatory Hill' as having local significance. It is recommended that the highest point of Reservoir Hill be listed as 'Rumker Observatory Hill', which is marked by the Picton TS10721 trig station plinth. CPH proposes the listing curtilage to be that of a 10 metre radius around the existing trig station plinth..
Former Quarry Site	14 Victoria Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 548596	Council	Proposed as part of <i>Heritage Housekeeping Planning Proposal</i>	<p><u>Include this listing within the item A6 'Stonequarry Creek Site' (Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011)</u></p> <p>CPH were not able to physically access this 14 Victoria Street site as part of their site inspections, however a desktop analysis has been undertaken. Through her research, Dr Martina Muller identified that a quarry was likely somewhere on the 14 Victoria Street site. CPH also consulted previous specialist reports conducted for the site and investigated geological and topographical mapping of the area to determine that the existing 'Stonequarry Creek Quarry' site (item no. A6), identified at 6 Victoria Street on the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i>, extends down to the property at 14 Victoria Street.</p> <p>As the quarry is already listed as an archaeological item, CPH do not recommend creating a separate listing at 14 Victoria Street, instead amending the existing A6 'Stonequarry Creek Quarry Site' item to correctly capture the 14 Victoria Street address and Lot 1 DP 548596 physical description.</p>
Amy Cottage	259 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot B DP 158424	Council	Dwelling c. mid 1800s	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Amy Villa Cottage'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>The cottage at 259 Argyle Street was inspected as part of CPH's site inspection and was identified as having aesthetic significance for possessing Victorian era architecture and being substantially intact. The cottage was previously known as 'Amy</p>

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					<p>Villa' and constructed for John Skellett as his retirement home in c.1881-82. Skellett was a railway officer who retired to Picton following years working on the Great South Railway line. The cottage would transfer ownership overtime, acting as a boarding house, manse for the Presbyterian Church in NSW and was even resumed by the Railway Commissioners of NSW to erect the Picton to Mittagong deviation line.</p> <p>CPH recommend the listing of 'Amy Villa Cottage' as having local significance. Recommendation is also made to reinstate brackets removed, as seen in Google Street view for the property on November 2018.</p>
Stationmaster's Residence	1 Station Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 1120336	Council	Create separate listing from I181 as state curtilage does not extend to the residence at Lot 1 DP 1120336	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Stationmaster's Residence'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH agree with the council's proposal to create a separate listing for the stationmaster's residence at 1 Station Street as this residence is not within the curtilage of the state heritage listing for the Picton Railway Station (SHR# 01224). CPH recommend amending the Picton Railway Station Group (item no. I184) to remove the stationmaster's residence from the listing, with the stationmaster's residence listed under a new separate heritage listing.</p> <p>CPH recommend the listing of 'Stationmaster's Residence' as having local significance.</p>
Dalkeith	35 Stilton Lane, Picton	Lot 48 DP 797250	Council	Identified by staff after site inspections undertaken	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Dalkeith'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c) and (g)</i></p>

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					<p>The residence at 35 Stilton Lane, referred to as 'Dalkeith', was nominated for heritage listing after CPH undertook their site inspections. Nonetheless, CPH were able to undertake desktop research of the item to ascertain its potential heritage values.</p> <p>Dalkeith has historical significance for being an early residence built in Picton around the turn of the 20th Century. The prominent location atop the hill entering Picton from the south made it stand out to locals and visitors alike, with various dances and parties hosted at Dalkeith to raise funds for the Picton Red Cross branch. The property was first home to the Wallace family, with Mr Wallace acting as the town's locomotive inspector for nearly 30 years. Following the Wallace's, the Bennetts resided at Dalkeith, who were active in the community organising the aforementioned fundraising parties.</p> <p>The aesthetic and historical significance criteria are met for this dwelling, and thus CPH recommend the listing of 'Dalkeith' as having local significance.</p>
Tite's Refrigeration and Ice Store	2740 Remembrance Driveway, Tahmoor	Lot 2 DP 562297	Council	Identified by staff member - iconic business know to manufacture and supply ice throughout NSW	<p>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as <u>'Tite's Refrigeration and Ice Store'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH investigated 'Tites Ice' as part of their site inspection and determined the building was intact, though needing maintenance, and possessed distinct architectural features giving it aesthetic significance. Tite's Ice was operated by Arthur Herbert Tite, a successful appliance servicer who operated in Bexley before opening his own appliance store at Tahmoor. Though he achieved some success in selling refrigerators and washing and ironing machines from this store, Tite would</p>

