



# 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove NSW: Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

FINAL REPORT

Prepared for Monteath & Powys

14 November 2023

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| <b>Biosis project no.:</b> | 38294   |
| <b>File name:</b>          | 38294.42.Fullerton.Cove.Rd.Addendum.ACHA.FIN02.2<br>0231114   |
| <b>Citation:</b>           | Biosis 2023.42 Fullerton Road: Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment. Report for Monteath & Powys. Keevers-Eastman, A, Bezzina, D, Crissell, M, Garabedian, C. and Allen, C. Biosis Pty Ltd. Newcastle, NSW. 38294 |

## Document control

| Version          | Internal reviewer | Date issued |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Draft version 01 | Maggie Butcher    | 20/02/2023  |
| Final version 01 | Charlotte Allen   | 1/05/2023   |
| Final version 01 | Mathew Smith      | 2/05/2023   |
| Draft version 02 | Samantha Keats    | 26/09/2023  |
| Final version 02 | Maggie Butcher    | 13/11/2023  |

## Acknowledgements

Biosis gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following people and organisations in preparing this report:

- Monteath & Powys: Jamie Graham and Michael Stafford.

Biosis staff involved in this project were:

- Jenny Beckius (mapping).

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# Contents

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Glossary .....</b>  | <b>v</b>   |
| <b>Summary .....</b>   | <b>vii</b> |
| <b>1 Introduction .....</b>  | <b>1</b>   |
| 1.1 Project background .....   | 1          |
| 1.2 Study area .....   | 1          |
| 1.3 Proposed development.....  | 1          |
| 1.4 Planning approvals.....  | 2          |
| 1.5 Restricted and confidential information.....   | 2          |
| 1.6 Aboriginal cultural heritage.....  | 3          |
| 1.6.1 General description.....   | 3          |
| 1.6.2 Tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage.....   | 3          |
| 1.6.3 Intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage .....  | 3          |
| 1.6.4 Statutory .....  | 4          |
| 1.6.5 Values .....   | 4          |
| <b>2 Study area context .....</b>  | <b>8</b>   |
| 2.1 Geology.....   | 8          |
| 2.2 Soil landscapes, topography and hydrology.....   | 10         |
| 2.3 Climate and rainfall .....   | 12         |
| 2.4 Landscape resources .....  | 12         |
| <b>3 Aboriginal cultural heritage context .....</b>  | <b>17</b>  |
| 3.1 Ethnohistory .....   | 17         |
| 3.2 Aboriginal heritage located in the study area.....   | 18         |
| 3.2.1 AHIMS search and site analysis .....   | 18         |
| 3.2.2 Previous assessments undertaken within the study area.....   | 19         |
| 3.2.3 AHIMS sites located within the study area .....  | 20         |
| 3.3 Interpretation of past Aboriginal land use .....   | 22         |
| <b>4 Aboriginal community consultation .....</b>   | <b>26</b>  |
| 4.1 Project update .....   | 26         |
| 4.2 Aboriginal community consultation meeting .....  | 27         |
| 4.3 Stage 4: Review of draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Aboriginal Archaeological<br>Test Excavation Methodology ..... | 29         |
| 4.4 Stage 4: Review of updated draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Test Excavation<br>Report .....                        | 30         |
| <b>5 Aboriginal cultural significance assessment .....</b>   | <b>35</b>  |
| 5.1 Introduction to the assessment process.....  | 35         |
| 5.2 Cultural (social significance) values .....  | 36         |
| 5.3 Historic values .....  | 37         |

|                   |  |           |
|-------------------|--|-----------|
| 5.4               | Archaeological (scientific significance) values.....   | 37        |
| 5.5               | Aesthetic values .....   | 38        |
| 5.6               | Statement of significance .....  | 38        |
| 5.6.1             | Statements of significance for Aboriginal sites identified within the study area.....  | 38        |
| <b>6</b>          | <b>Development limitations and mitigation measures .....</b>   | <b>41</b> |
| 6.1               | Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage .....  | 41        |
| 6.2               | Avoiding harm to Aboriginal heritage .....   | 41        |
| 6.3               | Ecologically Sustainable Development .....   | 42        |
| 6.4               | Management and mitigation measures .....   | 43        |
| 6.4.1             | Apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit to salvage and harm.....  | 44        |
| 6.4.2             | Salvage of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 .....  | 44        |
| 6.4.3             | Continued consultation and engagement of RAPs regarding the requirement for<br>Common Planigale surveys .....  | 44        |
| 6.4.4             | Continued Aboriginal community consultation.....   | 45        |
| 6.4.5             | Avoidance of impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,;<br>AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42<br>Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2..... | 45        |
| 6.4.6             | Fencing of AHIP area during construction phase .....   | 45        |
| 6.4.7             | Updates to AHIMS site cards.....   | 45        |
| 6.4.8             | Long-term care agreement .....   | 45        |
| 6.4.10            | Confidentiality agreement .....  | 46        |
| 6.4.11            | Heritage interpretation .....  | 46        |
| <b>7</b>          | <b>Recommendations.....</b>  | <b>48</b> |
|                   | <b>References.....</b>   | <b>51</b> |
|                   | <b>Appendices .....</b>  | <b>54</b> |
| <b>Appendix 1</b> | <b>NGH 2022 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: 42 Fullerton Cove Road,<br/>Fullerton Cove 55</b>   |           |
| <b>Appendix 2</b> | <b>AHIMS extensive search.....</b>   | <b>56</b> |
| <b>Appendix 3</b> | <b>Consultation log .....</b>  | <b>57</b> |
| <b>Appendix 4</b> | <b>Update to Register Aboriginal Parties.....</b>  | <b>77</b> |
| <b>Appendix 5</b> | <b>Aboriginal community consultation meeting.....</b>  | <b>78</b> |
| <b>Appendix 6</b> | <b>Stage 4: Review of draft addendum ACHA report and Aboriginal<br/>Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology .....</b>   | <b>79</b> |
| <b>Appendix 7</b> | <b>Test excavation methodology.....</b>  | <b>80</b> |
| <b>Appendix 8</b> | <b>Stage 4: Review of draft 2 Addendum ACHA and Test Excavation Report.....</b>  | <b>81</b> |
| <b>Appendix 9</b> | <b>Test Excavation Report.....</b>   | <b>82</b> |

## Tables

|         |  |      |
|---------|--|------|
| Table 1 | List of registered Aboriginal parties and group contact .....  | viii |
| Table 2 | Assessment of impacts and specific recommendations .....   | x    |
| Table 3 | AHIMS site type frequency .....  | 19   |
| Table 4 | AHIMS sites located within the study area .....  | 21   |
| Table 5 | List of registered Aboriginal parties .....  | 26   |
| Table 6 | Comments and questions from Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation and Biosis responses..... | 31   |
| Table 7 | Significance assessment criteria .....   | 38   |
| Table 8 | Summary of potential archaeological impact .....   | 41   |

## Figures

|          |  |    |
|----------|--|----|
| Figure 1 | Location of the study area .....                                 | 5  |
| Figure 2 | Study area detail .....  | 6  |
| Figure 3 | Proposed works .....   | 7  |
| Figure 4 | Geological units in the vicinity of the study area.....          | 14 |
| Figure 5 | Hydrology and topography in the vicinity of the study area ..... | 15 |
| Figure 6 | Soil landscapes in the vicinity of the study area .....          | 16 |
| Figure 7 | AHIMS within the vicinity of the study area.....                 | 24 |
| Figure 8 | Site extents recorded by NGH in 2022.....                        | 25 |
| Figure 9 | Impact assessment.....   | 47 |

## Photos

|         |   |    |
|---------|---|----|
| Photo 1 | Figure 17 from Newcastle Bight Aboriginal Sites Study (Dean-Jones 1990) showing indicative location of study area (red arrow) ..... | 9  |
| Photo 2 | Schematic cross-section of Lower Pindimar soil landscape (Source: Matthei 1995, p.237).....   | 11 |
| Photo 3 | Schematic cross-section of Hawkes Nest soil landscape (Source: Matthei 1995, p.206).....  | 12 |

## Glossary

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>ACHA</b>                      | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment  |
| <b>AEP</b>                       | Anderson Environmental Planning  |
| <b>AHIMS</b>                     | Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System  |
| <b>AHIP</b>                      | Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit  |
| <b>Biosis</b>                    | Biosis Pty Ltd   |
| <b>BP</b>                        | Before Present   |
| <b>CBD</b>                       | Central business district  |
| <b>Consultation requirements</b> | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (DECCW 2010a) |
| <b>DA</b>                        | Development Application  |
| <b>DECCW</b>                     | Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (now Heritage NSW)                   |
| <b>DP</b>                        | Deposited Plan   |
| <b>EP&amp;A Act</b>              | <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>                                    |
| <b>ESD</b>                       | Ecologically Sustainable Development   |
| <b>GPS</b>                       | Global Positioning System  |
| <b>GSV</b>                       | Ground Surface Visibility  |
| <b>Heritage NSW</b>              | Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment                                     |
| <b>ICOMOS</b>                    | International Council on Monuments and Sites   |
| <b>LALC</b>                      | Local Aboriginal Land Council  |
| <b>LEP</b>                       | Local Environmental Plan   |
| <b>LGA</b>                       | Local Government Area  |
| <b>LGM</b>                       | Last Glacial Maximum   |
| <b>MGA</b>                       | Map Grid of Australia  |
| <b>NGH</b>                       | NGH Pty Ltd  |
| <b>NNTT</b>                      | National Native Title Tribunal   |
| <b>NPW Act</b>                   | <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>  |
| <b>NPWS</b>                      | National Parks and Wildlife Service  |
| <b>NSW</b>                       | New South Wales  |
| <b>NTSCORP</b>                   | Native Title Services Corporation  |
| <b>PAD</b>                       | Potential Archaeological Deposit   |
| <b>RAPs</b>                      | Registered Aboriginal Parties  |



|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>SEPP</b>              | State Environmental Planning Policy  |
| <b>Study area</b>        | Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  |
| <b>The Burra Charter</b> | <i>Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance</i> (Australia ICOMOS 2013) |
| <b>The Code</b>          | <i>Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (DECCW 2010b)        |

## Summary

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Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) was commissioned by Monteath & Powys to undertake continued Aboriginal community consultation and archaeological test excavations to support an updated addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (Lot 14 DP 258848) (the study area). The study area is located within the Port Stephens Local Government Area (LGA), approximately 8 kilometres north of Newcastle Central Business District (CBD). It encompasses 4.2 hectares of private land and is bounded by Fullerton Cove Road to the north-west and south-west, undeveloped land to the north-east, and Nelson Bay Road to the south.

The study area was previously assessed by NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) in 2022 to inform a rezoning application that would allow for future retail development (NGH 2022). An ACHA was prepared by NGH in accordance with *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements) and the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010b) (the Code). Consultation with the Aboriginal community undertaken by NGH to inform the ACHA has been maintained in accordance with consultation requirements.

Biosis was subsequently engaged to continue Aboriginal community consultation and prepare an addendum ACHA to support an application to Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment (Heritage NSW) for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). The AHIP was to allow for test excavations to be completed within areas of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) that would be impacted by the proposed development (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road; site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3). An AHIP was obtained from Heritage NSW on 2 August 2023 (AHIP 5136).

Biosis has since continued Aboriginal community consultation and prepared an update to the addendum ACHA to support a Development Application (DA) to be prepared by Monteath & Powys for the proposed retail development. The proposed development will be assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Port Stephens Council is the determining authority and will assess the DA to determine if the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, including Aboriginal cultural heritage.

### Consultation

The Aboriginal community has been consulted regarding the heritage management of the project throughout its lifespan. This addendum ACHA should be read in conjunction with the prior ACHA completed by NGH in 2022 (Appendix 1). Consultation has been undertaken as per the process outlined in the consultation requirements. The appropriate government bodies were notified by NGH, and an advertisement placed in the *Port Stephens Examiner* newspaper (9 December 2021), which resulted in the following Aboriginal organisations registering their interest (Table 1):

**Table 1 List of registered Aboriginal parties and group contact**

| No. | Organisation                                     | Contact person   |
|-----|--|------------------|
| 1   | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation | Candy-Lee Towers |
| 2   | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  | Bec Young        |
| 3   | Robert Syron                                     | Robert Syron     |
| 4   | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              | Lennie Anderson  |
| 5   | Karuah Indigenous Company                        | David Feeney     |
| 6   | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             | Jamie Merrick    |
| 7   | Confidential Group No.1                          | -                |
| 8   | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      | Stephen Johnson  |

Biosis has continued consultation with Register Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) identified in Table 1 by providing a project update on 8 November 2022, which outlined the proposed methodology for the preparation of an addendum ACHA and continued Aboriginal community consultation. A response was received from Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd regarding the project update on 8 November 2022, expressing some concerns for the archaeologically and culturally sensitive nature of the study area, and past difficulties faced when looking to develop the site. These concerns were further discussed with Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd and Rebecca Young of Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. leading to the conclusion that a consultation meeting with RAPs was required to discuss the proposed development, impacts, and management of cultural heritage values on site throughout the life span of the development.

RAPs were invited to attend a consultation meeting held on site on Tuesday 24 January 2023. The meeting was attended by the following participants:

- Biosis Heritage Consultants: Taryn Gooley, Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman, and Molly Crissell.
- Monteath and Powys representatives: Isaac Conway, Ryan Smith, Jamie Graham.
- RAPs: Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, David Feeney of Karuah Indigenous Company, and Jamie Merrick of Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

Robert Syron also registered for the meeting but was unable to attend in person. A separate meeting (virtual) was therefore held to discuss the results of the consultation meeting on Tuesday 31 January 2023.

A draft copy of the addendum ACHA and the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology prepared by Biosis was provided to RAPs on 29 March 2023 for review and comment over a 28 day period in accordance with consultation requirements. Responses were received from a number of RAPs; these are summarised in Section 4.3 and Appendix 3.

A copy of this updated addendum ACHA and the draft Test Excavation Report, presented in Appendix 9, was provided to RAPs for review and comment on 10 October 2023. RAPs were provided with 28 days to provide comments and responses on the draft reports, in accordance with the consultation requirements. Responses were received from a number of RAPs; these are summarised in Section 4.4 and Appendix 3. This final report incorporates comments received from the RAPs on the draft reports.

## Results

This addendum ACHA and the ACHA completed by NGH includes background research for the proposed study area. Key considerations arising from the background research include:

- The study area is located within the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight within stabilised transgressive dunes, stabilised dunes and backbarrier flat, and interbarrier depression deposits, which are likely to contain archaeological deposits that date to the Holocene.
- The most common site types to occur within the local region are artefact and midden sites. Artefact sites are likely to be made of siliceous tuff, mudstone, siltstone and claystone raw material sources.
- The proximity of Fullerton Cove and estuarine resources would have also provided an important food resource particularly with regards to the consumption of shellfish.

There are 106 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered with the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS), within the vicinity of the study area. Four of these AHIMS sites are located within the study area (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3).

These sites were identified during the field survey undertaken on 31 May 2022 by NGH. The Aboriginal sites were identified in consultation with RAPs who attended the field investigation and were based on the predictive modelling undertaken for the study area by NGH. This predictive modelling suggested that stone artefacts of predominately tuff, and shell middens were the most likely site types to be present within the study area, and most likely to be present within the sandy rise/dune surface adjacent to waterways (NGH 2022, p.50). It was recommended that if impacts to these sites could not be avoided by the future development of the study area, then an AHIP to undertake test excavations would be required.

The addendum ACHA prepared by Biosis in May 2023 determined that the proposed works will have the potential to directly impact part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3. Therefore, an AHIP to allow for further investigation of these sites was recommended to be obtained. An AHIP application was subsequently made, and was issued by Heritage NSW on 2 August 2023 (AHIP 5136)

A program of test excavation has since been undertaken in accordance with AHIP 5136, over seven days from 21 August to 25 August 2023, and from the 28 August until 29 August 2023. As part of the program, 16 test pits and 16 auger holes were excavated, which uncovered a total of 250 artefacts and 25,160 grams of shell. Test excavations identified that a low to high density artefact deposit is located within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, which was associated with intact shell middens and a hearth site. AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 was assessed as containing high scientific significance. Salvage of the site via further excavation and community collection is recommended unless impacts can be avoided.

AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; was determined to consist of a low density artefact/shell deposit that was highly disturbed and unlikely to contribute further to our understanding of Aboriginal land use within the local region. Therefore, a recommendation was made that no further archaeological assessment was required. However, an AHIP to allow for harm to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and total harm of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD, following the completion of salvage and community collection, should be obtained prior to development of the site.

Specific mitigation measures and an assessment of impacts for Aboriginal sites within the study area is provided below in Table 2.



**Table 2 Assessment of impacts and specific recommendations**

| Site name              | Site type                    | Significance | Type of harm before mitigated | Consequence of unmitigated harm | Consequence of mitigated harm | Site specific recommendations   |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-0333</b> | Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;  | Low.         | Direct.                       | Partial.                        | Partial loss of value.        | AHIP required to allow for partial harm to occur through the proposed works. It is recommended that where impacts can be avoided that fencing should be established to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase. |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2142</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 | Unknown.     | No harm.                      | No harm.                        | No harm.                      | Should be avoided and AHIP area should be fenced to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase.  |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2141</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 | Unknown.     | No harm.                      | No harm.                        | No harm.                      | Should be avoided and AHIP area should be fenced to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase.  |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2140</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | High.        | Direct.                       | Total.                          | Total loss of value.          | Avoid impacts where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, an AHIP will be required to allow for salvage excavations and community collection to occur prior to the proposed works commencing.  |

## Management recommendations

Prior to any development impacts occurring within the study area, the following is recommended:

### Recommendation 1: Application for an AHIP to allow for harm and salvage

Impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 cannot be avoided. Therefore, it is recommended that an AHIP to allow for harm and salvage be obtained. The AHIP should be for a term of **five (5) years** and should allow for harm of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and salvage of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 through excavation and community collection prior to harm. The AHIP will need to be obtained from Heritage NSW under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act), prior to impacts occurring.

### Recommendation 2: Archaeological salvage is required within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3

Impacts to AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 cannot be avoided. Therefore, archaeological salvage and community collection of this site is recommended. AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 should be salvaged under an AHIP in accordance with a salvage methodology to be developed in consultation with RAPs. Salvage excavations should focus on areas of highest artefact and shell density within the AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 site extent. This will allow for further information to be gathered for a comparative assessment to be undertaken for similar salvage excavations undertaken in the local area.

### Recommendation 3: Continued consultation with RAPs

As per the consultation requirements, it is recommended that a copy of this final report be provided to RAPs for their records. It is also recommended that the proponent should continue to inform RAPs about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project.

### Recommendation 4: Avoidance of impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2

The current development footprint is unlikely to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Therefore, avoidance is recommended. If the proposed development footprint of the study area is updated or ground disturbing works are likely to impact upon these Aboriginal sites, further assessment will be required; this may include test excavations under an AHIP and the preparation of an updated ACHA.

### Recommendation 5: Fencing of AHIP area during the construction phase

Prior to any construction works taking place it is recommended that the AHIP area/development footprint be fenced clearly to avoid unintentional impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Fencing must remain in place over the lifespan of the construction phase. Should future development works propose to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 then an AHIP will be required to allow for further testing and harm.

### **Recommendation 6: Updates to AHIMS site cards**

It is recommended that updates to the site cards for AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 be undertaken to reflect their current condition and extent. Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Forms (ASIRFs) should also be completed to AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 should be completed following harm in accordance with the approved AHIP.

### **Recommendation 7: Discovery of unanticipated Aboriginal objects**

All Aboriginal objects and Places are protected under the NPW Act. It is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal object without a consent permit issued by Heritage NSW. Should any unanticipated Aboriginal objects be encountered during works associated with this proposal, works must cease in the vicinity and the find should not be moved until assessed by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be an Aboriginal object, the archaeologist will provide further recommendations. These may include notifying Heritage NSW and RAPs.

### **Recommendation 8: Discovery of human remains**

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity, you must:

1. Immediately cease all work at that location and not further move or disturb the remains.
2. Notify NSW Police and the NSW Environmental Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide details of the remains and their location.
3. Not recommence work at that location unless authorised in writing by NSW Police and/or Heritage NSW.

### **Recommendation 9: Training and heritage induction**

It is recommended that all personnel on site during construction should undertake a heritage induction and cultural awareness training as part of the site induction. This will inform personnel as to when works should cease and a manager be contacted for further instruction on stop works procedures. The heritage induction will also prevent any unintentional harm to unexpected Aboriginal objects or sites, or Aboriginal sites or objects located within proximity to the proposed development. The heritage induction should include the following items:

- Relevant legislation.
- Location of identified Aboriginal heritage sites, areas of archaeological potential, and areas of archaeological sensitivity.
- Basic identification skills for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artefacts and human remains.
- Procedure to follow in the event of an unexpected heritage item find during construction works.
- Procedure to follow in the event of the discovery of human remains during construction works.
- Penalties and non-compliance.

### **Recommendation 10: Heritage interpretation**

In accordance with the wishes of the RAPs, heritage interpretation should be incorporated into the development. Specifically, RAPs have requested that signage, Worimi art and design, and Worimi words be

included as part of the development. RAPs should be consulted on any heritage interpretation proposed for the development.

### **Recommendation 11: Long-term care agreement**

The establishment of a long-term care agreement in consultation with RAPs should be developed in order to ensure the artefacts collected during test excavations and future artefacts recovered during proposed salvage activities are adequately cared for in accordance with RAP recommendations. To date, three options have been suggested by the RAPs: reburial on site (artefacts should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner); transferred to Worimi LALC for keeping and educational purposes; or transferred to Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation for keeping and educational purposes. As no further comments were received as part of Stage 4 for the review of the updated Addendum ACHA and draft Test Excavation Report, further consultation regarding the long-term care of recovered artefacts will be required.



# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Project background

Biosis has been commissioned by Monteath & Powys to undertake continued Aboriginal community consultation and archaeological test excavations to support an updated addendum ACHA for the proposed retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW (Lot 14 DP 258848) (the study area) (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

An ACHA was previously undertaken by NGH for the rezoning of the study area in 2022. The ACHA prepared by NGH details the field investigation, consultation and assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage undertaken for the study area as part of the rezoning application. An Addendum ACHA was subsequently prepared by Biosis and includes continued consultation with the Aboriginal community to support an AHIP application to allow for test excavations to be undertaken in accordance with Requirement 14 of the Code.

This updated addendum ACHA will support a DA to be assessed under Part 4 of the E&PA Act. This addendum ACHA report details the results of the continued Aboriginal community consultation and an assessment of impacts to known Aboriginal cultural heritage constraints within the study area. This addendum ACHA report should be read in conjunction with NGH's report, which includes the details the findings of the archaeological investigations conducted within the study area to date (Appendix 1). It should also be read in conjunction with the Test Excavation Report in Appendix 9, which details the results of archaeological test excavations carried out under AHIP 5136 that was obtained from Heritage NSW on 2 August 2023.

## 1.2 Study area

The study area is located within Lot 14 DP 258848 at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, approximately 8 kilometres north of Newcastle CBD (Figure 1). It encompasses 4.2 hectares of private land and is bounded by Fullerton Cove Road to the north-west and south-west, undeveloped land to the north-east, and Nelson Bay Road to the south.

The study area is within the:

- Port Stephens LGA.
- Parish of Stockton.
- County of Worimi (Figure 2).

## 1.3 Proposed development

Monteath and Powys are proposing to construct a retail development (Figure 3) which will include the following:

- A supermarket and liquor store (2,655 metres squared).
- Fore court (1,599 metres squared).
- Loading dock.
- Truck manoeuvring area.

- Fifth lettable tenancies (01, 02, 03, 04, 05), which cover an area of 2,343 metres squared in total.
- 12 accessible car spaces (5.5 by 2.6 metres each).
- Five direct to boot car spaces (5.5 by 3 metres squared each).
- 286 standard car spaces (5.5 by 2.6 metres squared each).
- 16 motorbike parking spaces.
- Associated infrastructure, signage, and landscaping.

The total built floor area will cover an area of 6,992 metres squared.

## 1.4 Planning approvals

The proposed development will be assessed against Part 4 of the EP&A Act. Other relevant legislation and planning instruments that will inform this assessment include:

- Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).
- NSW NPW Act.
- NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010*.
- *Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2007*.
- *Port Stephens Local Environment Plan 2013*.
- *Port Stephens Development Control Plan 2014*.
- *State Environmental Planning Policy 2020*.

## 1.5 Restricted and confidential information

Appendix 2 and Figure 7, Figure 8, and Figure 9 of this addendum ACHA contain AHIMS information that is confidential and not to be made public. This is clearly marked on the title page for the Attachment and each of the figures. Appendix B and Figures 4-2, 4-3, 5-2, 8-1 and 8-2 of NGH 2022 contains information which is also considered confidential and not to be made public (Appendix 1).

Figure 4-10 within the Text Excavation Report provided in Appendix 9 contain information on the location of Aboriginal sites and therefore should remain confidential.

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd also requested that the findings should be authenticated. Advice was sought from Heritage NSW regarding this request. Heritage NSW confirmed on 10 November 2023 that components of the reports that Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd wish to remain confidential are to be redacted. An unredacted versions of the reports will be held as a confidential reports by Heritage NSW.

## 1.6 Aboriginal cultural heritage

### 1.6.1 General description

According to Allen and O'Connell (2003), Aboriginal people have inhabited the Australian continent for the last 50,000 years. New evidence out of the Northern Territory has pushed this date back to around 60,000 years with the Malakanunja II rock shelter dated at 61,000 ±9000/-13,000 BP (Clarkson et al. 2017).

In NSW, according to Bowler *et al* (2003), Aboriginal people have occupied the land for over 42,000 years. However, preliminary evidence presented by Biosis (2016) from a subsurface testing program in south-western NSW suggests Aboriginal people may have occupied the semi-arid zone of the region for 50,000 years.

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

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

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

### 1.6.2 Tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage

Three categories of tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage may be defined:

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

### 1.6.3 Intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage

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

#### 1.6.4 Statutory

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

Aboriginal objects are defined as:

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

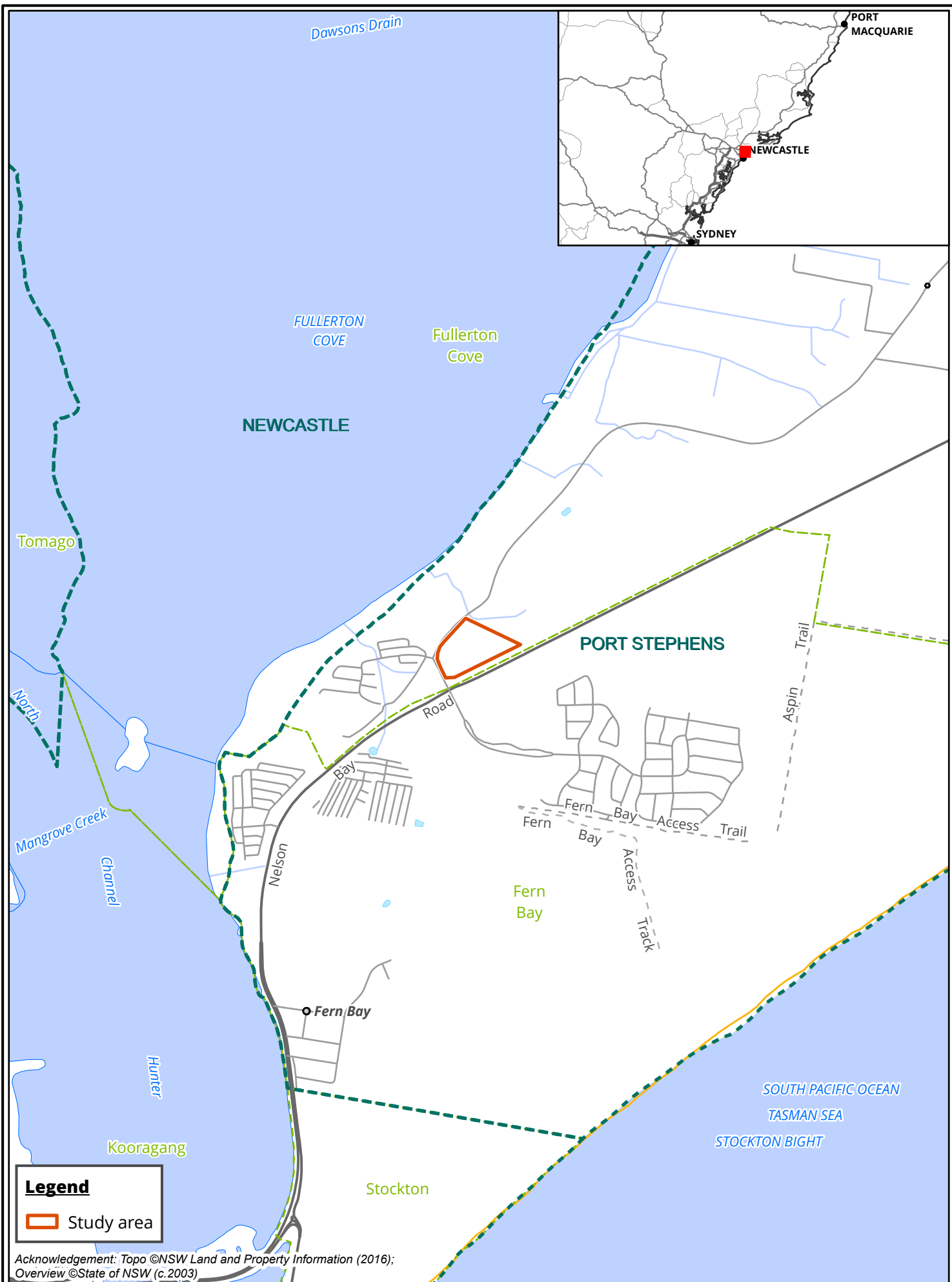
Aboriginal places are defined as a place that is or was of special Aboriginal cultural significance. Places are declared under Section 84 of the NPW Act.

#### 1.6.5 Values

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

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





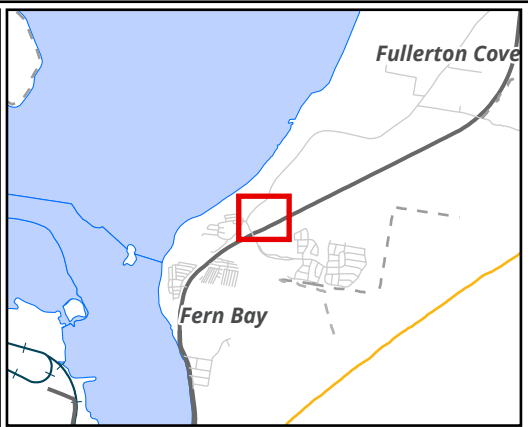
**Figure 1 Location of the study area**

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 Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: jbeckius  
 Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
 38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR



0 200 400 600 800 1,000  
 Metres  
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**Legend**

-  Study area
-  Lot

**Figure 2 Study area detail**

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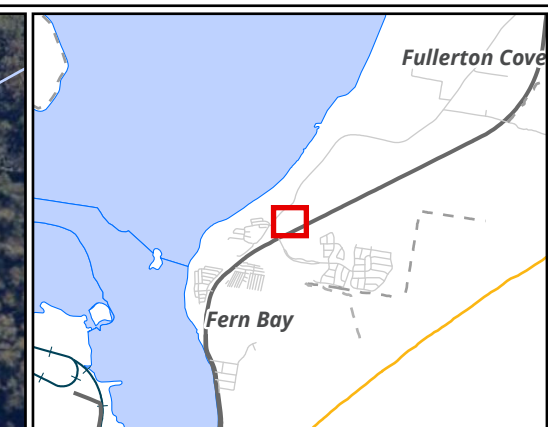
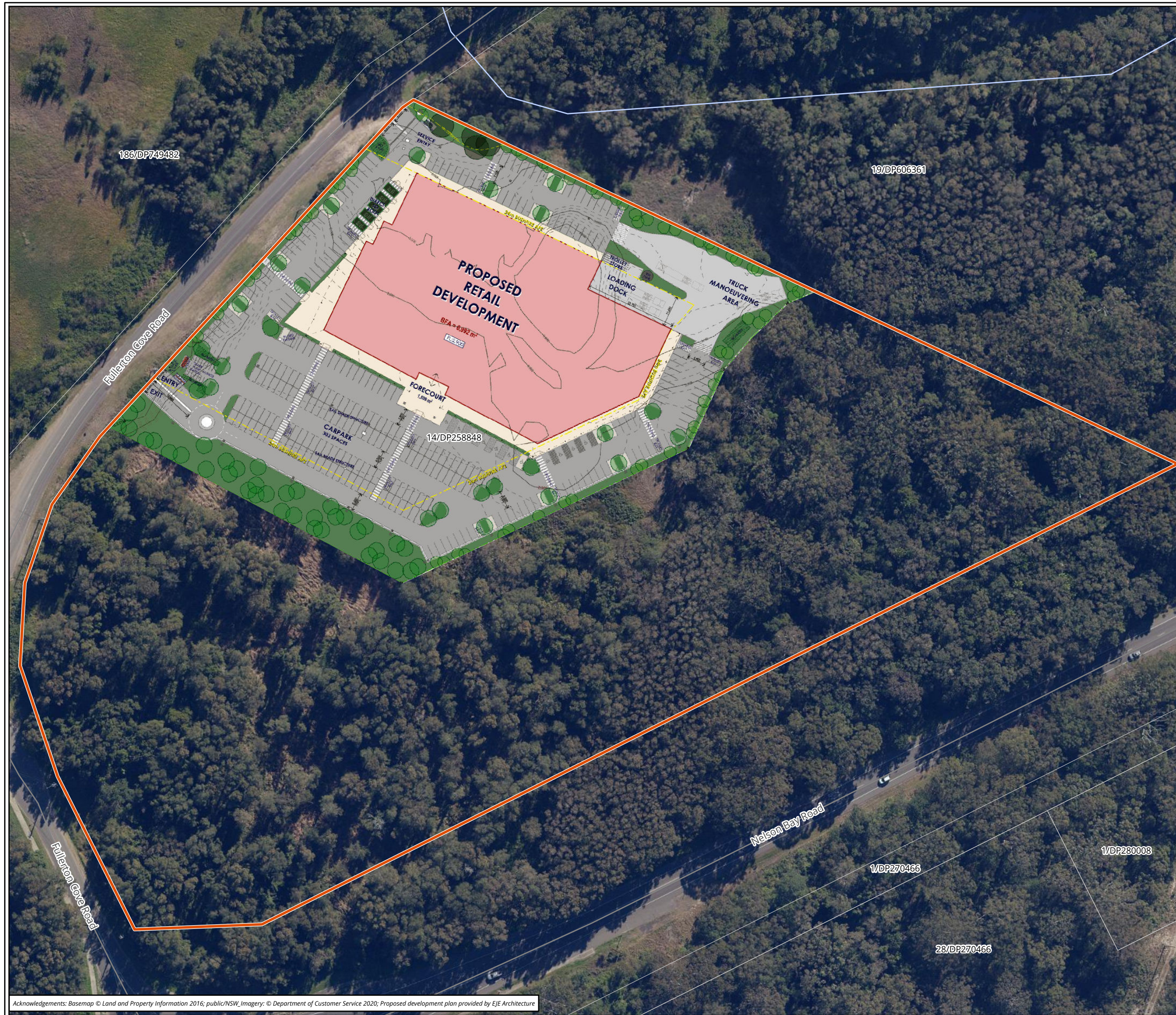
Metres

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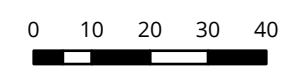




### Legend

- Study area
- Lot

**Figure 3 Proposed works**



Metres  
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 Coordinate System:  
 GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



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## 2 Study area context

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This section discusses the study area with regard to its landscape, environmental and Aboriginal cultural heritage context. This section should be read in conjunction with the ACHA prepared by NGH provided in Appendix 1. Background research undertaken to inform this assessment has been completed in accordance with the Code.

It is important to consider the local environment of the study area for any heritage assessment. The local environmental characteristics can influence human occupation and associated land use and consequently the distribution and character of cultural material. Environmental characteristics and geomorphological processes can affect the preservation of cultural heritage materials to varying degrees or even destroy them completely. Lastly landscape features can contribute to the cultural significance that places can have for people.

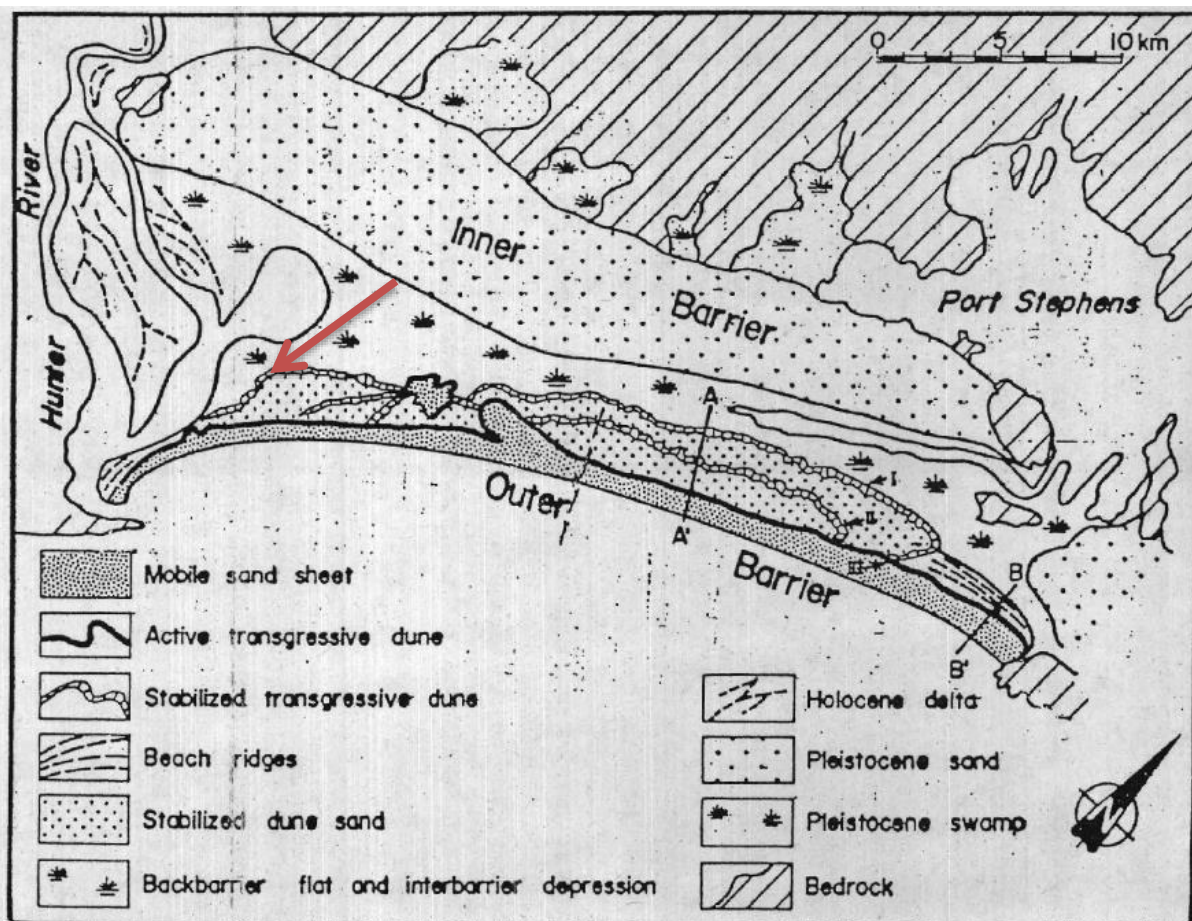
### 2.1 Geology

The study area is situated within the Newcastle Bight. The Newcastle Bight is a geomorphological unit situated between the Hunter River in the south and Birubi Point, Port Stephens, in the north (Dean-Jones 1990, pp.7, 10). The Newcastle Bight consists of infilled marine estuarine and aeolian sediments which formed during the Pleistocene and Holocene periods (120,000 years before present (BP)) (Dean-Jones 1990, p.7), with an inner (Pleistocene) and outer (Holocene) barrier. The inner barrier formed during the last interglacial period during a period of higher sea levels approximately 120,000 years BP. This date was obtained in 1976 using coral deposits obtained from the base of the inner barrier deposit at Grahamstown located approximately 9.6 kilometres north-east of the study area (Dean-Jones 1990, p.21). Portions of this formation have remained stable through to the present day (Dean-Jones 1990, p.10).

The outer barrier began forming during the last glacial maximum (LGM) (Dean-Jones 1990, p.10). Transgressive dune fields cover the majority of the outer barrier beach ridges, while longitudinal dunes have formed within portions of the inner barrier as a result of aeolian processes during the LGM (Dean-Jones 1990, p.21). The Holocene transgressive dune fields have been dated to  $9,520 \pm 1,590$  BP and  $8,260 \pm 295$  years BP, and are overlain by sands dated to  $6,070 \pm 130$  years BP (Dean-Jones 1990, p.24).

In terms of archaeological preservation and research; the aeolian deposition sequences within the Newcastle Bight provided different occupation surfaces which allow for archaeological deposits to be differentiated by date or occupation events (Dean-Jones 1990, p.24). The study area is located within the outer barrier within stabilised transgressive dunes, stabilised dunes and backbarrier flat, and interbarrier depression deposits (Photo 1). The inner barrier blocks a number of valleys which has resulted in the formation of extensive swamp land between the inner and outer barriers known as the interbarrier depression (Dean-Jones 1990, p.21). The formation of freshwater and estuarine environments within the interbarrier depression would have provided abundant resources for Aboriginal people in the area during the late Pleistocene and Holocene periods (Dean-Jones 1990, p.24). Therefore, archaeological deposits which exist within the study area are highly likely to date to the Holocene.

On the other hand, the north-western portions of the inner barrier likely provided continuous access to wetland environments throughout the Pleistocene and Holocene periods and were likely a better resource base than the coast line environment (Dean-Jones 1990, p.29). The north-western portion of the inner barrier (Grahamstown, Moffats Swamp, Twelve Mile Creek) therefore has high potential to contain late Pleistocene sites (Dean-Jones 1990, p.29). The remainder of the inner barrier system has the potential to contain Pleistocene sites; however, the majority of sites found in these areas are likely to be Holocene in age.



**FIGURE 17** : Plan view of the Outer Barrier. After Thom et al 1980.

**Photo 1 Figure 17 from Newcastle Bight Aboriginal Sites Study (Dean-Jones 1990) showing indicative location of study area (red arrow)**

The study area is largely underlain by Coastal backbarrier flat facies deposits, with a small portion of the north western extent of the study area consisting of Estuarine shoreline ridge and dune geological deposits (Figure 4). The underlying geology of the study area is not considered conducive to the presence of stone outcrop formations which would have been utilised by Aboriginal people for the production of stone tools or for axe grinding or art engravings. The study area is however in close proximity to a number of stone resource outcrops which would have been exploited by Aboriginal people in the past. These include three siliceous tuff outcrops located within the Tomago Coal measures at Shortland within the Hunter Wetlands Centre, at Tomago near the junction of the Pacific Highway and Tomago Road, and on the eastern margin of the Grahamstown Dam (Dean-Jones 1990, p.18). The Maitland and Dalwood geological groups also contain siltstone, claystone, and sandstone rock formations; these groups are known to outcrop on the margins of Grahamstown Dam (Dean-Jones 1990, p.18). Siliceous tuff, mudstone, siltstone and claystone are materials which were used extensively throughout the Port Stephens, Newcastle and Greater Hunter Region for the production of stone tools by Aboriginal people.

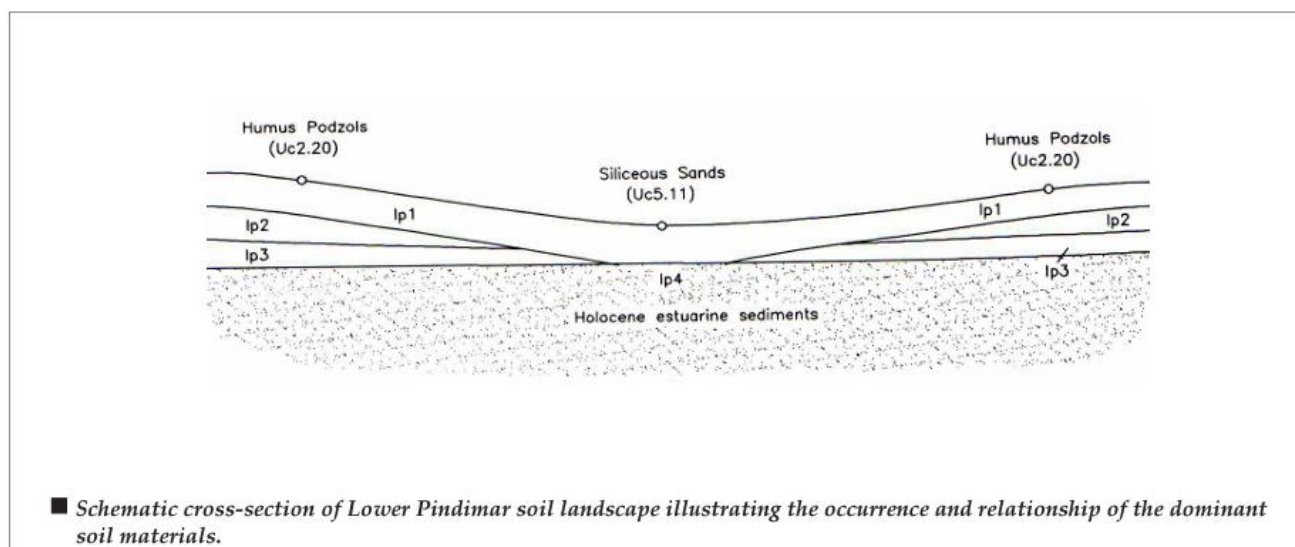
## 2.2 Soil landscapes, topography and hydrology

As discussed above the study area is situated within the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight and topographically consists of a continuous dune landform in the north and north-east, which also follows a portion of the north-western boundary of the site, with swampy flats dominating a majority of the study area to the south and south west (Figure 5). The study area is located approximately 315 metres north-west of the estuarine flats of Fullerton Cove, which would have been a valuable resource to Aboriginal people within the local area. A number of fresh water sources are also located within close proximity to the study area, with a first order water source located 15 metres north, and a second order creek line to the south-west which diverges to form two first order creek lines of which the eastern branch is likely to have flowed into the study area prior to modern development. The proximity of fresh water sources, an abundance of estuarine resources and elevated dune landforms in the study area is a positive indicator that Aboriginal sites have the potential to occur where soils have not been significantly disturbed.

At the coldest part of the last ice age (about 20,000-21,000 years ago), sea levels were approximately 120 metres below the current level. However, when the last ice age began to end a few thousand years later, sea levels rose gradually due to melting ice and water running into the oceans. Sea levels were at 70 metres below current levels about 13,000 years ago, at 50 metres below present levels about 12,000 years ago, and current sea levels were reached around 7,500-8,000 years ago (Reid & Nunn 2015, Williams et al. 2020, Lewis et al. 2013). Due to this changing sea level, the study area may not always have been swampy land, but is likely to have been so from 8,000 years ago based on the rising sea levels at this time.

Soils within the study area are predominantly comprised of the Lower Pindimar Soil Landscape, with a small portion within the north-eastern corner contained within the Hawks Nest Soil Landscape (Figure 6). The Lower Pindimar Soil Landscape consists of poorly drained Holocene quartz sand sheets, which overlie estuarine deposits. Slopes within this soil landscape generally possess a gradient less than 3%, a local relief of less than 3 metres, and an elevation no more than 6 metres. The water table is considered to be close to the surface at a depth of less than 70 centimetres, with small areas subject to permanent water logging in isolated instances (Matthei 1995, p.237).

Dominant soil types (Photo 2) upon sandy rises such as those identified in the northern extent of the study area soils may consist of up to 15 centimetres of loose brownish black loamy sand (*lp1*, A horizon), which overlies 40 to 100 centimetres of bleached loose sand (*lp2*, A<sup>2</sup> Horizon). This overlies 40 to 100 centimetres of organic coffee coloured soft pan (*lp3*, Bh Horizon) and greater than 100 centimetres of coarse loose saturated brown sand (*lp4*, C horizon) which consists of imperfectly drained Humus Podzols. Total soil depth upon sandy rises is greater than 300 centimetres and the boundaries between the soil materials are sharp. Within the lower poorly drained flats, which dominant a vast majority of the study area, soils are likely to consist of up to 40 centimetres of *lp1* which in turn overlies more than 50 centimetres of *lp4* which consists of poorly drained Siliceous Sands. Total soil depth is generally greater than 300 centimetres and the boundaries between the soil materials are sharp (Matthei 1995, p.237). The shallow nature of potentially cultural material bearing A horizon soils within the poorly drained flats of the Lower Pindimar Soil Landscape suggests that Aboriginal artefact sites are unlikely to be present unless within isolated circumstances. Sandy rises or dune landforms are considered more likely to contain archaeological deposits due to the depth of A and A<sup>2</sup> soil horizons present in this landform, and the lower likelihood for these landforms to become waterlogged, thereby making them more suitable for occupation.

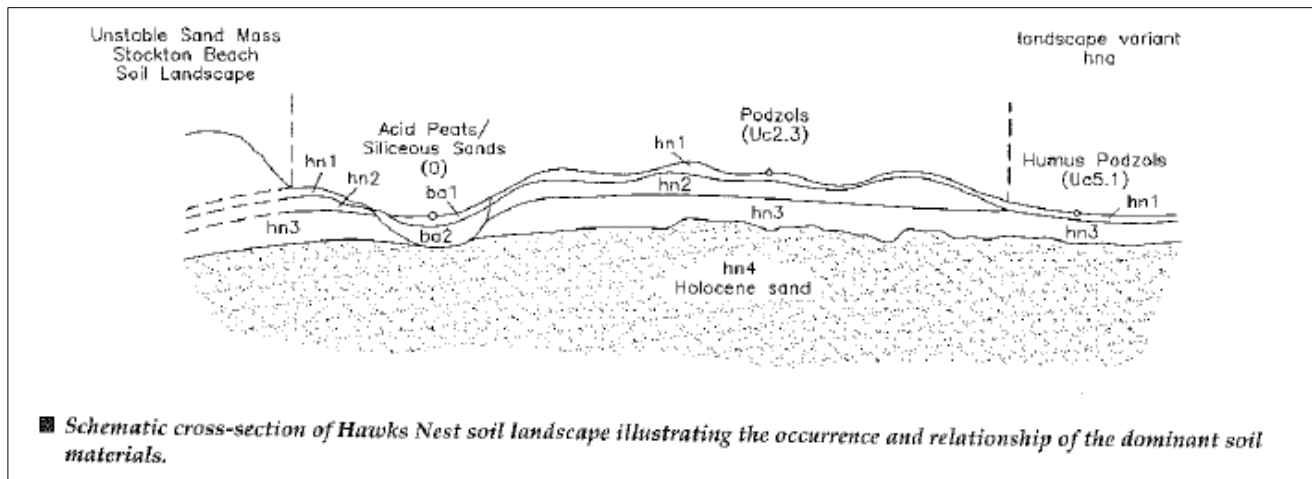


**Photo 2 Schematic cross-section of Lower Pindimar soil landscape (Source: Matthei 1995, p.237)**

The Hawks Nest Soil Landscape is an aeolian soil landscape consisting of low Holocene sand sheets and transgressive dunes within the Tomago Coast Plains. Local relief is less than 3 metres, slope gradients less than 10%, and elevation ranges from 3 to 12 metres. Soils are deep at depths of greater than 300 centimetres, with well drained Podzols and Siliceous Sands on dunes at depths greater than 200 centimetres, and Humus Podzols on poorly drained sand sheets (Matthei 1995, p.205). Dominate soil types (Photo 3) are dependent on the age of the sand body with younger dunes situated along the coast fringe where soil development is poor. Further inland dunes become progressively older and soils well established (Matthei 1995, p.206). This suggests that later Holocene deposits may have the potential to occur within the study area.

Within dune landforms such as those located within the portion of the Hawkes Nest Soil Landscape situated in the north eastern corner of the study area, soils will likely consist of up to 40 centimetres of loose speckled grey brown loamy sand (*hn1*, A<sup>1</sup> horizon) which overlies 10 to 150 centimetres of dull yellow orange bleached loose sand (*hn2*, A<sup>2</sup> horizon), followed by 30 to 100 centimetres of coloured mottled sand with organic staining (*hn3*, Bh Horizon). This Bh soil horizon in turn overlies over 300 centimetres of greyish yellow brown sands (*hn4*, C Horizon). Soil horizons tend to be clear, except between *hn3* and *hn4* (Matthei 1995, p.206). The loose nature of the A<sup>1</sup> and A<sup>2</sup> suggests that the integrity of the deposits found within these soil profiles may not be intact as a result of geomorphological and erosive forces and impacts from development.





**Photo 3 Schematic cross-section of Hawks Nest soil landscape (Source: Matthei 1995, p.206)**

## 2.3 Climate and rainfall

Climate data was provided by the Williamstown RAAF weather station approximately 9 kilometres north-west from the study area (Station No. 061078 Bureau of Meteorology 2023)

- The mean maximum temperature is highest in January when it reaches 28.3 degrees.
- The lowest mean maximum temperature is in July at 17.2 degrees.
- The mean minimum temperature is highest in January at 18.2 degrees and lowest in July at 6.5 degrees.
- The average rainfall is highest in March at 128.3 millimetres and lowest in September at 60.6 millimetres.

Based on modern climate data it is likely the study area would have provided a temperate area with high average rainfalls. This would likely reflect an abundance of resources and water sources making it likely the area was occupied. This would also suggest the presence of Aboriginal sites is highly likely as a result.

## 2.4 Landscape resources

The study area and wider region contains geology, flora and fauna that would have provided useful resources to the Worimi people who inhabited the area. Sokoloffnov (Sokoloffnov 1980, p.230) notes that the exploitation of land resources by the Worimi people would have been directly relatable to the seasonal availability and relative abundance of certain food sources. Terrestrial resources would have been utilised in the winter months by Worimi tribes, whilst coastal resources would have been more readily available in the warmer seasons.

The Lower Pindimar soil landscape in which a majority of the study area is situated, typically supports common species such as Broad-leaved Paperbark by *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, Swamp Mahogany *Eucalyptus robusta*, and occasionally Cabbage Palm trees *Livistona australis*. The Swamp Oak *Casuarina glauca* is also known to occur within low lying areas (Matthei 1995, p.237). The Hawks Nest soil landscape in the north-eastern extent of the study area also supports common species such as Smooth-barked Apple *Angophora costata*, Blackbutt *E. pilularis*, Red Bloodwood *E. gummifera*, Old Man Banksia *Banksia serrata*, and a understory



consisting of Bracken *Pteridium esculentum*, Blady Grass *Imperata cylindrica*, Flannel Flower *Actinotus helianthin*, Geebung *Persoonia spp.*, and Sydney Golden Wattle *acacia longifolia*.

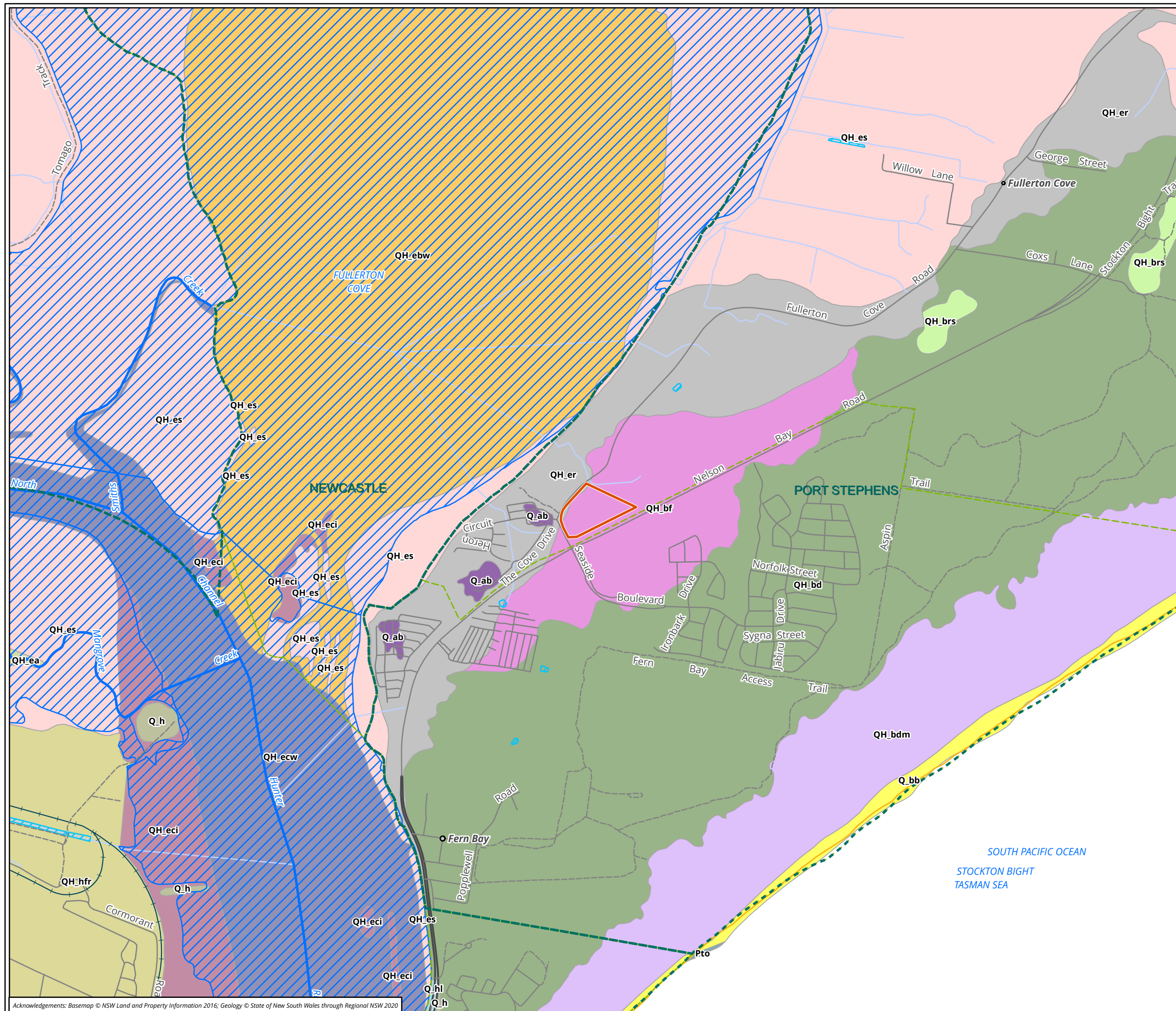
Plant resources were used in a variety of ways. Fibres were twisted into string, which was used for many purposes, including the weaving of nets, baskets and fishing lines. String was also used for personal adornment. Bark was used in the provision of shelter; a large sheet of bark being propped against a stick to form a gunyah (Attenbrow 2002, pp.113–114).

Robert Dawson, an agent of the Australian Agricultural Company in 1825, notes the Grass Tree *Xan thorrhoea* was used for a variety of purposes. The stalks of the Grass Tree were used in the manufacturing of spears, and a wax-like gum could be extracted from the grass tree and used as a glue for various implements. When flowering, the grass tree also acted as a sweet food source (Haslam 1984, p.19). The grass tree was also used in the making of fire sticks. Fire sticks were an important tool that would be carried from place to place and used in daily life and sacred ceremonies (Haslam 1984, p.18). Sokoloffnov (1980, p.31) notes that the “firing” of vegetation at periodic intervals, also allowed the Worimi to influence the environment and available resources.

Various types of eucalypts were used by Aboriginal people and were a valuable resource. Stringybark in particular, was used in the construction of canoes by the Worimi. A single sheet of its bark would form the hull of a single canoe according to Scott (Haslam 1984, p.30). The bark from eucalypts could also be used in the construction of shelters (*gunyas*), and in the fashioning other objects used in everyday life. The fragrant oil-bearing leaves were further used for medicinal purposes, whilst the seeds, barks, nectar, galls, sap, water and manna of certain species could be eaten (Stewart & Percival 1997, p.20).

Kangaroo, wallaby, possum, flying fox, koala, kangaroo-rat and the echidna were also abundant traditional terrestrial food sources for the Worimi and would have been valuable sources of fat and protein during the colder months. As well as being important food sources, animal products were also used for tool making and fashioning a myriad of utilitarian and ceremonial items. For example, tail sinews are known to have been used to make fastening cord, while ‘bone points’, which would have functioned as awls or piercers, are part of the archaeological record (Attenbrow 2002, p.117).

The proximity of Fullerton Cove estuarine resources would have also provided an important food resource. References to the diet of Aboriginal people at the time of contact were also made by the early ethnographers. These include mention of consumption of shellfish, such as cockles (*Anadara trapezia*) being consumed all year round as a staple food. Oysters were also exploited as a food resource (Dean-Jones 1990, p.68). The early missionary Lancelot Threlkeld established a mission in 1825 at Belmont on Lake Macquarie to minister to the Aboriginal people of the area (Gunson 1967, p.528). Thelkeld recorded his observations of traditional Aboriginal life in the Newcastle region, including the consumption of mutton bird eggs and young birds; however, adult birds were not eaten. The consumption of flying foxes at Raymond Terrace is also described (Dean-Jones 1990, p.68).



### Legend

Study area

### Geological units

- Pto,Tomago Coal Measures
- QH\_bd,Coastal deposits - dune facies
- QH\_bdm,Coastal deposits - mobile dune facies
- QH\_bf,Coastal deposits - backbarrier flat facies
- QH\_brs,Coastal deposits - beach-ridge swale and dune-deflation hollow
- QH\_ea,Estuarine palaeochannel fill
- QH\_ebw,Estuarine basin and bay (subaqueous)
- QH\_eci,Estuarine in-channel bar and beach deposits
- QH\_ecw,Estuarine channel deposits (subaqueous)
- QH\_er,Estuarine shoreline ridge and dune
- QH\_es,Estuarine swamp
- QH\_hfr,Anthropogenic deposits - fill on Quaternary deposits
- Q\_ab,Alluvial backswamp deposits
- Q\_bb,Coastal deposits - beach facies
- Q\_h,Anthropogenic deposits
- Q\_hl,Anthropogenic breakwaters, embankments and artificial levees

**Figure 4 Geological units in the vicinity of the study area**

0 200 400 600 800

Metres

Scale: 1:20,000@ A3

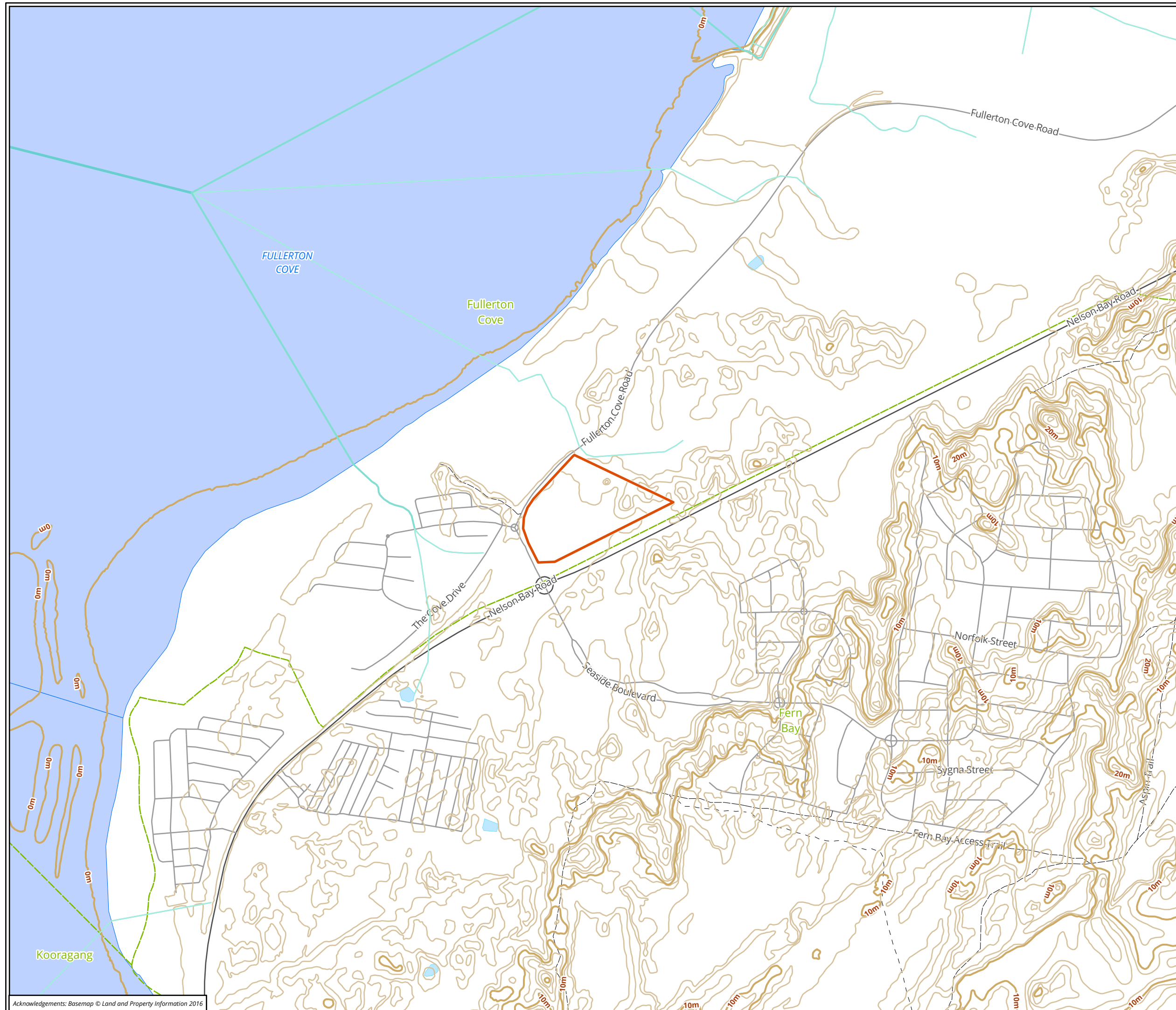
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GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



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#### Legend

- Study area
- Contour (2m)

#### Strahler Order

- 1
- 2
- 3

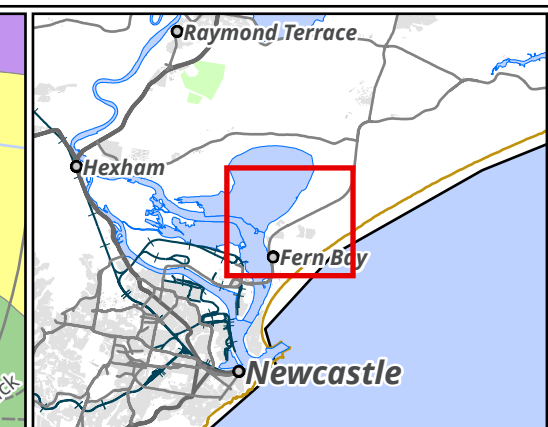
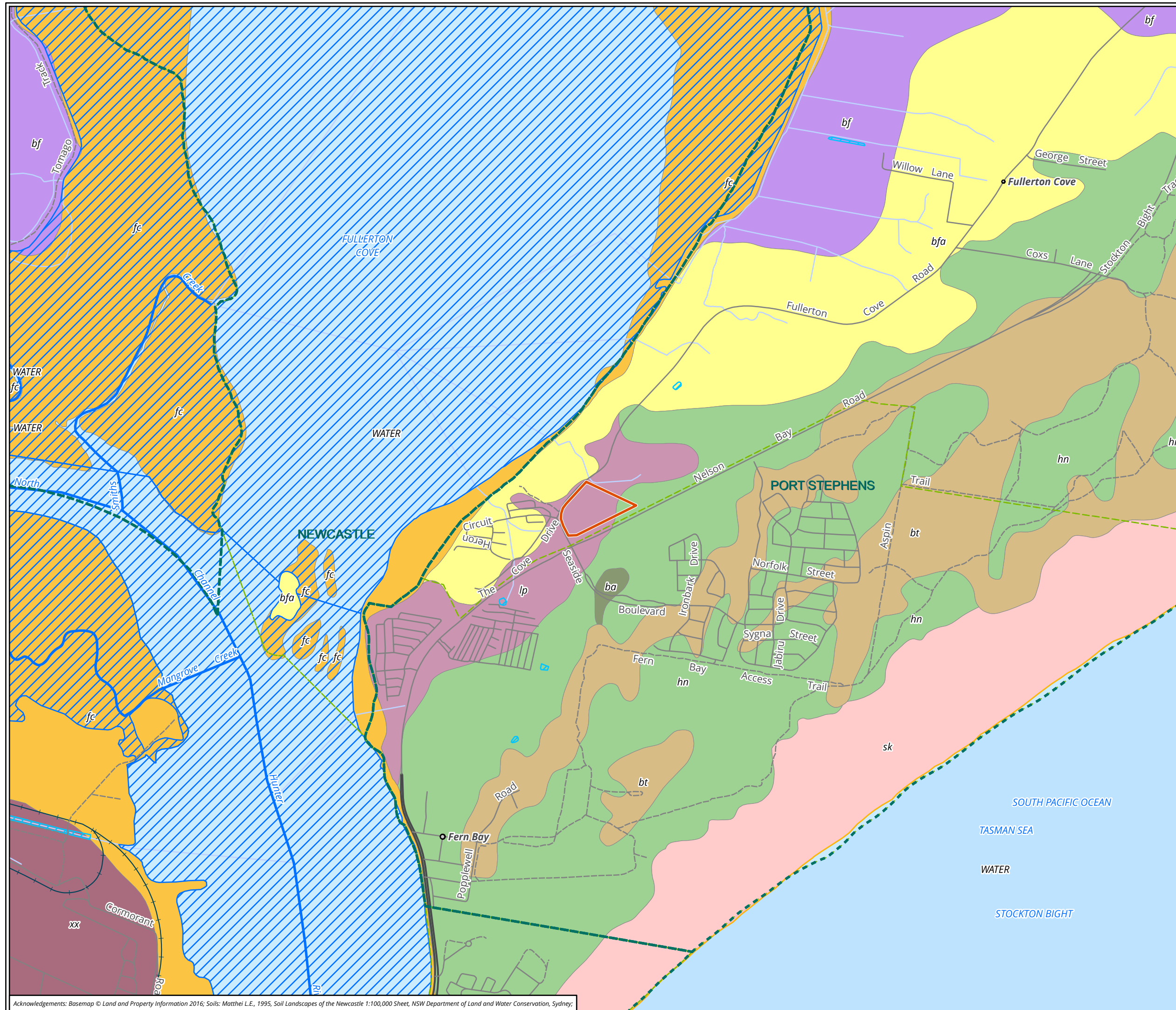
**Figure 5 Hydrology and topography in the vicinity of the study area**



Metres  
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Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



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### Legend

Study area

### Soil landscape units

- ba - BLIND HARRYS SWAMP
- bf - BOBS FARM
- bfa - BOBS FARM variant a
- bt - BOYCES TRACK
- fc - FULLERTON COVE
- hn - HAWKS NEST
- lp - LOWER PINDIMAR
- sk - STOCKTON BEACH
- WATER - WATER
- xx - DISTURBED TERRAIN

**Figure 6 Soil landscapes in the vicinity of the study area**

0 200 400 600 800  
Metres

Scale: 1:20,000@ A3  
Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 06 February 2023,  
Drawn by: JB, Checked by: MC, Last edited by: jbeckius  
Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR, Layout: 38294\_AR\_F6\_Soils



## 3 Aboriginal cultural heritage context

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### 3.1 Ethnohistory

Our knowledge of Aboriginal people and their land-use patterns and lifestyles prior to European contact is mainly reliant on documents written by non-Aboriginal people. These documents are affected by the inherent bias of the class and cultures of their authors, who were also often describing a culture that they did not fully understand - a culture that was in a heightened state of disruption given the arrival of settlers and disease. Early written records can, however, be used in conjunction with archaeological information and surviving oral histories from members of the Aboriginal community in order to gain a picture of Aboriginal life in the region.

Despite a proliferation of Aboriginal heritage sites there is considerable ongoing debate about the nature, territory and range of pre-contact Aboriginal language groups in the greater Hunter region. These debates have arisen largely because, by the time colonial diarists, missionaries and proto-anthropologists began making detailed records of Aboriginal people in the late nineteenth century, pre-European Aboriginal groups had been broken up and reconfigured by European settlement activity. The following information relating to traditional boundaries of the Worimi is based on such early records.

It is well accepted that the Newcastle Bight, in which the study area is found, is located within the traditional lands of the Worimi people (Dean-Jones 1990, p.64). According to Tindale, the Worimi territory extends from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke, along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford, and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974, p.201). However, Enright recounts that Worimi people occupied the 'Country' "bounded by the seashore from the Manning as far south as Norah Head and possibility to the Hawkesbury". The territory then supposedly extended as far west as Barrington Tops, which was visited in the summer months (Enright 1933, p.161).

According to Sokoloffnov (1977, p.16), the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups, such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Guringai, Wanaruah, and other tribes within the region.

Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before European settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990, p.68). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 within a single camp, to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837 (refer to Dean-Jones 1990, p.68). Threkeld reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal people around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory, had declined to as low as 20 (in Dean-Jones 1990, p.68). Exposure to diseases introduced by European settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between Europeans and the Worimi and Awabakal people would have contributed significantly to this decline.

The earliest account of contact between Europeans and the Worimi is recorded by David Collins. It was reported that five convicts who had escaped from Parramatta in 1790 were shipwrecked at Port Stephens. The convicts lived among the Worimi for 5 years until they were recaptured (Bramble 1981). Following this, a small garrison of soldiers was established in the 1820's at a place now known as Soldiers Point, located approximately 20 kilometres north-east of the study area, to aid in the recapture of convicts who had escaped from Port Macquarie.

Bramble (1981) accounts that relations between escaped convicts and local tribes were good natured, and signified the introduction of products of European civilisation. Colonel Paterson upon exploring the Hunter region in 1801, commented upon the possible use of European axes by Aboriginal tribes, and perhaps

convicts who lived among them, to cut down trees (in Bramble 1981). This introduction to European resources would have led to the establishment of more fruitful relations between the Aboriginal people of the Hunter region and European penal authorities, in aiding in the recapture of escaped convicts.

Hostile relations between Europeans and the Worimi tribes of Port Stephens seemed to have originated from early interactions with timber-getters exploiting good quality cedar along the coastal regions of NSW. Accounts of hostilities between timber-getters and the Aboriginal people in the region are recorded from as early as 1804 (Bramble 1981). Dawson, having arrived in Newcastle in 1825 after free-settlement was made available in the Hunter region in 1820, comments upon the hostile relations which existed between European timber-getters and the Worimi Tribe of Port Stephens. This consequently set a precursor to relations between Europeans or white settlers and local tribes within the Port Stephens Area (Dawson 1831, in Bramble 1981):

*The timber-cutting parties... were the first people who came in contact with the natives in the neighbourhood of the sea; and as they were composed of convicts and other people not remarkable either for humanity or honesty, the communication was not at all to the advantage of the poor natives, or subsequently to the settlers who succeeded those parties. The consequence of the behaviour of the cedar getters was, that the natives inflicted vengeance upon almost every white man they came in contact with, and as convicts were frequently running away from the penal settlement of Port Macquarie to Port Stephens ...numbers of them were intercepted by the natives and sometimes detained whilst those who fell into their hands and escaped with life, were uniformly stripped of their clothes.*

The following information was provided by Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation on 2 November 2023 for inclusion in this assessment.

*Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline*

## 3.2 Aboriginal heritage located in the study area

### 3.2.1 AHIMS search and site analysis

A search of the AHIMS database completed on 20 September 2023 (Client Service ID: 741769) identified 106 Aboriginal archaeological sites within a 4 by 4 kilometre search area, centred on the proposed study area (Table 3). Four of these registered sites are located *within* the study area (Figure 7). AHIMS search results are provided in Appendix 2. Table 3 provides the frequencies of Aboriginal site types in the vicinity of the study area and Table 4 below also provides details of registered AHIMS sites located within the study area. The mapping coordinates recorded for these sites were checked for consistency with their descriptions and location on maps from Aboriginal heritage reports where available.

NGH noted in their 2022 ACHA that during works documented by NGH in 2021 at 21 Fullerton Cove Road (adjacent to the study area) several locational issues were noted relating to a number of sites on the AHIMS

database. Field investigations undertaken as part of NGH 2021 assessment resulted in the ground-truthing of the locations of AHIMS 38-4-0723/Fullerton Cove Site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; were indeed further south than the AHIMS provided locations (NGH 2022, NGH 2021a). On 20 February 2020, site card updates for each of these two sites was submitted to AHIMS reflecting these ground-truthed locations prior to the completion of NGH 's 2021 report. It was determined by the assessment that AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; which extends to the road reserve on the eastern side of Fullerton Cove Road has the potential to extend into the study area.

It should be noted that the AHIMS database reflects Aboriginal sites that have been officially recorded and included on the AHIMS register. Large areas of NSW have not been subject to systematic, archaeological survey; hence AHIMS listings may reflect previous survey patterns and should not be considered a complete list of Aboriginal sites within a given area. Some recorded sites consist of more than one element, for example artefacts and a modified tree, however for the purposes of this breakdown and the predictive modelling, all individual site types will be studied and compared. This explains why there are 154 results presented here, compared to the 106 sites identified in AHIMS.

**Table 3 AHIMS site type frequency**

| Site type                              | Number of occurrences | Frequency (%) |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| Artefact                               | 85                    | 55.19         |
| Shell                                  | 52                    | 33.77         |
| Burial                                 | 7                     | 4.55          |
| PAD (Potential Archaeological Deposit) | 5                     | 3.25          |
| Aboriginal resource and gathering      | 2                     | 1.29          |
| Stone Quarry                           | 1                     | 0.65          |
| Aboriginal ceremony and dreaming       | 1                     | 0.65          |
| Non-Human Bone and Organic Material    | 1                     | 0.65          |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>154</b>            | <b>100.00</b> |

A simple analysis of the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites registered within the 4 by 4 kilometre buffer of the study area indicates that artefact site are the most common site type within the local region representing 55.19% of sites (n=85), followed by shell sites, which make up 33.77% (n=52).

### 3.2.2 Previous assessments undertaken within the study area

The study area was previously assessed in 2022 by NGH who undertook an ACHA for the proposed rezoning of the study area (Appendix 1). The ACHA was prepared in accordance with consultation requirements and the Code and included an archaeological survey. The field survey was undertaken on 31 May 2022 by NGH Archaeologist Kirwan Williams and the following representatives of RAPs:

- Bec Young (Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.).
- Luke Knight (Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd).
- Brendan Lilley (Karuah Indigenous Company).
- Jamie Merrick (Worimi LALC).

The survey resulted in the identification of four areas of archaeological potential (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3) (Figure 8). Aboriginal sites were identified in consultation with RAPs who attended the field investigation and based on the predictive modelling undertaken for the study area by NGH. The predictive modelling suggested that stone artefacts of predominately tuff and shell middens were the most likely site types to be present within the study area. These sites were most likely to be present within the sandy rise/dune surface adjacent to waterways (NGH 2022, p.50).

It was concluded that the four sites identified within the sandy rises of the northern portion of the study area could potentially be representative of a single site complex; however, testing would be required to confirm this assessment (NGH 2022, p.48). This was supported by Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. who responded to the draft ACHA prepared by NGH on 16 August 2022 stating:

*We support further investigations of this area [the study area] and believe that this area is completely connected as a holistic site to surrounding sites we have previously identified.*

*We believe that the results of the survey reported are true and accurate and show strong usage evidence from our ancestors. The Worimi oral history of travel routes and campsites are connected to this area and are based around this dune system seen within the project area of Fullerton Cove. "The Fingers" of sand dunes ran from Stockton Beach to the Hunter River and are a direct connection to our traditional storylines. This dune still exists on this property, although in some areas is seriously disturbed our heritage is still evident.*

NGH predicted that soil depths within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 are likely to extend to a maximum depth of 800 millimetres, with higher densities of artefacts and shell occurring in the upper spits (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, ERM 2008, NGH 2021a). It was recommended that if impacts to AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 were unable to be avoided then an AHIP would be required to allow for testing to occur within the study area to determine the nature and extent of Aboriginal sites so that recommendations could be made regarding their future management.

### **3.2.3 AHIMS sites located within the study area**

The archaeological assessment of the study area carried out by NGH in 2022 identified the following Aboriginal sites in the study area (Figure 8):

- AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;.
- AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1.
- AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2.
- AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3.

A brief description of each site has been summarised below in Table 4 based on the information contained within NGH's ACHA (Appendix 1) and within each site's AHIMS site card.



**Table 4 AHIMS sites located within the study area**

| AHIMS No.              | Site name                    | Site type            | Description  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-0333</b> | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1; | Artefact, PAD, Shell | This potential site lies along the western boundary of the study area. It is approximately 100 by 60 metres and is located within a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression. This PAD extends into the adjacent property to the north-west. While no surface expression of cultural material was seen at this location, this humic sandy deposit and slightly raised landform was determined to have potential for subsurface cultural material.  |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2142</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 | PAD                  | An area PAD identified in the north-eastern extent of the study area. The area of PAD measures approximately 70 by 35 metres and is situated upon a sandy rise. A swampy depression is positioned adjacent to the PAD. While no cultural material was identified in association with the PAD, the humic sandy deposits and landform were indicators of potential. The proximity of other Aboriginal sites within the same landform also suggests that similar cultural material will be found beneath the grounds surface.   |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2141</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 | PAD, shell           | NGH identified this midden site in the northern section of the study area. The PAD extent measures approximately 60 by 80 metres and is located within a sandy rise between two minor drainage channels and adjacent to a swampy depression. An Optus telecommunication tower has been installed within the area causing significant disturbance to the site landscape. Shell material from mud whelk ( <i>Pyrazus sp.</i> ) and cockle species ( <i>Anadara trapezia</i> and <i>Katelysia sp.</i> ) were observed in a cutting associated with a farm track running along the northern boundary of the study area. The PAD contains humic sandy deposits and an elevated landform determined to have potential for cultural material. |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2140</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | Artefact, PAD, Shell | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 is located in the north-western portion of the study area and is approximately 120 by 120 metres. It contains humic sandy deposits within an elevated landform indicating potential for subsurface cultural material. The PAD area was indicated to be highly disturbed as a result of vegetation clearance and the construction of sheds and residential properties. Shell material from mud whelk ( <i>Pyrazus sp.</i> ) and cockle species ( <i>Anadara trapezia</i> and <i>Katelysia sp.</i> ) were located throughout the extent of the site, along with three tuff artefacts.   |

### 3.3 Interpretation of past Aboriginal land use

As discussed above, the study area is located within the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight within stabilised transgressive dunes, stabilised dunes, and backbarrier flat and interbarrier depression deposits. According to Pam-Dean Jones the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight began forming during the LGM (Dean-Jones 1990, p.10), and Holocene transgressive dune fields have been dated to  $9,520 \pm 1,590$  BP and  $8,260 \pm 295$  years BP, and are overlain by sands dated to  $6,070 \pm 130$  years BP (Dean-Jones 1990, p.24).

A review of archaeological assessments and AHIMS data within the local and wider region indicate that artefact sites and midden/shell sites are the most common site types. Artefact sites may consist of either isolated finds or artefact scatters made of predominately of tuff. Artefact and shell midden sites have been previously recorded upon the ground's surface within exposures or as subsurface archaeological deposits within dune/sandy rises adjacent to water resources (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, ERM 2008, NGH 2021a, NGH 2022).

The study area is located within approximately 315 metres north-east of the estuarine flats of Fullerton Cove, which would have been a valuable resource to Aboriginal people within the local area. A number of fresh water sources are also located within close proximity to the study area. Fullerton Cove and its tributaries would have provided an important estuarine food resource to Aboriginal particularly with regards to the availability of shellfish, such as cockles that would have been consumed all year round as a staple food (Dean-Jones 1990, p.68).

A field survey of the study area was undertaken on 31 May 2022 by NGH that resulted in the identification of four areas of archaeological potential (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road; site 1, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3). These sites were identified within the sandy rises/dune landforms in the northern and north-western portions of the study area. AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 each contained shell exposures that included mud whelk (*Pyrazus sp.*) and cockle species (*Anadara trapezia* and *Katelysia sp.*). Three tuff artefacts were also identified within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, thereby supporting predictive modelling for the local region.

Archaeological test excavations undertaken within the site extents of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 in accordance with AHIP #5136 confirmed that AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 contained a low to high density artefact deposit found in association with an intact hearth and shell midden features. A total of 248 artefacts (including those recovered from wall collapses) were identified within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, with a majority of artefacts found in spit 2 (100 to 200 millimetres) and spit 3 (200 to 300 millimetres). Artefact density was found to decrease significantly in lower spits, with one artefact found at a maximum depth of 800 to 900 millimetres. In consideration of the results of the artefact analysis and a review of soil contexts, it is suspected that artefacts found beneath a depth of 600 millimetres may have been redeposited as a result of wall collapses or may have undergone post depositional movement due to the loosely compacted nature of sand profiles throughout the study area. Previous investigations within the local region have identified archaeological deposits which extend to a maximum depth of 800 to 1000 millimetres, with higher densities of artefacts and shell occurring in the upper spits (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, ERM 2008, NGH 2021a, NGH 2022). However, the presence of artefacts within lower spits excavated at 21 Fullerton Cove Road by NGH were considered likely to have undergone post depositional movement or displacement as a result of wall collapses (NGH 2021a). Artefact analysis undertaken to inform this assessment suggests that there may be evidence of size sorting of artefacts at depths greater than 600 millimetres which found to possess lower size average than upper spits.

Analysis of the artefact assemblage within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, also identified an assemblage which consists predominately of tuff, with low levels of cortex noted. This is considered to be

consistent with the findings of other archaeological investigations within the local area (Umwelt 2003, McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, McCardle Cultural Heritage 2008, ERM 2008, NGH 2021a, NGH 2022). The prevalence of tuff is considered indicative that tuff was the preferred material resource. This is likely due to the proximity of natural outcropping of tuff which are known to occur within subgroups of the Newcastle Coal Measures, with the nearest source located at Nobby's Head approximately 7.1 kilometres south-east of the study area.

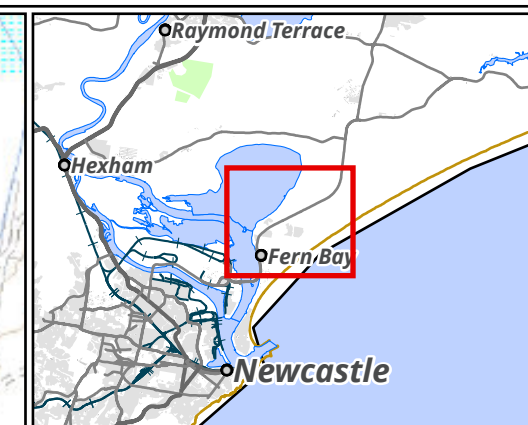
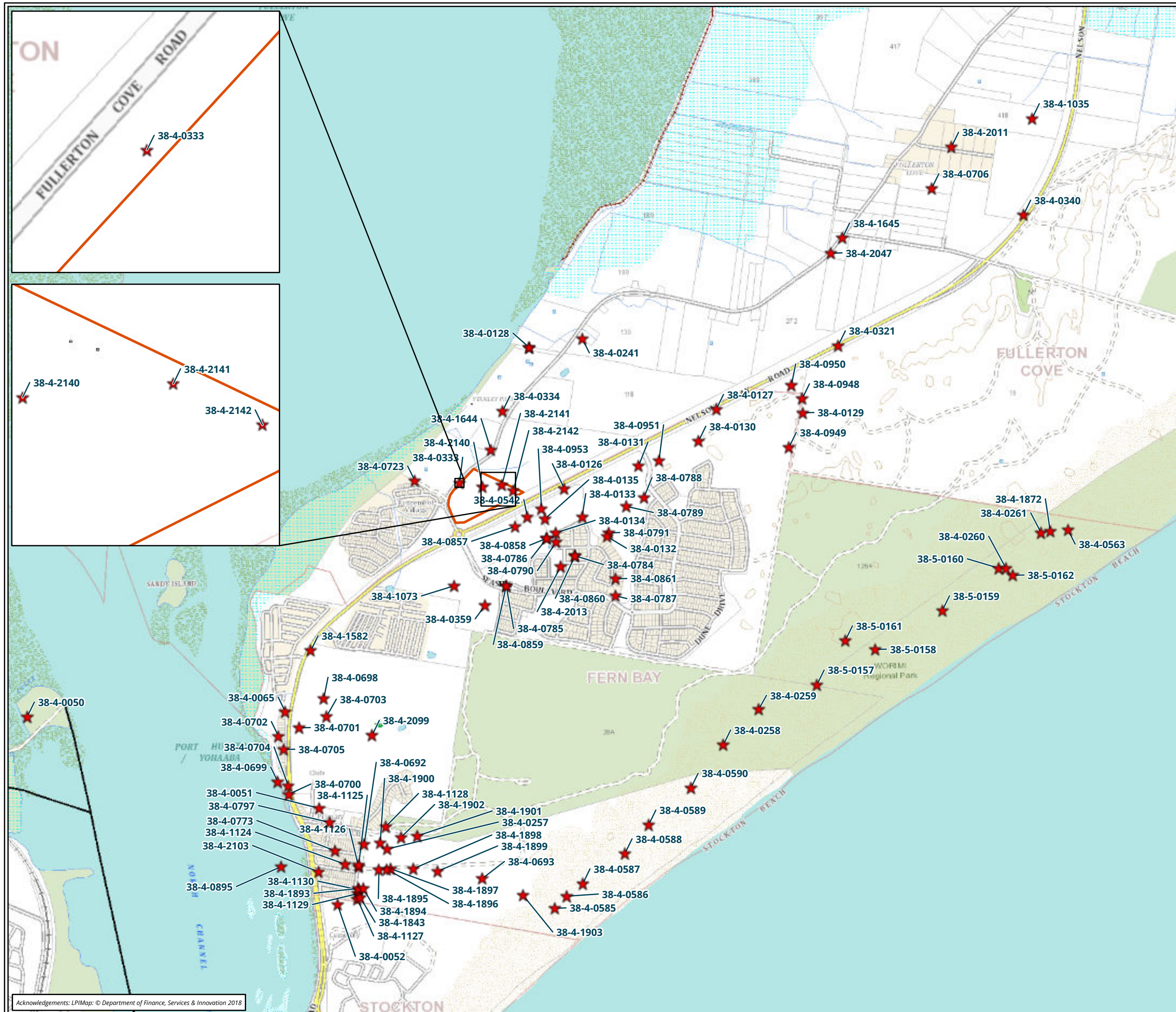
The findings of this assessment varied from those undertaken by NGH at 21 Fullerton Cove Road in that a number of tools and retouched artefacts were recovered. Three tools were recovered from the sub-surface excavations and included a backed point, a blade, and a steep edged scraper, all made of tuff. Backed points are generally considered to belong to the Australian small tool tradition and are commonly featured in mid-late Holocene deposits in Australia (Holdaway & Stern 2004, p.17, Flood 2004, p.224, Hiscock 1994, p.268). Excavations undertaken by McCardle in 2005 did recover backed artefacts and a indicative date of approximately 4,500 years was given to the deposit at Fern Bay, recorded 2.2 kilometres away from the study area (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005), though no formal dating was undertaken.

The extent of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 was determined to cover a large portion of the sandy rise landform adjacent to estuarine flats within the southern portion of the study area. High density shell and artefact deposits were found in correlation to one another with two high density and one moderate density focal activity points identified within well positioned topographies in the sandy rise landform, although there was no clear indication of preference for location within the landform. It is hypothesised that these focal activity points are representative of intensive short-term occupation of the study area, as Aboriginal people undertook collection of estuarine resources and travelled to more reliable coastal resource areas or to Fullerton Cove.

An analysis of shell found within the study area determined that there is a degree of species specialisation, with Sydney rock oyster being dominant species recorded throughout the assemblage (combined MNI value of 589 (52.50%) and a total weight of 18,779 grams (76.06%)). This data is comparable to the investigation conducted by (NGH 2021b). The abundance of Sydney rock oyster within the study area and 21 Fullerton Cove Road, indicates it was likely preferentially harvested over other species. It is maintained throughout the literature that Aboriginal middens are evidenced by a degree of homogeneity in the shell deposits that are absent in natural marine shell beds (Attenbrow 1992). The dominance of Sydney rock oyster throughout the study area therefore supports the cultural status of the shell deposits identified.

As part of the testing program, auguring was also undertaken within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; due to concerns for safety within this portion of the study area, which appeared highly disturbed with rubbish and drug paraphernalia identified adjacent to underground services and Fullerton Cove Road. A low density deposit of shell and artefacts with no stratigraphical correlation was identified within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; has been previously assessed by NGH (2021a) as possessing low archaeological potential due to its highly disturbed context, and approval was obtained to undertake community collection of part of the site under AHIP #5017. The findings of Biosis' assessment are considered to be consistent with this assessment of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; (NGH 2021a). Initial predictions suggested that AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; may be part of a single site complex associated with AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3. Due to its' highly disturbed context and the limited nature of information that can be gathered from further exploration of the site, it is difficult to determine whether this prediction is correct, and the findings of this assessment find the answer to this research question to be inconclusive.





#### Legend

- Study area
- AHIMS

**NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC**

**Figure 7 AHIMS within the vicinity of the study area**

0 250 500 750 1,000

Metres

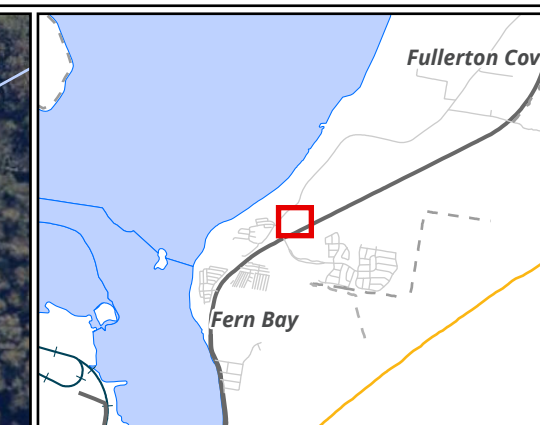
Scale: 1:20,000@ A3

Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 06 February 2023,  
Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: jbeckius  
Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR, Layout: 38294\_AR\_F7\_AHIMS





#### Legend

- Study area
- AHIP area
- Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
- Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)

#### Areas of PAD (NGH, 2022)

- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 1
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 2
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 3
- Fullerton Cove Road; site 1;

#### AHIMS Registered Sites (NGH, 2022)

- Artefact, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell
- Artefact, Shell
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell

**Figure 8 Site extents recorded by NGH in 2022**

0 10 20 30 40

Metres

Scale: 1:1,300@ A3

Coordinate System:

GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 05 October 2023,  
 Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: jbeckius  
 Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
 38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR, Layout: 38294\_AR\_F5\_NGH\_SiteExtents



## 4 Aboriginal community consultation

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken by NGH in compliance with the consultation requirements as detailed in the ACHA supplied in Appendix 1. As part of the consultation undertaken by NGH the appropriate government bodies were notified, and an advertisement placed in the *Port Stephens Examiner* newspaper (9 December 2021), which resulted in the following Aboriginal organisations registering their interest in the study area:

**Table 5 List of registered Aboriginal parties**

| No. | Organisation                                     | Contact person   |
|-----|--|------------------|
| 1   | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation | Candy-Lee Towers |
| 2   | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  | Bec Young        |
| 3   | Robert Syron                                     | Robert Syron     |
| 4   | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              | Lennie Anderson  |
| 5   | Karuah Indigenous Company                        | David Feeney     |
| 6   | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             | Jamie Merrick    |
| 7   | Confidential Group No.1                          | -                |
| 8   | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      | Stephen Johnson  |

NGH's last contact with RAPs was on 15 August 2022 and consisted of a reminder to all RAPs to respond to NGH's draft ACHA. As part of Biosis' continuation of consultation with the Aboriginal community for this project, a consultation log of all communications with RAPs is provided in Appendix 3. A summary of consultation undertaken to inform this ACHA is summarised below.

### 4.1 Project update

On 8 November 2022 Biosis provided RAPs with a project update regarding the study area which included details regarding the proposed development, project methodology and intention to undertake an addendum ACHA to support an AHIP application to Heritage NSW to allow for test excavations to occur within the study area. A copy of the project update is supplied in Appendix 4, as well as a record of all correspondence with RAPs.

In response to the project update, concerns were raised by Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd on 8 November 2022, regarding the archaeologically and culturally sensitive nature of the study area, and past difficulties faced when looking to develop the site. These concerns were further discussed with Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd and Rebecca Young of Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. leading to the conclusion that a consultation meeting with RAPs was required to discuss the proposed development impacts, and management of cultural heritage values on site.

Concerns were also raised regarding the telecommunications tower which had been constructed within the site extent of AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1. In response to these concerns information was provided to Rebecca Young of Mur-Roo-Ma Inc., including a Development Assessment Report approved by Port Stephens Council in March 2020 (DA 16/2019/750/1). No further information was requested.

## 4.2 Aboriginal community consultation meeting

A notification to RAPS was sent out on 13 December 2022 inviting them to attend a consultation meeting at the study area to be held on 12 January 2023. Due to several RAPs being unavailable to attend on 12 January 2023, a second notification was sent out on 19 December 2022, changing the meeting date to 24 January 2023. In response to the notification, three RAPs were able to attend on site and one RAP attended a virtual meeting held on 31 January 2023.