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					achieve his most success selling ice, which would be sold at multiple fuel stations across the state. Tite's Ice has local significance as a successful business that operated within the Wollondilly region. Therefore, CPH recommend the listing of 'Tite's Refrigeration and Ice Store' as having local significance.
Former Petrol Station & Workshop	1615 Burraborang Road, Oakdale	Lot Y DP 336313	Council	This site potentially includes a former petrol station/workshop servicing motorists travelling to and from Burraborang Valley	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Petrol Station & Workshop (former)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH investigated the former 'Petrol Station & workshop as part of their site inspection and determined the building was intact, and possessed distinct architectural features giving it aesthetic significance. The land was originally purchased by Mr and Mrs Dowling in 1939, establishing a residence with frontage to Burraborang Road. By 1962, the petrol station was established, which would later become 'Neptune Petrol Station'. The prime location of the petrol station after the town of Oakdale on the road to Nattai would have made the business successful, particularly as it would have served the needs of miners and truckers travelling to Nattai. The former Petrol Station & Workshop has local significance as a successful business that operated within the Wollondilly region. Therefore, CPH recommend the listing of 'Petrol Station & Workshop (former)' as having local significance.</p>
Gaudry's Cottage	745 Montpelier Drive, The Oaks	Lot 48 DP 939905	Council	Very early farmhouse identified in European Heritage Impacts Study prepared for Montpelier Drive Planning Proposal - later identified by Wollondilly Heritage	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Gaudry's Cottage'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The cottage on the southern boundary of 745 Montpelier Drive has aesthetic heritage significance with the existence of</p>

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				Centre as Gaudry's Cottage	<p>surviving fabric, though this appears to need urgent maintenance. The cottage was likely inhabited by William Gaudry and built some time before 1894 (although another source suggests it could have been built as early as the 1840s). William Gaudry built and resided in the cottage whilst aiding his aunt Emmeline Gaudry in running the Vanderville estate, which she inherited after her husband John Benton Wild died c.1860. The cottage would stay in the Gaudry family until 1959 before it was sold to Andrew and May Nicholas, who lived in the property for decades as newer dwellings were constructed around it.</p> <p>As the cottage is a rare surviving example of cottages in the Oaks area, CPH recommend the listing of 'Gaudry's Cottage' as having local significance.</p>
Farm Dams	670-760 Montpelier Drive, The Oaks	Lot 1 DP 1214262, Lot 1 DP 270209, Lot 3 DP 263839	Council	Further research required to establish significance - Wollondilly Heritage Centre not aware of its history	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Farm Dams'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b) and (g)</i></p> <p>The farm dams east of 670 - 760 Montpelier Drive on Lot 1 DP 1214262, Lot 1 DP 270209 and Lot 3 DP 263839 are examples of historic agricultural development of farming estates at The Oaks.</p> <p>The first dam was constructed on land owned by Charles Dunn (approximately Lot 1 DP 270209 and Lot 3 DP 263839), built some time before 1894 and likely constructed by James Doust Snr. The second dam that was on Lot 1 DP 1214262 was built sometime in the late 19th to early 20th Century (1894-1925), which was extended further north in c.1969. The first dam would be extended between 1975-1990 with the laying of the Camden View Accessway. Together, the farm dams both have historical significance for demonstrating the agricultural development of</p>