A response was also received from Steven Johnson of Woka Corporations (6 January 2023) with the following statement:

*We cannot afford to be volunteering, just as I believe the company you work for cannot afford to do. We have to pay bills like everyone else. We have to pay corporation running costs like everyone else. We pay insurances, PPE, tools, tax, car running costs, accommodation, ect. We pay our representatives to work, as it's work. We are not volunteers. We are not government funded. We have to be paid, as we cannot afford to attend sites unpaid. Inviting us to work for free as our ancestors had to do is not a privilege we find this insulting that we are asked to work for free. There's labour costs, travel costs, our time, our required work gear, insurances, etc. It's unfair for big developers or yourselves to ask we work for free, to preserve what's left out our culture. To When our ancestral land is being torn up that we come work for free. We are running not for profit corporations which provide paid employment to Aboriginal people from all over Australia.*

Biosis responded on 9 January 2022 with the following:

*Thank you for your response. Unfortunately we are unable to provide remittance for this consultation meeting as this is something that is to be offered by the proponent at their discretion As per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (DECCW 2010). We understand that this may cause difficulties for some groups who may be otherwise engaged in paid work or will be required to cover travel costs etc. If you would still like to be involved in the consultation meeting we are providing opportunity for RAPs to be involved via a Microsoft teams session which will commence during the site visit. This will allow all parties to participate, despite their unavailability to attend in person. Please let me know should you wish for me to include you within the Microsoft teams meeting.*

No further comment was received from Woka Corporation.

Biosis conducted a site meeting on 24 January 2023 to discuss the development of the study area and RAP concerns. The meeting was attended by the following:

- Biosis Heritage Consultants: Taryn Gooley, Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman, and Molly Crissell.
- Monteath and Powys representatives: Isaac Conway, Ryan Smith, Jamie Graham.
- RAPs: Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, David Feeney of Karuah Indigenous Company, and Jamie Merrick of Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The consultation meeting resulted in the following outcomes/points of discussion:

- It was discussed that the proposed development would have the potential to directly impact AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 and AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;. It was recommended that measures should be taken during the construction phase to ensure that AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 were conserved, as these sites would not be directly impacted by the proposed development. It was recommended that these sites should be fenced off with secure temporary fencing during the construction phase. It was also recommended that an all workers on site should be inducted and complete cultural awareness training to ensure they are aware of the Aboriginal heritage constraints that are and may be present on site.

- RAPs recommended that the study area be subject to a hazard reduction or cultural burn to allow for better visibility across the site where test excavations would be required. This could be limited to areas of development impact. RAPs recommended this measure as it is a culturally appropriate measure to remove vegetation on site without disturbing the grounds surface or significantly impacting shell or artefacts present on the grounds surface. It was recommended that where possible an Aboriginal company should be engaged to undertake the cultural burn. It was also recommended that RAPs and a Biosis archaeologist be present on site whilst the hazard reduction or cultural burn is being undertaken, providing that it is safe to do so.
- It was recommended that a test excavation methodology be prepared by Biosis. RAPs supported a methodology which would include 1 metre squared test pits and potential auguring (manual) to effectively explore the nature and extent of Aboriginal heritage values which were likely to be impacted by the proposed development.
- With regards to testing for the presence of Common Planigale *Planigale maculate* by ecologists, it was recommended that no trenching or ground disturbing works were to occur within the dune/crest/sandy rises in which AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road; site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 are located, as RAPs believe these sites are part of a single site complex. It was recommended that camera survey should occur within the dune/crest/sandy rises in the northern extents of the study area instead of pit fall traps (Anderson Environment and Planning 2022).
- It was agreed within RAPs that if the methodology was unable to be changed to exclude pit fall traps, then pit falls traps were permitted to be undertaken in the low lying swampy landforms which dominated the southern portion of the study provided that pit fall traps were not within 50 metres of the dune/crest/sandy rises. It was also recommended that RAPs were provided with the opportunity to survey the pit falls trap locations with an archaeologist present, and that they would be engaged to supervise the excavation of the pit fall traps should the location be confirmed as suitable and low risk for Aboriginal heritage constraints.
- It was recommended that artefacts recovered from site should be reburied on site and should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner as per RAP wishes.

Robert Syron also registered for the meeting but was unable to attend in person. A separate meeting (virtual) was therefore had to discuss the results of the consultation meeting on 31 January 2023. Robert Syron recommended that the artefacts identified upon the surface of the study area should be given to the Worimi LALC so that they could be used for the teaching of future generations. No further comments were received regarding the future management of Aboriginal sites within the study area.



### 4.3 Stage 4: Review of draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

A copy of the draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology was provided to RAPs on 29 March 2023 in accordance with consultation requirements. RAPs were provided with 28 days to respond with comments. Responses were received from the following RAPs with regards to the ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology:

- Woka Aboriginal Corporation responded on 5 April 2023, in support of the ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology.
- Karuah Indigenous Company responded on 10 April 2023, stating "Karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd has read and understands the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report or 42 Fullerton Cove, Fullerton Cove NSW. We support all further investigation of this area with the support of Aboriginal Cultural Officers if needed."
- Robert Syron responded on 12 April 2023, in support of the draft ACHA.

A reminder of the close of review period was also sent on 14 April 2023 to the following RAPs who had not yet provided a response: Confidential Group No.1, Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, Mur-Roo-Ma Inc, Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation, Worimi LALC.

Responses were received from the following RAPs with regards to the addendum ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology in response to the reminders:

- Wormi LALC provided a response on 14 April 2023 in agreement with recommendation made within the addendum ACHA.
- Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd provided the following response on 14 April 2023:

*I have read the Methodology and yes I agree with your writings, A couple of things I would like to see included sometime-somewhere would be in addition to what was written in Para 2.2 and can we add dot point,*

*Will these investigations enhance the RAP's Cultural Mapping Process for future planning. Yes it does.*

*Intellectual Property Records and Oral History (Page 16)*

*(4) Continued Aboriginal Consultation*

*Can we make all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' OEH to lock away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non-Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.*

*Once again, a very professional and thorough methodology.*

Biosis responded to Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd on 18 April 2023, asking for clarification on the dot point pertaining to Intellectual Property Records and Oral History. However, no further clarification was received. Section 2.2 and 4.3 of the Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology, and Section 1.5 and 6.4 of this report were updated.

- Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation provided a response on 20 April 2023 stating:

*I agree and support the recommendations in the report.*

*Regarding 3.1 I would like to add the report that the boundaries of the Worimi are incorrect. The boundaries of the Worimi also include Newcastle to Lake Macquarie.*

*The Port Stephens Blacks, the Newcastle Blacks and the Lake Macquarie Blacks are the same blacks same people same country.*

*When Dawson arrived in Newcastle from Sydney in 1825, he had come across around 70-100 blacks resting someone near now what would be hunter street. Upon speaking with the Blacks he had asked two of them if they could walk him*

*to Port Stephens the following morning.*

*The following morning one of the blacks agreed to walk him to Port Stephens. Upon arrival to Port Stephens Dawson then asked the black if he could stay and work for him there, the black informed Dawson that Port Stephens was a part of his traditional country and that he would stay and work for him there but he had left his wife in Newcastle and that he would have to go back and get her. (ref: Dawson book The present state of Australia)*

*Threalkd attended Port Stephens on a trip with Biraban in 1837 and described that he was astonished that when Biraban spoke in the language to the Port Stephens blacks they both understood each other.*

*Percy Haslam was a local historian at Newcastle University and on a video interview in 1974 regarding the Awabakal language, Percy Haslam was asked were the Awabakal people the only people to use the lands of Newcastle and Percy replied with "No, it was the Port Stephens Blacks the Newcastle Blacks, Lake Mac, CoalFields and that it should be called the Hunter Region. Percy also gives great detail on how similar the PS blacks N Blacks and LM Blacks all looked the same. Please see attachment of W.J.Enright Boundaries of the Worimi.*

*Threlkeld wrote to the Attorney General in the first 5 months of the mission and said that the natives were connected in kind of a circle from Port Stephens to the Hawksbury river.*

*There are Worimi people who were born and died in Newcastle Hospital*

*There are burials of Worimi people at Sandgate Cemetery.*

#### **6.4.7 Long term care agreement.**

*I would request that any artefacts found not to be reburied and to be provided to Worimi TOIC or Worimi LALC for educational purposes for the future generations through workshops and or Cultural centre.*

*We would like to be invited to participate in any testing excavations and or meetings that will take place regarding this project.*

Biosis responded to Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation on 1 May 2023 confirming that Section 3.1 of this report had been updated to reflect comments received regarding the disputed boundaries of the Worimi people. It was also confirmed that Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporations' recommendation for storage and use of artefacts recovered from site for educational purposes had been passed on to Worimi LALC, in order to confirm Worimi LALC's preference. Biosis confirmed that they would update Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation with the outcome. Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation confirmed receipt of the email on 2 May 2023.

A phone call was made on 1 May 2023, to the Worimi LALC to discuss the care and control of artefacts which will be recovered from the study area, however, there was no answer. A follow up email was sent on 1 May 2023, with a request for Worimi LALC to confirm what their preference was for the care and control of the artefacts. No response has been received to date.

A record of all correspondence received in response to the draft addendum ACHA and the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is provided in Appendix 3 and Appendix 6.

## **4.4 Stage 4: Review of updated draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Test Excavation Report**

A copy of the updated draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Test Excavation Report was provided to RAPs on 10 October 2023. RAPs were provided with 28 days to respond with comments, with responses requested by 8 November 2023. A follow up email was sent to RAPs on 31 October 2023 with a reminder about the closure date for comments. Comments and responses from RAPs have been incorporated into this final report.

Responses were received from the following RAPs with regards to the updated addendum ACHA and draft Test Excavation Report:

- Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. responded on 31 October 2023 in support of the draft reports and requested that if there is an opportunity to avoid impacts to some areas there would be improved heritage outcomes.

*Murrooma have read and fully understands the draft addendum and test excavation report for the proposed project.*

*We agree with all of the management recommendations for this area*

*This area is extremely significant to our people, and we are aware of the extent of the Aboriginal sites that are listed in this report. The report reflects an accurate assessment on this area and the test excavations that were complete- including identification of shell midden material and stone artefacts within this proposed project area.*

*We would like to highlight that we agree that if there is an opportunity to avoid some areas and they will not be impacted on during the proposed project this would be the best outcome.*

*All recommendations and phases within this report meet our requirements and responsibilities as Traditional Owners of this land.*

- Worimi LALC responded on 30 October 2023 and on 6 November 2023 in support of the draft reports and recommendations. Further information on this response is provided below.

*Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with all of the recommendations for the Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment draft report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW.*

*We also agree with the recommendations in the Test Excavation Report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW. [30 October 2023]*

*Joel Henderson from Worimi LALC am happy with recommendations put in report also with chatting to RAPS we are happy to do a salvage of artefacts and be present during any excavations in the building process. [6 November 2023]*

- Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation responded on 2 November with a series of questions regarding the content of the draft reports. Biosis responded by email on 2 November 2023 confirming receipt of these comments and questions and confirmed a detailed reply would follow. Biosis provided this detailed reply to Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation's questions and comments on 7 November 2023. These are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6 Comments and questions from Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation and Biosis responses**

| Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation question/comment (received 2 November 2023)   | Biosis response (sent 7 November 2023)  |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Why was I not invited to the test excavations ? My people the Worimi are the traditional owners of the project area and my nurra (family group) hold the cultural continued connection to that country on which the project is.</b></p> <p><b>The Worimi have since the beginning of time used the country of the project area as a camping site, surname Russell that was my grandfathers mother line.</b></p> <p><b>The project country will hold many Worimi stone artefacts. It is important to acknowledge and accept that when digging the country and moving these artefacts that it is cultural protocol that it be done by traditional owners only and proving your traditional ownership should be done.</b></p> <p><b>All country that is traditionally owned by the Worimi is culturally significant to us.</b></p> <p><b>My grandfather Leonard Andrew Dates was the last</b></p> | <p>Thank you for sharing this information about yourself and your family – I appreciate the time you have taken to explain this to us.</p> <p>Biosis invited four of the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs) to participate in the test excavations: Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.; Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd; Karuah Indigenous Corporation; and Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council. As the excavations took place over only 6 days it was difficult to invite all those RAPs who had registered for such a short and small excavation. It was not intended to exclude any of the RAPs from involvement in the test excavations.</p> <p>We have noted your wish to participate in fieldwork, so for future projects Biosis will do our best to include Worimi TOC in invitations for fieldwork opportunities.</p> |

| Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation question/comment (received 2 November 2023)   | Biosis response (sent 7 November 2023)  |
|--|---|
| <p>Worimi man traditionally initiated on country 1935. Born on the country of the Worimi, Alexander Russell born 1848 daughter was Ellen Russell born 1884 who birthed Leonard Dates 1923 my grandfather Leonard they all born on country Leonard then had 10 children on country and 54 grandchildren then they had 176 children all born on the country of the Worimi, my bloodline has been here since the beginning of time our connection has never been broken. Now can we please get included in any projects on our country ? Why are we getting left out on purpose ?</p> |   |
| <p><b>1.3 Can we include some signage of Worimi Art and design wording within the development ? Consultation would be great.</b></p>   | <p>We will include a recommendation in the final report for heritage interpretation for Aboriginal cultural heritage for the project and will specifically mention your request for Worimi art and design wording in the development.</p>   |
| <p><b>1.5,<br/>6.4.9,<br/>6.4.10 of the report - What does the wording below mean exactly can you clarify more please ? Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. The findings should also be authenticated.</b></p>   | <p>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.</p> |
| <p><b>4.2 Who will do the cultural awareness training ? and or cultural burn ?</b></p>   | <p>It has yet to be decided who will deliver the cultural awareness training.</p> <p>The request for a cultural burn at the consultation meeting on 24 January 2023 was made in the context of providing better visibility for the test excavations under the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit. I have confirmed with my colleague that a cultural burn was not undertaken in advance of the works.</p>    |
| <p><b>What is the "fingers" can you please tell me what this is or what this means ?</b></p>   | <p>The term 'finger' is used to describe long, thin, straight dunes (elongating linear dunes) that have formed due to two winds blowing on either side of a crest. We can add this explanation into the final report.</p>   |
| <p><b>I do not agree or support any sites being harmed on the project site, in total or partial harm.</b></p>  | <p>We acknowledge your comment and will ensure that this is recorded in the final ACHA.</p>   |
| <p><b>Can you please remove the tribal boundaries comment you have made please see below as it is incorrect, I have already provided to you my boundaries comments you should add them please ?</b></p>  | <p>Thank you for providing the above information. We will include this in the final report.</p>   |

**Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation  
question/comment (received 2 November 2023)**

**Biosis response (sent 7 November 2023)**

Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline

**Please see your comment below, Q: was the area always swampy land ?**  
**As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people**

**I do not support the following comment below as all the site was not surveyed**  
**"The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record**

The first text you have quoted is from the ACHA prepared by NGH Pty Ltd, who undertook the original assessment and survey of the study area. The second text you have quoted was also from the NGH Pty Ltd ACHA. As such, Biosis is not able to change this wording as it is in another consultant's report. However, we have noted your comments about not supporting the second statement.

Regarding your question about the area having always been swampy land, at the coldest part of the last ice age (about 20,000-21,000 years ago), sea levels were approximately 120 metres below the current level. However, when the last ice age began to end a few thousand years later, sea levels rose gradually due to melting ice and water running into the oceans. Sea levels

| Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation<br>question/comment (received 2 November 2023)  | Biosis response (sent 7 November 2023)   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>present within the Proposal Site"</b></p>  | <p>were at 70 metres below current levels about 13,000 years ago, at 50 metres below present levels about 12,000 years ago, and current sea levels were reached around 7,500-8,000 years ago (Indigenous Languages (nsw.gov.au), The last ice age tells us why we need to care about a 2°C change in temperature (unsw.edu.au), Post-glacial sea-level changes around the Australian margin: a review (uow.edu.au)).</p> <p>Due to this changing sea level, the study area may not always have been swampy land but is likely to have been swampy land for around 8,000 years based on the rising sea levels at this time. We can note this as a caveat in the final report.</p> |
| <p><b>6.1 -It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs.</b></p> <p><b>The above comment is true and accurate so I am still not sure as to why I was not invited to attend when my Nurra are the people who hold cultural connections to the project country.</b></p>  | <p>As previously noted above, it was difficult to have representatives from all RAP groups out during the short period of test excavations. There was no intent to exclude any of the RAPs from this work. For future projects we will do our best to share fieldwork opportunities with Worimi TOC.</p>   |
| <p><b>4.4. Restricted and confidential information Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that "all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by nonRegistered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated." This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential. What is the statemetnt above mean ? I do not support this as I do not understand its context.</b></p> | <p>As per my earlier response to a similar question in your email, Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.</p>  |

No further comments were received regarding the long term care and control of the artefacts and shell recovered during the test excavations.



## 5 Aboriginal cultural significance assessment

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The two main values addressed when assessing the significance of Aboriginal sites are cultural values to the Aboriginal community and archaeological (scientific) values. This report will assess the cultural values of Aboriginal sites in the study area. Details of the scientific significance assessment of Aboriginal sites in the study area are provided in Appendix 6.

### 5.1 Introduction to the assessment process

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

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

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

Government, Heritage NSW and the Heritage Branch, and the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. The relevant sections of these guidelines are presented below.

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

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

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

## 5.2 Cultural (social significance) values

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

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

It is acknowledged that Aboriginal people are the primary determiners of the cultural significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage. During the consultation completed by Biosis and NGH the following information was provided by RAPs with regards to the cultural values of the study area.

Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. who responded to the draft ACHA prepared by NGH on 16 August 2022 stated:

*[We] believe that this area is completely connected as a holistic site to surrounding sites we have previously identified.*

*We believe that the results of the survey reported are true and accurate and show strong usage evidence from our ancestors. The Worimi oral history of travel routes and campsites are connected to this area and are based around this dune system seen within the project area of Fullerton Cove. "The Fingers" of sand dunes ran from Stockton Beach to the*



*Hunter River and are a direct connection to our traditional storylines. This dune still exists on this property, although in some areas is seriously disturbed our heritage is still evident.<sup>1</sup>*

General comments were also received during the field investigations conducted by NGH and the consultation meeting undertaken by Biosis which supported that the site has high cultural significance to the Worimi people.

### 5.3 Historic values

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

### 5.4 Archaeological (scientific significance) values

Test excavations within the study area have confirmed the nature and extents of two Aboriginal sites. AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 was assessed a low to high density artefact deposit found in association with an intact hearth and shell midden features within the sandy rise landform located within the northern portion of the study area. The deposit likely dates to the mid to late Holocene and is considered to be representative of short-term intensive occupation of portions of the study area by Aboriginal people as they moved throughout the wider landscape undertaking resource gathering of estuarine and coastal resources. Charcoal recovered from the hearth deposit has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the occupation of the local region through the undertaking of radiocarbon dating. Further investigation of focal activity points identified within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 will also allow further information to be gathered on the potential activities that may have been occurring at these locations. The archaeological significance of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 is therefore considered to be high.

Testing within the extent of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; identified a low density deposit of shell and artefacts with no stratigraphical correlation was identified within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;. AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; has been previously assessed by NGH (2021a) as possessing low archaeological potential due to its highly disturbed context, and approval was obtained to undertake community collection of part of the site under AHIP 5017. The findings of Biosis' assessment are considered to be consistent with this assessment of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; (NGH 2021a). Due to highly disturbed context of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and the limited nature of information which can be gathered from further investigation of the site, AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; was assessed as having low archaeological potential.

An assessment of AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 was not carried out as part of this assessment. However, these sites are considered likely to contain similar archaeological deposits to AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 and may be part of a single site complex which encompasses the sandy rise landform in the northern portion of the study area.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'finger' is used to describe long, thin, straight dunes (elongating linear dunes) that have formed due to two winds blowing on either side of a crest.

## 5.5 Aesthetic values

The study area has been partially disturbed by residential development which has caused disturbance to the northern portion of the study area. However, the landscape of the study area is closely linked with Aboriginal cultural values and provides a context for Aboriginal sites that gives a strong sense of place. The Worimi Aboriginal community strongly identifies with the landscape of the study area as part of the 'fingers' of the Stockton Beach dunes and as an important resource gathering zone and large site complex occupied by Aboriginal people in the past. The aesthetic significance of the study area is therefore assessed as moderate and may be subject to evaluation following further consultation with the Aboriginal community.

## 5.6 Statement of significance

An assessment of significance of Aboriginal sites is required to be prepared in accordance with the following criteria:

- Requirements of the Code.
- The Burra Charter.
- *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

The combined use of these guidelines is widely considered to represent the best practice for the assessments of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The identification and assessment of cultural heritage values includes the four values of the Burra Charter: social, historical, scientific and aesthetic values. The resultant statement of significance has been constructed for the study area based on the significance ranking criteria assessed in Table 7.

### 5.6.1 Statements of significance for Aboriginal sites identified within the study area

A statement of significance for AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 was able to completed in accordance with the significance criteria in Table 7. However, a complete assessment of the significance of AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 is unable to be completed until test excavations under an AHIP have been undertaken to determine their nature and extent, should future development propose to impact these sites.

**Table 7 Significance assessment criteria**

| Site name  | Criteria  | Ranking |
|--|---|---------|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;</b> | Cultural – background research and discussions with the local Aboriginal community reflect that the site is high in value and likely representative a larger cultural site complex with connections to song lines associated with the 'fingers' of sand dunes which run from Stockton Beach.            | High    |
|  | Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.  | Low     |
|  | Scientific – the site possesses low scientific value as it contains a low density artefact and shell deposit that has been highly disturbed and has limited research potential. This site is considered to be a common occurrence within the local region, and part of site has already been destroyed. | Low     |

| Site name   | Criteria   | Ranking  |
|---|--|----------|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2142/42<br/>Fullerton Cove Road<br/>PAD 1</b> | Aesthetic – the study area has been partially disturbed by residential development; however, the site holds aesthetic value to the Aboriginal community as part of a larger site complex associated with resource gathering and occupation that is typical of the local region.              | Moderate |
|   | Cultural – background research and discussions with the local Aboriginal community reflect that the site is high in value and likely representative a larger cultural site complex with connections to song lines associated with the ‘fingers’ of sand dunes which run from Stockton Beach. | High     |
|   | Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.   | Low      |
|   | Scientific – is unknown and can only be completed following the completion of test excavations, if required. No harm is proposed to this site.   | Unknown  |
|   | Aesthetic – the study area has been partially disturbed by residential development; however, the site holds aesthetic value to the Aboriginal community as part of a larger site complex associated with resource gathering and occupation that is typical of the local region.              | Moderate |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2141/42<br/>Fullerton Cove Road<br/>PAD 2</b> | Cultural – background research and discussions with the local Aboriginal community reflect that the site is high in value and likely representative a larger cultural site complex with connections to song lines associated with the ‘fingers’ of sand dunes which run from Stockton Beach. | High     |
|   | Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.   | Low      |
|   | Scientific – is unknown and can only be completed following the completion of test excavations, if required. No harm is proposed to this site.   | Unknown  |
|   | Aesthetic – the study area has been partially disturbed by residential development; however, the site holds aesthetic value to the Aboriginal community as part of a larger site complex associated with resource gathering and occupation that is typical of the local region.              | Moderate |
|   | Cultural – background research and discussions with the local Aboriginal community reflect that the site is high in value and likely representative a larger cultural site complex with connections to song lines associated with the ‘fingers’ of sand dunes which run from Stockton Beach. | High     |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2140/42<br/>Fullerton Cove Road<br/>PAD 3</b> | Historical – the site is not connected to any historical event or personage.   | Low      |

| Site name | Criteria  | Ranking  |
|-----------|---|----------|
|           | Scientific – the site possesses high scientific value as it contains a low to high density artefact deposit found in association with an intact hearth and midden features. This site type occurs occasionally in the local area and has the potential to contribute further information that will inform our understanding of Aboriginal land-use in the local region. | High     |
|           | Aesthetic – the study area has been partially disturbed by residential development; however, the site holds aesthetic value to the Aboriginal community as part of a larger site complex associated with resource gathering and occupation that is typical of the local region.   | Moderate |

## 6 Development limitations and mitigation measures

Within the study area, there are four recorded Aboriginal sites that may be subject to harm. AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Site and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 will be directly impacted by the proposed development. Strategies to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal heritage in the study area are discussed below. Mitigation measures have also been recommended to ensure that unintentional harm to AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 can be avoided during the construction phase.

A summary of the potential impacts of the proposed works on known Aboriginal sites within the study area is provided in Table 8 and Figure 9.

**Table 8 Summary of potential archaeological impact**

| AHIMS site no.  | Site name                    | Significance | Type of harm | Degree of harm | Consequence of harm   |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| AHIMS 38-4-0333 | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1; | Low          | Direct       | Partial        | Partial loss of value |
| AHIMS 38-4-2142 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 | Unknown      | No harm      | No harm        | No harm               |
| AHIMS 38-4-2141 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 | Unknown      | No harm      | No harm        | No harm               |
| AHIMS 38-4-2140 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | High         | Direct       | Total          | Total loss of value   |

### 6.1 Potential risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage

The current proposed works within the study area include activities that could impact two Aboriginal heritage sites or objects. If not mitigated, the impact may include:

- Heavy vehicle movement within study area with potential compaction of surface and subsurface soils.
- Bulk earthworks and in filling of the upper crest/dune landform, which will involve the removal of topsoil and subsoil as part of the construction of the retail development.
- Construction of access points, carparks and associated infrastructure.
- Impacts to subsurface deposits as a result of the installation of services including stormwater.
- Vegetation and weed management activities which may impact and result in the removal of surface and subsurface soils, if required.

Left unmitigated, these activities have potential to completely remove or disturb Aboriginal sites or objects located within the study area (Figure 9).

### 6.2 Avoiding harm to Aboriginal heritage

Harm can be avoided to some Aboriginal sites within the study area as a part of the proposed works. Discussions with the proponent with regards to potential impacts to AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road

PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, has determined that these sites will not be directly impacted by the proposed works, and no ground disturbing works will be required within these site extents. Part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; will also not be impacted by the proposed development. To ensure the protection of these sites throughout the lifespan of the proposed development it has been recommended that the AHIP area should be clearly fenced to avoid unintentional impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, and AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Should the proposed works be modified or ground disturbing works be required (vegetation management, pit fall trapping etc.) then further investigation of these Aboriginal heritage constraints will be required.

### 6.3 Ecologically Sustainable Development

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

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

#### ***"Intergenerational equity"***

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

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

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

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

#### ***The precautionary principle***

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

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

- *a careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment (which includes cultural heritage)*
- *an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options.*

*The precautionary principle is relevant to Heritage NSW consideration of potential harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage where:*

- *the proposal involves a risk of serious or irreversible harm to Aboriginal objects or places or to the value of those objects or places, and*
- *there is a lot of uncertainty about the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the Aboriginal objects or places proposed to be harmed.*

*Where this is the case, a precautionary approach should be taken and all cost-effective measures implemented to prevent or reduce harm to the Aboriginal objects/place (State of NSW and Office of Environment and Heritage NSW 2011, p.26)."*

## **6.4 Management and mitigation measures**

The results of this assessment have identified that the land within the study area represents part of a complex Aboriginal cultural landscape. As identified in the background research, Aboriginal community consultation and archaeological assessment, the study area and local region contains sites, landforms and landscapes that are significant to the local Aboriginal people.

Ideally, heritage management involves conservation of sites through the preservation and conservation of fabric and context within a framework of 'doing as much as necessary, as little as possible' (Australia ICOMOS 2013). In cases where conservation is not practical, several options for management are available. For sites, management often involves the salvage of features or artefacts, retrieval of information through excavation or collection (especially where impact cannot be avoided) and interpretation.

Avoidance of impacts to archaeological and cultural heritage sites through the design of the development is the primary mitigation and management strategy and should be implemented where practicable. As discussed above, avoidance of impacts to AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 is unable to be avoided as the proposed development will directly impact all or part of the known site extents.

The results of this assessment have determined that AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; is considered to have low scientific significance with little potential to contribute further information to our understanding of the local region. Therefore, it is recommended that an AHIP to allow for impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; should be obtained prior to construction.

AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 on the other hand is considered to have high scientific significance with high density artefact and midden deposits identified. It is also recommended that the AHIP to be obtained from Heritage NSW allow for the archaeological salvage and community collection of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, prior to development impacts. This will allow for further information to be gathered in accordance with a salvage and community collection methodology to be developed in consultation with RAPs. This will ensure that further analysis of any archaeological objects or features identified will be gathered and information about the potential uses of the site by Aboriginal people can be preserved. This not only increases current understanding of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 and our knowledge of Aboriginal occupation in the wider Port Stephens region, but also ensures that any scientific and cultural information obtained can be accessed and used by future generations. The following management measures have been developed in consultation with RAPs with consideration to ESD in order mitigate impacts to Aboriginal cultural values identified within the study area.



#### **6.4.1 Apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit to salvage and harm**

Impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 cannot be avoided, therefore, it is recommended that an AHIP be obtained. The AHIP should be for a term of **five (5) years** and should allow for harm of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, and salvage of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 through excavation and community collection prior to harm. The AHIP will need to be obtained from Heritage NSW under Part 6 of the NPW Act, prior to impacts occurring.

#### **Advice preparing AHIPs**

An AHIP is required for any activities likely to have an impact on Aboriginal objects or Places or cause land to be disturbed for the purposes of discovering an Aboriginal object. Heritage NSW issues AHIPs under Part 6 of the NPW Act.

AHIPs or variations to an AHIP, should be prepared by a qualified archaeologist and lodged with Heritage NSW. Once the application is lodged processing time can take between 8-12 weeks.

#### **6.4.2 Salvage of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3**

Due to the high significance of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, archaeological salvage excavations and community collection is recommended as the proposed development is unable to avoid impacts.

A salvage and community collection methodology is required to be prepared prior to salvage excavations and community collection works being conducted. This methodology will outline how the salvage excavations and community collection will be undertaken and be sent to the RAPs for consultation prior to finalisation.

Salvage excavations should focus on the areas of highest artefact and shell density. Following salvage excavations an analysis of any archaeological objects or features identified should be undertaken to provide further information about the potential uses of the site by Aboriginal people. This not only increases current understanding of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 but also increases our knowledge of Aboriginal occupation in the Port Stephens region and ensures that any scientific and cultural information obtained can be accessed and used by future generations.

A comparative assessment should also be undertaken to compare findings with those of local salvages, particularly those completed at 21 Fullerton Cove Road, by NGH in 2023.

#### **6.4.3 Continued consultation and engagement of RAPs regarding the requirement for Common Planigale surveys**

AEP has been commissioned by Monteath and Powys to undertake a BDAR. As part of the preparation of the BDAR, threatened species that have the potential to be impacted by proposed works are required to be assessed. This includes the Common Planigale. The accepted survey methodology for Common Planigale involves using pitfall traps where the substrate allows for excavations.

If testing for the presence of Common Planigale is required, it is recommended in the first instance that no trenching or ground disturbing works occur within the dune/crest/sandy rises in which AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2 is present, or within 50 metres of these sites.

If trenching/ground disturbing works as outlined within the methodology developed by AEP (2022) are required then pit fall traps should be established within the low lying swampy landforms which dominate the southern portion of the study. A map of these locations should be provided to RAPs for review, and an

opportunity to survey the pit falls trap locations with an archaeologist present should be undertaken. RAPs have also requested that they be engaged to supervise the excavation of the pit fall traps should the location be confirmed as suitable and low risk to ensure no unintentional harm to Aboriginal heritage items/objects occurs.

#### **6.4.4 Continued Aboriginal community consultation**

A copy of this final report should be provided to RAPs for their records. It is also recommended that the proponent should continue to inform RAPs about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project.

#### **6.4.5 Avoidance of impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2**

The current development footprint is unlikely to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, therefore avoidance is recommended. If the proposed development footprint of the study area is updated or ground disturbing works are likely to impact upon these Aboriginal sites, the further assessment will be required, including test excavations under an AHIP and the preparation of an updated ACHA.

#### **6.4.6 Fencing of AHIP area during construction phase**

Prior to any construction works taking place it is recommended that the AHIP area/development footprint be fenced clearly to avoid unintentional impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Fencing must remain in place over the lifespan of the construction phase. Should future development works propose to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 then an AHIP will be required to allow for further testing and harm.

#### **6.4.7 Updates to AHIMS site cards**

It is recommended that updates to the site cards for AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 be undertaken to reflect their current condition and extent. ASIRFs should also be completed to AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 should be completed following harm in accordance with the approved AHIP.

#### **6.4.8 Long-term care agreement**

The establishment of a long-term care agreement in consultation with RAPs should be developed in order to ensure the artefact collected during test excavations are adequately cared for in accordance with RAP recommendations. Several management options are possible depending on the wishes of RAPs. The artefacts recovered from the test excavations can be given back to the Aboriginal community through a long-term care agreement where it can then be used to teach subsequent generations about Aboriginal culture. Alternatively, the artefacts can be reburied on Country in a location to be determined in consultation with RAPs and the proponent. This approach considers the principles of ESD and intergenerational equity and more importantly ensures that recovered artefact is managed according to the wishes of RAPs.

It was noted during the consultation meeting held on site (24 January 2023) attended by Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, David Feeney of Karuah Indigenous Company, and Jamie Merrick of Worimi LALC that reburial was the preferred future management option, and that artefacts recovered from site should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner as per RAP wishes.

Robert Syron (31 January 2023) has recommended that surface artefacts recovered from site should be handed over to the Worimi LALC for teaching and education purposes. This option was also supported by Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation (20 April 2023), who also offered to care for the artefacts in place of Worimi LALC. This option would need to be discussed further with Worimi LALC and other RAPS to confirm whether Worimi LALC had the capacity to accept the artefacts or would prefer to see them reburied.

#### **6.4.9 Heritage induction and cultural awareness training**

It has been recommended by RAPS that heritage inductions and cultural awareness training is undertaken for all site workers and contractors entering the site during construction. This will inform personnel as to when works should cease, and a manager be contacted for further instruction on stop works procedures. The heritage induction will also prevent any unintentional harm to unexpected Aboriginal objects or sites, or Aboriginal sites or objects located within proximity to the proposed development. The heritage induction should include the following items:

- Relevant legislation.
- Location of identified Aboriginal heritage sites, areas of archaeological potential, and areas of archaeological sensitivity.
- Basic identification skills for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artefacts and human remains.
- Procedure to follow in the event of an unexpected heritage item find during construction works.
- Procedure to follow in the event of discovery of human remains during construction works.
- Penalties and non-compliance.

#### **6.4.10 Confidentiality agreement**

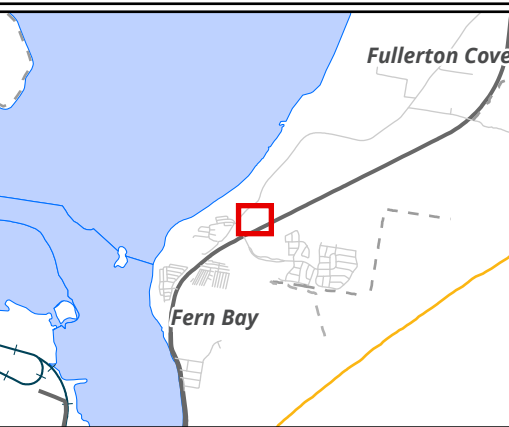
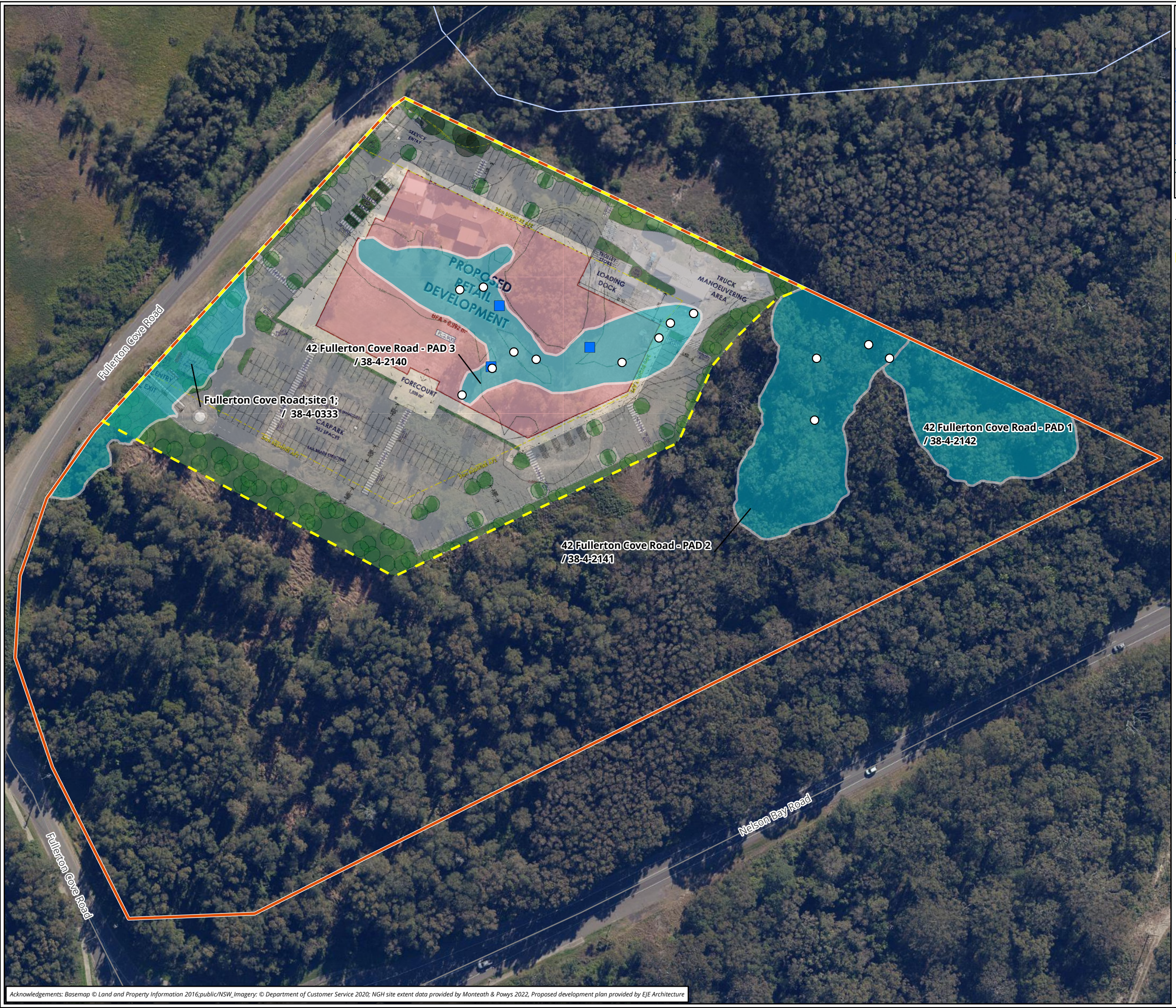
Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd also requested that the findings should also be authenticated. Advice was sought from Heritage NSW regarding this request.

Heritage NSW confirmed on 10 November 2023 that components of the reports that Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd wish to remain confidential are to be redacted. Biosis will prepare a redacted and unredacted version of the ACHA addendum and Test Excavation Report. The redacted version of the reports are to be provided for the DA submission, for inclusion on the AHIMS and as the final report circulated to RAPS for their records. The unredacted version of the reports will be held as confidential reports by Heritage NSW.

#### **6.4.11 Heritage interpretation**

Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation have requested that heritage interpretation, specifically signage, Worimi art and design, and Worimi words, be included as part of the development. RAPS should be consulted on any heritage interpretation proposed for the development.





- Legend**
- Study area
  - AHIP area
  - PAD
  - Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
  - Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)

**Figure 9 Impact assessment results**

0 10 20 30 40

Metres

Scale: 1:1,300@ A3

Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

N



## 7 Recommendations

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The recommendations below respond specifically to the wishes of the RAPs. Recommendations regarding the archaeological value of the site, and the subsequent management of Aboriginal cultural heritage have also been formulated in consideration of the recommendations made by NGH in their 2022 ACHA (Appendix 1).

### **Recommendation 1: Application for an AHIP to allow for harm and salvage**

Impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 cannot be avoided. Therefore, it is recommended that an AHIP to allow for harm and salvage be obtained. The AHIP should be for a term of **five (5) years** and should allow for harm of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and salvage of AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 through excavation and community collection prior to harm. The AHIP will need to be obtained from Heritage NSW under Part 6 of the NPW Act, prior to impacts occurring.

### **Recommendation 2: Archaeological salvage is required within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3**

Impacts to AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 cannot be avoided. Therefore, archaeological salvage and community collection of this site is recommended. AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 should be salvaged under an AHIP in accordance with a salvage methodology to be developed in consultation with RAPs. Salvage excavations should focus on areas of highest artefact and shell density within the AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 site extent. This will allow for further information to be gathered for a comparative assessment to be undertaken for similar salvage excavations undertaken in the local area.

### **Recommendation 3: Continued consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs)**

As per the consultation requirements, it is recommended that a copy of this final report be provided to RAPs for their records. It is also recommended that the proponent should continue to inform RAPs about the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the study area throughout the life of the project.

### **Recommendation 4: Avoidance of impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2**

The current development footprint is unlikely to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Therefore, avoidance is recommended. If the proposed development footprint of the study area is updated or ground disturbing works are likely to impact upon these Aboriginal sites, further assessment will be required; this may include test excavations under an AHIP and the preparation of an updated ACHA.

### **Recommendation 5: Fencing of AHIP area during the construction phase**

Prior to any construction works taking place it is recommended that the AHIP area/development footprint be fenced clearly to avoid unintentional impacts to part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2. Fencing must remain in place over the lifespan of the construction phase. Should future development works propose to impact upon part of AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 then an AHIP will be required to allow for further testing and harm.

### **Recommendation 6: Updates to AHIMS site cards**

It is recommended that updates to the site cards for AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 be undertaken to reflect their current condition and extent. Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Forms (ASIRFs) should also be completed to AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 should be completed following harm in accordance with the approved AHIP.

### **Recommendation 7: Discovery of unanticipated Aboriginal objects**

All Aboriginal objects and Places are protected under the NPW Act. It is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal object without a consent permit issued by Heritage NSW. Should any unanticipated Aboriginal objects be encountered during works associated with this proposal, works must cease in the vicinity and the find should not be moved until assessed by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be an Aboriginal object, the archaeologist will provide further recommendations. These may include notifying Heritage NSW and RAPs.

### **Recommendation 8: Discovery of human remains**

If any suspected human remains are discovered during any activity, you must:

1. Immediately cease all work at that location and not further move or disturb the remains.
2. Notify NSW Police and the NSW Environmental Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide details of the remains and their location.
3. Not recommence work at that location unless authorised in writing by NSW Police and/or Heritage NSW.

### **Recommendation 9: Training and heritage induction**

It is recommended that all personnel on site during construction should undertake a heritage induction and cultural awareness training as part of the site induction. This will inform personnel as to when works should cease and a manager be contacted for further instruction on stop works procedures. The heritage induction will also prevent any unintentional harm to unexpected Aboriginal objects or sites, or Aboriginal sites or objects located within proximity to the proposed development. The heritage induction should include the following items:

- Relevant legislation.
- Location of identified Aboriginal heritage sites, areas of archaeological potential, and areas of archaeological sensitivity.
- Basic identification skills for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artefacts and human remains.
- Procedure to follow in the event of an unexpected heritage item find during construction works.
- Procedure to follow in the event of the discovery of human remains during construction works.
- Penalties and non-compliance.

### **Recommendation 10: Heritage interpretation**

In accordance with the wishes of the RAPs, heritage interpretation should be incorporated into the development. Specifically, RAPs have requested that signage, Worimi art and design, and Worimi words be included as part of the development. RAPs should be consulted on any heritage interpretation proposed for the development.

### **Recommendation 11: Long-term care agreement**

The establishment of a long-term care agreement in consultation with RAPs should be developed in order to ensure the artefacts collected during test excavations and future artefacts recovered during proposed salvage activities are adequately cared for in accordance with RAP recommendations. To date, three options have been suggested by the RAPs: reburial on site (artefacts should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner); transferred to Worimi LALC for keeping and educational purposes; or transferred to Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation for keeping and educational purposes. As no further comments were received as part of Stage 4 for the review of the updated Addendum ACHA and draft Test Excavation Report, further consultation regarding the long-term care of recovered artefacts will be required.



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## Appendices

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## Appendix 1 NGH 2022 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

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# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report Cover Sheet

This form should be used to accompany an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report provided as part of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application.

|   |  |                                  |                |
|---|--|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                                   | 42 Fullerton Cove Road Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment |                                  |                |
| <b>Author(s) name</b>                                 | Kirwan Williams  |                                  |                |
| <b>Author(s) organisation Name</b><br>(if applicable) | NGH Pty Ltd  |                                  |                |
| <b>Author(s) contact details</b>                      | Email: kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au                           |                                  |                |
|   | Phone: 04917 3959  | Fax:                             |                |
| <b>Address of subject area</b>                        | No:42  | Street name: Fullerton Cove Road |                |
|   | Suburb: Fern Bay   | State: NSW                       | Postcode: 2295 |
|   | Title Reference: Lot 14 DP 258848                              |                                  |                |
|   | Local Government Area: Port Stephens LGA                       |                                  |                |
|   | Other:   |                                  |                |
| <b>Report prepared for</b>                            | Company name: Monteath & Powys                                 |                                  |                |
|   | Contact person: Michael Brewer                                 |                                  |                |
|   | Address: 125 Bull street, Newcastle NSW 2300                   |                                  |                |
|   | Email: M.Brewer@monteathpowys.com.au                           |                                  |                |
|   | Phone: P (02) 4926 1388  | Fax:                             |                |
| <b>Date of report</b>                                 | 22/08/2022   |                                  |                |

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This report is not confidential except as expressly stated:

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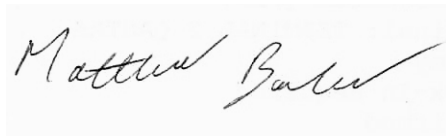


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**Matthew Barber**  
**Director**  
**NGH PTY LTD**  
**22 August 2022**



**NGH**

# **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment**

**42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove**

August 2022

**Project Number: 21-592**



## Document verification

Project Title: 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

Project Number: 21-592

Project File Name: 21-592 42 Fullerton Cove Road Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment\_Final\_Unredacted\_20220822

| Revision  | Date       | Prepared by                      | Reviewed by     | Approved by     |
|-----------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Draft 1.0 | 15/07/2022 | Kirwan Williams                  | Kirsten Bradley | Matthew Barber  |
| Draft 1.1 | 22/07/2022 | Kirwan Williams<br>(Minor edits) | Tammy Vesely    | Tammy Vesely    |
| Final     | 22/08/2022 | Kirwan Williams                  | Kirsten Bradley | Kirsten Bradley |
|           |            |                                  |                 |                 |

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# Table of contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>1. Introduction.....</b>   | <b>9</b>  |
| 1.1. Project Proposal .....   | 9         |
| 1.2. Project Personnel .....  | 9         |
| 1.3. Report format.....   | 10        |
| <b>2. Legislative context .....</b>                                   | <b>12</b> |
| <b>3. Aboriginal consultation process .....</b>                       | <b>13</b> |
| 3.1. Aboriginal community feedback .....                              | 14        |
| <b>4. Background information.....</b>                                 | <b>16</b> |
| 4.1. Review of landscape context.....                                 | 16        |
| 4.1.1. Geology and topography.....                                    | 16        |
| 4.1.2. Soils .....  | 18        |
| 4.1.3. Hydrology, Fauna and Flora .....                               | 18        |
| 4.1.4. Historic land use and disturbance factors .....                | 19        |
| 4.1.5. Landscape Context .....  | 22        |
| 4.2. Review of Aboriginal Archaeological Context .....                | 24        |
| 4.2.1. Ethnographic setting .....                                     | 24        |
| 4.2.2. AHIMS Search .....   | 26        |
| 4.2.3. Additional searches.....                                       | 28        |
| 4.2.4. Regional Archaeological studies.....                           | 32        |
| 4.2.5. Local archaeological studies.....                              | 36        |
| 4.2.6. Summary of Aboriginal land use .....                           | 38        |
| 4.3. Aboriginal site location prediction .....                        | 38        |
| 4.4. Comment on existing information .....                            | 40        |
| <b>5. Archaeological investigation results.....</b>                   | <b>41</b> |
| 5.1. Survey strategy.....   | 41        |
| 5.2. Survey coverage.....   | 43        |
| 5.3. Survey results.....  | 46        |
| 5.4. Discussion .....   | 50        |
| <b>6. Cultural heritage values and statement of significance.....</b> | <b>51</b> |
| 6.1. Social or cultural value .....                                   | 51        |
| 6.2. Scientific value.....  | 52        |
| 6.3. Aesthetic value .....  | 52        |
| 6.4. Historic value .....   | 52        |
| 6.5. Other values .....   | 52        |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 6.6. Summary of significance .....  | 52        |
| <b>7. Proposed activity.....</b>  | <b>54</b> |
| 7.1. Proposed development activity .....                                    | 54        |
| 7.2. Assessment of harm.....  | 54        |
| 7.3. Impacts to values.....   | 55        |
| <b>8. Avoiding or mitigating harm .....</b>                                 | <b>58</b> |
| 8.1. Consideration of ecologically sustainable development principles ..... | 58        |
| 8.2. Consideration of harm .....  | 59        |
| 8.3. Mitigation of harm .....   | 59        |
| <b>9. Recommendations .....</b>   | <b>62</b> |
| <b>10. References .....</b>   | <b>64</b> |

## Figures

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Figure 1-1 Location of the Project Site .....                   | 11 |
| Figure 4-1. Landforms within the Project Site .....             | 23 |
| Figure 4-2 AHIMS overview.....                                  | 29 |
| Figure 4-3 AHIMS in proximity to Project Site .....             | 30 |
| Figure 4-4 Historic heritage in proximity to Project Site ..... | 31 |
| Figure 5-1 Survey units.....                                    | 42 |
| Figure 5-2 Results of survey.....                               | 49 |
| Figure 8-1 Proposed AHIP boundary .....                         | 60 |
| Figure 8-2 Indicative testing layout.....                       | 61 |

## Tables

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Table 4-1 Descriptions of soil landscapes in the Project Site (Mitchell 2002).....           | 17 |
| Table 4-2 Description of soil landscapes found within the Project Site (DPIE 2020).....      | 18 |
| Table 4-3 AHIMS registered sites.....  | 26 |
| Table 4-4 Sites adjacent to the Proposal Site .....  | 27 |
| Table 4-5 Aboriginal site prediction statements .....  | 39 |
| Table 5-1 Transect information.....  | 45 |
| Table 6-1 Summary of significance assessment.....  | 53 |
| Table 7-1. Identified risk to known sites by the proposed subsurface testing programme ..... | 56 |

## **Appendices**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Appendix A Aboriginal consultation .....   | A-I |
| Appendix B Testing Methodology .....       | B-I |
| Appendix C Unexpected finds protocol ..... | C-I |



## Acronyms and abbreviations

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| ACHA     | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment                               |
| ACHCRP   | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents |
| AHD      | Australian Heritage Database  |
| AHIMS    | Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System                     |
| AHIP     | Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit                                     |
| MP       | Monteath & Powys Pty Limited  |
| cm       | centimetres   |
| EIS      | Environmental Impact Statement  |
| EP&A Act | NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979                    |
| ha       | hectares  |
| HNSW     | Heritage NSW  |
| Km       | kilometres  |
| LALC     | Local Aboriginal Land Council   |
| LEP      | Local Environment Plan  |
| LGA      | Local Government Area   |
| M        | metres  |
| NGH      | NGH Pty Ltd   |
| NPW Act  | National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)                            |
| NSW      | New South Wales   |
| PAD      | Potential Archaeological Deposit                                      |
| SHI      | State Heritage Inventory  |

# Executive summary

## Introduction

NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) was contracted by Monteath & Powys (MP) on behalf of Christine Jordan to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed rezoning and subsequent works at Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales. The Project Site is located approximately 8 kilometres (km) north of Newcastle, within the Port Stephens Local Government Area (LGA).