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					<p>The Oaks area, with their survival from the late 19th and early 20th Centuries providing evidence of grazing techniques utilised by early settlers. The farm dams together are also significant for their historical association with early pioneers of The Oaks and surrounding areas, including Charles Dunn, John Lakemen, and John Doust Snr.</p> <p>CPH recommend the listing of 'Farm Dams' as having local significance.</p>
Condell Park Homestead	Fairway Drive	Lot 40 DP 270536	Council	Original sandstone homestead - Wilton Les: 'potentially of relatively recent construction that does not appear to have significant heritage value.'	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Condell Park Homestead'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The Condell Park homestead was the second homestead constructed in 1909 on the vast Condell Park estate. The land was first granted to Ouseley Condell in 1835 before he sold it to government surveyor Sir Thomas Mitchell in 1841. The property would eventually be sold to Sir Arthur Harris in 1908, who would build the second homestead in 1909. Aesthetically, the building appears to have significance due to the survival of original fabric and the presence of distinctive architectural features. As a surviving and intact example of farming homesteads in the Wilton area, CPH recommend the listing of 'Condell Park Homestead' as having local significance.</p>
Broughton Pass Bridge	Wilton Road (over Cataract River)	N/A	Council	c.1938 contract for construction of new concrete superstructure on bridge over Cataract River on Main Road No. 179.	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Broughton Pass Bridge'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>Before construction of the current bridge in 1884, a bridge that was just above the river was erected in 1851, although this</p>

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					<p>would flood often, sometimes killing those who attempted to cross during storms. A timber superstructure bridge that was situated well above the water level was built in 1884, with this replaced by a concrete superstructure bridge in 1938-39, which is still standing today.</p> <p>Due to the historic, aesthetic and technical significance of the bridge, CPH recommend the listing of 'Broughton Pass Bridge' as having local significance.</p>
Old Hume Highway	Various (Old Hume Highway)	Various	Council	Council received letter from National Trust advising listing on National Trust Heritage Register	<p><u>Not recommended for listing at this stage. An archaeological assessment would inform the survival of any significant fabric and guide which area could be listed.</u></p> <p>CPH recommend that an archaeological assessment be undertaken to inform the areas that could be included in the listing. This archaeological assessment would identify the nature and extent of surviving fabric from the 19th Century construction and then be used as part of a management plan to conserve, manage and showcase the remaining stretches of original or early fabric associated with this route.</p> <p>Once the extent of remaining significant fabric and the exact curtilage is confirmed against the National Trust report, it could then be considered for heritage listing.</p>
Aston Cottage	615 Werombi Road, Orangeville	Lot 2 DP 1287916	Council	Identified by staff member as potentially having heritage value	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Aston Cottage'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The cottage at 615 Werombi Road was first built by Rupert Frederick Arding Downes in c.1920-1921 to be the residence for his new family following his service during World War One. The</p>

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					<p>land, which was within the original Brownlow Hill estate land grant to Alexander McLeay, had previously been leased to the Wasson family in the late 19th Century, as identified in various newspapers and maps. The Wassons had their own cottage on the site, which also doubled as a Post Office for the Brownlow Hill region. This cottage was demolished however, with records showing Mr Downes engage builder Thomas Thornton to build the cottage in 1920. The cottage has retained its original shape and form, with some minor sympathetic alterations undertaken overtime. The cottage today remains in the ownership of Rupert Downes' descendants.</p> <p>The cottage has historical significance for being a well-intact example of a cottage constructed on rural farming estates in the early 20th Century, as well as possessing archaeological remnants of the former Brownlow Hill Post Office. Aesthetically, the building also has significance for demonstrating Victorian Georgian style architectural features, including corbelled brick chimneys, timber casement windows with brick arched detailing and an encircling verandah. .</p> <p>Therefore, CPH recommend the listing of 'Aston Cottage' as having local heritage significance.</p>
Sunning Hill ("The Castle")	30 Radnor Road, Bargo	Lot 192 DP 13127	Council	Known as "The Castle" by locals	<p><u>No listing is recommended.</u></p> <p>CPH could not access the property at 30 Radnor Road nor view it from the public domain. Wollondilly Council could not get in contact with the owner of the property to arrange an inspection. Following desktop research undertaken by CPH, it is concluded that the item does not satisfy the criteria for heritage listing.</p>
Burraborang Valley Group	NPWS Land - Burraborang Valley	Unknown	Council	See Appendix A	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Burraborang Valley Group'</u></p>

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					<p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>As identified above, the Burragorang Valley could not be accessed by CPH during their site inspections. As such, CPH have relied on information provided to them by Dean Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee to inform this listing.</p> <p>Additionally, as discussed above, this 'Burragorang Valley Group' nomination includes numerous items and relics found within different areas of the Valley. These 13 different areas of the Valley were each nominated by Council, however for the sake of convenience CPH have recommended the grouping of all these items under one 'Burragorang Valley Group'. For the full list of items within this Burragorang Valley Group and their approximate location, refer to Appendix A.</p> <p>From the information provided, it appears that there are numerous items and relics remaining in the Burragorang Valley that have historical association with life in the valley before the erection of the Warragamba Dam in the 1950s. Remnants of successful farming estates within the valley remain, including abandoned homesteads, farming equipment, kilns, reservoirs and old vehicles. Various mines and mining equipment can also be found, especially around the Nattai region. The region's beautiful location also attracted tourism to the area, with remnants of hotel sites and recreation activities like tennis courts remaining. Remnants of various school sites, houses and graves are also present, indicating the broad range of residents who inhabited the Valley before its flooding.</p> <p>Without undertaking a site inspection, it is difficult to ascertain the integrity of these items, especially since the region is prone to bushfires and flooding. Nonetheless, based on information provided, CPH can recommend the listing of the 'Burragorang Valley Group' as having local significance.</p>

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					CPH are relying on the mapping undertaken by the Yerranderie Management Committee as to the exact location of these items.
Bindook	Bindook Access (off Colong Stock Route)	Lots 11, 24, 40 & 42 DP 757066	Council	Original homestead replaced in 1950's but original settlers slab hut/cottage still maintained by owner. Other farm buildings may also be of interest. Existing protection in Special Area may be sufficient. Consideration should be given to listing structures on site.	<p>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Bindook'</p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>Though CPH could not access this site for a physical inspection, a desktop analysis of the site was conducted. From this investigation, it was ascertained that Bindook was a grazing estate that was acquired by Lachlan Lang in 1926 and later his son, Neville Lang in 1939 who was able to overcome geographical isolation and devastating weather events to become a successful grazer in the Wollondilly. The oldest building on site (slab hut) appears to have been built between 1914-1930, with the cottage residence built in the 1930s following devastating bushfires that killed most of the estate's cattle and sheep. Besides its grazing history, Bindook also has association with the Bindook flight beacon, which Neville Lang helped install for the Commonwealth Government by building roads through his property. The Bindook beacon was a critical flight navigation tool that aided Sydney's heavily congested airspace until its closure in 2016.</p> <p>Due to the historical and aesthetic significance criteria being met, CPH recommend the listing of 'Bindook' as having local significance.</p>
Thornton's Weir	Allens Creek, Wilton (off Alkoomie Place)	Part Lot 2 DP 108340	Council	N/A	<p>Further investigation is recommended to justify the listing of 'Thornton's Weir'. At this stage, no listing is recommended.</p> <p>The original nomination for this item was extracted from the Aboriginal and European Survey Report prepared by Kayandal Archaeological Services. However, this nomination was vague</p>

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					<p>and did not provide a clear location and item for CPH to investigate. Instead, CPH reviewed this Report and uncovered 'Thornton's Weir', located at Allens Creek, Wilton, as a site identified as having heritage potential. As such, CPH have modified this nomination to instead assess Thornton's Weir as a potential heritage item.</p> <p>Following desktop research undertaken, CPH do not recommend the listing of the 'Thornton's Weir'. Unless further archaeological assessment is undertaken to examine the weir and its archaeological context, the listing of this item is not justifiable. The alluvial deposits present at this weir could not be ascertained from desktop research and require a physical inspection, one which CPH could not undertake. This is due to limitations on safety concerns, and the fact CPH did not uncover this weir as a potential item until after site inspections were completed.</p>
Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group)	Colon Peak Access Trail, Yerranderie	Part Lot 2 DP 798572	Council	Original structure still present on site	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH were not able to access the Yerranderie township as part of their site inspections. As such, CPH are relying on information provided by Dean Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee, as well as previous draft SHI forms to inform this listing.</p> <p>Bartlett's Mine is likely the oldest mine within Yerranderie being established in December 1898, therefore possessing local historical significance. The mine operated until the 1930s before its closure due to falling metal prices, fraudulent management and "rising union demands" having only just received extensive</p>