The proposed development subsequent to the rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848 will involve ground disturbance works that may have the potential to impact Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and objects which are protected under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). The purpose of the ACHA will be to investigate the presence of any Aboriginal sites and their values; and to assess the potential impacts to these values, providing recommendations for management measures that may mitigate, reduce, or prevent impact.

## Project proposal

The proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove is currently zoned RU2 Rural Landscape and the proposal intends to rezone 2.5 hectares to B1 Neighbourhood Centre and the remaining 4.2 hectares to be rezoned as E2 Environmental Conservation to accommodate the environmental attributes of the site. Following the rezoning of the property the future development proposal includes but is not limited to the construction of a supermarket and shops and its associated infrastructure.

Specifically, the planning proposal involves:

- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural Landscape to E2 Environmental Conservation.
- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural landscape to B1 Neighbourhood Centre.
- Removing Minimum Lot Size requirement of the proposed B1 zone from AB2 20 hectares.
- Introducing a height of building limit of 9 metres to the B1 zone; and.
- Introducing a new local provision limiting future retail development to a maximum gross floor area of between 1,500 – 5,000 square metres.

## Aboriginal community consultation

The consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders was undertaken in accordance with clause 60 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Regulation 2019* following the consultation steps outlined in the guidelines. The full list of consultation steps, including those groups and individuals that were contacted and a consultation log, is provided in Appendix A. As a result of this process, eight Aboriginal groups registered their interest in the project, including the entities and individuals recommended by statutory bodies and NSW government heritage departments. The fieldwork components of this assessment included the participation of Aboriginal community representatives. A copy of the draft report was provided to all the registered parties for comment.

## Archaeological context

While no previously recorded AHIMS sites are within the Project Site in 2021 a preliminary investigation of the Project Site was undertaken by members of the Aboriginal community undertaking a walkover for Port Stephens Council. During this preliminary investigation cultural material in the form of shell midden material and potential stone artefacts were identified and it was determined that further assessment in the form of an ACHA was required. The results of previous archaeological surveys in the region demonstrate there are numerous Aboriginal sites present throughout the region with shell middens the dominant site type in the local area.

## Survey results

On the 31 May 2022 the survey of the Project Site was undertaken by an NGH archaeologist with Aboriginal community representatives. Areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) were recorded within the Project Site as 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2. An additional PAD may exist adjacent to the location of AHIMS 38-4-0333 in the west of the Project Site. There is a possibility that these locations may be a single site however sub-surface testing will need to be carried out to determine the connection of any material within these areas across the Project Site. The surface expressions of cultural material with shell and stone artefacts was observed within two of the sites (42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2). A summary of the sites within the Project Site is provided below.

- **42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1** is on a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression with no surface expression of material
- **42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1** is on a sandy rise between two minor drainage lines and adjacent to a swampy depression. This Midden has previously been disturbed. Shell types observed at this location included mud whelk (*Pyrazus* sp.), cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) and *Katelysia* sp.
- **42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2** is on a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression. This location has previously been disturbed. The surface expression of shell material was spread across the area. Three tuff artefacts were recorded and the shell types observed included mud whelk (*Pyrazus* sp.), cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) and *Katelysia* sp.
- **PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333** is mapped in the road reserve on the eastern side of Fullerton Cove Road however, an area of PAD associated with this previously recorded site was noted to extend into the Project Site.

## Potential Impact

The current archaeological investigation of the Project Site shows that there is Aboriginal shell midden material, stone artefacts and areas of PAD within the Project Site.

Until an archaeological subsurface test excavation programme is undertaken the true impacts to the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 by the proposed works is not able to be determined. Requirement 14 of the Code of Practice states that test excavations within 50 metres of known or suspected shell midden sites are not permitted without an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). Consequently, an AHIP must be obtained prior to testing being undertaken.



The Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) who participated in the fieldwork for this project indicated that they were in support of the proposed subsurface investigation of these PADs if they are unable to be avoided by proposed future works.

## Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Rezoning of the lot could occur but no development can occur until the following recommendations are carried out.
2. Test excavation is required to establish the extent and scientific significance of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 if they are unable to be avoided by the proposed works.
3. Test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 cannot be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation in NSW. Therefore, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is required to permit any subsurface testing of the PADs within the Project Site.
4. The proponent must apply to Heritage NSW and receive an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to allow test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 if they are unable to be avoided by the proposed works.
5. This report must accompany an AHIP application for the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 located within the Proposal Site, as outlined in *Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit: Guide for Applicants*.
6. Once an AHIP is approved by Heritage NSW for the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 the methodology as outlined in Appendix B of this report should be followed.
7. Aboriginal community representatives as chosen by the Proponent should be invited to participate in the test excavation programme.
8. All cultural material recovered during test excavation works under an approved AHIP will be held in temporary care at the appointed consultants' office for recording and analysis, until an appropriate time when it can be returned to Country. This material must be buried in line with Requirement 26 of the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales and/or in accordance with the wishes of the Aboriginal community in an appropriate location that will not be subject to any ground disturbance. The location of this material will be submitted to the AHIMS database.
9. An Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Form must be completed and submitted to AHIMS following the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2.
10. In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during the subsurface testing, all work must cease in the immediate vicinity. The local police must be notified to determine if the remains were Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal. If the remains are deemed to be Aboriginal in origin the Heritage NSW must be advised. The Registered Aboriginal

Parties should be advised of the find as directed by Heritage NSW. Heritage NSW would advise the Proponent on the following appropriate actions required.

11. The subsurface testing results for 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 located within the Proposal Site should be detailed in an additional Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. This report can then be used in support of an AHIP for the proposed works, pending the recommendations noted.
12. Further archaeological assessment would be required if the proposal activity extends beyond the area of the current investigation. This would include consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties and may include further field survey.

Port Stephens Council are reminded that it is an offence under the NPW Act to harm an Aboriginal object without a valid AHIP.

# 1. Introduction

NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) was contracted by Monteath & Powys on behalf of Christine Jordan, to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed rezoning and subsequent works at Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (see Figure 1-1). The Project Site is located approximately 8 kilometres (km) north of Newcastle within the Port Stephens Local Government Area (LGA).

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- Removing Minimum Lot Size requirement of the proposed B1 zone from AB2 20 hectares.
- Introducing a height of building limit of 9 metres to the B1 zone; and.
- Introducing a new local provision limiting future retail development to a maximum gross floor area of between 1,500 – 5,000 square metres.

## 1.2. Project Personnel

Research, reporting and Aboriginal community consultation for this ACHA was completed by NGH Heritage Consultant Kirwan Williams. Principal Heritage Consultant Kirsten Bradley reviewed the report for quality assurance purposes.

Consultation with the Aboriginal community was undertaken following the process outlined in the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* 2010. Seven Aboriginal groups and an individual registered their interest in the proposal, so in total there are eight Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project. The RAPs for this project include:

- Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation
- Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.
- Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd
- Karuah Indigenous Corporation



- Woka Aboriginal Corporation
- Robert Syron
- Redacted Group #1

The survey fieldwork was conducted with Aboriginal community representatives by NGH Heritage Consultant Kirwan Williams on 31 May 2022. The Aboriginal community representatives who participated in the survey fieldwork included:

- Bec Young (Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.)
- Luke Knight (Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd)
- Brendan Lilley (Karuah Indigenous Corporation)
- Jamie Merrick (Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council)

Further detail and an outline of the consultation process is included in Chapter 3 of this report.

### 1.3. Report format

The purpose of this ACHA report is to provide an assessment of the Aboriginal cultural values associated with the Proposal Site and to assess the cultural and scientific significance of any identified Aboriginal heritage sites identified.

The assessment objectives were to:

- Conduct Aboriginal consultation as specified in clause 60 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Regulation 2019*, using the consultation process outlined in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (ACHCRP)*;
- Undertake a field survey of the Proposal Site to identify and record any Aboriginal heritage objects;
- Undertaken an assessment of the archaeological and cultural values of the Project Site and any Aboriginal sites therein;
- Assess the cultural and scientific significance of any archaeological material;
- Assess the potential impacts of the proposal on the heritage objects; and
- Provide management recommendations for any objects found.

This report was prepared in accordance with the following:

- *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011)
- *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW NSW 2010a) and
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (ACHCRP)* (DECCW NSW 2010b).

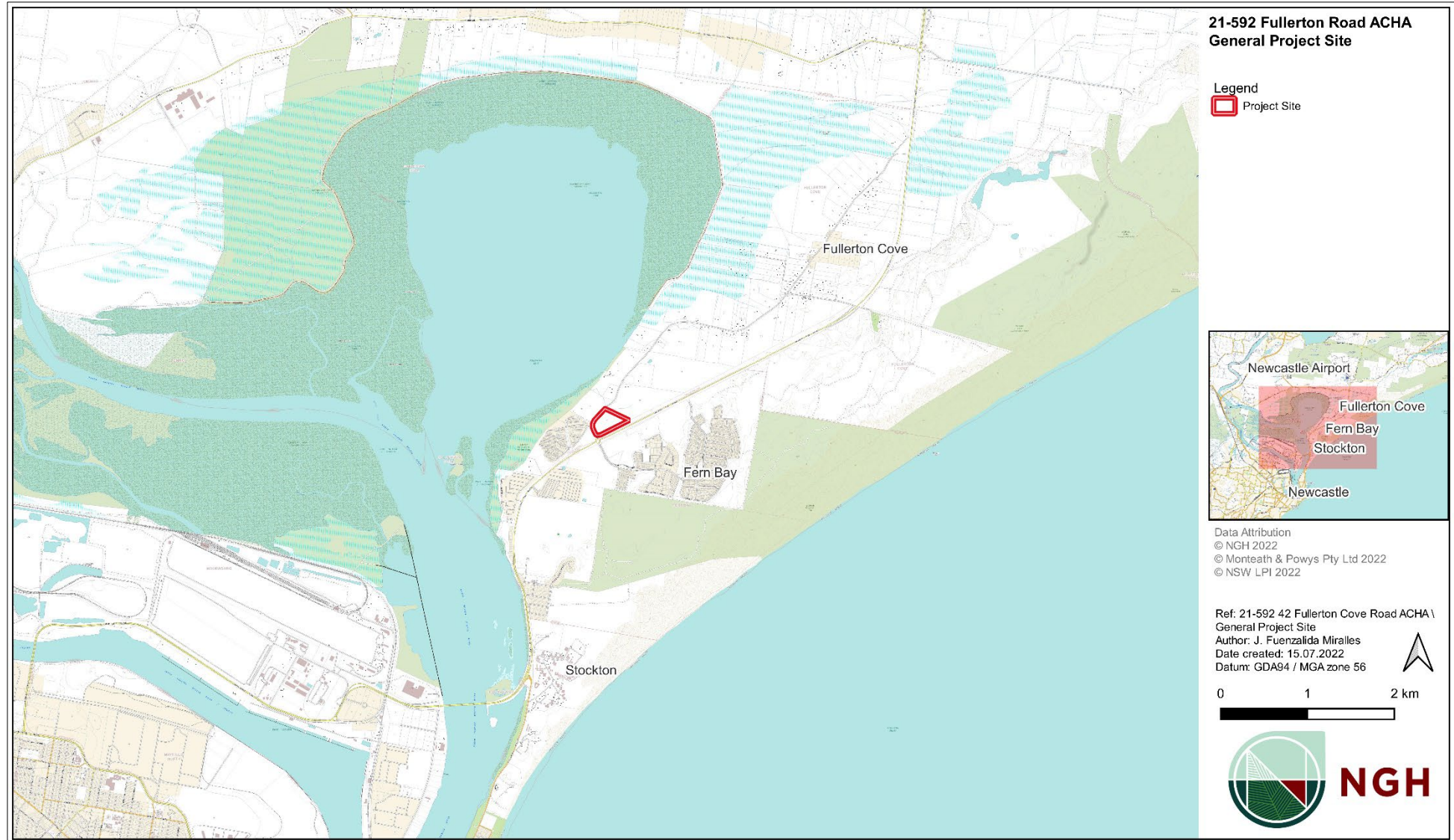


Figure 1-1 Location of the Project Site

## 2. Legislative context

Aboriginal heritage is primarily protected under the NPW Act and as subsequently amended in 2010 with the introduction of the *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Aboriginal Objects and Places) Regulation 2010*.

The aim of the NPW Act includes:

'The conservation of objects, places or features (including biological diversity) of cultural value within the landscape, including but not limited to places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people.'

An Aboriginal object is defined as:

'Any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction and includes Aboriginal remains.'

Part 6 of the NPW Act concerns Aboriginal objects and places and various sections describe the offences, defences and requirements to harm an Aboriginal object or place. The main offences under s 86 of the NPW Act are:

- A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object.
- A person must not harm an Aboriginal object.
- For the purposes of this section, 'circumstances of aggravation' are:
  - That the offence was committed in the course of carrying out a commercial activity or
  - That the offence was the second or subsequent occasion on which the offender was convicted
  - Of an offence under this section.
- A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place.

Under section 87 of the NPW Act, there are specified defences to prosecution including authorisation to harm in accordance with an AHIP or through exercising due diligence or compliance through the regulation.

Section 89A of the Act also requires that a person who is aware of an Aboriginal object must notify the Director-General in a prescribed manner. In effect, this section requires the completion of an AHIMS site card for all sites located during heritage surveys.

Section 90 of the NPW Act deals with the issuing of an AHIP, including that the permit may be subject to certain conditions.

Aboriginal heritage is primarily protected under the NPW Act and the National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Regulation 2019. The NPW Act is administered by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). However, it is understood that the protection and management of Aboriginal objects is the responsibility of Heritage NSW.

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) is legislation for the management of development in NSW. It sets up a planning structure that requires consent authorities to consider the environmental impacts of new projects. Under this Act, cultural heritage is considered to be a part of the environment. This Act requires that Aboriginal cultural heritage and the possible impacts to Aboriginal heritage that development may have are formally considered in land-use planning and development approval processes.



### 3. Aboriginal consultation process

The consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders for this project was undertaken in accordance with clause 60 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Aboriginal Objects and Aboriginal Places) Regulation 2019* and following the process outlined in the ACHCRP. The guide outlines a four-stage process of consultation as follows:

- Stage 1 – Notification of project proposal and registration of interest.
- Stage 2 – Presentation of information about the proposed project.
- Stage 3 – Gathering information about cultural significance.
- Stage 4 – Review of the draft cultural heritage assessment report.

The full list of consultation steps, including those groups and individuals who were contacted, and a consultation log is provided in Appendix A. This will be redacted in all public versions of this report. A summary of actions carried out in following these stages is as follows.

**Stage 1** – Letters outlining the rezoning and subsequent proposed works and the need to carry out an ACHA were sent to Heritage NSW, Port Stephens Council, Hunter Local Land Services, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Native Title Services and the Registrar of Aboriginal Owners as statutory authorities as identified under the ACHCRP advising of the project and seeking known interested parties. An advertisement was placed in the local newspaper, the Port Stephens Examiner on the 9 December 2021 seeking registrations of interest from Aboriginal people and organisations. A further series of letters were sent to other organisations identified by Heritage NSW in correspondence with NGH. In each instance, the closing date for submission was 14 days from receipt of the letter.

As a result of this process, seven Aboriginal groups and an individual registered their interest in the project.

These included:

- Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council (Worimi LALC)
- Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation (Worimi TOIC)
- Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.
- Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd
- Karuah Indigenous Corporation
- Woka Aboriginal Corporation
- Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation
- Robert Syron

No other party registered their interest, including the other entities and individuals recommended by HNSW.

**Stage 2** – On 11 February 2022, an *Assessment Methodology* document for the 42 Fullerton Cove Project was sent to the eight RAPs listed above. This document provided details of the background to the proposal, a summary of previous archaeological surveys, and the proposed heritage assessment methodology. The document invited comments regarding the proposed methodology and sought any information regarding known Aboriginal cultural significance values associated with the Project Site and/or any Aboriginal objects contained therein. A minimum of 28 days was allowed for a response to the document.

None of the registered parties raised any objections to the methodology and many expressed their interest in participating in fieldwork.

**Stage 3** – The *Assessment Methodology* outlined in Stage 2 included a written request to provide any information that may be relevant to the cultural heritage assessment of the Project Site. It was noted that sensitive information would be treated as confidential.

The following response was received via email from Mur-Roo-Ma Inc on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 which noted that while there was not site identified on AHIMS within the Project Site the recent walkover the areas for Port Stephens Council identified several midden sites which were advised to Council and it was noted that there is a very important ridge line in the area that would contain more sites.

The survey fieldwork was organised, and four of the eight registered groups were selected for fieldwork participation by the Proponent. The survey fieldwork was carried out on 31 May 2022 by one archaeologist from NGH (Kirwan Williams) and four Aboriginal community representatives. The Aboriginal community representatives who participated in the fieldwork were:

- Bec Young (Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.)
- Luke Knight (Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd)
- Brendan Lilley (Karuah Indigenous Corporation)
- Jamie Merrick (Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council)

**Stage 4** – In July 2022 a draft version of this ACHA report (this document) was sent to the RAPs inviting comments on the results, significance assessment and the recommendations. A minimum of 28 days will be allowed for responses to the document and all responses will be incorporated into the final version of this document.

### 3.1. Aboriginal community feedback

Community consultation occurred throughout the project. The initial draft ACHA report was provided to each of the RAPs via email and feedback was sought on the recommendations, the assessment and any other issues that may have been important.

Bec Young from Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. responded in writing on 16 August 2022 and made the following remarks:

*Murrooma Incorporated has read and fully understands the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report including the testing methodology for the proposed re-zoning at Fullerton Cove. We agree with all aspects of this report and have viewed the assessment strategies including all 12 recommendations in section 9 (of the draft ACHA). We support further investigations of this area and believe that this area is completely connected as a holistic site to surrounding sites we have previously identified.*

*We believe that the results of the survey reported are true and accurate and show strong usage evidence from our ancestors. The Worimi oral history of travel routes and campsites are connected to this area and are based around this dune system seen within the project area of Fullerton Cove. "The Fingers" of sand dunes ran from Stockton Beach to the Hunter River and are a direct connection to our traditional storylines. This dune still exists on this property, although in some areas seriously disturbed our heritage is still evident.*

*When we completed the survey we found a very new Optus Tower that had been built on top of our ancestors sites which was very disturbing. As Worimi representatives it was*

*evident that no due diligence or cultural assessment had been complete. **Murrooma would like further clarification of this from the proponent or property owner as another site has been destroyed.** Culturally this area within Fullerton Cove is a rarity and we do not have many sites left due to prior destruction- soon there will be nothing left.*

*The recommendations and methodologies within this draft ACHA report meet our requirements as Traditional Owners and knowledge holders of this area and maintain the best options for our local Aboriginal sites*

NGH encourages Mur-Roo-Ma Inc to contact Port Stephens Council and the Telecommunication tower owner and operator to provide information about the environmental and heritage assessments which were undertaken prior to construction. While the clarification of this recent disturbance is outside the scope of works Mur-Roo-Ma Inc are also reminded that any environmental incident reports can be reported to the NSW Enviroline on 131 555.

No other comments on the draft report were provided by any of the other RAPs for this project. This report was finalised following the lapse of the mandatory 28 days review period of the draft ACHA.



## **4. Background information**

### **4.1. Review of landscape context**

Understanding the landscape context of the Project Site assists us to better understand both the archaeological modelling of the area, and in identifying local resources which may have been used by Aboriginal people in the past. This information can then potentially be used to predict the nature of Aboriginal occupation across the landscapes within the Project Site.

Examination of environmental context is valuable for predicting the type and nature of archaeological sites which might be expected to occur. Factors that typically inform the archaeological potential of landscape include the presence or absence of water, animal and plant foods, stone and other resources, the nature of the terrain and the cultural meaning associated with a place. The landscape context assessment is based on classifications of geology, topography, hydrology, flora and fauna and past land disturbances that inform the archaeological modelling within and adjacent to the Project Site.

The Project Site is approximately 6.7 hectares (ha) in area and is located on the north-west corner of Nelson Bay Road and Fullerton Cove Road at Fullerton Cove (Figure 1 1). The Project Site is currently used for residential purposes and has been largely cleared around the existing structures.

The Project Site is located to the northern edge of the Fern Bay urban area where the land transitions from urban to rural use with some conservation reservation. Within 1km of the Project Site to the south and east are existing dwellings and new dwellings being constructed in the 'Seaside Estate' residential release. Further south are manufactured home estates and a caravan park. The planning proposal states there is sufficient demand for commercial development at the site at Fullerton Cove. The Project site is close to the Hunter Wetlands National Park to the west and contains low lying areas of local wetlands. Fullerton Cove is approximately 500m to the west of the site.

#### **4.1.1. Geology and topography**

The landscape context of the Project Site is based on a number of classifications that include the National Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) system, Mitchell soil landscapes and NSW geological maps. The combination of these differing resolutions of landform data provides a comprehensive and multi scaled understanding of the landscape within the Project Site and its immediate surroundings.

Archaeologically, the geology of any location is important as it informs as to whether there any potential for in-situ deposits of stone material traditionally used for the manufacture of stone tools or whether these materials would have to have been sourced from further afield or even traded with other groups of people.

The national Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) system identifies the Project Site as located within the NSW North Coast (DE&E 2016). The dominant IBRA subregion affected by the proposal is the Karuah Manning subregion. The bioregion comprises the strip of land in northern NSW between the Great Escarpment and the coastline. The bioregion is characterised by Devonian and Permian bedrocks which are closely faulted, particularly where they superimpose on one another to the north of the Sydney Basin.

The proposed works area is located within the Newcastle Bight region of NSW which is characterised by gravel, silt, sand, clay, and sand Quaternary freshwater deposits on long recurved quartz sand

beaches between rocky headlands backed by sand dunes and intermittently closed and open lagoons. Outcroppings of Tomago Coal Measures occurs consisting of shale, coal, conglomerate, tuff, and sandstone as well as Maitland and Dalwood Groups including siltstone, basalt, tuff, mudstone, shale, sandstone, tillitic and conglomerate are noted to occur throughout the Newcastle Bight region (Dean-Jones 1990). The various tuffs from the local area, was a favoured stone type for the manufacture of stone tools by Aboriginal people.

The NSW 1:150000 simplified surface mapping identifies the geology underlying the Project Site as comprises of Quaternary coastal dune deposits with the sand deposited by both wind (aeolian) and ocean currents. Older (Pleistocene) dunes are vegetated and stable while the younger (Holocene) dunes are not vegetated and may be highly mobile depending on wind and wave action.

Elevation of the Project Site ranges between 5-10m. The Newcastle Bight area is characterised by distinct geomorphological features for the region. The characteristic geomorphology of the Newcastle Bight Embayment is referred to as part of a “dual barrier system” where the back-barrier sand flats and dune, with the north portion partially covered by Holocene tidal flats (Thom et al 1992). This “dual barrier system” formed a transgressive field dune within the area. The proposed works area within the Project Site is located within the “Outer Barrier” of the system. The “Outer Barrier” has emerged as a result of climatic changes and developed during the Holocene over the last 9,000 years, with the stabilisation of sea level occurring approximately 6,500 years. This resulted in the stabilisation of this Outer Barrier system (Gilmore 2014).

Further landscape modelling as part of the Mitchell landscapes system (DECC 2002) shows the Proposal Site is located in the Sydney – Newcastle Barriers and Beaches (Snb). The Mitchell Landscape description is provided in Table 4-1 below.

Table 4-1 Descriptions of soil landscapes in the Project Site (Mitchell 2002)

| Landscape Name                                | Description (DECC 2002)  |
|---|--|
| Sydney – Newcastle Barriers and Beaches (Snb) | Quaternary coastal sediments on long recurved quartz sand beaches between rocky headlands backed by sand dunes and intermittently closed and open lagoons. Includes areas of more extensive high dunes often located on top of the headlands. General elevation 0 to 30m, local relief 10m. Cliff top dunes may be found as high as 90m above sea level. Distinct zonation of vegetation and increasing soil development from the beach to the inland dunes. At the beach; spinifex ( <i>Spinifex hirsutus</i> ), spiky mat-rush ( <i>Lomandra longifolia</i> ), coast wattle ( <i>Acacia longifolia</i> ssp. <i>sophorae</i> ) and coast tea-tree ( <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> ) colonise the frontal dune in which there is little soil development. Coast banksia ( <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> ) and old man banksia ( <i>Banksia serrata</i> ) are found on the second dunes and these merge with more complex forest containing blackbutt ( <i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> ), red bloodwood ( <i>Corymbia gummifera</i> ), grass trees ( <i>Xanthorrhoea</i> sp.) and numerous understorey shrubs on deep sands that have an organic rich A horizon, a bleached A2 horizon and the initial development of weak iron or organic pans in the sandy subsoil. Well-developed, deep podsol profiles are present in cliff top dunes with swampy swales indicating that these forms are probably older than the coastal dunes. Vegetation of <i>Banksia aemula</i> heathland and open scrub of coast banksia ( <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> ), coast rosemary ( <i>Westringia fruticosa</i> ), coast tea-tree and grass tree, with dwarfed smooth-barked apple ( <i>Angophora costata</i> ) and red bloodwood. Freshwater sedge |

| Landscape Name | Description (DECC 2002)  |
|----------------|--|
|                | swamps in larger areas of sand. In the lagoons salinity varies depending on tidal flushing and they are often surrounded by broad-leaved tea-tree ( <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> ) and swamp oak ( <i>Casuarina glauca</i> ). Water margins are occupied by <i>Juncus sp.</i> and common reed ( <i>Phragmites australis</i> ) in freshwater areas. Grey mangrove ( <i>Avicennia marina</i> ) may occur in some tidal inlets. |

#### 4.1.2. Soils

Soil landscape mapping shows the majority of the Proposal Site falls into the Lower Pindimar (lp) soil landscape, with a minor portion of the Proposal Site extending into the Hawks Nest (hn) soil landscapes (DPIE 2020). These landscapes are described in detail in Table 3 2 below.

Table 4-2 Description of soil landscapes found within the Project Site (DPIE 2020).

| Soil Landscape       | Descriptions (soil landscape report)   |
|----------------------|--|
| Lower Pindimar Soils | Characterized by topsoil of loose brown blackish loamy sand, underlain by a thin layer of bleached loose sand followed by an organic coffee coloured pan and underlain by coarse loose saturated smelly brown sand. The Lower Pindamar soil landscape has high erodibility with low wet strength and water holding capacity. |
| Hawks Nest Soils     | Deep (>300 cm), well-drained Podzols (Uc2.3) and Siliceous Sands/Podzols (Uc2.21) on dunes, deep (>200 cm), poorly drained Humus Podzols (Uc5.1) on sandsheet  |

In addition to this there are three soil profiles available on eSpade from lands adjacent to the Project Site which provide further insight into the soils which likely extend into and across the Proposal Site. These are summarised below.

- 0-40cm below the surface is a black loam at 40 to 50 cm becoming a dark brown loamy sand.
- 0-40cm below the surface is a black sapric peat at 40 to 120 cm becoming a brownish black coarse sandy loam.
- 0-20 cm below the surface is a coarse light sandy clay loam at 20 to 40 cm becoming a greyish yellow brown medium clay which overlies at 40 to 80 cm a dark grey brown coarse sandy loam which then at 80 to 100 cm becomes a black peat before a 100 cm to 140 cm transitions back into a coarse brownish grey loamy sand.

The high erosion hazard of the Lower Pindamar soils indicates that durable archaeological material, such as stone artefacts, will have likely been displaced from their original position. Moreover, the permanent waterlogging and poor drainage likely contributes to inaccessibility to some of the areas.

#### 4.1.3. Hydrology, Fauna and Flora

Water supply is often suggested as being the most significant factor influencing Aboriginal peoples' prior land-use strategies. The Project Site is located within 200m of Fullerton Cove which is fed by

the North Arm of the Hunter River. This watercourse would not have provided potable water, as it contains brackish waters, however it would have provided numerous other plant and animal resources such as shellfish (oysters), birds and rushes and herbs which grow in the saltmarshes. Freshwater would have been available in nearby swales formed by sand dunes to the west of the cove, prior to development of the area.

The information provided herein is intended as a generalised summary of the endemic flora and fauna present within the Project Site and is not to be used as a substitute for detailed ecological studies and assessments.

According to broad-scale vegetation mapping by Keith (2006), the area would originally have been characterised by the Mangrove Swamps, Coastal Swamp Forests and the Coastal Dune Dry Sclerophyll Forest vegetation communities which overlap one another to the north of Fullerton Cove and north-west of the Stockton sand dunes.

Characteristic vegetation species along the beach areas of Sydney-Newcastle Barriers and Beaches Mitchell landscape include Spinifex (*Spinifex hirsutus*), coast wattle (*Acacia longifolia* ssp. *sophorae*), coast tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), spiky mat-rush (*Lomandra longifolia*). Second dunes comprise a variety of old man banksia (*Banksia serrata*) and Coast banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) which join to more complex forest vegetation including red bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*), blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) and grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea* sp.). The heathlands comprise species such as *Banksia aemula* an open scrub of the coast includes coast rosemary (*Westringea fruticosa*), coast tea-tree and grass tree, red bloodwood, banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) and with dwarfed smooth-barked apple (*Angophora costata*). Lagoons include species such as swamp oak (*Casuarina glauca*) and broad-leaved tea-tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) with water margins and tidal inlets bordered by grey mangrove (*Avicennia marina*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and *Juncus* sp. (Mitchell 2002).

There are abundant and varied faunal species in the area that would have formed part of the terrestrial and marine mixed resource pool for Aboriginal people as food, medicines, and materials for the manufacture of implements and clothing. It is expected that the sandy rises adjacent to the swampy areas would be likely to have formed a small part of a larger resource-rich area in which flora and fauna resources were abundant.

#### 4.1.4. Historic land use and disturbance factors

The Project Site is currently used for residential purposes and has been largely cleared around the existing structures. Much of the original transgressive dune system has changed due to human activity since European colonisation.

The contemporary use of the property is for rural agriculture, predominantly characterised by grazed pasture with some open forests along the perimeters of the site. Wildthing (2004) indicated previous historic disturbance of the area in relation to rubbish dumping, continual grazing, and vegetation clearance of the area. Additionally, extensive disturbance in the form of 'the placement of fill' to level out the land along the west of the site to manage the access and contours of the existing salt marsh (Wildthing 2004).





Plate 4-1 Historic imagery showing Project Site in 1954



Plate 4-2 Historic imagery showing Project Site in 1966 (note addition of powerline easement)





Plate 4-3 Historic imagery showing Project Site in 1976 (note addition of Nelson Bay Road and east-west track along the northern boundary)



Plate 4-4 Historic imagery showing Project Site in 1993 (note addition of residences and sheds)

#### **4.1.5. Landscape Context**

Most archaeological surveys are conducted in areas with topographic variation, and this can lead to differences in assessments of archaeological potential and site modelling for the location of Aboriginal objects. The Project Site falls within two landforms which are listed below and shown in Figure 4-1.

The landforms within the Project Site were determined based on topographic identification during the visual inspection of the Project Site and the review of detailed aerial mapping and contour lines.

- Low sandy rises; and
- Low swampy ground

Given the Project Site is located near to the confluence of a variety of resources the area as a whole would have been a major focus on Aboriginal people for the exploitation of coastal, estuarine, lacustrine and terrestrial resources. Consequently, the areas of the low sandy rise within the Project Site that have not been modified and disturbed by existing residential features and associated services are considered to be archaeologically sensitive, particularly any remaining portions of the low sandy rise landform.



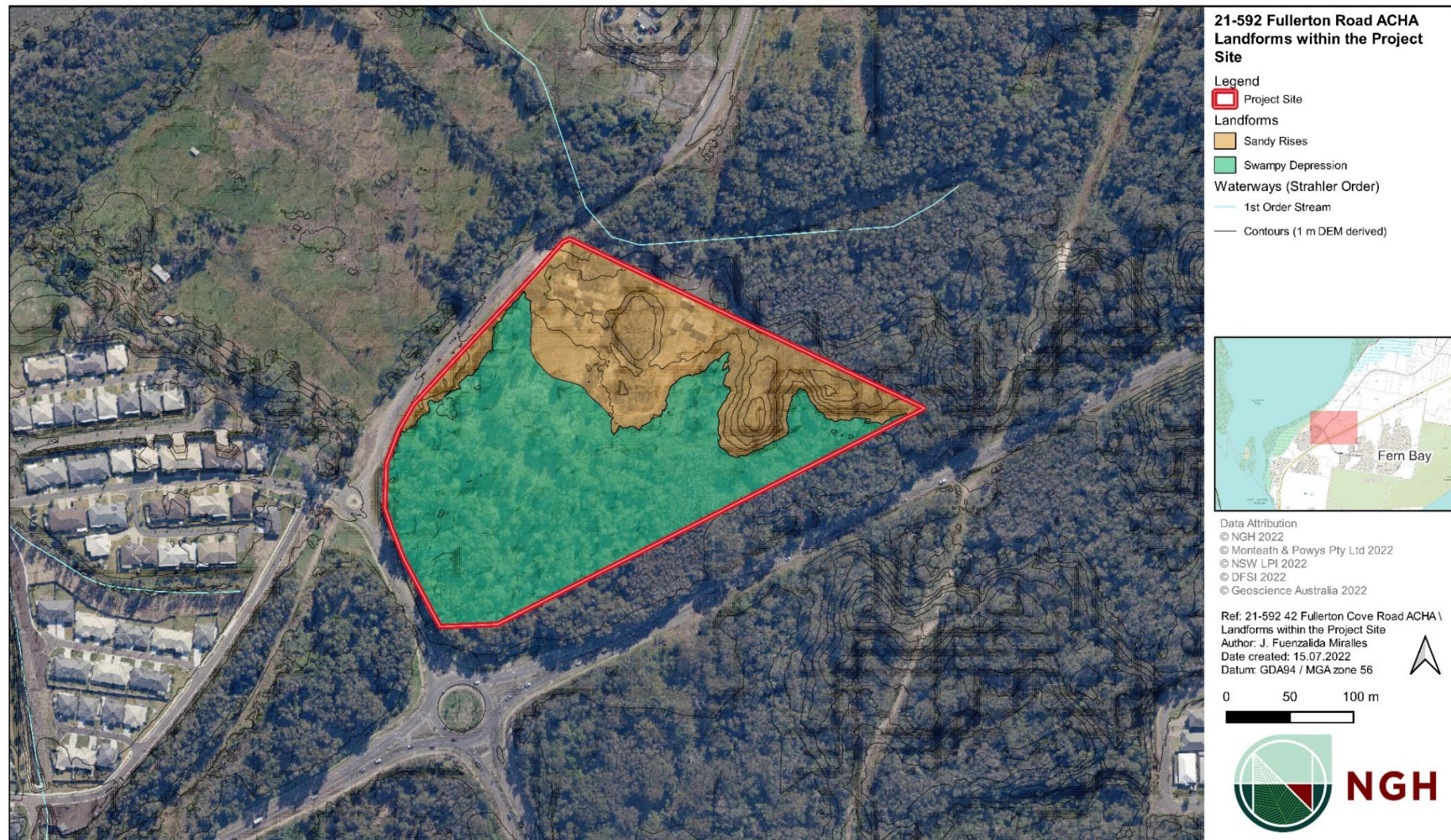


Figure 4-1. Landforms within the Project Site



## **4.2. Review of Aboriginal Archaeological Context**

To adequately understand the nature of archaeological resources within an area, it is necessary to also understand the cultural context of the area. Cultural context is obtained from ethnohistoric information regarding how Aboriginal people lived in the region prior to non-Aboriginal settlement, and from archaeological investigations conducted within the region.

### **4.2.1. Ethnographic setting**

Cultural areas are difficult to define and ‘must encompass an area in which the inhabitants have cultural ties, that is, closely related ways of life as reflected in shared meanings, social practices and interactions’ (Egloff, Peterson & Wesson 2005). Depending on the culture-defining criteria chosen – i.e., which cultural traits and the temporal context (historical or contemporary) – the definition of the spatial boundary may vary. In Australia, Aboriginal ‘marriage networks, ceremonial interaction and language have been central to the constitution of regional cultural groupings’ with the distribution of language speakers being the main determinate of groupings larger than a foraging band (Egloff, Peterson & Wesson 2005).

### **Tribal boundaries**

Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation’s interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region.

Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean- Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline.

### **Material culture, food and resources**

Aboriginal people used plant resources in a variety of ways. Fibres were twisted into string, which was used for many purposes, including the weaving of nets, baskets and fishing lines. String was also used for personal adornment. Bark was used in the provision of shelter; a large sheet of bark being propped against a stick to form a gunyah (Attenbrow 2002). Robert Dawson, an agent of the Australian Agricultural company in 1825, notes the Grass Tree *Xanthorrhoea* spp. was used for a variety of purposes. The stalks of the grass tree were used in the manufacturing of spears, and a wax-like gum could be extracted from the grass tree and used as a glue for various implements.

When flowering, the grass tree also acted as a sweet food source (Dawson in Haslam 1984). The grass tree was also used in the making of fire sticks. Fire sticks were an important tool that would be carried from place to place and used in daily life and sacred ceremonies (Scott in Haslam 1984). Sokoloff notes that the 'firing' of vegetation at periodic intervals, also allowed the Worimi to influence the environment and available resources. Various types of eucalypts were used by Aboriginal people and were a valuable resource. Stringybark, was used in the construction of canoes by the Worimi. A single sheet of its bark would form the hull of a single canoe according to Scott (in Haslam 1984). The bark from eucalypts could also be used in the construction of shelters (gunyahs), and in the fashioning other objects used in everyday life. The fragrant oil-bearing leaves were further used for medicinal purposes, whilst the seeds, barks, nectar, galls, sap, water and manna of certain species could be eaten (Percival & Stewart 1997).

Kangaroo, wallaby, possum, flying fox, koala, kangaroo-rat and the echidna were also abundant traditional terrestrial food sources for the Worimi and would have been valuable sources of fat and protein during the colder months. As well as being important food sources, animal products were also used for tool making and fashioning a myriad of utilitarian and ceremonial items. For example, tail sinews are known to have been used to make fastening cord, while 'bone points', which would have functioned as awls or piercers, are often an abundant part of the archaeological record (Attenbrow 2002).

## Early contact period

The earliest account of contact between Europeans and the Worimi is recorded by David Collins. It was reported that five convicts who had escaped from Parramatta in 1790 were shipwrecked at Port Stephens. The convicts lived among the Worimi for five years until they were recaptured (Bramble 1981). Following this, a small garrison of soldiers was established in the 1820's at a place now known as Soldiers Point to aid in the recapture of convicts who had escaped from Port Macquarie. According to Bramble, relations between escaped convicts and local tribes were good and signified the introduction of products of European civilisation.

Colonel Paterson upon exploring the Hunter region in 1801 commented upon the possible use of European axes by Aboriginal tribes, and perhaps convicts who lived among them, to cut down trees (in Bramble 1981). This introduction to European resources would have led to the establishment of more fruitful relations between the Aboriginal people of the Hunter region and European penal authorities, in aiding in the recapture of escaped convicts.

Hostile relations between Europeans and the Worimi tribes of Port Stephens seemed to have originated from early interactions with timber-getters exploiting good quality cedar along the coastal regions of NSW. Accounts of hostilities between timber-getters and the Aboriginal people in the region are recorded from as early as 1804. Dawson, having arrived in Newcastle in 1825 after free-settlement was made available in the Hunter region in 1820, comments upon the hostile relations which existed between European timber-getters and the Worimi Tribe of Port Stephens. This consequently set a precursor to relations between Europeans or white settlers and local tribes within the Port Stephens Area:

*'The timber-cutting parties... were the first people who came in contact with the natives in the neighbourhood of the sea; and as they were composed of convicts and other people not remarkable either for humanity or honesty, the communication was not at all to the advantage of the poor natives, or subsequently to the settlers who succeeded those parties. The consequence of the behaviour of the cedar getters was, that the natives inflicted vengeance upon almost every white man they met, and as convicts were*

*frequently running away from the penal settlement of Port Macquarie to Port Stephens ...numbers of them were intercepted by the natives and sometimes detained whilst those who fell into their hands and escaped with life, were uniformly stripped of their clothes'* (Dawson 1831).

#### 4.2.2. AHIMS Search

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) is a database of previously recorded Aboriginal heritage sites in NSW. A search provides basic information about any Aboriginal sites previously identified within a search area. However, a register search is not conclusive evidence of the presence or absence of Aboriginal heritage sites, as it requires that an area has been inspected and details of any sites located have been provided to add to the register. As a starting point, the search will indicate whether any sites are known within or adjacent to the investigation area.

An extensive search of the AHIMS database was conducted over an area approximately 6km east-west x 6km north-south centred on the Project Site on the 13 July 2022. The AHIMS client service ID was: 700004. There were 115 Aboriginal sites and no declared Aboriginal Places recorded in the search area. The results of the AHIMS search are summarised in Table 4-3 below.

Table 4-3 AHIMS registered sites

| Site Type                         | Number | %    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|------|
| Midden/ PAD                       | 64     | 55.6 |
| Artefact/ Open Camp               | 27     | 23.5 |
| Artefact Scatter                  | 9      | 7.9  |
| Isolated Find                     | 6      | 5.2  |
| Burials                           | 6      | 5.2  |
| Aboriginal Resource and Gathering | 2      | 1.7  |
| Stone Quarry                      | 1      | 0.9  |
| TOTAL                             | 115    | 100  |



None of the 115 registered AHIMS sites are located within the Project Site. There are eight registered sites within 250m of the Project Site refer to Table 4-4.

Table 4-4 Sites adjacent to the Proposal Site

| Number | AHIMS ID  | Site name                   | Site type               | Proximity to Project Area       |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1      | 38-4-0126 | NBR10                       | Shell/ Artefact/ Midden | 235m north of the Project Site  |
| 2      | 38-4-0135 | NBR1                        | Shell/ Artefact/ Midden | 200m east of Project Site       |
| 3      | 38-4-0333 | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1 | Shell/ Artefact/ Midden | 5m west of Project Site         |
| 3      | 38-4-0542 | Site 2                      | Shell/Artefact          | 135m east of Project Site       |
| 3      | 38-4-0723 | Fullerton Cove Site 1       | Shell/Artefact          | 220m west of the Project Site   |
| 6      | 38-4-0857 | Fern Bay Estate 5           | Artefact                | 150m east of the Project Site   |
| 7      | 38-4-0953 | Fern Bay Estate 6           | Artefact                | 140m east of the Project Site   |
| 8      | 38-4-1644 | Fullerton Cove Midden 1     | Shell/Artefact          | 150m north of the Proposal Site |

During works documented by NGH 2021 at 21 Fullerton Cove Road several locational issues were noted relating to a number of sites on the AHIMS register. This inspection was able to ground-truth the locations of AHIMS Site #38-4-0723 and #38-4-0333 were indeed further south than the AHIMS provided locations. On 20 February 2020, site card updates for each of these two sites was submitted to AHIMS reflecting these ground-truthed locations. Of these, AHIMS# 38-4-333 which maps to the road reserve on the eastern side of Fullerton Cove Road has some potential to extend into the Project Site. These sites are predominantly midden sites with shell and stone artefacts. Refer to Figure 4-3.

Information received from the RAP groups following a recent walk-over of the Proposal Site for Port Stephens Council have informed NGH and the Proponent of the potential for the existence of cultural material with shell midden material and stone artefacts within the Project Site however this site/s have yet to be added onto AHIMS.

#### **4.2.3. Additional searches**

Other heritage register searches were also undertaken to identify any items or places in proximity to the Project Site, with a focus on the Project Site and surrounding landscape. The following resources were used as part of this assessment:

- The NSW State Heritage Inventory (SHI) includes items on the State Heritage Register and items listed by state agencies and local Government, to identify any items currently listed within or adjacent to the Project Site.
- The Australian Heritage Database (AHD) includes items on the National and Commonwealth Heritage Lists, to identify any items that are currently listed within or adjacent to the Project Site.

The results of the NSW SHI database search indicated that there are two previously recorded Aboriginal Places listed under the National Parks and Wildlife Act within the Port Stephens LGA. None of these sites are located within or adjacent to the Proposal Site. The results of the NSW SHI database search indicated there are eight previously recorded heritage site listed under the NSW Heritage Act within the Port Stephens LGA. None of the sites are located within or adjacent to the Proposal Site.

The results of the NSW SHI database search indicated there are 121 previously recorded heritage sites listed by the Local and State Agencies within the Port Stephens LGA. None are located within or adjacent to the Proposal Site with the nearest sites the Stanley Park House located 150 m north of the Proposal Site and the Stockton Beach Dune System 540 m to the south of the Proposal Site.

The results of the Australian Heritage Database search indicated that there are nil sites located within the Port Stephens LGA. None located within or in adjacent to the Proposal Site.

No other known previously recorded heritage sites are located within or adjacent to the Proposal Site. Non-Aboriginal heritage is outside the scope of this document.