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					<p>modifications in the years prior. As the first mine in the town, this item would have good technical significance for understanding mine construction techniques and mine layouts of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.</p> <p>Though the item is already identified within the Yerranderie Conservation Area, CPH recommend the listing of 'Bartlett's Mine (Yerranderie Group)' as having local significance. The integrity of this mine could not be properly assessed as information informing the desktop research was gathered in 1992. As such, it is recommended that the integrity of the mine is investigated.</p>
Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group)	Tonalli Gap Trail, Yerranderie	Part Lot 2 DP 798572	Council	Original structure still present on site	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH were not able to access the Yerranderie township as part of their site inspections. As such, CPH are relying on information provided by Dean Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee, as well as previous draft SHI forms to inform this listing.</p> <p>Boreblock Mine was built between 1904-1906 with the processing plant added in 1914 to recover silver, lead and gold. This was one of the multiple mines established in Yerranderie taking advantage of the discovery of silver in the region. The mine was short-lived however, closing down in 1934. This item would have good technical significance for understanding mine construction techniques and mine layouts of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.</p>

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					Though the item is already identified within the Yerranderie Conservation Area, CPH recommend the listing of 'Boreblock Mine (Yerranderie Group)' as having local significance. The integrity of this mine could not be properly assessed as information informing the desktop research was gathered in 1992. As such, it is recommended that the integrity of the mine is investigated.
Mrs Barnes' Boarding House (Yerranderie Group)	Lhuede Crescent, Yerranderie	Part Lot 2 DP 798572	Council	Original structure still present on site	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Mrs Barnes' Boarding House (Yerranderie Group)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>CPH were not able to access the Yerranderie township as part of their site inspections. As such, CPH are relying on information provided by Dean Ashton and Trish Hill of the Yerranderie Management Committee, as well as previous draft SHI forms to inform this listing.</p> <p>Mrs Barnes' Boarding House was built in 1907 and operated as a boarding house for those who visited the mining township of Yerranderie. Within the building are numerous domestic items which indicate how Mrs Barnes operated the boarding house, including old laundry machinery, books, porcelain china, cutlery, and irons. The building retains original significant fabric, including the timber log structure and corrugated hipped roof.</p> <p>Though the item is already identified within the Yerranderie Conservation Area, CPH recommend the listing of 'Mrs Barnes' Boarding House (Yerranderie Group)' as having local significance.</p>
Menangle Street, Picton cottages	Menangle Street through	Various	Community	Unique streetscape lined with historic houses and	<u>No further action required.</u>

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	to Argyle Street, Picton			businesses that welcome visitors to Picton	As discussed in Section 3.2.3, the Wollondilly community suggested cottages along Menangle Street should be heritage listed. Many of these cottages are already listed, and those which are not currently listed are within the Picton Conservation Area (Item C2) and therefore protected under the <i>Wollondilly LEP</i> 2011. CPH investigated all the cottages within the Picton HCA as part of their review, and therefore, CPH do not recommend the listing of any further cottages along Menangle Street.
Staff Road Houses & Trees	Staff Road and 80 Maldon Bridge Road, Maldon	Lot 1 DP 748675	Community	Original worker houses built in c. 1930s - 1950s, as well as an Aboriginal scar tree. All due for demolition in September 2022 as part of Maldon Bridge PP	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Staff Road Workers Houses and Aboriginal Scar Tree(s)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>As identified in the community nomination, Staff Road is subject to a Planning Proposal considering the rezoning of the land around the concrete works from RU2 Rural Landscape Zone to IN3 Heavy Industrial and E2 Environmental Conservation Zones.</p> <p>Two of the current dwellings on Staff Road - Nos. 3 and 10 - were part of the original workers' cottages constructed c.1949-1950 to accommodate the newly opened Metropolitan Portland Cement Works at Maldon. The cottages have mostly retained their original external façade besides the complimentary extensions and modifications. These buildings were occupied by workers of the mine, with No 10 once housing the Works Manager and hosted weekly high tea meetings for women in the area.</p> <p>During the field survey, CPH also identified one potential Aboriginal Scarred Tree on Staff Road, though there may be</p>

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					<p>more within the landscape surrounding Staff Road, Park Drive and Stonequarry Creek.</p> <p>Additionally, the desktop historical investigation of the site identified potential archaeological deposits may be found in the area where the worker's cottages used to sit before their demolition, these being on Staff Road and Park Drive (to the south-east of Staff Road).</p> <p>Due to the historical, aesthetic and technical and research significance of the site, CPH recommend the listing of 'Staff Road Workers Houses and potential Aboriginal Scar Tree(s)' as having local significance. CPH recommend listing the whole Lot 1 DP 748675 due to the potential existence of scarred trees and archaeological deposits within the whole lot. CPH recommend an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and a Historical Archaeological Assessment be undertaken to inform appropriate future development of the Lot.</p>
Burraborang Valley	Burraborang Valley	Multiple	Community	Significance to Indigenous and Non-Indigenous community	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Burraborang Valley'</u></p> <p><u>Nominate to be included within the National Heritage listing 'Great Blue Mountains Area' (Place ID 105127)</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)</i></p> <p>The Burraborang Valley was flooded in the late 1950s to accompany the construction of the new Warragamba Dam which provided metropolitan Sydney with its water. Prior to the flooding of the valley, multiple small communities were established within the valley, including guesthouses. These guesthouses were popular as the Burraborang Valley was a</p>

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					<p>tourist destination for Sydneysiders, with many going to the valley to fish, dance and hike.</p> <p>Parts of the Burratorang Valley are incorporated into the national heritage listing for the Greater Blue Mountains Area, however sections of the valley are not. CPH recommend these sections investigated further to determine their contribution to the national heritage listing.</p> <p>CPH recommend the listing of 'Burratorang Valley' as having National significance. The boundaries of this Valley are to be confirmed, however CPH recommend listing the whole valley as it has great aesthetic value.</p>
Glenrock Reserve	Antill Street, Picton	Lot 2 DP 235052	Community	Public space donated by local teacher, currently being restored by Rotary	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Glenrock Reserve'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>Glenrock Reserve at Antill Street is closely associated with the Glenrock cottage that was located at the neighbouring 4 Antill Street. Originally the land at Antill Street belonged with the cottage that was built by 1895 by William Nixon. Ownership of the land would change until Clara Ina Tarrant received the property from her mother in 1942. Clara would serve as a teacher at the local public school before her retirement in 1957 and would continue to act as a public servant until her death in 1984. Upon her death, Tarrant gifted the undeveloped portion of Glenrock to the community, which is now referred to as Glenrock Reserve. The wide landscape and views over Stonequarry Creek to surrounding hillsides gives Glenrock reserve aesthetic significance. As such, CPH recommend the listing of 'Glenrock Reserve' as having local significance.</p>

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Spaniards Hill	265, 285 & 305 Carrolls Road, Menangle ('Spaniards Hill')	Lot 11 DP 251063, Lot 12 DP 251063, Lot 13 DP 251063	Community	Spaniards Hill was home to early Spanish settler who tried to establish a winery	<p><u>List as a conservation area under Part 2 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Spaniards Hill Landscape Conservation Area'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b), (c) and (g)</i></p> <p>The community nomination of the hairpin bend on Menangle Road near Spaniards Hill has been modified to instead assess Spaniards Hill itself.</p> <p>Spaniards Hill is named after Australia's potentially first Spanish settler Jean Baptiste Lehimaz de Arrietta, who was granted 2,000 acres of land in the area in 1821. De Arrietta, who brought considerable capital to the new colony, established a farming estate, winery and tobacco farm on this land with varying degrees of success. Though he died in 1838, the hill has continued to be called Spaniards Hill to this day. The landscape offers stunning views of the surrounding countryside, including views of nearby Douglas Park. Today some of the hill is occupied by residential homesteads.</p> <p>Due to the historical association and aesthetic significance of this site, CPH recommend the listing of 'Spaniards Hill Landscape Conservation Area' as having local significance. It is recommended that Lots 11, 12 and 13 DP 251063 are listed as the curtilage of the conservation area. It is noted that the existing residences within the curtilage should be preserved.</p>
'T' Intersection	T intersection of Menangle Road and Camden Road, Douglas Park	Lot 10 DP 635151	Community	T-intersection is exactly 1 mile to Central Douglas Park. Requests	<p><u>No listing is recommended.</u></p> <p>Following the site inspection and desktop research associated with this intersection, CPH do not recommend</p>