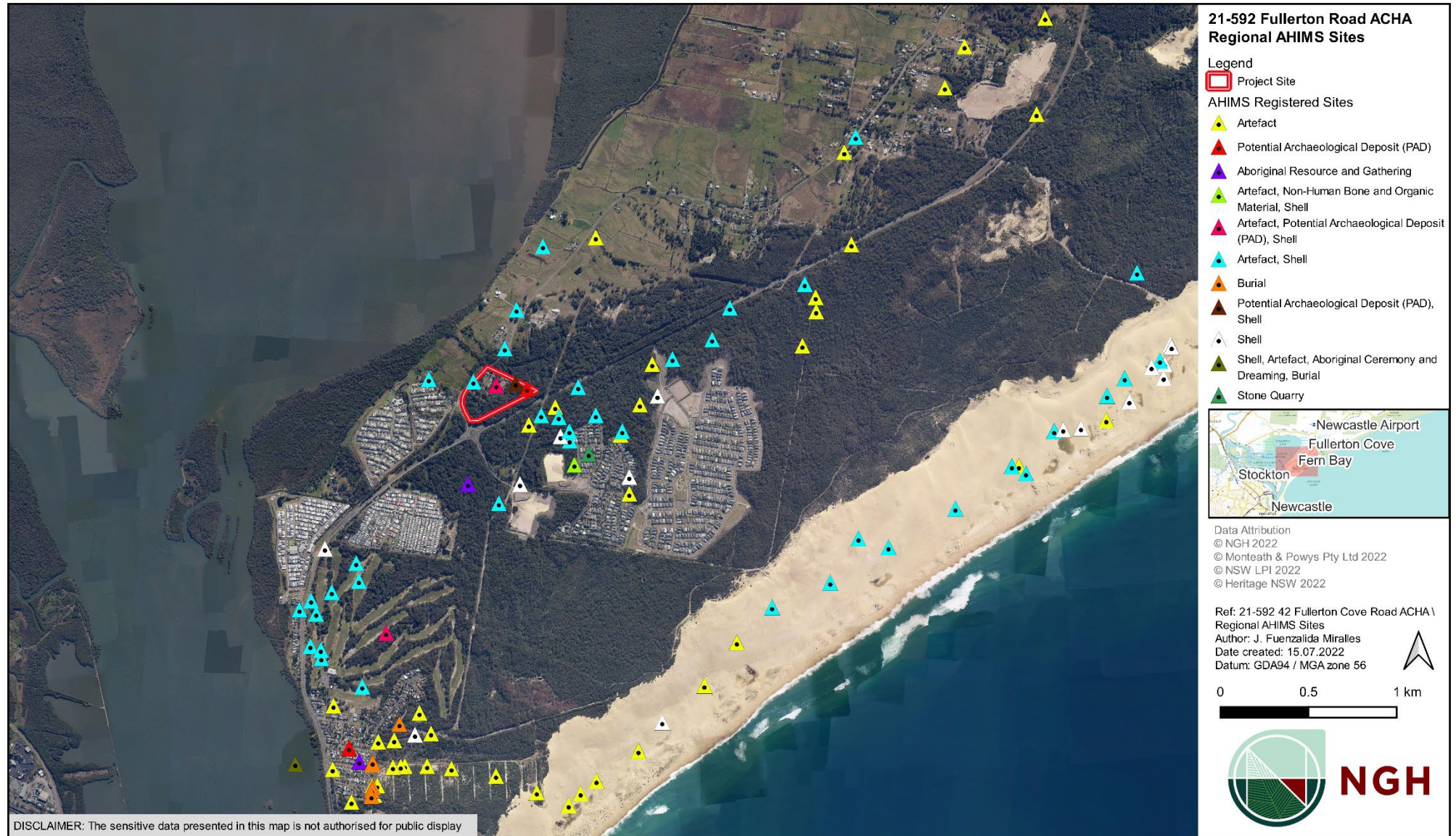


Figure 4-2 AHIMS overview



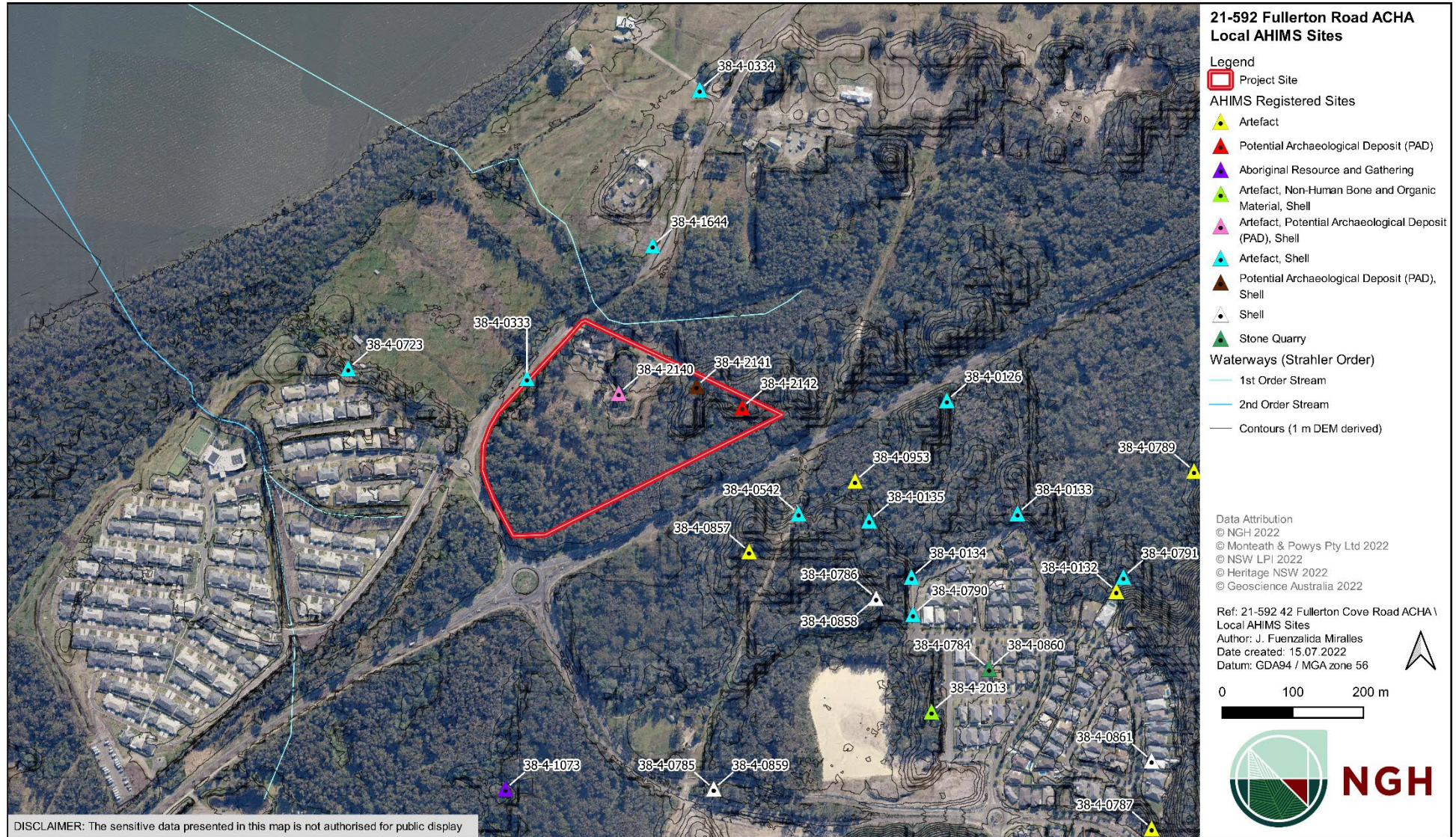


Figure 4-3 AHIMS in proximity to Project Site





Figure 4-4 Historic heritage in proximity to Project Site

#### **4.2.4. Regional Archaeological studies**

There have been several previous archaeological assessments undertaken within the Newcastle Bight, Stockton, Fern Bay and Fullerton Cove area. The summaries of each of these archaeological investigations are included below.

Koettig (1987) conducted an archaeological assessment near Nelson Bay Road near Stockton towards the western end of the Newcastle Bight. The survey comprised the inner side of the Outer Barrier and described three dune-building episodes approximated to be less than 4,500 years Before Present (BP). The archaeological assessment undertaken by Koettig (1987) indicated a wide distribution of archaeological material throughout the Outer Barrier area, however, dense vegetation hindered approximation of site extent. These were generally found to be located along vehicle tracks and dune crests within the area. Artefacts identified during the survey, were predominantly characterised by mudstone material (also known as Merewether or Nobby's tuff material).

Dean-Jones (1990) identified a total of 119 sites during a regional survey of Newcastle Bight and noted an additional 40-50 middens which were unable to be properly recorded owing to time constraints of the survey. Of the 119 sites recorded, many sites identified included shell middens, with some artefact scatters also present. Dean-Jones (1990) indicated that the shell material observed was a mixture of natural and anthropogenic related remains comprising both estuarine and marine shell species. Most of the sites identified were located along transgressive sand dune/active blow outs with some evidence of sites occurring along the foredune and outer deflation basins.

An assessment by Dean-Jones (1992) comprised shovel testing and survey across an area located at Fern Bay, NSW, approximately 800m south of the current Project Site. Shovel testing was employed to ascertain the geomorphology of the area and provide further insight regarding the location and age of archaeological sites within the region. Based on the findings of the testing, Dean-Jones (1992) indicated that the archaeological sites identified within the Project Area were likely to be dated at approximately 4500 Before Present and that aeolian modification of the barrier surface may have destroyed any archaeology pre-dating this accretion event. Most of the sites identified were located along the higher ridges of the dune field. Sites identified included shell and flaked stone or shell or flaked stone. Shell species identified as part of the deposits included pipi, oyster, and mud whelk. Many shovel pits excavated were dug to approximately 30-60cm, with only one pit excavated to a depth of 90 centimetres (cm).

An archaeological assessment of the Stockton Rifle Range 2.2 kilometres (km) south of the current Project Site was conducted by Silcox in 1999. Two sites were identified during the field inspection component of the assessment. These included Site S1 and Site S2. However, neither of these sites were included on the NPWS register. Site S1 comprised a low-density artefact scatter including a total of 10 artefacts. Site S2 is comprised of fragmented oyster shells located along the access tracks. Owing to the disturbed nature of each of the sites and the minimal archaeological material identified, Silcox indicated that each of the sites had low archaeological significance. However, he also recommended further archaeological assessment once vegetation was cleared for the area to enhance visibility.

To inform an opportunities and constraints planning study Umwelt (2003) conducted an Aboriginal archaeological survey and heritage assessment for the proposed development of part of Lot 5 of the Stockton Rifle Range Fern Bay. During the survey, two artefact scatters were identified. These included Site Stockton Rifle Range 1 (AHIMS #38-4-0692) and Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 (AHIMS #38-4-0693). Site Stockton Rifle Range 2, originally identified by Silcox. This was reidentified but the assessment concluded that the oyster remains were likely from commercially grown oysters and



therefore not Aboriginal cultural material. Located along the crest and slope of a beach ridge along Popplewell Road, Stockton Rifle Range 1 comprised a low-density artefact scatter. All but one of the seven artefacts identified as part of the scatter were composed of Nobbys tuff raw material, with a single inclusion of silcrete. Umwelt (2003) reported that the artefacts likely became exposed owing to the recreational disturbance of the vehicle and bike tracks and wind movement of the sandy deposit. Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 was situated within the levelled and mounded modified rifle range. The artefacts associated with Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 were also posited to have been exposed and translocated through vehicle and bicycle use of the area previously. These artefacts formed four discrete locations within the site. Section 1 of SSRR2 comprised three Nobbys tuff flakes and 1 Nobbys tuff flaked piece. Section 2 of SSRR2 included three flakes, six flaked pieces. One retouched flake and four broken flakes all composed of Nobbys tuff material located along a loose sandy mound. Section 3 of the SSRR2 site comprised one Nobbys tuff flake located along a sandy vehicle track. Section 4 of the SSRR2 site included two flakes and one core, all of which were also comprised of Nobbys tuff material.

Following on from the Stage One test excavations conducted for the area, McCardle (2005) undertook archaeological test excavation of select areas at Fern Bay. This assessment was located approximately two km south-west of the Project Site. Excavations included two 1 x 1 metre test pits (FD8 and FB14) and two 2 x 2 metre test pits (PS1A and PS1B) which were manually excavated in spits of 5-10cm. Pit FD8 comprised both midden and artefactual material as did FB14 and were described as heavily disturbed through root protrusion throughout the assemblage. Conversely, only shell midden material was recovered from PS1A and PS1B with modern rubbish inclusions prevalent throughout the upper layers. Material composition of the artefacts recovered during the excavation were predominantly characterised by tuff materials with lesser inclusions of silcrete. The typology of the artefacts identified included flaked pieces (n=49), followed by flakes (n=39), then broken flakes (n=4), and one inclusion of a flake and core. Despite the highly fragmented nature of the midden material, the majority shell species identified included rock oyster (*Saccostrea glomerata*) and possibly mud oyster (*Ostrea angasi*). Other species recorded included *Bembicium* sp. *Batillaria australis*, *Pyzarus* sp. *Anadara* sp., *Spisula trigonella*, *Iris crenatus*, *Trich hirsute*, *Patelloida mimuli*, *Bedeve* sp., *Nassarius jonasii*, snail, as well as some bone, burnt shell and undiagnostic fragments. Additionally, the presence of backed artefacts within the assemblage may further support and mid-late Holocene occupation period.

ERM (2008) prepared an Aboriginal heritage assessment to report the findings of an archaeological excavation undertaken within Lot 16, DP 258848, No. 85 Nelson Bay Road, Fern Bay, less than two km south-west of the current Project Site. The assessment was divided into three Phases. Phase 1 would sample five previously recorded sites through test excavation including Fern Bay Estate 7, Fern Bay Estate 8, Fern Bay Estate 11, Fern Bay Estate 16 and Fern Bay Site C. Phase 2 was based on the results of auger testing conducted by Dean-Jones (1992) indicating that subsurface archaeological material of the area typically occurred between 300 millimetres (mm) and 600 mm depths. As such, a sampling strategy based on the topography of the area was employed using ten 100m transects across different ridges and slopes with auger tests carried out at 10m intervals across each transect. Phase 3 comprised controlled 1 x 1 metre excavation of locations where subsurface archaeological material was identified in the auger testing locations during phase 2 of the assessment. The results of each of the assessment phases is detailed below.

Excavation of Site 7 (Dean-Jones 1992) comprised twelve auger holes and recovered no subsurface archaeological material. Three small shell fragments were, however, identified on the surface and it was therefore concluded that the site should be classified as a surface shell scatter.

During earlier survey work, Site C was identified by Jim Wheeler and Len Anderson in 2000. Site C comprised a variety of shell and artefactual scattered material. The subsurface investigations of Site C included five test augers and two 1×1m trenches were excavated. The results of the Site C excavations indicated intact A-horizon soils interspersed with high densities of stone artefacts and shell material. The trenches were excavated to a depth of 800mm, totalling a series of 9 spits. Except for TT1 which included higher concentrations of artefacts across the lower spits, higher artefact densities characterised the upper spits. The subsurface excavation recovered a total of 798 stone artefacts and 97 shell pieces, and the surface collection recovered 293 stone artefacts and 333 shell pieces. It was noted by ERM (2008) that shell frequencies were substantially higher for surface recording contrary to subsurface recovered material. Whereas the frequencies of stone artefacts were higher for subsurface and lower for surface recorded materials.

Fern Bay Estate Site 8 was also originally identified by Dean-Jones 1992 and comprised five *Pyzarus* shells exposed along a vehicle track within a low dune ridge. The surface inspection and auger testing conducted by ERM (2008) at Site 8 recovered one stone artefact and four shell fragments. A subsequent test excavation of the site included one 2 × 2 metre test trench and three 1 × 1m test trenches were undertaken. Similarly, to Site C another intact series of A-horizon soils were identified, and pits were excavated to a depth of 800mm (9 spits total). The excavation recovered 51 stone artefacts and 15 shell pieces, averaging an artefact density of 4.4 per m<sup>3</sup>. Additionally, an Aboriginal hearth was also identified at a depth of 600-700mm as part of TT3. The hearth was characterised by charcoal and greasy ash material within an oval shaped deposit. Charcoal material extracted from the hearth was submitted for Radiocarbon dating and returned a conventional determination of 2584±45BP (Wk-13446). The oval morphology of the charcoal, its contextual association to the recovered stone artefacts, the discrete nature of the charcoal feature as well as its isolation from linear or structural orientation supported the identification of an Aboriginal hearth. A large stone artefact, identified as a 'Worimi Cleaver,' was recovered from spit six of square B4 of the TT1 pit.

The 'Worimi Cleaver' is characterised by large triangular morphology with a backed margin and thin working edge. This artefact was composed of Nobbys tuff material. Along the working edge of the artefact, a distinct greasy black residue was identified. Following residue and function analysis of the artefact by Dr Richard Fullagar (upon permission of the WLALC), the residue was identified to likely be from plant processing of the Bungwall fern (*Blechnum indicum*) which is a dominant species of swamp forests within the broader Project Area.

Fern Bay Estate Site 11 was also identified by Dean-Jones 1992 and comprised six pieces of flaked Nobby's tuff material. Relocation of the site indicated that the original coordinates provided by Dean-Jones were off by about 200m which place it beyond the boundary of the ERM (2008) Project Area. Owing to the research permit requiring excavation within the Project Area, the testing was undertaken adjacent to the recorded location of Site 11 but still within the study area. This subsurface investigation included ten augers and two 1×1 m trenches. No surface or sub-surface archaeological material was recovered.

Fern Bay Estate Site 16 (Dean-Jones 1992) was recorded as scatter of 11 flakes. Excavation undertaken by Dean-Jones (1992) included four 1 × 1m test pits, from which stone artefacts were recovered from two of the pits. Subsurface investigations of the site by ERM (2008) included 15 test augers from which no archaeological material was recovered.

Auger transects excavated as part of Phase 2 of the assessment recovered no archaeological material from transects 1-5 and transect 8. However, one flake was recovered from auger 1 of transect 6, one shell fragment from auger 10 of transect 10, two shell fragments from auger 2 and 3 of transect 8 and from transect 7 one shell fragment from auger 10, one flaked piece from auger 5 and one flaked piece from auger 6 were recovered.

Phase 3 involved controlled 1 × 1m test excavation of each of the sites identified during Phase 2 of the assessment. Despite archaeological material being identified in Transect 9 and 10, owing to the disturbed nature of the deposit, no further investigation was determined to be warranted. Transects 6 and 7 comprised undisturbed soils and therefore were subject to controlled excavation. Transect 7 was subsequently named 'Site E' and Transect 6 named 'Site F'. Additionally, a previously unidentified stone and shell scatter was identified for excavation and named 'Site D.' Site D comprised a total of 28 flaked stone artefacts was situated along a low ridge crest and excavation comprised series of 11 auger holes.

Additionally, a 1 × 1m test trench was also excavated at the centre of the surface deposit. The excavation included 84 artefacts including flakes, flaked pieces and cores across the none spits excavated. No shell was recovered from the subsurface excavation material. Excavation of Fern Bay Site E was located along a ridge line and recovered a total of 355 shell fragments and 49 stone flakes across nine spits. Higher densities of shell and stone material were recovered from spits three and four. Fern Bay Site F was also excavated to a depth of 800 mm, but no subsurface archaeological material was recovered.

An archaeological assessment for the proposed sand extraction operation at Fullerton Cove was undertaken by McCardle (2008), approximately 2.8km north-east of the current Project Area. The Project Area for this investigation comprised four distinct survey units. SU1 comprised the northern section of the Project Area, SU2 comprised the middle section, SU3 comprised the northern area of the western section and SU4 comprised the southern area of the western section. All survey units were described as heavily disturbed in relation to mining, clearing, and housing activities. During the survey, a single archaeological site was identified and recorded as Fullerton Cove Sand Extraction 1.

Fullerton Cove Sand Extraction 1 comprised a high-density artefact scatter with more than 50 artefacts. McCardle (2008) indicated that although the artefact scatter was widely dispersed this was likely due to the highly disturbed nature of the sites and that the high density of artefacts may reflect several previously distinct individual sites. Artefact types included tuff manufactured backed artefacts, core, flakes, and flaked pieces. Ethnographic accounts from representatives of the WLALC are also included in this report and indicated burials were generally located in areas that overlooked working areas or campsites or near middens. As such, there is potential for burials to occur in proximity to other sites within the area.

An Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment was conducted by AMBS (2012) to ascertain any potential constraints for the proposed construction of the ammonium nitrate facility on Kooragang Island, NSW. This Project Area was located approximately 5km south-west of the Fullerton Cove Project Area. No Aboriginal archaeological material was identified during the survey component of this assessment. AMBS (2012) indicated the nature of the area to be highly disturbed with soils described as coarse grey-brown gritty sand material with shell and pebble inclusions interspersed throughout.

RPS (2012) conducted an archaeological due diligence assessment for the proposed replacement of two power poles located at Fern Bay, NSW. The site inspection component of the assessment determined the area to be highly disturbed owing to the original construction of the power pole, road construction, vehicle use of the area as well as the residential development of the area. Archaeological potential, given the disturbed nature of the site, was low. The field inspection was undertaken alongside representatives of the LALC. No Aboriginal archaeological material was identified during the field assessment. While these representatives agreed they were satisfied with the conclusions of this due diligence assessment it was also raised that there are known highly



significant sites including burials within the general area but likely none within the proposed Project Area but further towards Popplewell Road.

A due diligence assessment was undertaken by RPS (2015) for the proposed installation of a sewerage pipeline extending between Nelson Bay Road and into Williamtown Drive, Williamtown. The desktop component of this assessment identified six registered AHIMS sites within the region. Five of the six registered AHIMS sites were identified outside the Project Area and would therefore not be impacted. However, one site AHIMS #38-4-1160 was identified within the proposed Project Area. AHIMS #38-4-1160 comprised a low-density artefact scatter including two artefacts. The field inspection revisited the recorded location of AHIMS #38-4-1160 but identified no archaeological material at the recorded location nor along the proposed extent of the Project Area. The original recorded location of the site was observed by RPS (2015) as being highly disturbed owing to the construction of Williamtown Drive and indicated that the site may have been destroyed during this construction process. Owing to no Aboriginal archaeological material being identified during the course of the due diligence survey and no risk to Aboriginal objects being concluded the assessment recommended that the development may proceed without any AHIP application.

#### **4.2.5. Local archaeological studies**

The archaeological assessments previously been undertaken within close proximity to the Proposal Site are outlined below:

An archaeological assessment was undertaken by Davies (1993) for the proposed Inter Exchange Network Fibre Cable between Gosford and Wauchope, NSW. The assessment proposed installation of ten network optic fibre cables and subsequently divided the proposed locations of these areas into five study areas. The study area relevant to the Project Site was Study Area B Williamtown and in particular Route 4 Stockton to Williamtown located immediately to the west of Fullerton Cove Road. The survey undertaken for Route 4 of Study Area B examined a 6-metre-wide corridor along the proposed optic fibre cable alignment. No archaeological material was identified within the proposed corridor. However, three midden sites were identified within proximity to the proposed alignment located along low dune landforms on the west side of Fullerton Cove Road. The midden material associated with Midden 1 had previously been bisected during the original road construction works, however, the southern section of the dune appeared to remain intact at the time of inspection. Midden 2 also demonstrated signs of significant disturbance related to the construction of a house and outbuildings nearby. Midden 2 comprises a sparse scatter of midden material along the slope of the dune, however, Davies (1993) notes that the top of the dune appears flattened and as such the midden material may have shifted and therefore should not necessarily be considered in situ material. Midden 3 included a sparse scatter of shell material, predominantly characterised by Cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) species with some inclusions of Whelk (*Pyzarus ebininus*) and Oyster (*Saccostrea commercialis*). This midden was located along the crest of a dune which appears to have been bisected by the construction of Fullerton Cove Road.

An Aboriginal heritage impact assessment for the proposed construction of a retirement village was undertaken by Wildthing Environmental Consultants (2004). This Project Area was located immediately to the west of the Project Site at 21 Fullerton Cove Road. During the field survey component of this assessment, one Aboriginal archaeological site was identified. Fullerton Cove Site 1 comprised an artefact scatter and shell midden. Species comprised within the shell midden material predominantly included oyster shells with some inclusions of mud whelk and cockle shell. The artefact scatter component of the site included a total of 13 stone artefacts. All artefacts were composed of mudstone material and included four cores and nine flakes. Wildthing Environmental

Consultants (2004) described the deposit as moderately disturbed due to its location within a livestock paddock and evidence of an old barn/building evident in the surface material.

An Aboriginal Due Diligence assessment was undertaken by NGH (2020) for the proposed development Lot 186 DP749482 at 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove to support a modification to the Development Approval (DA 16-2013-564-1) for use of the site as a caravan park. The visual inspection relocated AHIMS Site #38-4-0333 and AHIMS #38-4-1644 and determined that both these sites were outside the development area and would likely not be disturbed. However, two exposures of midden material associated with AHIMS #38-4-0723 were within the proposed development area. Following the Due Diligence Assessment, an ACHA was undertaken at 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove recommending subsurface testing in order to further investigate the archaeological potential and significance of the sites proposed to be impacted.

The subsurface testing was completed under AHIP 4672, and an Archaeological Test Excavation Report was prepared (NGH 2021). Six separate surface expressions of midden and artefactual material associated with AHIMS #38-4-0723 (Fullerton Cove Site 1) were recorded within the Project Area. AHIMS #38-4-0333 (Fullerton Cove Road, Site 1) was also inspected within the road reserve on both sides of the road and found to be highly disturbed because of the construction of Fullerton Cove Road. Shell remains and one artefact were identified within mounded sand adjacent to the road reserve, in private property to the east of the Project Area. This site potentially extends to the east for an unknown distance and potentially into the Project Site.

Twenty-three test pits were excavated from which 100 Aboriginal artefacts were identified and over 100 kilograms of shell material was recovered for analysis. All but a single artefact identified within the Project Area during the survey and test excavation program form part of registered site 38-4-0723. A single artefact was identified on the western side of Fullerton Cove Road which is associated with AHIMS #38-4-0333. The artefacts recovered were primarily manufactured from tuff, with chert, silcrete and quartz material also present. Only two cores were present, and no formal tools were recorded. Flakes and flake fragments made up the majority of the assemblage. Test pit FC TP19 contained 69% of the total artefact assemblage. Midden layers were identified only in pits within the extent of AHIMS 38-4-0723. This included dense lenses of oysters, with occasional occurrences of cockle, mud whelk and various unidentified small shells. The investigations identified most artefacts occurring within the upper 40 centimetres (spits 1 to 4) of the pits, and the shell layers were primarily contained between 10 and 30 -centimetres depth, with the exception of the crushed shell layer identified in FC TP19. During the excavation of this pit, which contained shells in a much more fragmented condition than others, and a shell layer which extended for nearly 70 centimetres in depth, it was noted by the representatives of Worimi LALC, Mur-roo-ma and Nur-run-gee who were on site that crushed shell layers such as this have been identified in association with burials in the local area.

Although no registered sites appearing in the AHIMS search within the Project Site, a walkover of the Project Site was undertaken by Aboriginal community members on 9 June 2021 with Port Stephens Council. During the inspection of the Project Site the following observations were made:

- Shell material was observed on many areas of the site and appeared to be more concentrated across the sandy ridge area toward the centre of the rezoning site. The amount and concentration of shell material indicates a midden located on the site.
- It was noted that the sandy ridgeline had potential to contain burial sites.
- A few stone artefacts were also found scattered around the site.
- The grassed area behind the house has been disturbed in the past so it is more difficult to identify any remnant cultural material there.

- Some of the area had poor visibility due to thick grass and so it was not possible to check these areas fully without site clearing being undertaken.
- Excavations have an increased chance of uncovering artefacts and so is an appropriate management technique to be used.
- To date this cultural material has not been recorded on AHIMS.

#### **4.2.6. Summary of Aboriginal land use**

The results of previous archaeological surveys in the area show there are Aboriginal sites and objects are present throughout the region and that archaeological sites in coastal environments are most likely to consist of shell middens and stone artefact scatters. There appears to be a strong association between the presence of potential resources for Aboriginal land-use and the presence of archaeological sites. Areas directly associated with water, lower slopes and ridges, and elevated ground, with high resource availability appear to have the highest potential for the presence of Aboriginal cultural material.

While there are no registered AHIMS sites within the Project Site the previous walk over the area by the Aboriginal community in 2021 identified shell midden material and stone artefacts. Furthermore, the results of previous archaeological surveys and studies in the local area including Fullerton Cove, Fern Bay and Stockton, show the presence of both surface and subsurface stone artefacts and shell middens, in varying densities, present across the dune system between the ocean and Fullerton Cove. Within the wider area studies have demonstrated there are numerous Aboriginal sites present throughout the region. Shell middens are the dominant site type with artefact sites also comprising a large proportion of them. The dominant lithology within the area is tuff with smaller amounts of other materials such as chert, silcrete and quartz represented. Tool typologies characteristic to the area are predominantly cores and flake tools with occasional occurrences of other types.

A detailed understanding of Aboriginal land use of the region is lacking, as few in depth studies have been completed in close proximity to the Proposal Site. It is possible, however, to ascertain that proximity to water sources and raw materials was a key factor in the location of Aboriginal sites. It is also reasonable to expect that Aboriginal people ventured away from these resources on a seasonal basis to utilise the broader landscape, but the current archaeological record of that activity is limited.

### **4.3. Aboriginal site location prediction**

The Aboriginal site modelling for the region to date suggests that the most archaeologically sensitive areas are located along lower slopes and ridges in association with water. Previous investigations have shown that there is Aboriginal archaeological material and areas of archaeological sensitivity within and surrounding the Proposal Site. Based on the previous archaeological investigations in the region, it is possible to predict the likely archaeological site types that may occur within the Project Site. These are outlined in Table 4-5 below.

In summary, stone artefact scatters, isolated artefacts and midden deposit are the most likely site types to occur along low gradient slopes and rises within the Project Site. There is potential for areas of PAD to exist in association with such areas. Assemblages from the area are dominated by tuffs and mudstones with smaller proportions of chert, silcrete and quartz. Flakes and flake fragments tend to dominate the artefact classes present within the stone artefact assemblages.

The Hunter River is located 2km to south of the Proposal Site and would have provided an alluvial source for much of the material with the tuff component sourced from outcrops along the coast. Proximity to Fullerton Cove likely facilitated reliable terrestrial resources.



Table 4-5 Aboriginal site prediction statements

| Site Type   | Site Description   | Potential   |
|---|--|---|
| Artefact scatters   | Artefact scatter sites can range from high-density concentrations through to sites containing two artefacts. The size of these sites usually correlates with proximity to sources of fresh water.  | High potential to occur in low to moderate densities on deflation basins, dunes, crests and adjacent to water courses.<br><br>This site type has been identified in the Proposal site during a site inspection undertaken by the Aboriginal community in 2021 |
| Isolated Finds  | These sites consist of a single artefact and usually represent accidental discard or disposal. Can occur anywhere.   | High potential within the Project Site.<br><br>This site type has been identified in the Proposal site during a site inspection undertaken by the Aboriginal community in 2021  |
| Middens   | An accumulation or deposit of shellfish from beach, estuarine, lacustrine, or riverine species resulting from Aboriginal gathering and consumption. Usually found in deposits previously referred to as shell middens. Can be found in association with other objects like stone tools, fish bones, charcoal, fireplaces/hearths, and burials. Will vary greatly in size and components. | High potential to occur in the area close to coastal waterways and on dunes. This site type has been identified in the Proposal site during a site inspection undertaken by the Aboriginal community in 2021  |
| Burials   | Aboriginal burial sites most often found in association with middens and areas of sand dunes.  | Potential to occur where preservation conditions and sand deposits are present  |
| Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs)  | Potential subsurface deposits of archaeological material. These sites require the existence of undisturbed stratigraphy.   | Some potential to occur within Project Site especially in areas of elevated flat land associated with ephemeral drainage lines and/or sandy rises and deposits.   |
| Aboriginal Resource and Gathering<br><small>*Note: This is not Aboriginal object and therefore, not included in the legislative process</small> | Related to everyday activities such as food gathering, hunting, or collection and manufacture of materials and goods for use or trade.   | Some potential to occur however these intangible site types are identifiable only through consultation with Aboriginal people.  |
| Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming<br><small>*Note: This is not Aboriginal object and therefore, not included in the legislative process</small>  | Previously referred to as mythological sites these are spiritual/story places where no physical evidence of previous use of the place may occur, e.g., natural unmodified landscape features, ceremonial or spiritual areas, men's/women's sites, dreaming (creation) tracks, marriage places etc  | Some potential to occur however these intangible site types are identifiable only through consultation with Aboriginal people.  |

#### **4.4. Comment on existing information**

The AHIMS database is a record of Aboriginal heritage sites that have been identified and had site cards submitted to Heritage NSW. It is not a comprehensive list of all places in NSW as site identification relies on an area being surveyed and on the submission of site forms to AHIMS. There are likely to be many areas within NSW that have yet to be surveyed and therefore have no sites recorded. However, this does not mean that sites are not present in those areas. A review of the AHIMS sites previously recorded in the local area does show that sites containing artefacts and shell middens are the most common site type in the area and such sites have previously been recorded within proximity to the Proposal Site.

Within the general vicinity of the current Project Site, there has been limited previous archaeological assessment however the studies previously undertaken tend to be mostly driven by residential and urban development and associated services. However, the information relating to site patterns, their age and geomorphic context is not well understood. The robustness of the AHIMS survey results is therefore considered to be only moderate for the present investigation. There are likely to be many existing sites that have yet to be identified. Past land-use activities have also greatly disturbed the archaeological record and there are unlikely to be many places that retain *in situ* archaeological material in their original context.

With regard to the limitations of the information available, archaeologists rely on Aboriginal parties to impart information about places with cultural or spiritual significance in situations where nonarchaeological sites may be threatened by development. To date, we have not been told of any such places specifically within the Proposal Site however there is always the potential for such places to exist but insofar as the current proposed works area, no such places or values have been identified.

## 5. Archaeological investigation results

### 5.1. Survey strategy

The survey conducted for the purposes of this assessment was undertaken on 31 May 2022. The survey team comprised one NGH archaeologist and four representatives from the Aboriginal community. The survey strategy was to cover as much of the ground surface within the Proposal Site as possible, focusing on areas of visibility such as existing tracks and exposures however, upon arrival at site it became apparent that due to the low-lying nature of the majority of the Proposal site a large portion was completely submerged due to recent heavy rain and several months of a La Niña wet weather event. As a result of this the survey strategy was amended in consultation with the Aboriginal community representatives onsite and the thorough survey of the much smaller portion (but area of higher archaeological sensitivity) of the property was undertaken.

As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people.

The northern portion of the Proposal Site was surveyed utilising meandering transects across the more heavily vegetated sections and a targeted approach around the existing structures where little vegetation remained. The northern portion of the Project Site was characterised by three sandy rises extending to the south from the northern boundary with minor drainages intervening. The westernmost and largest of these rises is occupied by existing residential structures and sheds. The middle rise has been utilised by Optus for the installation of a radio tower in recent times and it was noted while on site that the RAPs, who had visited the property recently, knew nothing of its construction.

Accessible areas where remnant old growth trees were present within the Project Site were also inspected for any evidence of Aboriginal scarring (as identified in Long 2005).

NGH believe the survey strategy within the northern portion of the Project Site is within the most archaeologically sensitive portion of the Proposal Area. Given this the survey of the northern portion of the Proposal Site was comprehensive and the most effective way to identify the presence of Aboriginal objects given the inundation of the low-lying areas within the Proposal Site which hindered the survey. Discussions were held in the field during the survey between the archaeologists and the Aboriginal community representatives to ensure all were satisfied and agreed with the spacing, coverage and methodology. No issues were raised at the time by the Aboriginal community representatives who participated in the field work

The Proposal Site was divided into two landforms which included low swampy ground and low sandy rises based on the landscape and visual inspection of the area during the field survey. The landforms are shown in Figure 5-1.

During the survey notes were taken about visibility, photographs were taken, and any possible objects were inspected, assessed, and recorded if deemed to be Aboriginal in origin or possible to be Aboriginal in origin.





Figure 5-1 Survey units



## 5.2. Survey coverage

The survey was impeded by poor visibility across the eastern portion of the Proposal Site and the inundated of the southern portion of the Proposal Site. Due to these factors the south portion of the Proposal Site was assessed from the surrounding roads and swamp margins which were accessible. It was apparent that these low-lying areas in the southern portion of the Proposal Site would have been subject to inundation on a regular basis and would not have been a focus of human activity in the past.

A farm track runs parallel the northern boundary of the Proposal Site and it was from this track that the remainder of the property was accessed. Broadly the surveyed northern section of the Proposal Site consisted of three areas of sandy rise separated by two south facing drainages that feed into the swampy zone in the southern portion of the Proposal Site. Visibility within the eastern portion of the surveyed area was generally very poor with an average visibility of 5% owing to dense undergrowth and leaf litter. Episodic exposures (~2%) were observed throughout the grass cover with varying visibility ranging between 20 and 70%. Visibility in proximity to the disturbed areas was 50-80%. Within the surrounding undeveloped areas of the northern portion of the Proposal Site the visibility was also very poor at about 5%. The western sandy rise has been largely cleared of vegetation and portions of this landform are currently occupied by sheds and a residence dwelling.

Table 5-1 below shows the calculations of effective survey coverage and Figure 5-1 shows the division of landforms across the Project Site. Plates 5-1 to Plate 5-8 show examples of the landforms and visibility for the Proposal Site.

Overall, it is considered that the surface survey had sufficient and effective survey coverage to assess the northern portion of the Proposal Area which is considered to be of higher archaeological sensitivity compared to the lower lying areas which were inundated by flood waters. The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record present within the Proposal Site.



Plate 5-1 View south-east along farm track on northern boundary



Plate 5-2 View south-east along farm track on northern boundary





Plate 5-3 View south from the eastern corner of the Project Site



Plate 5-4 View south along access track toward the Optus Tower



Plate 5-5 Low swampy area along southern margin of the sandy rise landform



Plate 5-6 View north toward sandy rise



Plate 5-7 View east from the western rise toward the Optus Tower



Plate 5-8 View north into the Project Site from the intersection of Fullerton Cove and Nelson Bay Roads



Table 5-1 Transect information

| Landform   | Number of survey transects | Exposure type                      | Landform area (m <sup>2</sup> ) | Surveyed area (m <sup>2</sup> ) | Visibility | Effective coverage (area × visibility) m <sup>2</sup> | Landform area surveyed (m <sup>2</sup> ) | Percentage (%) of Project Site effectively surveyed |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|---|--|---|
| Sandy Rises  | 5                          | Mostly cleared/<br>Disturbed areas | 22,811 m <sup>2</sup>           | 18,993 m <sup>2</sup>           | 95%        | 18,043 m <sup>2</sup>                                 | 18,900 m <sup>2</sup>                    | 27%   |
|  | 1                          | Open forest/<br>dense undergrowth  |                                 | 2,417 m <sup>2</sup>            | 5%         | 121 m <sup>2</sup>                                    | 2,400 m <sup>2</sup>                     | 3%  |
| <b>Total surveyed area</b>                                     | <b>6</b>                   |                                    | <b>22,811 m<sup>2</sup></b>     | <b>21,410 m<sup>2</sup></b>     |            | <b>18164 m<sup>2</sup></b>                            | <b>21,300 m<sup>2</sup></b>              | <b>30%</b>  |
| Swampy depression<br>(unable to be surveyed due to inundation) | Nil                        | N/A                                | 45,714 m <sup>2</sup>           | N/A                             | N/A        | N/A   | N/A                                      | N/A   |

### 5.3. Survey results

While the survey of the northern portion of the Proposal Site was impeded by poor visibility due to a dense leaf litter, shell and stone artefacts were recorded within the Project Site. Review and inspection of the landforms within the northern portion of the Proposal Site also identified that the surface cultural material recorded was within a humic sandy deposit which is considered to have potential for subsurface deposit.

The field survey of the northern portion of the Proposal Site, in conjunction with an assessment of contour data, archaeological modelling and consideration of the comments from the RAP while in the field and as part of this assessment has resulted in the identification of four areas which were considered to have potential to contain subsurface material within the Proposal Site as shown in Figure 5-2. Three of these sites were recorded in the northern portion of the Project Site which are described below. In addition an area of PAD associated with the previously recorded site AHIMS 38-4-0333 was mapped. The GPS location of the previously recorded site AHIMS 38-4-0333 is within the road reserve on the eastern side of Fullerton Cove Road however, an area of PAD (which was a slightly elevated area) is associated with this previously recorded site was noted to extend into the Project Site. There is a possibility that all these PADs may be a single site however sub-surface testing will need to be carried out to determine any connection between the PADs. A description of the three newly recorded sites is provided below with photos shown in Plate 5-9 to 5-16.

**42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1-** this potential site lies in the south-eastern corner of the Proposal Site. It is approximately 100 m east to west and 60 m south to north and lies upon a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression. This PAD potentially extends into the adjacent property to the north. While no surface expression of cultural material was seen at this location, this humic sandy deposit and a slightly raised landform was determined to have potential for subsurface cultural material.

**42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1-** this site lies in the northern central section of the Proposal Site. It is approximately 60 m east to west and 70 m south to north and lies upon a sandy rise between two minor north to south oriented drainages and adjacent to a swampy depression to the south. This PAD potentially extends into the adjacent property to the north. This PAD area appears to have been highly disturbed in part as a result of the construction of an OPTUS telecommunications tower and an access track to it. The surface expression of the midden shell material was observed in a cutting on the southern side of a farm track that runs parallel to the northern boundary of the Proposal Site. Large amounts of shell material were identified among the sediment disturbed by the construction of the telecommunication tower and also among the imported blue metal gravels used for surfacing the access track. Shell types observed included mud whelk (*Pyrazus* sp.), cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) and *Katelysia* sp. This humic sandy deposit and a slightly raised landform was determined to have potential for subsurface cultural material.

**42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2-** this site lies in the north-western proportion of the Proposal Site. It is approximately 120 m east to west and 120 m south to north and lies upon a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression to the south. The ground surface within this PAD area appears to have been highly disturbed in part as a result of the initial vegetation clearance and the construction of sheds and residences. The surface expression of shell material was spread across the entire site area. Three tuff artefacts were recorded within the boundary of the site. Shell types observed included mud whelk (*Pyrazus* sp.), cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) and *Katelysia* sp. Artefact types included flakes and flaked pieces manufactured from tuff. This humic sandy deposit and a slightly raised landform was determined to have potential for subsurface cultural material.





Plate 5-9 View south-west across 42 Fullerton Cove PAD 1



Plate 5-10 View north-west across 42 Fullerton Cove PAD 1



Plate 5-11 View north toward 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1



Plate 5-12 View south across 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 showing disturbance caused by Optus Tower installation



Plate 5-13 Whelk shell among blue metal gravels on Optus Tower access track within 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1



Plate 5-14 View south across 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2





Plate 5-15 Tuff artefact and shell material from 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1



Plate 5-16 View west across PAD 3 toward residences within 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1





Figure 5-2 Results of survey



## 5.4. Discussion

Based on the site modelling it was generally predicted that stone artefacts and shell middens were the most likely evidence of past Aboriginal occupation to be present within the Proposal Site. Such evidence was considered most likely to occur adjacent to waterways, along the dunes, deflation basins and crests. The identification of surface artefacts and shell midden material associated with the sandy rises and along elevated landforms has substantiated the modelling for this area. The results of this Aboriginal heritage assessment have confirmed that there are still Aboriginal objects within the Proposal Site despite the existing disturbance to some portions of the northern portion of the Proposal Site.

The coastal context of the area would have supported abundant and varied faunal species in the area. These would have formed part of the terrestrial and marine mixed resource pool for Aboriginal people as food, medicines and materials for the manufacture of implements and clothing. Furthermore, the availability of some raw stone materials suitable for the manufacture of tools such as tuff in the wider area, would also have been an important factor for the local Aboriginal people.

Consistent with previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the Newcastle Bight the most common raw materials identified among the artefact assemblages were tuff (Nobby's or Merewether tuff sourced from the southern side of the Hunter River). The presence of tuff is a demonstration of the movement of Aboriginal people within the Hunter Valley and Port Stephens region. The midden material identified included mud whelk (*Pyrasmus* sp.), cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) and *Katelysia* sp. which are common for the area and support the use of the area for subsistence procurement and or preparation purposes by Aboriginal people. In general, the middens identified in the local area tend to contain similar species indicating consistent use and access to shellfish such as cockle, oyster and mud whelk.

Previous studies in the local area also support subsurface potential along the dune ridge and raised sandy landforms with previous excavation in the local area recovering high densities of stone artefacts and shell material. Previous excavations indicate a relative depth of approximately 800 mm in some of these dune areas and generally demonstrate higher artefact densities characterised the upper spits (McCardle 2005; ERM 2008).

Directly across the Fullerton Cove Road from the Project Site NGH 2021 identified most artefacts occurring within the upper 40 centimetres (spits 1 to 4) of the pits, and the shell layers were primarily contained between 10 and 30 -centimetres depth, with the exception of the crushed shell layer identified in FC TP19. During the excavation of this pit, which contained shells in a much more fragmented condition than others, and a shell layer which extended for nearly 70 centimetres in depth, it was noted by the representatives of Worimi LALC, Mur-roo-ma and Nur-run-gee who were on site that crushed shell layers such as this have been identified in association with burials in the local area.



## 6. Cultural heritage values and statement of significance

The assessment of the significance of Aboriginal archaeological sites is currently undertaken largely with reference to criteria outlined in the ICOMOS Burra Charter (Australian ICOMOS 2013). Criteria used for assessment are:

- *Social or Cultural Value*: In the context of an Aboriginal heritage assessment, this value refers to the significance placed on a site or place by the local Aboriginal community – either in a contemporary or traditional setting.
- *Scientific Value*: Scientific value is the term employed to describe the potential of a site or place to answer research questions. In assessing Scientific Value issues such as representativeness, rarity and integrity are addressed. All archaeological places possess a degree of scientific value in that they contribute to understanding the distribution of evidence of past activities of people in the landscape. In the case of flaked stone artefact scatters, larger sites or those with more complex assemblages are more likely to be able to address questions about past economy and technology, giving them greater significance than smaller, less complex sites. Sites with stratified and potentially *in situ* sub-surface deposits, such as those found within rock shelters or depositional open environments, could address questions about the sequence and timing of past Aboriginal activity and will be more significant than disturbed or deflated sites. Groups or complexes of sites that can be related to each other spatially or through time are generally of higher value than single sites.
- *Aesthetic Value*: Aesthetic values include those related to sensory perception and are not commonly identified as a principal value contributing to management priorities for Aboriginal archaeological sites, except for art sites.
- *Historic Value*: Historic value refers to a site or place's ability to contribute information on an important historic event, phase or person.
- *Other Values*: The Burra Charter makes allowance for the incorporation of other values into an assessment where such values are not covered by those listed above. Such values might include Educational Value.

All sites or places have some degree of value, but of course, some have more than others. In addition, where a site is deemed to be significant, it may be so on different levels or contexts ranging from local to regional to national, or in very rare cases, international. Further, sites may either be assessed individually or where they occur in association with other sites the value of the complex as a whole should be considered.

### 6.1. Social or cultural value

While the true cultural and social value of Aboriginal sites can only be determined by local Aboriginal people, as a general concept, all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. An opportunity to identify cultural and social value was provided to all the registered Aboriginal stakeholders for this proposal through the draft reporting process.

The following information has been provided to NGH regarding cultural significance of the Proposal Site to date during the period to respond to the methodology.

It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs.

## **6.2. Scientific value**

The several exposures of shell and stone artefacts associated with the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2 were recorded within the Proposal Site. While individual stone artefacts and surface exposures of shell midden are interesting, the midden sites are considered typical of the local and broader archaeological record. Though the individual stone artefacts themselves are intrinsically interesting in terms of the base technical information recorded the current lack of temporal and stratigraphic context and the absence of information about local resources makes further conclusions about them difficult beyond the presence within an area associated with shell midden material and that the typology and lithologies recorded are common for the local area.

While subsurface testing has been undertaken in the local area the research potential of the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 is considered to be moderate and additional information about the sites could be obtained through a limited subsurface testing programme that is in line with NSW Aboriginal Heritage guidelines. The subsurface testing of these site would provide an opportunity to extrapolate information about the use of the Stockton Beach dunes by past Aboriginal people and provide information about the presence and extent of Aboriginal objects which may be obscured beneath the aeolian sands within the Proposal Site. Moreover, the areas within all of these sites exhibit subsurface archaeological potential and test excavation is required to determine the nature and extent of these deposits if the proposed future works area unable to avoid these areas of PAD. Until such time of the subsurface testing of the PAD areas are undertaken it is not possible to accurately access the scientific value or significance of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2.

## **6.3. Aesthetic value**

There are no specific aesthetic values associated with the archaeological sites, apart from the presence of Aboriginal artefacts and shell midden material in the landscape and the outlook of some site locations over Fullerton Cove. However, the urban development of the surrounding area detracts from this aesthetic setting.

## **6.4. Historic value**

There are no known historic values associated with the Proposal Site or the sites identified.

## **6.5. Other values**

There are no other known heritage values associated with the Proposal Site. The area may have some educational value (not related to archaeological research) through possible provision of educational material to the public about the Aboriginal occupation and use of the area. Educational material could be presented as an information board following the development of the area. The presentation of educational material about the Aboriginal occupation and use of the area could be developed in consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

## **6.6. Summary of significance**

A summary of the significance assessment is provided below in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1 Summary of significance assessment

| AHIMS ID  | Site                            | Site type                                       | Cultural value | Scientific value | Aesthetic value | Historic value | Other values | Rarity  |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------|
| 38-4-0333 | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1;    | PAD, Shell midden material and artefact scatter | High           | Unknown          | Low             | NA             | NA           | Unknown |
| 38-4-2142 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1    | PAD   | High           | Unknown          | Low             | NA             | NA           | Unknown |
| 38-4-2141 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1 | PAD and shell midden material                   | High           | Unknown          | Low             | NA             | NA           | Unknown |
| 38-4-2140 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2 | PAD, Shell midden material and artefact scatter | High           | Unknown          | Low             | NA             | NA           | Unknown |



## **7. Proposed activity**

### **7.1. Proposed development activity**

The proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848 ( 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove) which is currently zoned RU2 Rural Landscape intends to rezone 2.5 hectares to B1 Neighbourhood Centre and the remaining 4.2 hectares to be rezoned as E2 Environmental Conservation to accommodate the environmental constraints of the site. Following the rezoning of the property the future development proposal includes but is not limited to the construction of a supermarket and shops and its associated infrastructure.

Specifically, the planning proposal involves:

- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural Landscape to E2 Environmental Conservation.
- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural landscape to B1 Neighbourhood Centre.
- Removing Minimum Lot Size requirement of the proposed B1 zone from AB2 20 hectares.
- Introducing a height of building limit of 9 metres to the B1 zone; and.
- Introducing a new local provision limiting future retail development to a maximum gross floor area of between 1,500 – 5,000 square metres.

### **7.2. Assessment of harm**

The current archaeological investigation of the Project Site shows that there is Aboriginal shell midden material and stone artefacts and areas of PAD within the Project Site.

Until an archaeological subsurface test excavation programme is undertaken the true impacts to the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 if they are unable to be avoided by the proposed future works is not able to be determined. Given that test excavations permitted by the Code of Practice are limited in their scope, Requirement 14 of the Code of Practice states that test excavations within or within 50 metres of known or suspected shell midden sites are not permitted without an AHIP. Consequently, an AHIP must be obtained prior to testing being undertaken.

Without impacting the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 to some degree through a test excavation programme the true archaeological significance and extent of the site is unable to be established. Consequently, an accurate assessment of harm to the sites by the proposed future development work at this time cannot be provided. However, it can be assumed that impact to the sites as a result of the proposed testing programme is likely to be most extensive where the test pits will be excavated and where the proposed development earthworks would occur which may involve the removal, breakage or displacement of artefacts and/or shell midden material. Any impacts from the limited subsurface testing programme and/or the proposed development works would be considered a direct impact on the site and the Aboriginal objects contained within. Until the testing programme is completed however it is not possible to accurately assess the significance or harm to any remaining portions of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 within the Proposal Site by the future development works which are proposed to be undertaken subsequent to the rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848.

### 7.3. Impacts to values

The values potentially impacted by the development include scientific or archaeological values identified during the site assessment within the three identified site areas and any social and cultural values attributed to the Aboriginal objects and sites by the Aboriginal community. These areas will be impacted by the proposed works within the Project Site. The RAPs for this project who were onsite for the fieldwork have indicated that they are in support of the proposed subsurface investigation of these sites.

The values potentially impacted by the proposed limited subsurface testing programme and/or the proposed development works subsequent to the rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848 within the Proposal Site are any social and cultural values attributed to the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 by the local Aboriginal community. The extent to which the total or partial loss of these sites would impact on the community is only something the Aboriginal community can articulate.

The impact to scientific values for this development are summarised in Section 6 and detailed in Table 6 -1. Until the testing programme is completed however it is not possible to accurately assess the significance or harm to the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 by the future works proposed to occur subsequent to the rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848.

The research potential of any remaining portions of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 outside the areas of existing extensive disturbance is considered to be moderate. Until the limited subsurface testing programme is undertaken the true impacts to the scientific value of the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 is unable to be determined.

It is however argued that any impact to the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 as part of the subsurface testing programme is likely to be outweighed by the scientific value that is gained. Additionally, while there are likely to be a number of similar midden sites with artefacts and shell in the local area which are also likely to have been partially or completely impacted by historic disturbance, the potential for *in situ* midden material within the Proposal Site requires further assessment which can only be undertaken following the approval of an AHIP to impact the known midden sites.

The stone artefacts recorded during the current field inspection are noted to have little research value beyond what has already been gained during the present assessment. The intrinsic values of the stone artefacts may be affected by the development of the Proposal Area however the stone artefacts are not proposed to be impacted by the subsurface testing programme. Any removal or impact to the stone artefacts by the proposed development works subsequent to the rezoning, including artefact breakage would reduce their already low scientific value however NGH considers that this would impact only minimally on the archaeological record of the area.

No other values have been identified that would be affected by the proposed subsurface testing programme and until the testing is undertaken the impact to the scientific values of the sites 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Midden 2 by the proposed development of the area subsequent to rezoning is unable to be determined. The rezoning of the Project Site itself however will not impact these sites.

Table 7-1. Identified risk to known sites by the proposed subsurface testing programme

| AHIMS #   | Site name                       | Site feature                                    | Site integrity | Scientific significance | Type of harm   | Degree of harm | Consequence of harm  | Recommendation   |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|--|----------------|--|--|
| 38-4-0333 | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1;    | PAD, Shell midden material and artefact scatter | Moderate       | Unknown                 | Direct harm to any stratified deposits and Aboriginal objects within testing areas | Partial        | Partial loss of value but gaining scientific value through testing | Obtain an AHIP to undertake a limited programme of subsurface testing on site with 50 m of a midden if the future development of this area cannot avoid this PAD and site. |
| 38-4-2142 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1    | PAD   | Moderate       | Unknown                 | Direct harm to any stratified deposits and Aboriginal objects within testing areas | Partial        | Partial loss of value but gaining scientific value through testing | Obtain an AHIP to undertake a limited programme of subsurface testing on site with 50 m of a midden if the future development of this area cannot avoid this PAD and site. |
| 38-4-2141 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 1 | PAD and shell midden material                   | Moderate       | Unknown                 | Direct harm to any stratified deposits and Aboriginal objects within testing areas | Partial        | Partial loss of value but gaining scientific value through testing | Obtain an AHIP to undertake a limited programme of subsurface testing on the known midden site if the future development of this area cannot avoid this PAD and site.      |



| AHIMS #   | Site name                       | Site feature                                    | Site integrity | Scientific significance | Type of harm   | Degree of harm | Consequence of harm  | Recommendation  |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|--|----------------|--|---|
| 38-4-2140 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2 | PAD, Shell midden material and artefact scatter | Moderate       | Unknown                 | Direct harm to any stratified deposits and Aboriginal objects within testing areas | Partial        | Partial loss of value but gaining scientific value through testing | Obtain an AHIP to undertake a limited programme of subsurface testing on the known midden site if the future development of this area cannot avoid this PAD and site. |

## **8. Avoiding or mitigating harm**

### **8.1. Consideration of ecologically sustainable development principles**

Consideration of the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) and the use of the precautionary principle was undertaken when assessing harm to the sites and the potential for mitigating impacts to the sites recorded within the Fullerton Cove Project Site. The main consideration was the cumulative effect of the proposed impact to sites and the wider archaeological record. The precautionary principle in relation to Aboriginal heritage implies that proposed works should be carefully evaluated to identify possible impacts and assess the risk of potential consequences.

In broad terms, the archaeological material located during this investigation is similar to what has been found previously within the Fern Bay area and broader Newcastle and Port Stephens region. Currently it is known that there are a large number of sites similar in nature to those identified within the Project Site present throughout the coastal areas of Fullerton Cove/ Fern Bay area. However, many of these similar sites have been subject to significant disturbance as a result of development, particularly around Fern Bay. As such, the presence of sites which have been subject to somewhat more limited disturbance in the form of vegetation clearance and the construction of dwellings is important for the archaeological record as well as culturally significant for local Aboriginal people.

The results of this Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment have confirmed that the proposed model of site location and distribution whereby sites can be expected to occur within the dunes and in proximity to waterways. The results also suggest that it can be reasonably expected that many more such sites are present within the Stockton Beach but are currently covered by aeolian sands.

As noted above, the scientific values of the sites within the development footprint considering the scientific, representative and rarity values, were assessed to be unknown. It is believed however, that the proposed impacts to the sites through the proposed subsurface testing programme would not significantly adversely affect the sites themselves or the archaeological record for the local area or the broader region. The testing programme would sample the PAD areas, thereby providing an insight into the nature, extent, integrity and content of any sites present without completely impacting the sites. This will allow a more complete determination of the significance of the sites.

The sustainability principle of inter-generational equity as applied to the archaeological resource requires that the present generation takes measures to ensure that the health and diversity of the archaeological record is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations. Subsurface midden material associated with the surface expressions identified at Middens 1 and 2 may provide an opportunity to extrapolate information about the use of the area between Fullerton Cove and Stockton Beach by past Aboriginal people. The testing programme would not significantly affect the principle of sustainability or inter-generational equity as the programme would only sample a small proportion of the overall land form and midden, thus providing an opportunity for preservation of midden through a development context, if deemed to be warranted. Identifying the significance of the archaeological material is the first necessary step to being able to address the issues around sustainability principles.

## **8.2. Consideration of harm**

Avoiding harm to all the sites within the proposal is technically possible with reference to the presence of artefacts and midden material as well as the PAD areas, through complete avoidance and rejection of any rezoning or development. However, without undertaking subsurface investigations, the true nature and significance of the PADs are unknown and therefore it is not warranted at this stage to prevent the testing programme from proceeding. It should also be noted that the majority of the Project Site is disturbed with no cultural heritage sites.

The RAPs who were present during the fieldwork indicated that they are in support of the proposed subsurface investigation of these PAD areas if they are unable to be avoided by any proposed future development works.

## **8.3. Mitigation of harm**

Mitigation of harm to cultural heritage sites generally involves some level of detailed recording to preserve the information contained within the site (or within the portion of the site to be impacted) or setting aside areas as representative samples of the landform to preserve a portion of the site. Mitigation can be in the form of minimising harm, through slight changes in the development plan or through direct management measures of the Aboriginal objects. It is noted that mitigation of harm is not considered warranted here as there needs to be a programme of sub-surface testing across the locations of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333, 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden1 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Midden 2 to identify the significance of each location before mitigation works at each site is considered. A proposed testing strategy and AHIP boundary are presented in Figure 8-1 and Figure 8-2 below. The proposed testing methodology has been provided in Appendix B.





Figure 8-1 Proposed AHIP boundary



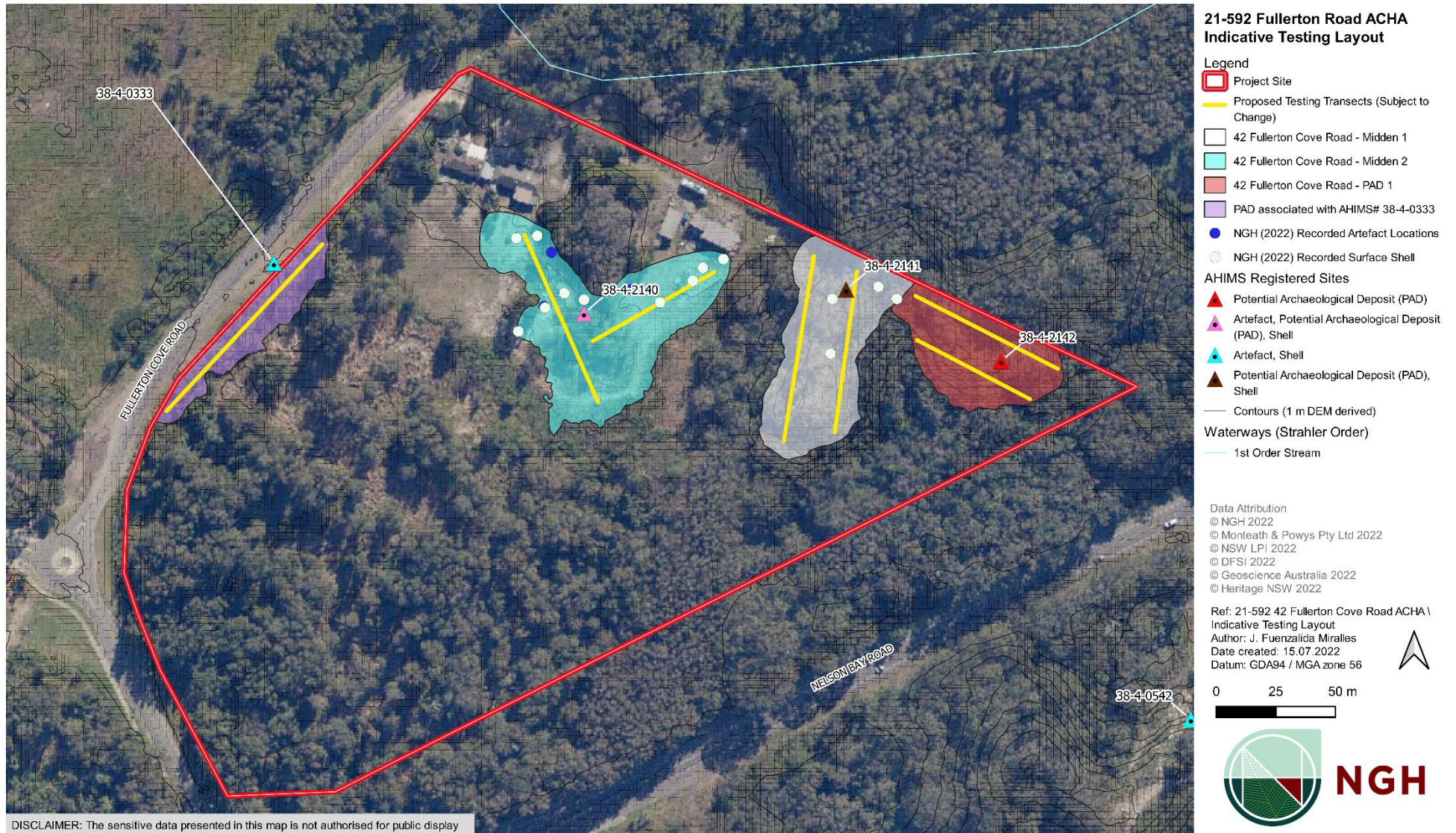


Figure 8-2 Indicative testing layout



## 9. Recommendations

The recommendations are based on the following information and considerations:

- Results of the current archaeological survey of the Project Site;
- Consideration of results from other archaeological assessments which have occurred in proximity to the Project Site;
- Consideration of results from other regional archaeological studies;
- Results of consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties;
- The assessed significance of the sites;
- Appraisal of the proposed development; and
- Legislative context for the development proposal.

It is recommended that:

1. Rezoning of the lot could occur but no development can occur until the following recommendations are carried out.
2. Test excavation is required to establish the extent and scientific significance of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 if they are unable to be avoided by the proposed works.
3. Test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 cannot be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation in NSW. Therefore, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is required to permit any subsurface testing of the PADs within the Project Site.
4. The proponent must apply to Heritage NSW and receive an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) to allow test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 if they are unable to be avoided by the proposed works.
5. This report must accompany an AHIP application for the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 located within the Proposal Site, as outlined in Applying for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit: Guide for Applicants.
6. Once an AHIP is approved by Heritage NSW for the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 the methodology as outlined in Appendix B of this report should be followed.
7. Aboriginal community representatives as chosen by the Proponent should be invited to participate in the test excavation programme.
8. All cultural material recovered during test excavation works under an approved AHIP will be held in temporary care at the appointed consultants' office for recording and analysis, until an appropriate time when it can be returned to Country. This material must be buried in line with Requirement 26 of the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales and/or in accordance with the wishes of the Aboriginal community in an appropriate location that will not be subject to any ground disturbance. The location of this material will be submitted to the AHIMS database.



9. An Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Form must be completed and submitted to AHIMS following the test excavation of 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2.
10. In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during the subsurface testing, all work must cease in the immediate vicinity. The local police must be notified to determine if the remains were Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal. If the remains are deemed to be Aboriginal in origin the Heritage NSW must be advised. The Registered Aboriginal Parties should be advised of the find as directed by Heritage NSW. Heritage NSW would advise the Proponent on the following appropriate actions required.
11. The subsurface testing results for 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, the PAD associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333 and 42 Fullerton Cove Road Middens 1 and 2 located within the Proposal Site should be detailed in an additional Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. This report can then be used in support of an AHIP for the proposed works, pending the recommendations noted.
12. Further archaeological assessment would be required if the proposal activity extends beyond the area of the current investigation. This would include consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties and may include further field survey.

Port Stephens Council are reminded that it is an offence under the NPW Act to harm an Aboriginal object without a valid AHIP.

## 10. References

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# APPENDIX A ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION

## A.1 Consultation log

| Date       | Organisation   | Contact Name   | Action  | Date Due   | Reply Date | Replied by                 | Response  |
|------------|--|----------------|---|------------|------------|----------------------------|---|
|            | <b>STAGE 1 Notification of Project Proposal &amp; Registration of Interest</b> |                |   |            |            |                            |   |
|            | NNTT search on 5 Dec 2021  |                | No claims or determinations over Project Site | 15/12/2021 |            |                            |   |
| 1/12/2021  | Heritage NSW   |                | Letter via Email                              | 15/12/2021 | 10/12/2021 | Email                      |   |
| 1/12/2021  | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council   |                | Email   | 15/12/2021 |            |                            |   |
| 1/12/2021  | The Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ORALRA)                        |                | Email   | 15/12/2021 |            |                            |   |
| 1/12/2021  | National Native Title Tribunal   |                | Search of Native Title Vision undertaken      | 15/12/2021 |            |                            |   |
| 1/12/2021  | Native Title Services Corporation Limited (NTSCORP Limited)                    |                | Email   | 15/12/2021 |            |                            |   |
| 1/12/2021  | Local Land Services Office (Hunter)  |                | Email   | 15/12/2021 | 1/12/2021  | Min Response Period (days) | Recommends contacting LALC and NNTT   |
| 1/12/2021  | Port Stephens Local Council  |                | Email   | 15/12/2021 | 3/12/2021  | Min Response Period (days) | Provided list: Worimi LALC, Karuah Indigenous, Nurungee, Murrooma, Worimi Conservation Lands. |
|            | <b>Place Ad in Local Newspapers</b>  |                |   |            |            |                            |   |
| 9/12/2021  | Port Stephens examiner   |                | Advert placed                                 | 9/12/2021  | 23/12/2021 |                            |   |
|            | <b>Heritage NSW list of possible stakeholders</b>                              |                |   |            |            |                            |   |
| 19/01/2022 | A1 Indigenous Services   | Carolyn Hickey | NGH Letter via Email                          | 2/02/2022  | 2/02/2022  |                            |   |

# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

| Date       | Organisation                               | Contact Name                   | Action                      | Date Due  | Reply Date | Replied by | Response   |
|------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 19/01/2022 | AGA Services                               | Ashley, Gregory & Adam Sampson | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Cacatua Culture Consultants                | Donna & George Sampson         | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation          | Carroll-Johnson Marilyn        | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 8/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Crimson-Rosie                              | Jeffery Matthews               | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 | 4/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Didge Ngunawal Clan                        | Paul Boyd & Lilly Carroll      | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Hunters & Collectors                       | Tania Matthews                 | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation              | David Feeney                   | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 3/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council       | CEO                            | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Kawul Pty Ltd trading as Wonn1 Sites       | Arthur Fletcher                | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Lakkari NTCG                               | Mick Leon                      | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated       | David Ahoy                     | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Lower Hunter Wonnarua Cultural Services    | Lea-Anne Ball                  | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 | 4/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Michael Green Cultural Heritage Consultant | Michael Green                  | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 | 4/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council   | CEO                            | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |

# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

| Date       | Organisation                                     | Contact Name                           | Action                      | Date Due  | Reply Date | Replied by | Response   |
|------------|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 19/01/2022 | Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation   | Ryan Johnson & Darleen Johnson-Carroll | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  | Anthony Anderson                       | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              | Leonard Anderson OAM                   | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 3/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Wattaka Wonnarua CC Service                      | Des Hickey                             | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Widescope Indigenous Group                       | Steven Hickey                          | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Wonnarua Elders Council                          | Richard Edwards                        | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 | 4/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             | CEO                                    | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 8/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation | Candy Lee Towers                       | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 22/01/2022 | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Carol Ridgeway-Bissett                           | Carol Ridgeway-Bissett                 | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 |            |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Robert Syron                                     | Robert Syron                           | NGH Letter via surface mail | 2/02/2022 | 3/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
| 19/01/2022 | Steve Talbott                                    | Steve Talbott                          | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Tamara Towers                                    | Tamara Towers                          | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 2/02/2022  |            |            |
| 19/01/2022 | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      | Stephen Johnson                        | NGH Letter via Email        | 2/02/2022 | 8/02/2022  | Email      | Registered |
|            | <b>Sent List of RAPs to LALC and HNSW</b>        |  |                             |           |            |            |            |



# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

| Date       | Organisation                         | Contact Name            | Action                               | Date Due   | Reply Date | Replied by | Response  |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 11/02/2022 | HNSW                                 |                         | NGH Letter via Email                 |            |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Worimi LALC                          |                         | NGH Letter via Email                 |            |            |            |           |
|            | <b>Sent methodology to RAPs</b>      |                         |                                      |            |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Worimi TOC                           | Candy Lee Towers        | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 | 17022022   | Email      | Support   |
| 11/02/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation        | David Feeney            | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 | 23022022   | Email      | Support   |
| 11/02/2022 | Murrooma                             | Anthony Anderson        | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 | 28022022   | Email      | Support   |
| 11/02/2022 | Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation    | Carroll-Johnson Marilyn | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                  | Leonard Anderson OAM    | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council | CEO                     | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Robert Syron                         | Robert Syron            | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 |            |            |           |
| 11/02/2022 | Woka Aboriginal Corporation          | Stephen Johnson         | NGH Letter via Email                 | 25/02/2022 |            |            |           |
|            | <b>Stage 2_3 (Fieldwork)</b>         |                         | Invitation to fieldwork for 31st May |            |            |            |           |
| 18/05/2022 | Murrooma                             | Anthony Anderson        | Email                                |            | 18/05/2022 | Email      | Confirmed |
| 18/05/2022 | Nurrungee,                           | Leonard Anderson        | Email                                |            | 18/05/2022 | Email      | Confirmed |
| 18/05/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation        | David Feeney            | Email                                |            | 18/05/2022 | Email      | Confirmed |
| 18/05/2022 | Worimi LALC                          | Jamie Merrick           | Email                                |            | 18/05/2022 | Email      | Confirmed |

# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove

| Date       | Organisation                                     | Contact Name   | Action | Date Due   | Reply Date | Replied by | Response  |
|------------|--|----------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|---|
|            | <b>Fieldwork</b>                                 |                |        |            |            |            |   |
| 31/05/2022 | Murrooma   | Bec Young      | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 31/05/2022 | Nurrungee,                                       | Luke Knight    | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 31/05/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation                    | Brendan Lilley | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 31/05/2022 | Worimi LALC                                      | Jamie Merrick  | Email  |            |            |            |   |
|            | <b>Sent draft report to RAPs</b>                 |                |        |            |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 | 16/08/2022 | Email      | Support but query the installation of the Optus Tower |
| 22/07/2022 | Robert Syron                                     |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation                    |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation                |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
| 22/07/2022 | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      |                | Email  | 19/08/2022 |            |            |   |
|            | <b>Reminder sent to all RAPs</b>                 |                |        |            |            |            |   |
| 15/08/2022 | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation |                | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 15/08/2022 | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  |                | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 15/08/2022 | Robert Syron                                     |                | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 15/08/2022 | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              |                | Email  |            |            |            |   |
| 15/08/2022 | Karuah Indigenous Corporation                    |                | Email  |            |            |            |   |

**Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment***42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove*

| Date       | Organisation                                     | Contact Name | Action | Date Due | Reply Date | Replied by | Response |
|------------|--|--------------|--------|----------|------------|------------|----------|
| 15/08/2022 | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             |              | Email  |          |            |            |          |
| 15/08/2022 | Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation                |              | Email  |          |            |            |          |
| 15/08/2022 | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      |              | Email  |          |            |            |          |
| 15/08/2022 | Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation |              | Email  |          |            |            |          |



## A.2 Newspaper advertisement

portstephensexaminer.com.au

Thursday, December 9, 2021 PORT STEPHENS EXAMINER 31

# Connect with Classifieds

Phone: 131 696  
Email: classifieds@newcastleherald.com.au

| Index                            |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Accessories and Spare Parts..... | 51    |
| Adult Services.....              | 52    |
| For Sale.....                    | 51    |
| Funeral Notices.....             | 51    |
| Garage Sales.....                | 51    |
| In Memoriam.....                 | 51    |
| Massage.....                     | 52    |
| Motor Vehicles.....              | 51    |
| Personal Notices.....            | 52    |
| Positions Vacant.....            | 52    |
| Public Notices.....              | 51-52 |
| To Let & Wanted.....             | 51    |
| Trade Services.....              | 52    |
| Trades & Services.....           | 49-50 |
| Wanted to Buy.....               | 51    |

**THE PORT STEPHENS EXAMINER**

## Connect with Classifieds

Place a Classifieds ad  
131 696  
classifieds@newcastleherald.com.au  
Save time, submit online 24/7  
adirect.com.au

Print and online packages available throughout Australia

Advertising self service available  
acrossallportstephensexaminer.com.au

**Self Service**

### Funeral Notices

**JAHNSEN RON**  
Late of Eagleton  
Aged 76 Years

Dearest beloved husband of Vera. Much loved father and father-in-law of Julie and David Parker, Rogina and Radford Stoop, Deirdre and Jason Snowden. Loving Pop of Tegan and Luke, Brittany and Jack, Caleb, Victoria and Liam, Lucinda, and Byron. Loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle of the Johnson and Kolanek families. Loved and well respected friend to many.

Relatives and friends of Ron are welcome to join the family at the Junction Inn Hotel, William Street, Raymond Terrace tomorrow Friday afternoon at 2.15 to continue the celebration of Ron's life.

**Meighans FUNERALS**  
02 45623099



### Funeral Notices

**MALONE**

**Brian James**  
Late of Bulahdelah.

Passed away peacefully on Friday 3rd December 2021.

**Aged 86 years**

Devoted husband of Mona. Loving father and father-in-law to Melissa & Rod. Proud and loving grandfather of Mitchell & Toray.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Brian's Funeral Mass to be held at St Brigid's Catholic Church, Bulahdelah on Wednesday 15th December 2021 commencing at 10.30am prior to interment in Bulahdelah Cemetery.

**WT HOWARD FUNERALS**  
5 Fleet Street, TAREE  
Ph: (02) 6552 1067



### Funeral Notices

**PRESTON (BOOTS)**  
**Pauline Veronica**  
Passed away peacefully 4.12.2021  
Aged 86 years  
Formerly of Raymond Terrace

Loving mother and mother-in-law to PAUL (dad) & KYLE, COLLEEN & DOUG, JENNIFER & BRIAN, TERRANCE, MARK & GAYE. Much loved grandmother and great grandmother to their families.

Relatives and Friends of PAULINE are warmly invited to attend her Funeral Service in the Chapel of Lance Boots Funerals, 3 Johnson Close, Raymond Terrace this **MONDAY 13.12.2021 at 11.00am**. Thanks for interment in Raymond Terrace Cemetery.

Please be advised COVID restrictions apply all attendees must be fully vaccinated.

**LANCE BOOTS FUNERALS**  
Phone: 4067 2101  
www.lancebootsfunerals.com.au



### Funeral Notices

**ROSS Graham**  
"Scotty"  
1.12.2021  
Late of Soldiers Point  
Formerly of Sydney

Dearest loved partner of Marlene (nee O). Loving father of Ryan, Daniel and Simona. A loving poppy, and a good friend to many.

**Aged 78 years**

Family and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Scotty's Life this Friday 10th December 2021, at 10am, in the Port Stephens Unitarian Church, 174 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay. Current COVID regulations apply.

**WHITE LADY FUNERALS**  
BALAHARNY BAY 02 4384 1900

Family and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Scotty's Life this Friday 10th December 2021, at 10am, in the Port Stephens Unitarian Church, 174 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay. Current COVID regulations apply.

**WHITE LADY FUNERALS**  
BALAHARNY BAY 02 4384 1900



### Funeral Notices

**PRESTON (BOOTS)**  
**Pauline Veronica**  
Passed away peacefully 4.12.2021  
Aged 86 years  
Formerly of Raymond Terrace

Loving mother and mother-in-law to PAUL (dad) & KYLE, COLLEEN & DOUG, JENNIFER & BRIAN, TERRANCE, MARK & GAYE. Much loved grandmother and great grandmother to their families.

Relatives and Friends of PAULINE are warmly invited to attend her Funeral Service in the Chapel of Lance Boots Funerals, 3 Johnson Close, Raymond Terrace this **MONDAY 13.12.2021 at 11.00am**. Thanks for interment in Raymond Terrace Cemetery.

Please be advised COVID restrictions apply all attendees must be fully vaccinated.

**LANCE BOOTS FUNERALS**  
Phone: 4067 2101  
www.lancebootsfunerals.com.au



### In Memoriam

**GILES Christine**  
16/3/49 - 13/12/21  
Forever in our hearts,  
sadly missed by  
husband Geoff and  
son Jarrod.

**For Sale**

**A1 Varied Market Lot.**  
Have retired will be selling everything  
Please call  
0407 999 507 or  
0439 566 207

### Garage Sales

**VISIT VISITED**

**CORLETTE**, 10 Ebbetts Way Sat 8am-12pm, \$5 clothes, plants, linen, lamps & Bric-a-Brac.

**VISIT VISITED**

**MEDOWIE** 8 Windsor Close, Sat 11th. Huge clear out of old man's shed workshop + many gilly things! Treasures & collectibles going cheap!

**Wanted to Buy**

**\* CARAVANS \* CAMPERVANS \* POP TOPS**  
Any Condition \* Cash 7 days  
Eric: 0418 165 899

**TOOLS** old tools, guitars, fishing items, old model trains, cars, jewellery, DVD/CD. Ritz 0431296741

### Motor Vehicles

**1 CASH FOR CARS**  
If you've got old cars or commercial vehicles that you just can't bear, give Yogi a ring and he'll give you some dough. Then along will come Boo-Boo and give them a tow. You can say Yabba Dabba Do when you see them all go!

**0487 810 022**

**Port Stephens & Surrounding Car Removals**  
**Unwanted Cars, Vans, Trucks, etc.**  
Top cash on the spot \$\$\$  
**\$250 - \$25000\***  
100% Free towing  
\*conditions apply

Fast pick up  
Call Jim now  
0404 045 993  
We are local

0411 15112

### Accessories and Spare Parts

**TYRES**  
Secondhand  
1000's IN STOCK  
12" to 22"  
Car, LT & 4WD  
★ BP New Lambton  
4957 5327  
Greg/lan

### To Let & Wanted

**HAMILTON North**, Fully furnished room with fridge in quiet, clean, friendly over 50s share home. \$1700pw incl exp, WIFI  
0408 419 890

### Public Notices

**careerone**

### Public Notices

**Notification for Registration of Interest for Aboriginal Stakeholders**

NGH has been engaged by Montzath & Powys (125 Bull Street Newcastle West NSW 2302) (on behalf of Christine Jordan) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to support the application for the proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove. The Project Area is located in the Port Stephens LGA and will be assessed by Port Stephens Council as a development application under Part 4 of the EPA Act.

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NGH Pty Ltd  
Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303  
Or Via Email to: ngh@nghconsulting.com.au

Closing date for registrations is Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Those registering interest will be contacted to discuss the project further. Those who do register are advised that their details will be provided to Heritage NSW and the LALC, unless they specifically advise that their details are not to be forwarded.

### Motor Vehicles

**Port Stephens & Surrounding Car Removals**  
**Unwanted Cars, Vans, Trucks, etc.**  
Top cash on the spot \$\$\$  
**\$250 - \$25000\***  
100% Free towing  
\*conditions apply

Fast pick up  
Call Jim now  
0404 045 993  
We are local

0411 15112

### Public Notices

**Open public info sheeting of the Newcastle Sahalolics Anonymous.**  
13th Dec, 12 Tudor St  
Hamilton at 6pm.  
Please contact  
newcastleaholicsgroup@gmail.com

### Public Notices

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

**NELSON BAY TAXIS**, like many local businesses in the area, is struggling to attract enough drivers to fill all available shifts to adequately service the needs of our travelling public, 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

Unfortunately, if we are unable to recruit sufficient extra drivers to fill our vacant shifts, there may be delays at times, particularly on the weekends, in getting a taxi to you.

If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in work as a taxi driver, please help us out and earn yourself some extra income.

Please contact Nelson Bay Taxis on 498 46699 during office hours for more information.

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**SAVE TIME - SUBMIT ONLINE**  
Placing your classified ad through our self-service portal  
**adirect.com.au**

- Submit your ad at any time of the day
- Select multiple publications across all Australian Community Media papers and receive up to 25% discount.
- Access the portal from anywhere in Australia
- It's easy!

Create an account with your email or quickly log in with your favourite social network and then follow the four easy steps.

- 1. Publication**  
1. Select the region and the publication that you wish to advertise in
- 2. Section**  
2. Select the Section and classification that you want to advertise within
- 3. Details**  
3. Build your advertisement and put in the dates you want your ad to run. You can add colour, emoji's, photos, logos - whatever you require to build your eye catching advertisement.
- 4. Payments**  
4. Put in your payment details.

Connect with  
**Classifieds**



### A.3 Example Letter to agencies

1 December 2021

Heritage NSW  
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Level 6, 10 Valentine Avenue  
Parramatta NSW 2150



heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Dear Madam/Sir

**Re: 21-592 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove**

NGH has been engaged by Monteath & Powys (125 Bull Street Newcastle West NSW 2302) on behalf of Christine Jordan require an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to support the application for the proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove (Figure 1-1). The Project Area is located in the Port Stephens LGA and will be assessed by Port Stephens Council as a development application under Part 4 of the EP&A Act.



Figure 1 Location of subject site



**NEWCASTLE**

Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303

T. (02) 4929 2301 E. ngh@nghconsulting.com.au W. www.nghconsulting.com.au

NSW • ACT • QLD • VIC

ABN 31 124 444 622 ACN 124 444 622



The ACHA includes completion of consultation in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*. The purpose of this consultation is to provide an opportunity for Aboriginal community stakeholders to:

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In order to fulfil the requirements set out in the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*, NGH is seeking information about interested Aboriginal parties who hold cultural knowledge of the assessment area to assist in the determination of cultural significance of any Aboriginal objects or places located there.

NGH is therefore seeking any information you may hold about Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge regarding Aboriginal objects or places within the study area. If you know of any Aboriginal parties who may hold cultural knowledge, could you please provide this information in writing by Wednesday 15 December 2021 to:

Kirwan Williams

NGH Pty Ltd

Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303

Or Via Email to: [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)

Yours sincerely,



**Ali Byrne**  
Senior Heritage Consultant  
02 4917 3971 / 0428 747 615  
NGH



## A.4 Example letter to HNSW/ LALC identified parties

19 January 2022



To Whom it may Concern

**Re: 21-592 – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove**

NGH has been engaged by Monteath & Powys (125 Bull Street Newcastle West NSW 2302) on behalf of Christine Jordan to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to support the application for the proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove (Figure 1-1). The Project Area is located in the Port Stephens LGA and will be assessed by Port Stephens Council as a development application under Part 4 of the EP&A Act. The ACHA includes completion of consultation in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*. The purpose of this consultation is to provide an opportunity for Aboriginal community stakeholders to:

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NGH is therefore seeking any information you may hold about Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge regarding Aboriginal objects or places within the study area. If you know of any Aboriginal parties who may hold cultural knowledge, could you please provide this information in writing by Wednesday 02 February 2022 to:

Kirwan Williams  
NGH Pty Ltd  
Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303  
Or Via Email to: [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)

Yours sincerely,

Ali Byrne  
Regional Manager – Heritage (NSW)  
0428 747 615



**NEWCASTLE**  
Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303  
T. (02) 4929 2301 E. [ng@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:ng@nghconsulting.com.au) W. [www.nghconsulting.com.au](http://www.nghconsulting.com.au)  
**NSW • ACT • QLD • VIC**  
ABN 31 124 444 622 ACN 124 444 622

## A.5 Expressions of Interest

**From:** [BS](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Guringai Language group  
**Date:** Thursday, 3 February 2022 11:38:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear Kirwan

Yes would like to register an interest in the project please

Kind regards Bob Syron

---

**From:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 2 February 2022 2:19 PM  
**To:** B S <[bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Ali Byrne <[ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Guringai Language group

Dear Robert,

Thank you very much for the information. Would you be able to clarify whether you would like to register an interest in the project please.

Kind Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910  
E. [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)  
Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont St  
Hamilton NSW 2303



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[WWW.NGHCONSULTING.COM.AU](http://WWW.NGHCONSULTING.COM.AU)

**From:** [Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: EOI 21-592 Fullerton Cove  
**Date:** Tuesday, 8 February 2022 3:40:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[21-592-Fullerton Cove ROI letter 20210119.pdf](#)

---

Please register Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation. We have worked on projects as Cultural Heritage Officers in the project area. My family and other family members have lived in the area and family currently reside in the surrounding areas. We are registering in a full capacity. We are aboriginal people who are culturally & heritage aware. We have the necessary ability, experience, skills, insight and the knowledge to identify artefacts on field work. And as Aboriginal People we connect thru the land, thru our ancestors and our heritage. Therefore we are able participate on all levels. We have worked with many archaeologists across a broad landscape. We have consulted with most archeological companies over many years on projects. We have all the relevant insurances and safety gear. We are all fit, capable and adapt to a vast landscape.

Contact is preferred via email: [corroboreecorp@bigpond.com](mailto:corroboreecorp@bigpond.com). The contact number, email and contact person is also listed in the signature.

**Please do not disclose any of our details to LALC.** We have responded for inclusion, to participate on all levels. Thanks.

Kind regards  
Marilyn Carroll-Johnson  
Director  
Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation  
Mob: [0415911159](tel:0415911159)  
Ph: [0288244324](tel:0288244324)  
E: [corroboreecorp@bigpond.com](mailto:corroboreecorp@bigpond.com)  
Address: [PO Box 3340](#)  
[ROUSE HILL NSW 2155](#)

CAC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea & community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, to the Elders past and present, and emerging.

On 19 Jan 2022, at 4:05 pm, Kirwan Williams  
<[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)> wrote:



**From:** [David Feeney](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter  
**Date:** Thursday, 3 February 2022 1:27:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi Kirwan;

Karuah Indigenous Corporation would like to register for the project at 21-592 Fullerton Cove, and like to give some cultural information when on site at the project

Thanks

Dave Feeney  
CEO  
Snr Aboriginal Cultural Officer  
Karuah Indigenous Corporation  
0421114853

---

**From:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 3 February 2022 9:15 AM  
**To:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Cc:** Ali Byrne <[ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Subject:** 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter

Good morning,

Just letting you know that the opportunity to register for this project is ending. Please let me know by return email ASAP if you would like to register.

Warm regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491768910  
E. [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)  
Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont St  
Hamilton NSW 2303

NSW - ACT - QLD - VIC  
[WWW.NGHCONSULTING.COM.AU](http://WWW.NGHCONSULTING.COM.AU)



**From:** [Tara Dever](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Cc:** [Andrew Smith](#); [Tammy Vesely](#); [Ali Byrne](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter  
**Date:** Thursday, 20 January 2022 11:04:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[21-592-Fullerton Cove ROI letter 20210119.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Hi Kirwan,

Thank you for the email.

Confirm that the project area sits outside of the Mindaribba LALC's delegated area; and all correspondence and engagement should occur directly with the Worimi LALC.

Warm Regards

**Tara Dever**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council  
PO Box 401, East Maitland, NSW 2323  
Ph: 02 4015 7000

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land I work on, the Wonnarua People; and pay my respect to all Aboriginal Elders Past, Present and Emerging.

**"Our Spirituality is a oneness and an interconnectedness with all that lives and breathes ....  
even with all that does not live or breath" Mudrooroo Narogin**



---

**From:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 January 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Cc:** Ali Byrne <[ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au)>; Tammy Vesely <[tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Subject:** 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter regarding proposed rezoning at Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
HERITAGE CONSULTANT  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910  
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**From:** [jennie.anderson011@nughconsulting.com.au](mailto:jennie.anderson011@nughconsulting.com.au)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](mailto:kirwan.williams@nughconsulting.com.au)  
**Subject:** Re: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter  
**Date:** Thursday, 3 February 2022 10:13:40 AM

---

Hi Kirwan,

Most definitely will Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd be interested in this Project. We have sent previous confirmation of our interest.

Thanking You

Lennie Anderson OAM  
Worimi Traditional Custodian  
Senior Fellow in Ceremony  
Native Title Recipient  
Indigenous Archaeologist  
Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (Director)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Kirwan Williams" <[kirwan.w@nughconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nughconsulting.com.au)>  
To: "Kirwan Williams" <[kirwan.w@nughconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nughconsulting.com.au)>  
Cc: "Ali Byrne" <[ali.b@nughconsulting.com.au](mailto:ali.b@nughconsulting.com.au)>  
Sent: Thursday, 3 Feb, 2022 At 9:15 AM  
Subject: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter



**From:** [Steven Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Registering for 21-592 Fullerton Cove  
**Date:** Tuesday, 8 February 2022 3:40:20 PM

---

Woka Aboriginal Corporation  
Preservation of Culture & Heritage  
Mob: 0406991221  
Email: wokacorp@yahoo.com

Attention: Kirwan

Re: Expressing Interest - 21-592 Fullerton Cove

We are submitting our registration of Woka Aboriginal Corporation for full process on this project. We are all aboriginal people. We are all experienced Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Officers. We have worked with the National Parks & Wildlife, WaterNSW, RMS/TFNSW on numerous projects. We have our history & stories passed down to us by our Elders. We have assisted in surveys, salvage & consulting with archaeologists over a vast number of years. We are experienced in the field of identifying artefacts, including our learned history and knowledge passed down. We appreciate the opportunity to be part of protecting and preserving our Aboriginal heritage. We are very proud of our heritage and culture passed to us by our Ancestors. We are therefore pleased with being a part of this research and to provide our experience and knowledge.

Our organisation has the current Public liability insurance and is WHS compliant, with all member's holding white cards and required PPE.

All our members are extremely experienced in the identification of Aboriginal artefacts and have worked with numerous Archeologists in field surveys, including test and salvage excavations on fieldwork. We are very passionate about our ancestral land and our conservation of our history matters the upmost to us. We hold strong links to our ancestors, our culture and our heritage. We are motivated to share our history with our current generation and future generations to pass down to our Mob.

Please note we do not want our details forwarded to LALC, please do not release our correspondence. Please register Woka Aboriginal Corporations name for this project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely  
Steve  
Aboriginal Heritage Custodian  
Mob: 0406991221  
Email: wokacorp@yahoo.com

**From:** [Worimi TOC](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter  
**Date:** Saturday, 22 January 2022 6:33:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Outlook-1519596851.png](#)

---

Hi Kirwan,

On behalf of Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation, I would like to register for the consultation for the project of 21-592 Fullerton Cove NSW, as we do hold Cultural knowledge of the purposed project site.

I'll say cheerio for now,

*Candy Towers*

Granddaughter of Leonard Dates

Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation

ph: 0412 475 362

e: worimitoc@hotmail.com



**WORIMI TOIC**

*Guudji Yiigu, I am a Worimi and Yorta Yorta woman from Newcastle NSW, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which I live and work, to their continuing connection to land, water, culture and community and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and to our future generations.*

---

**From:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 January 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Cc:** Ali Byrne <[ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:ali.b@nghconsulting.com.au)>; Tammy Vesely <[tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au)>  
**Subject:** 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter regarding proposed rezoning at Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910

**From:** [Anthony Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 21-592 Fullerton Cove ROI letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, 2 February 2022 1:51:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[EOI- NGH Fullerton Cover re-zone.docx](#)

---

Hi Kirwan

Please find attached Murrooma's EOI for Community Consultation on this project.

Thanks

Bec

On Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 4:05 PM Kirwan Williams <[kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter regarding proposed rezoning at Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)

T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910  
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## A.6 RAP list to HNSW and LALC

### A6.1 HNSW

**From:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**To:** [heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
**Cc:** [Ali Byrne](#); [Tammy Vesely](#)  
**Subject:** 21-592 RAP list for 42 Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Heritage Investigation  
**Date:** Friday, 11 February 2022 10:13:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [21-592-Fullerton Cove ROI letter 20210119.pdf](#),  
[image001.png](#),  
[21-592 Aboriginal Archaeological Investigation 42 Fullerton Cove Road Notification of RAPs HNSW, 20220211.pdf](#)

---

Good Morning,

Please find attached a notification of registered groups for this project and an example of the ROI letter.

Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910  
E. [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)  
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### A6.2 LALC

**From:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**To:** [andrew@worimi.org.au](mailto:andrew@worimi.org.au)  
**Cc:** [Ali Byrne](#); [Tammy Vesely](#)  
**Subject:** 21-592 RAP list for 42 Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Heritage Investigation  
**Date:** Friday, 11 February 2022 9:59:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#),  
[21-592 Notification of RAPs LALC 20220211.pdf](#),  
[21-592-Fullerton Cove ROI letter 20210119.pdf](#)

---

Good Morning,

Please find attached a notification of registered groups for this project and an example of the ROI letter.

Regards

**KIRWAN WILLIAMS**  
**HERITAGE CONSULTANT**  
BA(Archaeology)  
T. 04917 3938 D. 04917 3959 M. 0491766910  
E. [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)  
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## **A.7 Methodology**



**NGH**

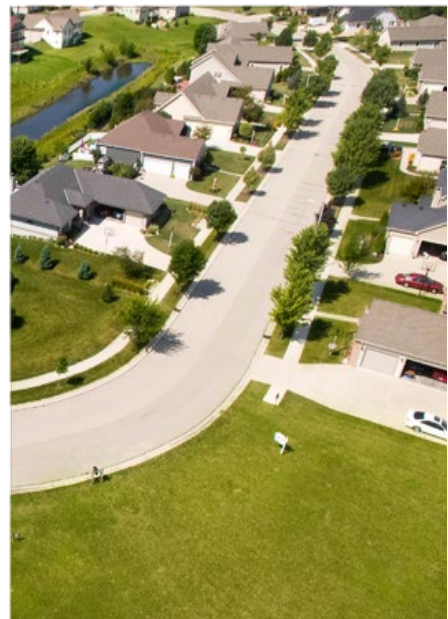
**M&P**  
Monteath  
& Powys

# Aboriginal Archaeological Investigation Methodology

**42 Fullerton Cove Road**

**February 2022**

**Project Number: 21-592**





DRAFT



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## Document verification

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Project Title:     | 42 Fullerton Cove Road                                    |
| Project Number:    | 21-592  |
| Project File Name: | 21-592 42 Fullerton Cove Road methodology Draft _20220128 |

| Revision | Date             | Prepared by     | Reviewed by    | Approved by    |
|----------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Draft    | 28/01/2022       | Kirwan Williams | Dr. Giles Hamm | Dr. Giles Hamm |
|          | [Enter the date] |                 |                |                |
|          | [Enter the date] |                 |                |                |
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# Table of contents

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Acronyms and abbreviations .....</b>                     | <b>iii</b>   |
| <b>1. Introduction.....</b>                                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2. Aboriginal Consultation .....</b>                     | <b>2</b>     |
| <b>3. Background Information .....</b>                      | <b>3</b>     |
| 3.1 Project background .....                                | 3            |
| 3.2 Archaeological background.....                          | 3            |
| 3.2.1 Aboriginal heritage information systems (AHIMS) ..... | 3            |
| 3.2.2 Additional Searches .....                             | 5            |
| 3.3 Landscape assessment .....                              | VII          |
| 3.3.1 Geology and topography .....                          | VIII         |
| 3.3.2 Hydrology .....                                       | VIII         |
| 3.3.3 Soils .....   | VIII         |
| 3.3.4 Flora and fauna .....                                 | IX           |
| 3.3.5 Land disturbance.....                                 | IX           |
| 3.3.6 Aboriginal site prediction .....                      | X            |
| <b>4. Assessment methodology .....</b>                      | <b>XII</b>   |
| 4.1 Aims .....  | XII          |
| 4.2 Methodology outline.....                                | XII          |
| 4.2.1 Reporting methodology .....                           | XIV          |
| <b>5. Cultural knowledge.....</b>                           | <b>XVI</b>   |
| <b>6. Personnel .....</b>                                   | <b>XVII</b>  |
| <b>7. Next steps .....</b>                                  | <b>XVIII</b> |
| <b>8. References .....</b>                                  | <b>XIX</b>   |

## Figures

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Figure 1-1 Location of Project Site .....                       | 1   |
| Figure 3-2 AHIMS in proximity to Project Site .....             | 6   |
| Figure 3-3 Historic heritage in proximity to Project Site ..... | VII |

## Tables

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Table 3-1 AHIMS registered sites ..... | 4 |
|--|---|



|   |    |
|---|----|
| Table 3-2 Descriptions of soil landscapes in the Project Site (Mitchell 2002) ..... | IX |
| Table 3-3 Aboriginal site prediction statements .....                               | X  |

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## Acronyms and abbreviations

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| ACHA     | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment                               |
| ACHCRP   | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents |
| AHD      | Australian Heritage Database  |
| AHIMS    | Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System                     |
| AHIP     | Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit                                     |
| MP       | Monteath & Powys Pty Limited  |
| cm       | centimetres   |
| EIS      | Environmental Impact Statement  |
| EP&A Act | NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979                    |
| ha       | hectares  |
| HNSW     | Heritage NSW  |
| km       | kilometres  |
| LALC     | Local Aboriginal Land Council   |
| LEP      | Local Environment Plan  |
| LGA      | Local Government Area   |
| m        | metres  |
| NGH      | NGH Pty Ltd   |
| NPW Act  | National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)                            |
| NSW      | New South Wales   |
| PAD      | Potential Archaeological Deposit                                      |
| SHI      | State Heritage Inventory  |
| ACHA     | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment                               |
| ACHCRP   | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents |
| AHD      | Australian Heritage Database  |
| AHIMS    | Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System                     |
| AHIP     | Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit                                     |

# 1. Introduction

On behalf of Christine Jordan, Monteath & Powys require an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to support an application for a proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove (Figure 1). The area proposed for rezoning is currently zoned RU2 Rural Landscape and the proposal intends to rezone 2.5 hectares to B1 Neighbourhood Centre and the remaining 4.2 hectares to be rezoned as E2 Environmental Conservation to accommodate the environmental constraints of the site. The planning proposal includes a supermarket and shops. Specifically, the planning proposal involves:

- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural Landscape to E2 Environmental Conservation.
- Rezoning part of Lot 14 DP 258848 from RU2 Rural landscape to B1 Neighbourhood Centre..
- Removing Minimum Lot Size requirement of the proposed B1 zone from AB2 20 hectares.
- Introducing a height of building limit of 9 metres to the B1 zone; and.
- Introducing a new local provision limiting future retail development to a maximum gross floor area of between 1,500 – 5,000 square metres.