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				erection of a Milepost to commemorate this	the listing of this item. The 'T' intersection does not satisfy any of the criteria for heritage listing. Wollondilly Council may erect a milepost on the site to recognise the exact 1 mile distance to Douglas Park at their own discretion.
Chiddy's Bridge	Oaks Road (over Cedar Creek) near Sandy Lane, Thirlmere		Community	Concrete bridge that was originally timber, named after local Chiddy family. Community requests signposts	<u>Investigation is ongoing for these bridges.</u> All four bridges identified by the community (Chiddy's Bridge, Cedar Creek Bridge, Scroggies Bridges and Ghost Bridge) are all located within the suburb of Thirlmere, which was excluded from the Study Area of this Heritage Study. However, CPH have since determined it will investigate these bridges despite being located outside the Study Area. These investigations are ongoing at the time of completing this Heritage Study report.
Cedar Creek Bridge	Cedar Creek Road (over Cedar Creek), between Burns Road and Mulhollands Road, Thirlmere		Community	Concrete bridge was timber. Community requests signposts	
Scroggies Bridge	Scroggies Road (over Cedar Creek), Thirlmere		Community	Concrete bridge was timber. Community requests signposts	
Ghost Bridge	Bridge Street (over unnamed deep tributary of Redbank Creek), Thirlmere		Community	Concrete bridge was timber. Community requests signposts	
Water well	65 Menangle Street, Picton	Lot 1 DP 1004788	Community	Believed to be behind School of Arts building - example of early water storage.	<u>No listing is recommended.</u> CPH were provided with a structural report that identified the former location of this item as being below the subfloor of the existing School of Arts building. Following a site inspection and

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					consideration of this report, it appears that the water well has not survived. As such, CPH do not recommend the listing of this Water Well at this time. Instead, the SHI form for I190 'School of Arts Building,' CPH recommends an archaeological assessment to be conducted to for the site prior to any development of the property.
Barrallier's Camp	55 Sheehys Creek Road, Oakdale (Within Wooglemai Complex)	Lot 21 DP 751261	Community	Believed to be camping ground of explorer Barrallier before crossing west	<u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Barrallier's Camp'</u> <i>Satisfies criteria (a), (b) and (f)</i> Barrallier's Camp is associated with French explorer Francis Barrallier, who was the first European to cross the Blue Mountains in 1802. Barrallier established a depot at Nattai to provide a resting ground for him and his men before they crossed the Burragorang River. The depot would be returned to twice after setting out to restock provisions before the expedition concluded on 2 December 1802. Huts were built within the depot to accommodate the explorers and the Aboriginal guides which accompanied them. One such guide was Wooglemai, after whom the Environmental Education Centre that houses this depot is named. As Barrallier's Camp has historical association significance with one of New South Wales' first explorers, CPH recommended the listing of 'Barrallier's Camp' as having local significance.
Hitching Post	55 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 913 DP 1216048	Community	Unique hitching post present on site	<u>Include this listing within the item I135 'Macquarie House' (Part 1 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011)</u>

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					<p>The hitching post in front of Macquarie Cottage at 55 Argyle Street was likely constructed around the same time as the cottage (c.1890s). The hitching post was used to restrain horses that transported patients to the doctor's residence.</p> <p>CPH recommend that the Hitching Post be included with the listing I135 Macquarie House and there not be two separate items as the two are inexplicably linked to one another.</p>
Cordeaux Dam Flying Fox and Tramway	Unknown (within private and public property heading south from rail line at Douglas Park)	Multiple	Community	Key aspect of development of Sydney metropolitan's water supply in early 20th Century.	<p><u>No listing is recommended.</u></p> <p>The Cordeaux Flying Fox and Tramway appears to no longer exist, and CPH could not be accurately identify and locate through desktop research where the item may have historically existed beforehand. As such, CPH do not recommend listing this as a heritage item.</p>
University of Sydney Farms	Werombi Road, Brownlow Hill	Lot 104 DP 866109	Community	Site has been a centre for extensive agricultural research for last century.	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'University of Sydney Farms - Camden Campus'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (e), (f) and (g).</i></p> <p>The University of Sydney - Camden Campus Farms were originally owned by George and Catherine Porter, and later their son John Porter, from before 1888 until 1949. The Corstorphine farm was purchased by three Commonwealth bodies before it was handed over to the University of Sydney in 1954, who were looking to establish another agricultural campus. The farms were used as animal husbandry farms and for veterinary teaching and livestock research. The original Corstorphine farm buildings were replaced overtime.</p> <p>In conclusion, the University of Sydney Farms have historic and technical significance as the only tertiary agricultural college in</p>

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					the region. As such, CPH recommend the listing of 'University of Sydney Farms - Camden Campus' as having local significance.
Former Store	168 Argyle Street, Picton	Lot 172 DP 591137	Community	Oldest surviving store from 1880s until closure in 2016 due to flooding.	<p><u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Store (former)'</u></p> <p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g).</i></p> <p>The former store at 168 Argyle Street was originally built in the 1840s by John Martin, who sold local goods to the developing community. The property was sold to Adolphus Graham in 1874, who established a second storey shop. Adolphus was a key contributor to the development of Picton in the late 19th Century, serving as alderman, land valuator and church warden of St Mark's Church of England. During the late 1980s, it appears the building was converted into a two-storey structure. The store would pass through different owners who operated general stores from the premises until the closure of Foodtown in the late 20th Century.</p> <p>Overtime, the building has been renovated, which has removed some original features and significant fabric from its 19th Century construction. However, some original fabric from the c.1890 double storey works, including the suspended awning and hipped roof (which stands out in comparison to the parapeted roofs on surrounding commercial buildings along Argyle Street) have survived.</p> <p>The building's architectural features (hipped roof, suspended awning etc.) and historical association give the building heritage significance. As such, CPH recommend the listing of 'Store (former)' as having local significance.</p>

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Wooden Mileposts	Cawdor Road West, 300m north of corner with Cawdor Road East AND Old Razorback Road near junction with Mount Hercules Road AND Old Razorback Road above Apps Creek causeway before Remembrance Driveway junction (MR51)	Various	Community	Wooden mileposts, as referenced in Elizabeth Villy book	<u>Include this listing within the item A3 'Wooden Mileposts' (Part 3 Schedule 5 of Wollondilly LEP 2011)</u> The first identified milepost in this submission is already a listing under A3 - 'Wooden Mileposts' of the <i>Wollondilly LEP 2011</i> . CPH recommends that the remaining two mileposts are listed under A3 with the first milepost as they all share the same history and stretch along the same road.
Stone Bridge	Near 145 Mount Hercules Road	Near Lot 32 DP 1012256	Community	Stone bridge built in 1916 to divert flood water from spring to waterhole nearby (referenced in Elizabeth Villy book)	<u>Include this listing within the item 'A11 - Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road)' under Part 3 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011</u> The stone bridge located near 145 Mount Hercules Road is a physical remnant of the old Great South Road that connected Sydney to Melbourne. Following a site inspection and desktop research, CPH recommend including this bridge under the existing A11 - 'Old Razorback Road (relics of Great South Road) listing.
Picton School	Public 27 Lumsdaine Street, Picton	Lot 48 Section 2 DP 2893	CPH	This administration building appeared to	<u>List as an item under Part 1 Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP 2011 as 'Picton Public School Administration Building'</u>

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Administration Building				have aesthetic value due to its architectural style. As well as this, signage on the front elevation indicates building may have been constructed in 1868.	<p><i>Satisfies criteria (a), (c), (f) and (g).</i></p> <p>During their site inspection, CPH identified the Picton Public School Administration Building as potentially having heritage significance. This is due to the aesthetic features of the building, as well as the presence of signage indicating the building was constructed in 1868. A desktop historical assessment undertaken by Dr Martina Muller identified that the building on site today was originally a residence constructed in 1899 for Emily and Henry Clifton. This cottage was referred to as 'Southcot' and would come into possession of the Kelly family in 1910. Picton Superior Public school was opened on the adjoining land in 1909 and would acquire the cottage in 1913 to be used as a schoolmaster's residence.</p> <p>Due to the historic and aesthetic values of the building, CPH recommend the listing of 'Picton Public School Administration Building' as having local significance.</p>