The Project is located off Fullerton Cove Road, approximately 8 kilometres (km) north of Newcastle, NSW.

The proposed development will involve ground disturbance works that may have the potential to impact Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and objects which are protected under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) has been engaged by Christine to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA). The purpose of the ACHA will therefore be to investigate the presence of any Aboriginal sites and their values; and to assess the potential impacts to these values, providing recommendations for management measures that may mitigate, reduce, or prevent impact.

Throughout the project, NSW regulatory codes and guidelines below will be followed in relation to the Aboriginal heritage assessment.

- *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW*(OEH 2011).
- *Code of practice for archaeological investigations of objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010a).
- *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (ACHCRP) (DECCW 2010b).



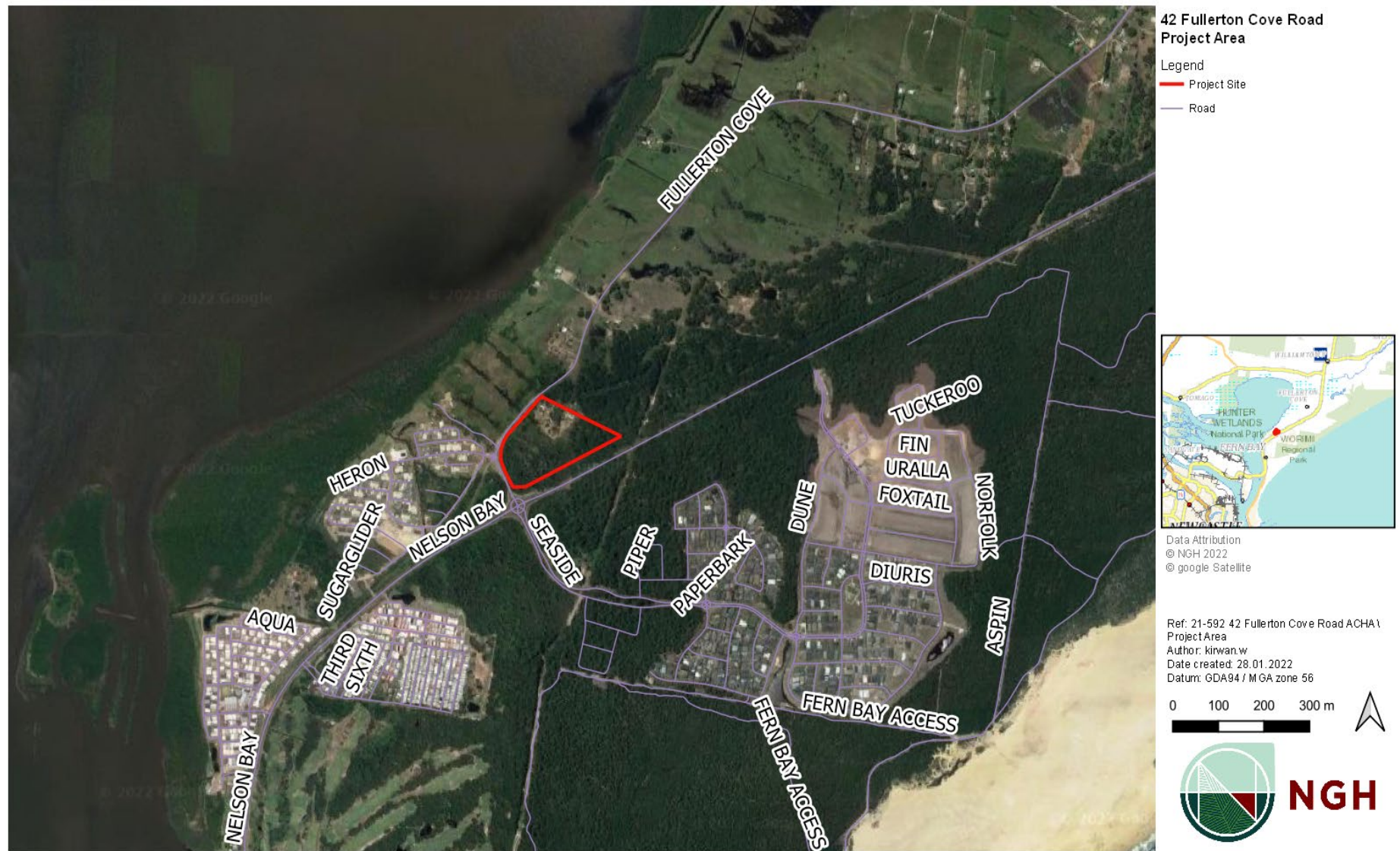


Figure 1-1 Location of Project Site

## **2. Aboriginal Consultation**

In accordance with the requirements outlined in the ACHCRP, NGH have compiled a Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) stakeholder register identifying Aboriginal individuals or organisations who may have an interest in the project. To date, this has included the following steps:

- Advertising for interested parties by placing a public notice advertisement in the Port Stephens Examiner on the 9 December 2021.
- Writing to required agencies, including Heritage NSW, Port Stephens Council, Hunter Local Land Services, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Native Title Services and the Registrar of Aboriginal Owners advising of the project and seeking known interested parties; and
- Writing to any potential RAPs and additional identified parties from Heritage NSW (HNSW) and/or other organisations seeking their interest.

This methodology, for an archaeological survey with provision for Code of Practice testing (if required), is now being provided for comment to those Aboriginal organisations or individuals who have registered their interest in the project. Once the review period for the methodology is completed, the fieldwork component will proceed with assistance from the relevant Aboriginal community representatives (as selected by the proponent). Once fieldwork is completed, an ACHA report will be drafted and provided to all the RAPs for input and comment. The final report will incorporate information provided by the RAPs and a copy will be provided to each RAP for their records.

## **3. Background Information**

### **3.1 Project background**

The site is 6.7 hectares (ha) in area and is located on the north-west corner of Nelson Bay Road and Fullerton Cove Road at Fullerton Cove (Figure 1-1). The site is currently used for residential purposes and has been largely cleared around the existing residential dwellings.

The site is located to the northern edge of the Fern Bay urban area where the land transitions from urban to rural use with some conservation reservation. Within 1km of the site to the south and east are existing dwellings and new dwellings being constructed in the 'Seaside Estate' residential release. Further south are manufactured home estates and a recently approved caravan park across the road. The planning proposal states there is sufficient demand for commercial development at the site at Fullerton Cove. The site is close to the Hunter Wetlands National Park to the west and contains low lying areas of local wetlands. Fullerton Cove is approximately 500m to the west of the site.

### **3.2 Archaeological background**

#### **3.2.1 Aboriginal heritage information systems (AHIMS)**

The AHIMS is a database of previously recorded Aboriginal heritage sites in NSW. A search provides basic information about any Aboriginal sites previously identified within a search area. However, a register search is not conclusive evidence of the presence or absence of Aboriginal heritage sites, as it requires that an area has been inspected and details of any sites located have been provided to add to the register. As a starting point, the search will indicate whether any sites are known within or adjacent to the investigation area.

A search of the AHIMS database was conducted over an area approximately 12km east-west x 6km north-south centred on the Project Site on the 30 June 2021. The AHIMS client service ID was: 627255. There were 120 Aboriginal sites and no declared Aboriginal Places recorded in the search area.

The results of the AHIMS search are summarised in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1 AHIMS registered sites

| Site Type   | Number | %    |
|---|--------|------|
| Midden/ Open Camp   | 40     | 33.3 |
| Open Camp   | 29     | 24.2 |
| Midden  | 15     | 12.5 |
| Artefact Scatter  | 13     | 10.8 |
| Isolated Find   | 7      | 5.8  |
| Burials   | 6      | 5    |
| Midden/ Artefact Scatter                                    | 2      | 1.8  |
| Aboriginal Resource and Gathering                           | 2      | 1.8  |
| Stone Quarry  | 1      | 0.8  |
| Potential Archaeological Deposit                            | 1      | 0.8  |
| Open Camp/ Burial   | 1      | 0.8  |
| Open Camp, Hearth, PAD                                      | 1      | 0.8  |
| Open Camp/ Midden/ Non-Human Bone and Organic Material      | 1      | 0.8  |
| Open Camp/ Midden/ Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming/ Burial | 1      | 0.8  |
| TOTAL   | 120    | 100  |

None of the 120 registered AHIMS sites are located within the Project Site. The closest registered site to the west is AHIMS #38-4-0723 approximately 217 m away and is listed as a midden also containing 13 artefacts. The closest registered site to the north is AHIMS #38-4-1644 approximately 144 m away and is listed as a midden. The closest registered sites to the south are AHIMS #38-4-0542 and AHIMS #38-4-0857 approximately 135 and 153m away respectively and are listed as middens with artefacts. The closest registered site to the east is AHIMS #38-4-0953 approximately 142 m away and is listed as an open camp.



### **3.2.2 Additional Searches**

Other heritage register searches were also undertaken to identify any items or places in proximity to the Project Site, with a focus on the Project Site and surrounding landscape. The following resources were used as part of this assessment:

- The NSW State Heritage Inventory (SHI) includes items on the State Heritage Register and items listed by state agencies and local Government, to identify any items currently listed within or adjacent to the Project Site.
- The Australian Heritage Database (AHD) includes items on the National and Commonwealth Heritage Lists, to identify any items that are currently listed within or adjacent to the Project Site.

The results of the NSW SHI database search indicated that there are no local and state agency listed heritage sites within the Project Site. The closest items listed on the Port Stephens Local Environment Plan (LEP) are the Stockton Beach Dune System 620 m to the south and Stanley Park House 160 m to the north and on the opposite side of Fullerton Cove Road.

Non-Aboriginal heritage is outside the scope of this document.



Figure 3-1 AHIMS in proximity to Project Site





Figure 3-2 Historic heritage in proximity to Project Site

### **3.2.3 Regional archaeological studies**

There have been several previous archaeological assessments undertaken within the Newcastle Bight, Stockton, Fern Bay and Fullerton Cove area. The summaries of each of these archaeological investigations are included below.

Koettig (1987) conducted an archaeological assessment near Nelson Bay Road near Stockton towards the western end of the Newcastle Bight. The survey comprised the inner side of the Outer Barrier and described three dune-building episodes approximated to be less than 4500 years Before Present (BP). The archaeological assessment undertaken by Koettig (1987) indicated a wide distribution of archaeological material throughout the Outer Barrier area, however, dense vegetation hindered approximation of site extent. These were generally found to be located along vehicle tracks and dune crests within the area. Artefacts identified during the survey, were predominantly characterised by mudstone material (also known as Merewether or Nobby's tuff material).

Dean-Jones (1990) identified a total of 119 sites during a regional survey of Newcastle Bight and noted an additional 40-50 middens which were unable to be properly recorded owing to time constraints of the survey. Of the 119 sites recorded, many sites identified included shell middens, with some artefact scatters also present. Dean-Jones (1990) indicated that the shell material observed was a mixture of natural and anthropogenic related remains comprising both estuarine and marine shell species. Most of the sites identified were located along transgressive sand dune/active blow outs with some evidence of sites occurring along the foredune and outer deflation basins.

An assessment by Dean-Jones (1992) comprised shovel testing and survey across an area located at Fern Bay, NSW, approximately 700m south-east of the current Proposal area. Shovel testing was employed to ascertain the geomorphology of the area and provide further insight regarding the location and age of archaeological sites within the region. Based on the findings of the testing, Dean-Jones (1992) indicated that the archaeological sites identified within the assessment area were likely to be dated at approximately 4500 Before Present and that aeolian modification of the barrier surface may have destroyed any archaeology pre-dating this accretion event. Most of the sites identified were located along the higher ridges of the dune field. Sites identified included shell and flaked stone or shell or flaked stone. Shell species identified as part of the deposits included pipi, oyster, and mud whelk. Many shovel pits excavated were dug to approximately 30-60cm, with only one pit excavated to a depth of 90 centimetres (cm).

An archaeological assessment of the Stockton Rifle Range two kilometres (km) south of the current Proposal area was conducted by Silcox in 1999. Two sites were identified during the field inspection component of the assessment. These included Site S1 and Site S2. However, neither of these sites were included on the NPWS register. Site S1 comprised a low-density artefact scatter including a total of 10 artefacts. Site S2 is comprised of fragmented oyster shells located along the access tracks. Owing to the disturbed nature of each of the sites and the minimal archaeological material identified, Silcox indicated that each of the sites had low archaeological significance. However, he also recommended further archaeological assessment once vegetation was cleared for the area to enhance visibility.

Umwelt (2003) conducted an Aboriginal archaeological survey and heritage assessment for the proposed development of part of Lot 5 of the Stockton Rifle Range Fern Bay. During the survey, two artefact scatters were identified. These included Site Stockton Rifle Range 1 (AHIMS #38-4-0692) and Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 (AHIMS #38-4-0693). Site Stockton Rifle Range 2, originally identified by Silcox. This was reidentified but the assessment concluded that the oyster remains were likely from commercially grown oysters and therefore not Aboriginal cultural material. Located along the crest and slope of a beach ridge along Popplewell Road, Stockton Rifle Range 1 comprised a



low-density artefact scatter. All but one of the seven artefacts identified as part of the scatter were composed of Nobbys tuff raw material, with a single inclusion of silcrete. Umwelt (2003) reported that the artefacts likely became exposed owing to the recreational disturbance of the vehicle and bike tracks and wind movement of the sandy deposit. Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 was situated within the levelled and mounded modified rifle range. The artefacts associated with Site Stockton Rifle Range 2 were also posited to have been exposed and translocated through vehicle and bicycle use of the area previously. These artefacts formed four discrete locations within the site. Section 1 of SSRR2 comprised three Nobbys tuff flakes and 1 Nobbys tuff flaked piece. Section 2 of SSRR2 included three flakes, six flaked pieces. One retouched flake and four broken flakes all composed of Nobbys tuff material located along a loose sandy mound. Section 3 of the SSRR2 site comprised one Nobbys tuff flake located along a sandy vehicle track. Section 4 of the SSRR2 site included two flakes and one core, all of which were also comprised of Nobbys tuff material.

Following on from the Stage One test excavations conducted for the area, McCardle (2005) undertook archaeological test excavation of select areas at Fern Bay. This assessment was located approximately 1.2km south-west of the Fullerton Cove Proposal area. Excavations included two 1 x 1 metre test pits (FD8 and FB14) and two 2 x 2 metre test pits (PS1A and PS1B) which were manually excavated in spits of 5-10cm. Pit FD8 comprised both midden and artefactual material as did FB14 and were described as heavily disturbed through root protrusion throughout the assemblage. Conversely, only shell midden material was recovered from PS1A and PS1B with modern rubbish inclusions prevalent throughout the upper layers. Material composition of the artefacts recovered during the excavation were predominantly characterised by tuff materials with lesser inclusions of silcrete. The typology of the artefacts identified included flaked pieces (n=49), followed by flakes (n=39), then broken flakes (n=4), and one inclusion of a flake and core. Despite the highly fragmented nature of the midden material, the majority shell species identified included rock oyster (*Saccostrea glomerata*) and possibly mud oyster (*Ostrea angasi*). Other species recorded included *Bembicium* sp., *Batillaria australis*, *Pyzarus* sp., *Anadara* sp., *Spisula trigonella*, *Iris crenatus*, *Trich hirsute*, *Patelloida mimuli*, *Bedevea* sp., *Nassarius jonasii*, snail, as well as some bone, burnt shell and undiagnostic fragments. Additionally, the presence of backed artefacts within the assemblage may further support and mid-late Holocene occupation period.

ERM (2008) prepared an Aboriginal heritage assessment to report the findings of an archaeological excavation undertaken within Lot 16, DP 258848, No. 85 Nelson Bay Road, Fern Bay, less than one kilometre south-west of the current Proposal area. The assessment was divided into three Phases. Phase 1 would sample five previously recorded sites through test excavation including Fern Bay Estate 7, Fern Bay Estate 8, Fern Bay Estate 11, Fern Bay Estate 16 and Fern Bay Site C. Phase 2 was based on the results of auger testing conducted by Dean-Jones (1992) indicating that subsurface archaeological material of the area typically occurred between 300 millimetres (mm) and 600 mm depths. As such, a sampling strategy based on the topography of the area was employed using ten 100m transects across different ridges and slopes with auger tests carried out at 10m intervals across each transect. Phase 3 comprised controlled 1 x 1 metre excavation of locations where subsurface archaeological material was identified in the auger testing locations during phase 2 of the assessment. The results of each of the assessment phases is detailed below.

Excavation of Site 7 (Dean-Jones 1992) comprised twelve auger holes and recovered no subsurface archaeological material. Three small shell fragments were, however, identified on the surface and it was therefore concluded that the site should be classified as a surface shell scatter.

During earlier survey work, Site C was identified by Jim Wheeler and Len Anderson in 2000. Site C comprised a variety of shell and artefactual scattered material. The subsurface investigations of Site C included five test augers and two 1x1m trenches were excavated. The results of the Site C

excavations indicated intact A-horizon soils interspersed with high densities of stone artefacts and shell material. The trenches were excavated to a depth of 800mm, totalling a series of 9 spits. Except for TT1 which included higher concentrations of artefacts across the lower spits, higher artefact densities characterised the upper spits. The subsurface excavation recovered a total of 798 stone artefacts and 97 shell pieces, and the surface collection recovered 293 stone artefacts and 333 shell pieces. It was noted by ERM (2008) that shell frequencies were substantially higher for surface recording contrary to subsurface recovered material. Whereas the frequencies of stone artefacts were higher for subsurface and lower for surface recorded materials.

Fern Bay Estate Site 8 was also originally identified by Dean-Jones 1992 and comprised five *Pyzarus* shells exposed along a vehicle track within a low dune ridge. The surface inspection and auger testing conducted by ERM (2008) at Site 8 recovered one stone artefact and four shell fragments. A subsequent test excavation of the site included one 2 × 2 metre test trench and three 1 × 1m test trenches were undertaken. Similarly, to Site C another intact series of A-horizon soils were identified, and pits were excavated to a depth of 800mm (9 spits total). The excavation recovered 51 stone artefacts and 15 shell pieces, averaging an artefact density of 4.4 per m<sup>3</sup>. Additionally, an Aboriginal hearth was also identified at a depth of 600-700mm as part of TT3. The hearth was characterised by charcoal and greasy ash material within an oval shaped deposit. Charcoal material extracted from the hearth was submitted for Radiocarbon dating and returned a conventional determination of 2584±45BP (Wk-13446). The oval morphology of the charcoal, its contextual association to the recovered stone artefacts, the discrete nature of the charcoal feature as well as its isolation from linear or structural orientation supported the identification of an Aboriginal hearth. A large stone artefact, identified as a 'Worimi Cleaver,' was recovered from spit six of square B4 of the TT1 pit.

The 'Worimi Cleaver' is characterised by large triangular morphology with a backed margin and thin working edge. This artefact was composed of Nobbys tuff material. Along the working edge of the artefact, a distinct greasy black residue was identified. Following residue and function analysis of the artefact by Dr Richard Fullagar (upon permission of the WLALC), the residue was identified to likely be from plant processing of the Bungwall fern (*Blechnum indicum*) which is a dominant species of swamp forests within the broader assessment area.

Fern Bay Estate Site 11 was also identified by Dean-Jones 1992 and comprised six pieces of flaked Nobby's tuff material. Relocation of the site indicated that the original coordinates provided by Dean-Jones were off by about 200m which place it beyond the boundary of the ERM (2008) assessment area. Owing to the research permit requiring excavation within the Proposal area, the testing was undertaken adjacent to the recorded location of Site 11 but still within the study area. This subsurface investigation included ten augers and two 1×1 m trenches. No surface or sub-surface archaeological material was recovered.

Fern Bay Estate Site 16 (Dean-Jones 1992) was recorded as scatter of 11 flakes. Excavation undertaken by Dean-Jones (1992) included four 1 × 1m test pits, from which stone artefacts were recovered from two of the pits. Subsurface investigations of the site by ERM (2008) included 15 test augers from which no archaeological material was recovered.

Auger transects excavated as part of Phase 2 of the assessment recovered no archaeological material from transects 1-5 and transect 8. However, one flake was recovered from auger 1 of transect 6, one shell fragment from auger 10 of transect 10, two shell fragments from auger 2 and 3 of transect 8 and from transect 7 one shell fragment from auger 10, one flaked piece from auger 5 and one flaked piece from auger 6 were recovered.

Phase 3 involved controlled 1 × 1m test excavation of each of the sites identified during Phase 2 of the assessment. Despite archaeological material being identified in Transect 9 and 10, owing to the

disturbed nature of the deposit, no further investigation was determined to be warranted. Transects 6 and 7 comprised undisturbed soils and therefore were subject to controlled excavation. Transect 7 was subsequently named 'Site E' and Transect 6 named 'Site F'. Additionally, a previously unidentified stone and shell scatter was identified for excavation and named 'Site D.' Site D comprised a total of 28 flaked stone artefacts was situated along a low ridge crest and excavation comprised series of 11 auger holes.

Additionally, a 1 × 1m test trench was also excavated at the centre of the surface deposit. The excavation included 84 artefacts including flakes, flaked pieces and cores across the none spits excavated. No shell was recovered from the subsurface excavation material. Excavation of Fern Bay Site E was located along a ridge line and recovered a total of 355 shell fragments and 49 stone flakes across nine spits. Higher densities of shell and stone material were recovered from spits three and four. Fern Bay Site F was also excavated to a depth of 800 mm, but no subsurface archaeological material was recovered.

An archaeological assessment for the proposed sand extraction operation at Fullerton Cove was undertaken by McCardle (2008), approximately 2.8km north-east of the current Proposal area. The assessment area for this investigation comprised four distinct survey units. SU1 comprised the northern section of the assessment area, SU2 comprised the middle section, SU3 comprised the northern area of the western section and SU4 comprised the southern area of the western section. All survey units were described as heavily disturbed in relation to mining, clearing, and housing activities. During the survey, a single archaeological site was identified and recorded as Fullerton Cove Sand Extraction 1.

Fullerton Cove Sand Extraction 1 comprised a high-density artefact scatter with more than 50 artefacts. McCardle (2008) indicated that although the artefact scatter was widely dispersed this was likely due to the highly disturbed nature of the sites and that the high density of artefacts may reflect several previously distinct individual sites. Artefact types included tuff manufactured backed artefacts, core, flakes, and flaked pieces. Ethnographic accounts from representatives of the WLALC are also included in this report and indicated burials were generally located in areas that overlooked working areas or campsites or near middens. As such, there is potential for burials to occur in proximity to other sites within the area.

An Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment was conducted by AMBS (2012) to ascertain any potential constraints for the proposed construction of the ammonium nitrate facility on Kooragang Island, NSW. This assessment area was located approximately 5km south-west of the Fullerton Cove Proposal area. No Aboriginal archaeological material was identified during the survey component of this assessment. AMBS (2012) indicated the nature of the area to be highly disturbed with soils described as coarse grey-brown gritty sand material with shell and pebble inclusions interspersed throughout.

RPS (2012) conducted an archaeological due diligence assessment for the proposed replacement of two power poles located at Fern Bay, NSW. The site inspection component of the assessment determined the area to be highly disturbed owing to the original construction of the power pole, road construction, vehicle use of the area as well as the residential development of the area. Archaeological potential, given the disturbed nature of the site, was low. The field inspection was undertaken alongside representatives of the WLALC. No Aboriginal archaeological material was identified during the field assessment. While these representatives agreed they were satisfied with the conclusions of this due diligence assessment it was also raised that there are known highly significant sites including burials within the general area but likely none within the proposed assessment area but further towards Popplewell Road.

A due diligence assessment was undertaken by RPS (2015) for the proposed installation of a sewerage pipeline extending between Nelson Bay Road and into Williamtown Drive, Williamtown. The desktop component of this assessment identified six registered AHIMS sites within the region. Five of the six registered AHIMS sites were identified outside the assessment area and would therefore not be impacted. However, one site AHIMS #38-4-1160 was identified within the proposed assessment area. AHIMS #38-4-1160 comprised a low-density artefact scatter including two artefacts. The field inspection revisited the recorded location of AHIMS #38-4-1160 but identified no archaeological material at the recorded location nor along the proposed extent of the Project Area. The original recorded location of the site was observed by RPS (2015) as being highly disturbed owing to the construction of Williamtown Drive and indicated that the site may have been destroyed during this construction process. Owing to no Aboriginal archaeological material being identified during the course of the due diligence survey and no risk to Aboriginal objects being concluded the assessment recommended that the development may proceed without any AHIP application.

### **3.2.4 Local archaeological studies**

An archaeological assessment was undertaken by Davies (1993) for the proposed Inter Exchange Network Fibre Cable between Gosford and Wauchope, NSW. The assessment proposed installation of ten network optic fibre cables and subsequently divided the proposed locations of these areas into five study areas. The study area relevant to the Fullerton Cove Proposal area was Study Area B Williamtown and in particular Route 4 Stockton to Williamtown. The survey undertaken for Route 4 of Study Area B examined a 6-metre-wide corridor along the proposed optic fibre cable alignment. No archaeological material was identified within the proposed corridor. However, three midden sites were identified within proximity to the proposed alignment located along low dune landforms on the west side of Fullerton Cove Road. The midden material associated with Midden 1 had previously been bisected during the original road construction works, however, the southern section of the dune appeared to remain intact at the time of inspection. Midden 2 also demonstrated signs of significant disturbance related to the construction of a house and outbuildings nearby. Midden 2 comprises a sparse scatter of midden material along the slope of the dune, however, Davies (1993) notes that the top of the dune appears flattened and as such the midden material may have shifted and therefore should not necessarily be considered in situ material. Midden 3 included a sparse scatter of shell material, predominantly characterised by Cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) species with some inclusions of Whelk (*Pyzarus ebininus*) and Oyster (*Saccostrea commercialis*). This midden was located along the crest of a dune which appears to have been bisected by the construction of Fullerton Cove Road.

An Aboriginal heritage impact assessment for the proposed construction of a retirement village was undertaken by Wildthing Environmental Consultants (2004). This assessment area was located immediately adjacent to the south section of the Fullerton Cove Proposal area. During the field survey component of this assessment, one Aboriginal archaeological site was identified. Fullerton Cove Site 1 comprised an artefact scatter and shell midden. Species comprised within the shell midden material predominantly included oyster shells with some inclusions of mud whelk and cockle shell. The artefact scatter component of the site included a total of 13 stone artefacts. All artefacts were composed of mudstone material and included four cores and nine flakes. Wildthing Environmental Consultants (2004) described the deposit as moderately disturbed due to its location within a livestock paddock and evidence of an old barn/building evident in the surface material. Recommendations of the assessment included a collection of cultural material associated with the midden site by the WLALC and relocation to an area of Swamp Forest towards the southern section of the site pending an approved 'Consent to Salvage' application under Section 90 of the NPWS Act (1974). The progress of this application and any subsequent salvage of these materials needs to be



determined. Although the recommendations of the report indicate relocation of the salvaged materials to the southern end of the site, this would still not place the site where the current AHIMS location is recorded. As such, ground truthing of each proposed location of the site will need to be undertaken as part of the field inspection of this assessment.

An Aboriginal Due Diligence assessment was undertaken by NGH (2020) for the proposed development of the subject site, Lot 186 DP749482 at 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove to support a modification to the Development Approval (DA 16-2013-564-1) for use of the site as a caravan park.

The AHIMS register search revealed that there were heritage sites in the surrounding area, including one previously recorded Aboriginal site within the Project Area. The Project Area is also located within 200m of Fullerton Cove and the Outer Barrier of the Newcastle Bight sand dune system, which are both designated landscape features that have higher potential for the presence of Aboriginal sites. Consequently, a visual inspection was undertaken to determine the likely impact the proposed works would have on Aboriginal objects. The visual inspection relocated AHIMS Site #38-4-0333 and AHIMS #38-4-1644 and determined that both these sites were outside the development area and would likely not be disturbed. However, two exposures of midden material associated with AHIMS #38-4-0723 were within the proposed development area. A survey of the remaining Project Area identified no further archaeological material or potential.

Following the Due Diligence Assessment, an ACHA was undertaken recommending subsurface testing in order to further investigate the archaeological potential and significance within the Project Area. The subsurface testing was completed under Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) 4672, and an Archaeological Test Excavation Report was prepared (NGH 2021).

Three previously recorded Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) sites representing potential midden deposits were located within or near the Project Area. Three Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) areas were located within the Project Area associated with these registered sites:

- PAD #1 along the dune ridge in south-western edge of the Project Area, associated with #38-4-0723;
- PAD #2 within the very north-eastern corner of the Project Area near registered site #38-4-1644; and
- PAD #3 was located adjacent to Fullerton Cove Road towards the south-eastern end of the Project Area associated with #38-8-0333.

These were subject to test excavations as summarised below.

Six separate surface expressions of midden and artefactual material associated with AHIMS #38-4-0723 (Fullerton Cove Site 1) were recorded within the Project Area. AHIMS #38-4-0333 (Fullerton Cove Road, Site 1) was also inspected within the road reserve on both sides of the road and found to be highly disturbed because of the construction of Fullerton Cove Road. Shell remains and one artefact were identified within mounded sand adjacent to the road reserve, in private property to the east of the Project Area.

No evidence of midden material, including shells, bones, artefacts, or charcoal was observed for AHIMS #38-4-1644 (Fullerton Cove Midden 1).

Twenty-three test pits were excavated from which 100 Aboriginal artefacts were identified and over 100 kilograms of shell material was recovered for analysis. All but a single artefact identified within the Project Area during the survey and current test excavation program form part of registered site

38-4-0723. A single artefact was identified on the western side of Fullerton Cove Road which is associated with AHIMS #38-4-0333.

Artefacts were primarily manufactured from tuff, with chert, silcrete and quartz material also present. Only two cores were present, and no formal tools were recorded. Flakes and flake fragments made up the majority of the assemblage. Test pit FC TP19 contained 69% of the total artefact assemblage.

True midden layers were identified only in pits within the extent of AHIMS 38-4-0723. This included dense lenses of oysters, with occasional occurrences of cockle, mud whelk and various unidentified small shells. It was observed that shell remains from the test pit FC TP19 were significantly more crushed than those from the other pits, and fewer whole shells were present as a percentage of the whole within this pit, compared to others.

The current and past studies of the local area including Fullerton Cove, Fern Bay and Stockton, show the presence of both surface and subsurface artefacts and shell middens, in varying densities, present across the dune system between the ocean and Fullerton Cove. The presence of low densities of shell and artefacts along the south-eastern portion of the dune ridge at AHIMS #38-4-0723, and moderate to high densities of artefacts, as well as concentrated midden layers, at the north-western end of the dune ridge, confirms that Aboriginal people were not just passing through this area, but rather were using the location for the gathering and consumption of food resources. In particular, the location of FC TP19 was likely to have been a focal point for specific activities and was identified as the possible location of a burial based on local cultural knowledge provided by the RAPs.

### **3.2.5 Summary of Aboriginal land-use'**

The results of previous archaeological surveys in the region demonstrate there are numerous Aboriginal sites present throughout the region. Shell middens are the dominant site type with artefact sites also comprising a large proportion of them. The dominant lithology within the area is tuff with smaller amounts of other materials represented. Tool typologies characteristic to the area are predominantly cores and flake tools with occasional occurrences of other types.

There are no registered AHIMS sites within the Project Site. While this may suggest the limited occupation or use of the area by Aboriginal people, it is more likely a result of a lack of survey in the area or that land clearing and farming activities have disturbed or removed the cultural material evidence of Aboriginal occupation in the area.

## **3.3 Landscape assessment**

Understanding the landscape context of the Project Site may also assist us to better understand the archaeological modelling of the area and assist to identify local resources that may have been utilised by Aboriginal people in the past. This information can then be used in predicting the nature of Aboriginal occupation across the landscapes within and adjacent to the Project Site. Factors that are typically used to inform the archaeological potential of landscapes include the presence or absence of environmental resources that would have been utilised by Aboriginal people including water, animal and plant foods, stone and other resources.

Factors that are typically used to inform the archaeological potential of landscapes include the presence or absence of resources that would have been used by Aboriginal people including water, animal and plant foods, stone, and other resources. The landscape context assessment for the Proposal Area is based on several classifications that have been made at national, regional, and local levels to help us better understand the archaeological modelling of the Proposal Area. These

site location factors are based on the geology, topography, hydrology, flora and fauna and past land disturbances within and adjacent to the Proposal Area.

### **3.3.1 Geology and topography**

The landscape context of the Proposal Area is based on Mitchell soil landscapes and NSW geological maps. The combination of these differing resolutions of landform data provides a comprehensive and multi scaled understanding of the landscape within the Proposal Area and its immediate surroundings.

Archaeologically, the geology of any location is important as it informs as to whether there any potential for in-situ deposits of stone material traditionally used for the manufacture of stone tools or whether these materials would have to have been sourced from further afield or even traded with other groups of people.

The proposed works area is located within the Newcastle Bight region of New South Wales which is characterised by gravel, silt, sand, clay, and sand Quaternary freshwater deposits on long recurved quartz sand beaches between rocky headlands backed by sand dunes and intermittently closed and open lagoons. Outcroppings of Tomago Coal Measures occurs consisting of shale, coal, conglomerate, tuff, and sandstone as well as Maitland and Dalwood Groups including siltstone, basalt, tuff, mudstone, shale, sandstone, tillitic and conglomerate are noted to occur throughout the Newcastle Bight region. The various tuffs from the local area, was a favoured stone type for the manufacture of stone tools by Aboriginal people.

Elevation of the proposed works area ranges between 5-10m. The characteristic geomorphology of the Newcastle Bight Embayment is referred to as part of a “dual barrier system” where the back-barrier sand flats and dune, with the north portion partially covered by Holocene tidal flats. This “dual barrier system” formed a transgressive field dune within the area. The proposed works area is also located within the “Outer Barrier” of the system. The outer barrier has developed during the Holocene over the last 9,000 years, with the present sea level remaining fairly constant over the last 6500 years.

### **3.3.2 Hydrology**

Water supply is often suggested as being the most significant factor influencing Aboriginal peoples' prior land-use strategies. The proposed works area is located within 200m of Fullerton Cove which is fed by the North Arm of the Hunter River. This watercourse would not have provided potable water, as it contains brackish waters, however it would have provided numerous other plant and animal resources such as shellfish (oysters), birds and rushes and herbs which grow in the saltmarshes. Freshwater would have been available in nearby swales formed by sand dunes to the west of the cove, prior to development of the area.

### **3.3.3 Soils**

According to the Mitchell Landscape assessment, the Proposal area is situated within the Sydney – Newcastle Barriers and Beaches. The Mitchell Landscape description is provided in Table 3-2 below.

Table 3-2 Descriptions of soil landscapes in the Project Site (Mitchell 2002)

| Soil landscape                                | Description   |
|---|---|
| Sydney – Newcastle Barriers and Beaches (Snb) | Deep sands that have an organic rich A horizon, a bleached A2 horizon and the initial development of weak iron or organic pans in the sandy subsoil. Well-developed, deep podsol profiles are present in cliff top dunes with swampy swales indicating that these forms are probably older than the coastal dunes |

### 3.3.4 Flora and fauna

The information provided herein is intended as a generalised summary of the endemic flora and fauna present within the Proposal Area and is not to be used as a substitute for detailed ecological studies and assessments.

Information provided herein is intended as a generalised summary of the endemic flora and fauna present within the proposal area and is not to be used as a substitute for detailed ecological studies and assessments.

According to broad-scale vegetation mapping by Keith (2006), the area would originally have been characterised by the Mangrove Swamps, Coastal Swamp Forests and the Coastal Dune Dry Sclerophyll Forest vegetation communities which overlap one another to the north of Fullerton Cove and north-west of the Stockton sand dunes.

Characteristic vegetation species along the beach areas of Sydney-Newcastle Barriers and Beaches Mitchell landscape include Spinifex (*Spinifex hirsutus*), coast wattle (*Acacia longifolia* ssp. *sophorae*), coast tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), spiky mat-rush (*Lomandra longifolia*). Second dunes comprise a variety of old man banksia (*Banksia serrata*) and Coast banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) which join to more complex forest vegetation including red bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*), blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) and grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea* sp.). The heathlands comprise species such as *Banksia aemula* an open scrub of the coast includes coast rosemary (*Westringea fruticosa*), coast tea-tree and grass tree, red bloodwood, banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) and with dwarfed smooth-barked apple (*Angophora costata*). Lagoons include species such as swamp oak (*Casuarina glauca*) and broad-leaved tea-tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) with water margins and tidal inlets bordered by grey mangrove (*Avicennia marina*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and *Juncus* sp. (Mitchell 2002).

There are abundant and varied faunal species in the area that would have formed part of the terrestrial and marine mixed resource pool for Aboriginal people as food, medicines, and materials for the manufacture of implements and clothing.

While there is very little remnant native vegetation remaining, the Proposal Area is likely to have formed a small part of a larger resource-rich area in which flora and fauna resources were abundant.

### 3.3.5 Land disturbance

The subject site has primarily been utilised for pastoral purposes, with some portions having been subject to sand mining through the second half of the twentieth century. Much of the original



transgressive dune system has changed due to human activity since colonisation across the subject site.

The contemporary use of the property is for rural agriculture, predominantly characterised by grazed pasture with some open forests along the perimeters of the site. Wildthing (2004) indicated previous historic disturbance of the area in relation to rubbish dumping, continual grazing, and vegetation clearance of the area. Additionally, extensive disturbance in the form of 'the placement of fill' to level out the land along the west of the site to manage the access and contours of the existing salt marsh (Wildthing 2004).

### 3.3.6 Aboriginal site prediction

The Aboriginal site modelling for the region to date suggests that the most archaeologically sensitive areas are located along lower slopes and ridges in association with water. Previous investigations have shown that there is Aboriginal archaeological material and areas of archaeological sensitivity are present within the proposed work areas. Based on the previous archaeological investigations in the region, it is possible to predict the likely archaeological site types that may occur within the Proposal area. These are outlined in Table 3-3 below.

Table 3-3 Aboriginal site prediction statements

| Site Type         | Site Description  | Potential  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Artefact scatters | Artefact scatter sites can range from high-density concentrations through to sites containing two artefacts. The size of these sites usually correlates with proximity to sources of fresh water.   | High potential to occur in low to moderate densities on deflation basins, dunes, crests and adjacent to water courses. |
| Isolated Finds    | These sites consist of a single artefact and usually represent accidental discard or disposal. Can occur anywhere.  | High potential within the subject site.  |
| Middens           | An accumulation or deposit of shellfish from beach, estuarine, lacustrine, or riverine species resulting from Aboriginal gathering and consumption. Usually found in deposits previously referred to as shell middens. Can be found in association with other objects like stone tools, fish bones, charcoal, fireplaces/hearths, and | High potential to occur in the area close to coastal waterways and on dunes.   |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | burials. Will vary greatly in size and components.  |  |
| Burials   | Aboriginal burial sites most often found in association with middens and areas of sand dunes.   | Potential to occur where preservation conditions and sand deposits are present   |
| Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs)  | Potential subsurface deposits of archaeological material. These sites require the existence of undisturbed stratigraphy.  | Some potential to occur within Proposal area in areas of elevated flat land associated with ephemeral drainage lines.          |
| Aboriginal Resource and Gathering<br>Note: This is not Aboriginal object and therefore, not included in the legislative process | Related to everyday activities such as food gathering, hunting, or collection and manufacture of materials and goods for use or trade.  | Some potential to occur however these intangible site types are identifiable only through consultation with Aboriginal people. |
| Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming<br>Note: This is not Aboriginal object and therefore, not included in the legislative process  | Previously referred to as mythological sites these are spiritual/story places where no physical evidence of previous use of the place may occur, e.g., natural unmodified landscape features, ceremonial or spiritual areas, men's/women's sites, dreaming (creation) tracks, marriage places etc | Some potential to occur however these intangible site types are identifiable only through consultation with Aboriginal people. |

## 4. Assessment methodology

### 4.1 Aims

The purpose of this study is to provide an assessment of the potential for the Project Site to contain Aboriginal cultural heritage values and to assess their significance.

The objectives of the assessment are therefore to:

- Conduct Aboriginal consultation as specified in s60 of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019, using the consultation process outlined in the ACHCRP;
- Assess the archaeological and cultural values of the Project Site and any Aboriginal sites therein; and
- Provide management recommendations for any objects found.

Broadly, the archaeological aims of the project would be to:

- Identify the presence or absence of Aboriginal cultural material within the Project Site;
- Assess the likely extent and nature of any such cultural material;
- Assess the archaeological significance of any cultural material;
- Provide an opportunity for RAPs to assess the cultural significance of any material; and
- Assess the management requirements for any cultural material.

### 4.2 Methodology outline

The methods used for the assessment will be as per the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW NSW 2010a) and employed as relevant to the Project Site and aims of the assessment and project requirements.

The following is an outline of the steps that would be involved in completing the ACHA for the Project Site. This forms the methodology for the assessment:

Consultation with RAPs will be carried out using the following approach:

- Notification of the project and registration of interest – obtain names of people who may hold cultural knowledge through written requests to relevant bodies and authorities and advertising in the local paper (**Completed**).
- Provide details of the project and the heritage assessment methodology to registered parties for comment (**This document**).
- Seek any information on whether there are any known places or objects of cultural significance to the Aboriginal people (**This document and ongoing until finalisation of report**).
- Involvement of selected representatives of the registered parties in fieldwork.
- Provide an opportunity for the registered Aboriginal parties to review and comment on the draft ACHA report.
- Incorporate any comments from registered Aboriginal parties into the ACHA report.
- Review of background information relevant to the Project Site. Request an AHIMS register search to identify the location of previously recorded sites and review any archaeological reports or site records of the immediate area (**Completed**).

Undertake field assessment. All fieldwork would be undertaken in line with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (OEH 2010). Field survey would include:

- Walking across the Project Site in a systematic way to identify Aboriginal objects with a specific focus on ensuring the proposed impact area and/or development footprint is sufficiently surveyed. The survey would aim to provide enough surface coverage to be confident of assessing the area for the presence of Aboriginal sites. This will include sampling all landforms that will potentially be impacted by the proposal in accordance with Requirement 5a of the Code of Practice (DECCW NSW 2010a). Survey spacing is generally 20 to 30m between survey participants however this may be adjusted as required in the field.
- Recording all Aboriginal heritage objects using standard archaeological techniques including location, environmental context, extent, content, disturbance level.
- Photograph sites.
- Record stone artefacts, collecting standard information including type, raw material, dimensions, note of technical attributes. The Global Positioning System location of individual stone artefacts would be recorded up to a point but for higher density sites or clusters of artefacts, we would record them as a polygon. If large sites were identified, we would record samples of artefacts.
- Test excavation if determined to be required would be undertaken in line with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW NSW 2010a). Note that the number and location of pits may vary and will be determined following the survey. If required subsurface testing would involve:
  - Hand excavation using shovels and trowels pits to be 50 centimetres (cm) by 50cm in area.
  - Removal of deposit in 5cm levels or 'spits' from one test pit at each PAD with subsequent test pits at 10cm unless features are found requiring a different strategy.
  - Placement of excavated deposits in buckets labelled by spit and test square.
  - Sieving of deposits through 5-millimetre (mm) sieve.
  - Removal of residue from sieves, bag for analysis.
  - Excavated material will be analysed in an NGH office.
  - Proceed with excavation until completed.
  - Continual photography of excavated sections and the excavation work in progress.
  - Scale-drawn records of the stratigraphy/soil profile features and information on Aboriginal objects recovered from each test pit.
- At the completion of the excavation, backfill test pits (sieved material if possible or clean fill if required) and
- In the event that human bone is located, an Unexpected Finds Procedure would be followed. This includes stopping work at that location and making the area secure for further assessment. The police and HNSW would be notified. If the remains were determined to be Aboriginal, further discussion and assessment of options would be considered by all parties.



- Post fieldwork analysis will involve the following elements and would be undertaken at the NGH office and would involve:
  - Sorting of the sieved material. Any cultural items and Aboriginal artefacts identified will then be recorded with the following characteristics:
    - Raw material type and colour
    - Dimensions (percussion length, width, thickness for complete items)
    - Technological characteristics (platform surface, platform type and termination type)
    - Presence and extent of the cortex
    - Presence and extent and type of edge damage (use wear, retouch)
    - Comments e.g., production method
  - Analyse the stone artefacts
  - Prepare a report on the findings and conclusion of the excavations

The recovered archaeological material will be stored at an NGH office until a suitable repository is found. NGH suggest that the material to be reburied should be reburied on the property in an area that will not be impacted by the proposed development. If reburied, a new AHIMS site card would then be submitted to ensure the location of the material is identified.

To the extent possible with the information available, assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological sites and devise ways to avoid or mitigate any impact, if possible.

Prepare a draft ACHA report. The report will be a cultural heritage assessment of the subject area and include the results of the steps outlined above. The draft ACHA report will be provided to relevant stakeholders for comment.

Provide an opportunity for the registered parties to review and comment on the draft cultural heritage assessment.

Incorporate any comments from Aboriginal parties into the cultural heritage assessment and Prepare final report. Consider all comments and finalise the report.

#### **4.2.1 Reporting methodology**

A report detailing the results of the survey and assessment will be prepared. The report will be structured to provide the following information:

- Introduction
- Aboriginal consultation
- Project setting
- Archaeological setting
- Archaeological methods
- Results
- Analysis/discussion
- Significance assessment
- Impact assessment
- Conclusions
- Recommendations

The report will include a description of sites, artefact attributes and photographs. A draft copy of the report will be provided to the registered Aboriginal parties for comments. The report will then be finalised.

DRAFT

## **5. Cultural knowledge**

As part of assessing the potential impact of the development on Aboriginal cultural values, NGH is seeking any information from the local Aboriginal community that will assist in this process. The significance of any archaeological sites identified within the Project Site will be assessed for their scientific values. NGH would also seek input from the Aboriginal community on the cultural values of any sites found.

In addition, we also seek information about any other values that may be attributed to the land identified for development. If there are known cultural sites or places of value within the Project Site, we request that this information be provided to be incorporated into the assessment. Information can be held confidentially if that is required, although such information would be used in providing an assessment of any impacts to Aboriginal values by the project. NGH are happy to discuss this in more detail with individuals or groups if required.

Information should be forwarded to the heritage consultant Kirwan Williams (details in section 6 below), either prior to the field survey, at the time of the field survey, or prior to the finalisation of the report. The contact details for Kirwan are included below.

## 6. Personnel

The cultural heritage assessment will be managed by NGH heritage consultant Kirwan Williams. Kirwan has experience as an archaeologist working on a range of cultural heritage management projects across Australia.

Contact details for Kirwan are:

Kirwan Williams

NGH Pty Ltd

Level 1, 31-33 Beaumont Street Hamilton NSW 2303

Or Via Email to: [kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:kirwan.w@nghconsulting.com.au)



## **7. Next steps**

As part of the consultation program, set out in the Consultation Requirements (DECCW NSW 2010), this methodology is provided to the registered Aboriginal parties. There is a 28-day period for comment on the assessment methodology. If any member of the organisation has any comments about the project, the cultural heritage assessment or has information that may be of assistance, please forward them to Kirwan (details included above in Section 6).

NGH is also seeking information on the experience your representatives may have in the field, and your association with or knowledge of the Project Site, to put together an appropriate field assessment team. It would be appreciated if you could provide the following information via email at your earliest convenience and certainly no later than the date specified below:

- Insurance cover certificates of currency (workers compensation/injury insurance).
- Fee rates for fieldwork.
- Field experience and information about cultural connections to the area; and
- Any other relevant information.

The closing date for comments for this methodology is 25 February 2022.

## 8. References

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- Dean-Jones, P. (1992). Archaeological Survey at Fern Bay. Lot 4 DP 233358, Lot 22 DP 593626, Pt Por. 3 Parish of Stockton, Pt Water Reserve 612308. Report to Port Stephens Council.
- ERM (2008) Fern Bay Estate Master Plan Study Aboriginal Heritage Assessment Report. Prepared for Winten Property Group and Continental Venture Capital Limited.
- Koettig, M. (1987). Preliminary Assessment of Aboriginal Archaeological Sites in the Proposed Sand Extraction Location at Nelson Bay Road, Newcastle Bight: DP 530095, New South Wales. Report to W.R. Corkery and Co. Pty Ltd. Geological and Environmental Consultants.
- McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd. (2005). Proposed Sewerage System, Fern Bay. Stage 2 Excavations. Report to Hunter Water Corporation.
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- NGH. (2020). Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove NSW. Report to Ingenia.
- NGH (2021). Archaeological Test Excavation Report: 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove. Report to Ingenia.
- RPS. (2012). Aboriginal Archaeological Due Diligence Report for the Replacement of Two Power Poles and a Stay Pole at Fern Bay. Prepared for Ausgrid.
- RPS. (2015) Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment Lot 21 DP628819, Lot 1 DP1173212 & Lot 91 DP 837152, Nelson Bay Road & Williamtown Drive, Williamtown Port Stephens Local Government Area. Prepared for ADW Johnson on behalf of Knightsbridge Estate Group Pty Ltd.
- Suters Architects. (1999). Stockton Rifle Range, Fern By, NSW: Heritage Assessment. An unpublished report to the Department of Defence.
- Umwelt. (2003). Aboriginal Archaeological Survey and Assessment of Part Lot 5, Stockton Rifle Range Fern Bay. Report to GHD Pty Ltd.
- Wildthing Environmental Consultants. (2004). Aboriginal Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Aged Care Development at Lot 187 DP749482 (No. 160) Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove NSW.

## A.8 Responses to methodology

**From:** [David Feeney](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 21-592 42 Fullerton Cove Rezoning Aboriginal Cultural Investigation Methodology  
**Date:** Wednesday, 23 February 2022 7:54:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi Kirwan;

I have read the methodology for the project at Fullerton Cove rezoning, all looks great

Thanks

Dave Feeney  
CEO  
Snr Aboriginal Cultural Officer  
Karuah Indigenous Corporation  
0421114853

**From:** [Anthony Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 21-592 42 Fullerton Cove Rezoning Aboriginal Cultural Investigation Methodology  
**Date:** Monday, 28 February 2022 9:22:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi Kirwan,  
Apologies for the late response -  
Murrooma Inc is happy with the Methodology for the re-zoning.  
I just thought I'd point out for your info- That although there are no sites identified in AHIMS when we went out and completed the due diligence for PS Council we identified several midden sites which we advised council of. At the time the recommendations for the site we were to meet the Cultural Heritage officer back onsite and complete the recordings - however since then this person has left council (Daryl Rigby). So please be aware that we have identified several sites on the surface and believe there is a very important ridge line in this area that could contain more sites.  
I have forwarded to you our correspondence with the Council for this area.

Thanks  
Bec

**From:** [Worimi TOC](#)  
**To:** [Kirwan Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 21-592 42 Fullerton Cove Rezoning Aboriginal Cultural Investigation Methodology  
**Date:** Thursday, 17 February 2022 2:27:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Outlook-1519596851.png](#)

---

Hi Kirwan,

I support the methodology purposed for 42 Fullerton Cove.

I'll say cheerio for now,

*Candy Towers*

Granddaughter of Leonard Dates

Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation

ph: 0412 475 362

e: worimitoc@hotmail.com



**WORIMI TOIC**

*Guudji Yiigu, I am a Worimi and Yorta Yorta woman from Newcastle NSW, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which I live and work, to their continuing connection to land, water, culture and community and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and to our future generations.*



## A.9 Draft ACHA RAP responses

MUR·-·ROO·-·MA



INCORPORATED

9 Vardon Road Fern Bay 2295 NSW

0421078695

0402827482

ABN: 97 807 719 484

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of August

NGH

Att: Kirwan Williams

Response - 42 Fullerton Cove Rd Fullerton Cove Draft ACHA

To Kirwan

Murrooma Incorporated has read and fully understands the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report including the testing methodology for the proposed re-zoning at Fullerton Cove. We agree with all aspects of this report and have viewed the assessment strategies including all 12 recommendations in section 9. We support further investigations of this area and believe that this area is completely connected as a holistic site to surrounding sites we have previously identified.

We believe that the results of the survey reported are true and accurate and show strong usage evidence from our ancestors. The Worimi oral history of travel routes and campsites are connected to this area and are based around this dune system seen within the project area of Fullerton Cove. "The Fingers" of sand dunes ran from Stockton Beach to the Hunter River and are a direct connection to our traditional storylines. This dune still exists on this property, although in some areas seriously disturbed our heritage is still evident.

When we completed the survey we found a very new Optus Tower that had been built on top of our ancestors sites which was very disturbing. As Worimi representatives it was evident that no due diligence or cultural assessment had been complete. **Murrooma would like further clarification of this from the proponent or property owner as another site has been destroyed.** Culturally this area within Fullerton Cove is a rarity and we do not have many sites left due to prior destruction soon there will be nothing left.

The recommendations and methodologies within this draft ACHA report meet our requirements as Traditional Owners and knowledge holders of this area and maintain the best options for our local Aboriginal sites.

Yours Truly

Bec Young - Operations Manager

Anthony Anderson - CEO

## APPENDIX B TESTING METHODOLOGY

### Introduction

NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) was contracted to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed rezoning and subsequent works at Lot 14 DP 258848, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales. The Project Site is located approximately 8 kilometres (km) north of Newcastle, NSW within the Port Stephens Local Government Area (LGA).

The proposed rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848, which is currently zoned RU2 Rural Landscape intends to rezone 2.5 hectares to B1 Neighbourhood Centre and the remaining 4.2 hectares to be rezoned as E2 Environmental Conservation to accommodate the environmental constraints of the site. Following the rezoning of the property the future development proposal includes but is not limited to the construction of a supermarket and shops and its associated infrastructure.

The inspection of the Project Site determined that the proposed works area is likely to impact four areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) across a sandy rise adjacent to Fullerton Cove part of which is associated with an artefact scatter and deposits of shell material and also associated with the previously recorded site AHIMS# 38-5-0333. A programme of subsurface testing is therefore considered to be warranted to establish the true archaeological significance and extent of any material within the location the PADs in the Project Site which are unable to be avoided by future development works subsequent to the rezoning of Lot 14 DP 258848.

Given that the test excavations permitted by the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales are limited in their scope, in accordance with Requirements 14-16, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) must be obtained by the Port Stephens Council prior to testing being undertaken within the proposed impact areas. Consequently, until an AHIP is issued that allows a subsurface testing programme to be undertaken, the true impacts to PADs are unable to be determined.

The development of this subsurface testing methodology therefore forms part of an ACHA, which will be submitted in support of the AHIP to undertake testing within the Project Site.

### Aims

The purpose of the subsurface testing programme is to provide an assessment of the potential extent and significance of subsurface cultural material within the Project Site.

A subsurface testing programme of the proposed impact area for the 42 Fullerton Cove Project Site would aim to:

- Comply with current NSW legislation and heritage guidelines.
- Identify the presence or absence of any Aboriginal sites within the PAD across the sandy rise landform within the Project Site.
- Define the nature and extent of Aboriginal subsurface objects in order to understand their significance.
- Determine if and how the proposed works would impact any sites and determine any appropriate mitigation measures.
- Undertake a basic analysis of shell material and any artefacts recovered to record species of shell and any technological or other artefactual features of the site.
- Date any material deemed *in situ* to establish the age of the Aboriginal site.

If possible, identify if there are any conclusions to be drawn about land use by past Aboriginal people. The proposed subsurface testing is intended to provide a representative sample across the proposed impact area for the Project Site and provide comparative information to understand the significance and potential impact on Aboriginal objects and values within the proposed development/construction area.

The most likely Aboriginal objects to be present are stone artefacts and shell material. Middens may also be present. Burials are also noted to possibly be present.

### **Methodology outline**

The following methodology is provided as a general proposed methodology that should be modified as required following consultation with Heritage NSW and RAPs. Test excavations will be undertaken across the area which may be impacted by the proposed development.

The subsurface testing programme would be undertaken by hand and be guided by the Code of Practice for Archaeological Excavations in NSW (DECCW 2010). Following the subsurface testing programme, the results will be incorporated into the archaeological report which would include:

- Details of the findings including analysis of materials recovered.
- Undertaking a significance assessment of any subsurface Aboriginal cultural objects; and
- Recommendation of ways to avoid or mitigate any impact, if possible.

Subsurface testing excavations will involve the following elements.

- Test pits will be placed on transects across the landform within the proposed impact area for the Project Site at 10 m to 20 m intervals along a transect line. The spacing of test pits will be determined in the field after consideration of a number of factors including:
  - Location of existing infrastructure and any underground services
  - Location of the proposed works for the area
  - Timing and budget considerations.
- The proposed transects and test pit locations across the Project Site is shown in Figure 1 of this methodology.
- If necessary, other test pits may be excavated to confirm patterns in the distribution of material or to clarify the stratigraphic integrity of the deposits. Triggers for expanding test excavation may include:
  - The identification of stratified midden;
  - The relative density of midden and/or artefact frequencies. If higher numbers of shells and/or artefacts are identified in one or more parts of the initial excavation, they will be further explored;
  - Variations of shell types and/or raw materials that warrant further investigation;
  - Unusual artefact types are found, e.g., complete flakes, tools, cores, other types such as ground edged implements etc;
  - Evidence of artefact manufacture is found, e.g., conjoining artefacts, flaking debitage, micro-debitage, complete flakes, broken flakes; tool manufacture or maintenance;
  - Evidence of different activities, indicated by different artefact types e.g., backed artefacts, partly made backed artefacts and backing debitage, tool retouching debitage, debitage with dorsal grinding and retouched and/or used tools, different raw materials and raw materials with distinctive banding or inclusions;
  - Chronological material (any materials that can be used to date artefactual materials);

- Taphonomic/ site formation indicators;
  - Any other relevant features appropriate for further investigations, e.g., archaeological features such as evidence of burning in a hearth; shell middens; stone features; clay features etc; and
  - Soils are deep enough that manual test excavation in a 50 cm x 50 cm area is not practical or safe, and a larger excavation area is required.
- It is estimated that approximately 20 to 40 test pits would be excavated across the area, pending the proposed future development area.
  - Hand excavation using shovels and trowels, pits to be a minimum of 50 cm x 50 cm in area.
  - If a number of artefacts or dense cultural features are uncovered within a pit, then the pit may be extended out to an appropriate area to determine the artefact density and features in the area.
  - Some flexibility for the placement of test pits is required to ensure adequate assessment of the possible impact areas, the identification of archaeological features and to allow for avoidance of any areas of significance that are identified during testing.
  - The first test pit excavated will be excavated in 5 cm levels or 'spits', with all subsequent test pits excavated in 10 cm spits unless features are identified that require the continuation of 5 cm spits.
  - Placement of excavated deposit in buckets labelled by spit and test square.
  - Dry sieving of deposits through a 5 mm to 3 mm sieve.
  - Removal of Aboriginal objects from sieves, bag and label for analysis. The recording and collection of any Aboriginal objects encountered through the testing will be bagged with clear labelling indicating the provenance (test pit, spit level and any further necessary details).
  - Proceed with excavation until completed to basal or sterile layers and depending on accessibility within the pit depth.
  - Photography of excavated sections and at the completion of the excavation work.
  - Scale-drawn records of the typical stratigraphy/soil profile features and information on Aboriginal objects recovered for each test pit.
  - At completion of excavation, backfill test pits (with sieved material).
  - In the event that human bone is located an Unexpected Finds Procedure for burials would be followed in accordance with Requirement 25 of the Code of Practice. This includes stopping work at that location and making the area secure for further assessment. The police and Heritage NSW would be notified. If the remains were determined to be Aboriginal, further discussion and assessment of options would be considered by all parties.
  - Cultural shell material and charcoal suitable for C14 carbon dating purposes may be retained for the purpose of dating. Any shell material from a stratified deposit will be dated. Additionally, following review of the results, some further selected samples should be dated if determined to be appropriate. This would be dependent on the results of the testing and analysis of the recovered material.
  - Following the completion of the fieldwork, the material retrieved from the testing programme will be transported and stored temporarily within the Newcastle NGH office in a locked cabinet where it will be appropriately recorded and analysed. The report will then be prepared. Once NGH has completed the analysis of any material retrieved from the testing programme the return and burial of the material can be arranged.
  - Consultation with the RAPs and Port Stephens Council would be undertaken to determine the preferred and appropriate management of any excavated artefactual material after it



has been analysed by NGH. It would be preferred that the material is buried onsite outside the area of any proposed disturbance. A new AHIMS site card would then be submitted to ensure the location of the reburied material is recorded appropriately.

Post fieldwork analysis will involve the following elements:

Sort the sieved material and the identification of cultural items recovered.

Aboriginal artefacts will then be recorded with the following characteristics:

- Raw material type and colour.
- Dimensions (percussion length, width, thickness for complete items).
- Technological characteristics (platform surface, platform type and termination type).
- Presence and extent of the cortex.
- Presence and extent and type of edge damage (use wear, retouch).
- Comments e.g., Production method.

Shell midden material may be recorded with the following characteristics:

- Genus.
- Weight.
- Minimum number of individuals.
- Comments.

Send material, if suitable, for Radiocarbon dating (likely to be the University of Waikato).

## **Reporting**

A report detailing the results of the investigation will be prepared. The report will be structured to provide the following information:

Introduction

Aboriginal consultation

Project setting

Archaeological setting

Archaeological methods

Results

Analysis

Significance assessment

Impact assessment

Conclusions

The report will include appendices containing descriptions of soils, artefact attributes and photographs. A draft copy of the report will be provided to the Aboriginal stakeholders for comment. The report will then be finalised and submitted in support of an AHIP for works in the area in addition to any previous ACHA reports.

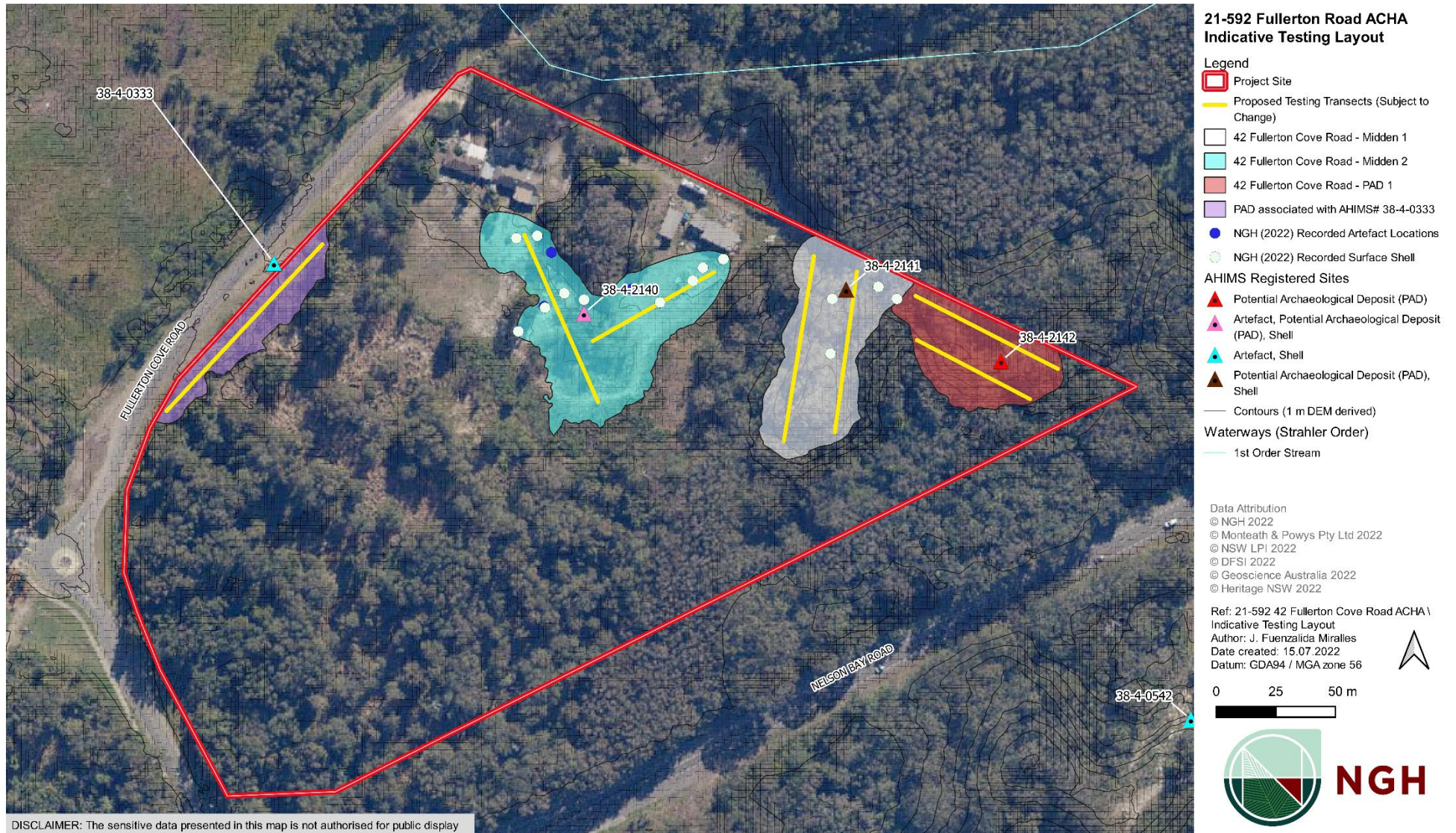


Figure 1 Indicative testing layout



## APPENDIX C UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL

### C.1 Human skeletal remains

If any human remains or suspected human remains are discovered during any works, all activity in the immediate area must cease immediately. The following plan describes the actions that must be taken in instances where human remains, or suspected human remains are discovered. Any such discovery at the activity area must follow these steps.

#### Discovery:

If any human remains or suspected human remains are found during any activity, works in the **immediate vicinity** must cease and the Project Manager must be contacted immediately.

The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage.

All personnel should then leave the immediate vicinity of the area.

#### Notification:

The NSW Police must be notified immediately. Details of the location and nature of the human remains must be provided to the relevant authorities.

If there are reasonable grounds to believe that the remains are Aboriginal, the following must also occur.

- a. HNSW must be contacted as soon as practicable and provide any available details of the remains and their location. The Environment Line can be contacted on 131 555.
- b. The relevant project archaeologist may be contacted to facilitate communication between the police, HNSW and Aboriginal community groups. Aboriginal community groups must be notified throughout the process once the remains are confirmed to be Aboriginal in origin.

#### Process:

If the remains are considered to be Aboriginal by the Police and HNSW no work can recommence at the particular location of the find unless authorised in writing by HNSW.

Recording of Aboriginal ancestral remains must be undertaken by, or be conducted under the direct supervision of, a specialist physical anthropologist or other suitably qualified person.

Archaeological reporting of Aboriginal ancestral remains must be undertaken by, or reviewed by, a specialist physical anthropologist or other suitably qualified person, with the intent of using respectful and appropriate language and treating the ancestral remains as the remains of Aboriginal people rather than as scientific specimens.

If the remains are considered to be Aboriginal by the Police and HNSW, an appropriate management and mitigation, or salvage strategy will be implemented following further consultation with the Aboriginal community and HNSW.

## Appendix 2 AHIMS extensive search

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THE FOLLOWING APPENDIX IS NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC.



# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 38294

Client Service ID : 741770

| SiteID    | SiteName                                    | Datum            | Zone   | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **      | SiteFeatures                               | SiteTypes             | Reports       |
|-----------|---|------------------|--|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| 38-4-0065 | Fullerton Cove                              | AGD              | 56   | 386919  | 6362686  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                    | Midden                | 102493,104586 |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Margery Sullivan   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-1582 | RPS NBR BMV 01                              | GDA              | 56   | 387168  | 6363223  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Shell : 1                                  |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,RPS East Australia Pty Ltd - Ec |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             | 4869                  |               |
| 38-4-0051 | Moscheto Island;Newcastle Golf Club;        | AGD              | 56   | 387112  | 6362141  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               | Open Camp Site        | 102493,104586 |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Len Dyall  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-1124 | Cemetery/Braid Rd 1                         | AGD              | 56   | 387258  | 6361824  | Open site | Valid               | Aboriginal Resource and Gathering : 250    |                       | 102493        |
|           | <b>Contact</b> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-1130 | Cols Corner Braid Rd                        | GDA              | 56   | 387440  | 6361869  | Open site | Valid               | Burial : 1                                 |                       | 102493        |
|           | <b>Contact</b> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson,M     |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-1900 | Stockton Rifle Range IF 2                   | GDA              | 56   | 387561  | 6362135  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond                   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-1898 | Stockton Rifle Range AS6                    | GDA              | 56   | 387748  | 6361988  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond                   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-2142 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1                | GDA              | 56   | 388315  | 6364130  | Open site | Valid               | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-0134 | NBR2;                                       | AGD              | 56   | 388450  | 6363700  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                    | Midden                | 1269,101086   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             | 2026                  |               |
| 38-4-0951 | Fern Bay Estate 18                          | AGD              | 56   | 389035  | 6364110  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 2, Artefact : 81                   |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b> T Russell                    | <b>Recorders</b> | ERM Australia Pty Ltd- Sydney CBD  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-0258 | Fern Hill 2;                                | AGD              | 56   | 389400  | 6362500  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               | Open Camp Site        | 1845          |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Pam Dean-Jones,Mr.Luke Godwin  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-0948 | Fern Bay Estate 15                          | AGD              | 56   | 389847  | 6364460  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 1                               |                       |               |
|           | <b>Contact</b> T Russell                    | <b>Recorders</b> | ERM Australia Pty Ltd- Sydney CBD  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-0129 | NBR7;                                       | AGD              | 56   | 389850  | 6364380  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               | Open Camp Site        | 1269,101086   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-5-0157 | Fullerton Site 1;Newcastle Bight;           | AGD              | 56   | 389930  | 6362840  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                    | Midden,Open Camp Site | 845,916       |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-4-0321 | Newcastle Bight 2;                          | AGD              | 56   | 390050  | 6364760  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -                               | Open Camp Site        | 2250,101086   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                              | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Matthew Barber  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>                             |                       |               |
| 38-5-0161 | Fullerton Site 5;Newcastle Bight;           | AGD              | 56   | 390090  | 6363090  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                    | Midden,Open Camp Site |               |

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 19/12/2022 for Samantha Keats for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 385153.0 - 391504.0, Northings : 6361254.0 - 6367301.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 105

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# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 38294

Client Service ID : 741770

| SiteID    | SiteName                                    | Datum            | Zone   | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **      | SiteFeatures              | SiteTypes             | Reports     |
|-----------|---|------------------|--|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 916                   |             |
| 38-5-0158 | Fullerton Site 2;Newcastle Bight;           | AGD              | 56   | 390260  | 6363040  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden,Open Camp Site |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Liam Dagg,Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 845,916               |             |
| 38-4-1035 | Fullerton Cove Extraction 1                 | AGD              | 56   | 391149  | 6366046  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 100            |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u> Searle                       | <u>Recorders</u> | Ms.Penny Mccardle  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 3033                  |             |
| 38-4-0700 | Newcastle Golf Club 3                       | GDA              | 56   | 387043  | 6362410  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell : 20 |                       | 102493      |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 1780,4869             |             |
| 38-4-0701 | Newcastle Golf Club 4                       | GDA              | 56   | 387102  | 6362786  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell : 20 |                       | 102493      |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 1780,4869             |             |
| 38-4-1129 | Rifle Range 2                               | GDA              | 56   | 387436  | 6361848  | Open site | Valid               | Burial : 1                |                       | 102493      |
|           | <u>Contact</u> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson,M |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-1893 | Stockton Rifle Range AS1                    | GDA              | 56   | 387437  | 6361877  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-1897 | Stockton Rifle Range AS5                    | GDA              | 56   | 387621  | 6361988  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-0359 | Site 1                                      | AGD              | 56   | 388050  | 6363290  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden                | 101086      |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Noeleen Curran   |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-0334 | Fullerton Cove Road 2;                      | AGD              | 56   | 388150  | 6364390  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden                | 2604        |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | S Davies,Davies Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd                                     |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 4398                  |             |
| 38-4-0128 | NBR8;                                       | AGD              | 56   | 388300  | 6364750  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden                | 1269,101086 |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 2026                  |             |
| 38-4-0790 | Fern Bay Estate Site C                      | AGD              | 56   | 388452  | 6363647  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-0130 | NBR6;                                       | AGD              | 56   | 389260  | 6364220  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden                | 1269,101086 |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-2011 | George St 1                                 | GDA              | 56   | 390796  | 6366074  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Miss.Nicola Roche              |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 4398                  |             |
| 38-5-0160 | Fullerton Site 4;Newcastle Bight;           | AGD              | 56   | 390960  | 6363500  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden,Open Camp Site |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            | 916                   |             |
| 38-4-0261 | Fern Bay_5;                                 | AGD              | 56   | 391200  | 6363700  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden                | 1845        |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Pam Dean-Jones,Mr.Luke Godwin,M Heath  |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |
| 38-4-1872 | Worimi RVA 032                              | GDA              | 56   | 391356  | 6363899  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 1                 |                       |             |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers   |         |          |           |                     | <u>Permits</u>            |                       |             |

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 19/12/2022 for Samantha Keats for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 385153.0 - 391504.0, Northings : 6361254.0 - 6367301.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 105

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# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 38294

Client Service ID : 741770

| SiteID    | SiteName                                    | Datum            | Zone  | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **      | SiteFeatures              | SiteTypes      | Reports             |
|-----------|---|------------------|---|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 38-4-0797 | Fern Bay PAD                                | GDA              | 56  | 387275  | 6362250  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                | 102493              |
|           | <u>Contact</u> T Russell                    | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users, Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0052 | Moscheto Island;Newcastle Bight;            | AGD              | 56  | 387214  | 6361595  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              | Open Camp Site | 102493              |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | J.A Starling  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-1126 | cemetery Harpurs                            | AGD              | 56  | 387334  | 6361808  | Open site | Valid               | Burial : 1                |                | 102493              |
|           | <u>Contact</u> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-1901 | Stockton Rifle Range AS 8                   | GDA              | 56  | 387770  | 6362174  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users, Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-1644 | Fullerton Cove Midden 1                     | GDA              | 56  | 388188  | 6364359  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Ms.Erin Mein  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0858 | 8   | AGD              | 56  | 388400  | 6363670  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 100               |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u> T Russell                    | <u>Recorders</u> | Jim Wheeler   |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0126 | NBR10;                                      | AGD              | 56  | 388500  | 6363950  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden         | 1269                |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Margrit Koettig, Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0587 | Fullerton 27                                | AGD              | 56  | 388604  | 6361714  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 1              |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users                                 |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0241 | F C 1;Fullerton Cove;                       | AGD              | 56  | 388600  | 6364800  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              | Open Camp Site | 1845                |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Pam Dean-Jones  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0861 | Fern Bay Estaet 9                           | AGD              | 56  | 388790  | 6363440  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 1                 |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u> T Russell                    | <u>Recorders</u> | Jim Wheeler   |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0588 | Fullerton 28                                | AGD              | 56  | 388842  | 6361884  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 1              |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users                                 |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0950 | Fern Bay Estate 17                          | AGD              | 56  | 389785  | 6364535  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u> T Russell                    | <u>Recorders</u> | ERM Australia Pty Ltd- Sydney CBD   |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0340 | Williamstown 1;WT-1;                        | AGD              | 56  | 391100  | 6365500  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              | Open Camp Site |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Giles Hamm Archaeology  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0703 | Newcastle Golf Club 6                       | GDA              | 56  | 387256  | 6362849  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell : 20 |                | 102493,104586       |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users, Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-1125 | Cemetery/Braid Rd 2                         | AGD              | 56  | 387334  | 6361818  | Open site | Valid               | Burial : 1                |                | 102493              |
|           | <u>Contact</u> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-0692 | Stockton Rifle Range 1                      | AGD              | 56  | 387366  | 6361937  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 7              |                | 98719,102493,104586 |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Leila McAdam  |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |
| 38-4-1896 | Stockton Rifle Range AS4                    | GDA              | 56  | 387598  | 6361985  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -              |                |                     |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                              | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users, Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     |                           |                |                     |

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# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 38294

Client Service ID : 741770

| SiteID    | SiteName                     | Datum            | Zone   | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **         | SiteFeatures   | SiteTypes      | Reports           |
|-----------|------------------------------|------------------|--|---------|----------|-----------|------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|
| 38-4-0785 | Fern Bay Site E              | AGD              | 56   | 388170  | 6363400  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -, Shell : -  |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 2026           |                   |
| 38-4-2013 | AHR1                         | GDA              | 56   | 388583  | 6363699  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : 1,<br>Non-Human Bone<br>and Organic Material<br>: 1, Shell : 1    |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | ERM - Thornton   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0133 | NBR3;                        | AGD              | 56   | 388600  | 6363790  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : -, Artefact : -  | Midden         | 1269,101086       |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 2026           |                   |
| 38-4-0789 | Fern bay Estate 11           | AGD              | 56   | 388850  | 6363850  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -   |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Pam Dean-Jones   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0127 | NBR9;                        | AGD              | 56   | 389360  | 6364400  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : -, Artefact : -  | Midden         | 1269,101086       |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0563 | Fullerton 1                  | AGD              | 56   | 391352  | 6363717  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : -  |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users                                |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0050 | Moscheto Island;             | AGD              | 56   | 385457  | 6362659  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -   | Open Camp Site | 102493            |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | ASRSYS   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0699 | Newcastle Golf Club 2        | GDA              | 56   | 386981  | 6362480  | Open site | Partially<br>Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell :<br>20   |                | 102493,10458<br>6 |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 1780,4869      |                   |
| 38-4-0704 | Newcastle Golf Club 7        | GDA              | 56   | 387040  | 6362458  | Open site | Partially<br>Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell :<br>20   |                | 102493,10458<br>6 |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 1781,4869      |                   |
| 38-4-1127 | Cemetery Corner              | GDA              | 56   | 387432  | 6361816  | Open site | Valid                  | Burial : 1   |                | 102493            |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson,M |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-1073 | Bay way Caravan Park 2       | AGD              | 56   | 387875  | 6363400  | Open site | Valid                  | Aboriginal Resource<br>and Gathering : 50                                    |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 3025           |                   |
| 38-4-0333 | Fullerton Cove Road;site1;   | GDA              | 56   | 388010  | 6364171  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : -, Artefact : -  | Midden         | 2604              |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | S Davies,Davies Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd,Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - F  |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   | 4672,5017      |                   |
| 38-4-0693 | Stockton Rifle Range 2       | AGD              | 56   | 388034  | 6361743  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : 22  |                | 98719             |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Leila McAdam   |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-2140 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | GDA              | 56   | 388140  | 6364150  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -, Potential<br>Archaeological<br>Deposit (PAD) : -,<br>Shell : - |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick  |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |
| 38-4-0859 | Fern Bay Site E              | AGD              | 56   | 388170  | 6363400  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : 400  |                |                   |
|           | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Recorders</b> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                        | <b>Permits</b>   |                |                   |

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with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 105

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| SiteID    | SiteName                      | Datum            | Zone   | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **      | SiteFeatures  | SiteTypes           | Reports            |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------|--|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| 38-4-0542 | Site 2                        | AGD              | 56   | 388290  | 6363790  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   |                     | 2958,101086        |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Noeleen Curran   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 2026                |                    |
| 38-4-0953 | Fern Bay Estate 6             | AGD              | 56   | 388370  | 6363836  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b> T Russell      | <b>Recorders</b> | Pam Dean-Jones   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0135 | NBR1;                         | AGD              | 56   | 388390  | 6363780  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -   | Midden              | 1269,101086,102218 |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 2026                |                    |
| 38-4-0786 | Fern Bay Estate 7             | AGD              | 56   | 388400  | 6363670  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 2026                |                    |
| 38-4-0791 | Fern Bay Estate 8             | AGD              | 56   | 388750  | 6363700  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -   |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Pam Dean-Jones   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0131 | NBR5;                         | AGD              | 56   | 388920  | 6364080  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  | Open Camp Site      | 1269               |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0589 | Fullerton 29                  | AGD              | 56   | 388977  | 6362047  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 1   |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users                                  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0949 | Fern Bay Estate 16            | AGD              | 56   | 389772  | 6364185  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 4  |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b> T Russell      | <b>Recorders</b> | ERM Australia Pty Ltd- Sydney CBD  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0895 | Fern Bay Complex              | GDA              | 56   | 387000  | 6362000  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Shell : -, Artefact : -, Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Burial : - |                     | 102493,104586      |
|           | <b>Contact</b> T Russell      | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 3001,3993,4332,4733 |                    |
| 38-4-0705 | Newcastle Golf Club 8         | GDA              | 56   | 387014  | 6362663  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell : 20   |                     | 102493,104586      |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 1781,4869           |                    |
| 38-4-2103 | Fullerton Road IF1            | GDA              | 56   | 387212  | 6361970  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick  |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0773 | Fern Bay PAD - Rankin RD      | AGD              | 56   | 387200  | 6361900  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -                                |                     | 102493             |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Hilton Naden   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 1998,2168,2274,2337 |                    |
| 38-4-1843 | Stockton Rifle Range Reburial | GDA              | 56   | 387448  | 6361825  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 1  |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Ms.Laura Farquharson   |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-1894 | Stockton Rifle Range AS2      | GDA              | 56   | 387465  | 6361877  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                     |                    |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond                 |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  |                     |                    |
| 38-4-0723 | Fullerton Cove Site 1         | GDA              | 56   | 387757  | 6364185  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : 1, Artefact : 13  |                     | 98868              |
|           | <b>Contact</b>                | <b>Recorders</b> | Wildthing Environmental Consultants,Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwic       |         |          |           |                     | <b>Permits</b>  | 4672,5017           |                    |
| 38-4-1899 | Stockton Rifle Range AS7      | GDA              | 56   | 387886  | 6361974  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                     |                    |

# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 38294

Client Service ID : 741770

| SiteID    | SiteName   | Datum                     | Zone   | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **      | SiteFeatures  | SiteTypes             | Reports                           |
|-----------|--|---------------------------|--|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-2141 | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2                         | GDA                       | 56   | 388250  | 6364160  | Open site | Valid               | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -, Shell : - |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-1903 | Stockton Rifle Range IF 1                            | GDA                       | 56   | 388370  | 6361838  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Ms.Alison Lamond               |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-0586 | Fullerton 26   | AGD                       | 56   | 388514  | 6361643  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 10   |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users                                |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-0787 | Fern Bay Estate 9                                    | AGD                       | 56   | 388790  | 6363344  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 2026      |
| 38-4-0788 | Fern Bay Estate 10                                   | AGD                       | 56   | 388950  | 6363900  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -   |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Pam Dean-Jones   |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 2355      |
| 38-4-0259 | Fern Hill 3;   | AGD                       | 56   | 389600  | 6362700  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                               | Midden                | 1845                              |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Mr.Luke Godwin   |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-5-0159 | Fullerton Site 3;Newcastle Bight;                    | AGD                       | 56   | 390640  | 6363260  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                               | Midden,Open Camp Site |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Liam Dagg,Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 845,916   |
| 38-4-0698 | Newcastle Golf Club 1                                | GDA                       | 56   | 387241  | 6362951  | Open site | Partially Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell : 20                             |                       | 102493,104586                     |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users,Miss.Coral |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 1780,4869 |
| 38-4-1128 | Rifle Range 1  | GDA                       | 56   | 387591  | 6362226  | Open site | Valid               | Burial : 1  |                       | 102493                            |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a> Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Andersor | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users,Mr.Leonard (Lennie) Anderson,M |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-0857 | Fern Bay Estate 5                                    | AGD                       | 56   | 388220  | 6363736  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : 2  |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a> T Russell                    | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-0860 | FERN Bay Site F                                      | AGD                       | 56   | 388560  | 6363570  | Open site | Valid               | Stone Quarry : 100                                    |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a> T Russell                    | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-0784 | Fern Bay Site D                                      | AGD                       | 56   | 388560  | 6363570  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Jim Wheeler  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 2026      |
| 38-4-0132 | NBR4;  | AGD                       | 56   | 388740  | 6363680  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  | Open Camp Site        | 1269,101086                       |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Margrit Koettig,Rex Silcox   |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 2026,2355 |
| 38-4-2047 | Fullerton Cove - IF1                                 | GDA                       | 56   | 390114  | 6365473  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -  |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd - Sydney - Individual users,Mr.Tyler Beebe         |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a>           |
| 38-4-1645 | Fullerton Cove Midden 2                              | GDA                       | 56   | 390179  | 6365560  | Open site | Valid               | Artefact : -, Shell : -                               |                       |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Ms.Erin Mein   |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 4398      |
| 38-5-0162 | Fullerton Site 6;Newcastle Bight;                    | AGD                       | 56   | 391040  | 6363460  | Open site | Valid               | Shell : -, Artefact : -                               | Midden                |                                   |
|           | <a href="#">Contact</a>                              | <a href="#">Recorders</a> | Liam Dagg  |         |          |           |                     |   |                       | <a href="#">Permits</a> 916       |

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 19/12/2022 for Samantha Keats for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 385153.0 - 391504.0, Northings : 6361254.0 - 6367301.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 105

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Heritage NSW and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

| SiteID    | SiteName                      | Datum            | Zone  | Easting | Northing | Context   | Site Status **         | SiteFeatures   | SiteTypes      | Reports           |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------|---|---------|----------|-----------|------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|
| 38-4-0702 | Newcastle Golf Club 5         | GDA              | 56  | 386985  | 6362738  | Open site | Partially<br>Destroyed | Artefact : 20, Shell :<br>20   |                | 102493,10458<br>6 |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Mr.Warren Mayers,Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users, Miss.Coral <u>Permits</u>    |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-2099 | NGC1                          | GDA              | 56  | 387515  | 6362744  | Open site | Partially<br>Destroyed | Artefact : -, Potential<br>Archaeological<br>Deposit (PAD) : -,<br>Shell : - | 1780,4869      |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrmont - Individual users, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Pyrm <u>Permits</u> |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-1895 | Stockton Rifle Range AS3      | GDA              | 56  | 387554  | 6361982  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -   |                |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users, Ms.Alison Lamond <u>Permits</u>                  |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-0257 | Fern Hill 1                   | GDA              | 56  | 387600  | 6362100  | Open site | Partially<br>Destroyed | Artefact : -   | Isolated Find  | 1845,104586       |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Andrew Ross, Pam Dean-Jones, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd - Individual users <u>Permits</u>              |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-1902 | Stockton Rifle Range Midden 1 | GDA              | 56  | 387679  | 6362166  | Open site | Valid                  | Shell : -  |                |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users, Ms.Alison Lamond <u>Permits</u>                  |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-0585 | Fullerton 25                  | AGD              | 56  | 388446  | 6361575  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : 52  |                |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users <u>Permits</u>                                    |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-0590 | Fullerton 30                  | AGD              | 56  | 389216  | 6362255  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : 3   |                |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited - Individual users <u>Permits</u>                                    |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-0706 | FC 1                          | AGD              | 56  | 390580  | 6365650  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : 9   |                |                   |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists (MDCA) <u>Permits</u>   |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |
| 38-4-0260 | Fern Bay_4;                   | AGD              | 56  | 391000  | 6363500  | Open site | Valid                  | Artefact : -   | Open Camp Site | 1845              |
|           | <u>Contact</u>                | <u>Recorders</u> | Pam Dean-Jones, Mr.Luke Godwin, M Heath <u>Permits</u>  |         |          |           |                        |  |                |                   |

### \*\* Site Status

**Valid** - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

**Destroyed** - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

**Partially Destroyed** - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

**Not a site** - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 19/12/2022 for Samantha Keats for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 385153.0 - 391504.0, Northings : 6361254.0 - 6367301.0  
with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 105

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## Appendix 3 Consultation log

### Project update

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact          | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 8 November 2022, email            | -                         | -  |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 8 November 2022, email            | -                         | -  |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                                     | 8 November 2022, email            | -                         | -  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 8 November 2022, email            | 8 November 2022, email    | "Lot 42 has some contentious issues, past failures to develop because of Aboriginal Content of the area etc. we all should have good talk on this one!"  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 9 November 2022, email            | -                         | Biosis responded: "Thanks for reaching out. Will give you a call as I know from NGH's report there has been some concerns. The site is also very sensitive."   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 22 November 2022, email and phone | 22 November 2022, email   | <p>Biosis provided the following response "Was hoping to catch up with you [Lennie] to talk more on this one. Are you free for a phone call or would you be able to send through a list of your concerns so that we may organise a meeting/agenda to address them?"</p> <p>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd responded "Sorry I'm in a meeting, But Lot 42 we have not been paid for in it was done in May Kirwan was the Archy (Monteath and Powys) but WE found heaps, the ridge line that surrounds the Telecom tower is full also a lot of shell etc scattered over the surface. This area was rejected years ago for a development because of the Cultural material found. We recommended digs all over the paddock. But until they pay us nothing is going to happen."</p> |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 22 November 2022, phone           | 22 November 2022, phone   | A phone call was made to discuss RAP concerns. These concerns regarded the Optus tower which had been installed on site and had damaged AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1. These concerns were taken to the proponent and a consultation meeting was organised.   |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 22 November 2022, email           | 22 November 2022, email   | Notification was resent and a concept plan was supplied by Biosis. Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. confirmed receipt.  |



| Organisation contacted                         | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                     | 22 November 2022, email  | -                         | Biosis provided the following update: "Just spoke with Bec on this one. Send through your invoice to me and I will see what's going on here. I am also going to ask about the telecom tower and am organising for a consultation meeting to take place on site."  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd<br/>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b> | 23 November 2022, email  | 1 December 2022, email    | <p>Biosis responded with the following and an attachment of DA 16/2019/750/1 "Hey Bec and Lennie, I spoke with Monteath and Powys yesterday to raise a few of the concerns you both had.</p> <p>Isaac Conway the project manager I am working with has his team looking into it. So far they have confirmed that the Optus tower was approved by Council in 2020 (DA 16/2019/750/1) per the attached consent.</p> <p>They are chasing up the reports supplied with the DA now so that we can review and see what exactly has gone on here and confirm whether due diligence has been undertaken at all.</p> <p>I reviewed the documents and the only mention is the if Aboriginal items are identified then they are required to reach out to Heritage NSW.</p> <p>Will send through any more information I know.</p> <p>Monteath and Powys have not been in contact with Optus so are unaware of what has been going on. They have just reached out to them because they are unsure if there are any requirements for their development with the Optus tower there. The old landholder (Christine Jordan) has also sold the study area in the last month to someone else who is now taking over the development. I will keep you updated on how it all goes. With invoicing, there was some miscommunication as to who was meant to be handling the invoices but it is being rectified now. Worimi LALC should have been paid in the last week or two. Isaac has asked that if either of you have outstanding invoices then send them through to me and I will make sure he processes them. Payment should be made in the week. Give me a ring if you have any other concerns otherwise we will organise a consultation meeting to discuss the works and get everyone working together on this one."</p> <p>Bec Young responded "Thanks for following up on this project and supplying us with all of this information, your work is much appreciated.</p> <p>Hopefully we can have a better understanding of what is happening and a more positive approach moving forward.</p> |

| Organisation contacted                      | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|   |                          |                           | <p>We still have not received payment of the invoice that was sent to Monteath &amp; Powys so I have re-attached this for you to forward to your contact and see if this can be sorted."</p> <p>The invoicing issues were rectified.</p> |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Company</b>            | 8 November 2022, email   | -                         | -  |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 8 November 2022, email   | -                         | -  |
| <b>Confidential Party No.1</b>              | 8 November 2022, email   | -                         | -  |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b>          | 8 November 2022, email   | -                         | -  |

## Aboriginal community consultation meeting

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 13 December 2022, email  | 14 December 2022, email   | Available on 12 January 2023 but possibly not the 24 January 2023.  |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                                     | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | Lennie Anderson stated that himself, Bec Young from Mur-Roo-Ma Inc., and Dave Feeney from Karuah Indigenous Company were now unable to attend the meeting for 12 January 2023. The meeting was therefore rescheduled. |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Company</b>                        | 13 December 2022, email  | 13 December 2022, email   | Confirmed availability for the 24 January 2023.   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b>             | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Confidential Party No.1</b>                          | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b>                      | 13 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 19 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 19 December 2022, email  | 9 January 2023, email     | Confirmed unavailability to attend.   |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                                     | 19 December 2022, email  | 19 December 2022, email   | Asked to be dialled in to the consultation meeting.   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 19 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                              | 18 January 2023, phone   | 18 January 2023, phone    | Confirmed availability to attend.   |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Company</b>                        | 19 December 2022, email  | 13 December 2022, email   | Confirmed availability previously.  |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Company</b>                        | 18 January 2023, phone   | 18 January 2023, phone    | Confirmed availability to attend.   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b>             | 19 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b>             | 18 January 2023, phone   | 18 January 2023, phone    | Confirmed availability to attend.   |
| <b>Confidential Party No.1</b>                          | 19 December 2022, email  | -                         | -   |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b>                      | 19 December 2022, email  | 6 January 2023, email     | "We cannot afford to be volunteering, just as I believe the company you work for cannot afford to do. We have to pay bills like everyone else. We have to pay corporation running costs like everyone else. We pay insurances, PPE, tools, tax, car running costs, accommodation, ect. We pay our representatives to work, as it's work. We are not volunteers. We are not government |

| Organisation contacted  | Date and type of contact         | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|   |                                  |                           | funded. We have to be paid, as we cannot afford to attend sites unpaid. Inviting us to work for free as our ancestors had to do is not a privilege we find this insulting that we are asked to work for free. There's labour costs, travel costs, our time, our required work gear, insurances, etc. It's unfair for big developers or yourselves to ask we work for free, to preserve what's left out our culture. To When our ancestral land is being torn up that we come work for free. We are running not for profit corporations which provide paid employment to Aboriginal people from all over Australia."   |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b>  | 9 January 2022, email            | -                         | Biosis responded: Thank you for your response. Unfortunately we are unable to provide remittance for this consultation meeting as this is something that is to be offered by the proponent at their discretion As per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (DECCW 2010). We understand that this may cause difficulties for some groups who may be otherwise engaged in paid work or will be required to cover travel costs etc. If you would still like to be involved in the consultation meeting we are providing opportunity for RAPs to be involved via a Microsoft teams session which will commence during the site visit. This will allow all parties to participate, despite their unavailability to attend in person. Please let me know should you wish for me to include you within the Microsoft teams meeting."   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, Karuah Indigenous Company, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 24 January 2023, on site meeting | -                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was discussed that the proposed development would have the potential to directly impact AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 and AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;. It was recommended that measures should be taken during the construction phase to ensure that AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 and AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 were conserved, as these sites would not be directly impacted by the proposed development. It was recommended that these sites should be fenced off with secure temporary fencing during the construction phase. It was also recommended that all workers on site should be inducted and complete cultural awareness training to ensure they are aware of the Aboriginal heritage constraints that are and may be present on site.</li> <li>RAPs recommended that the study area be subject to a hazard reduction or cultural burn to allow for better visibility across the site where test excavations would be required. This could be limited to areas of development impact. RAPs recommended this measure as it is a culturally appropriate measure to remove vegetation on site without disturbing the grounds surface or significantly impacting shell or artefacts present on the grounds surface. It was</li> </ul> |



| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact    | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                        |                             |                           | <p>recommended that where possible an Aboriginal company should be engaged to undertake the cultural burn. It was also recommended that RAPs and a Biosis archaeologist be present on site whilst the hazard reduction or cultural burn is being undertaken, providing that it is safe to do so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was recommended that a test excavation methodology be prepared by Biosis. RAPs supported a methodology which would include 1 metre squared test pits and potentially auguring (manual) to effectively explore the nature and extent of Aboriginal heritage values which were likely to be impacted by the proposed development.</li> <li>With regards to testing for the presence of Common Planigale Planigale maculate by ecologists it was recommended that no trenching or ground disturbing works were to occur within the dune/crest/sandy rises in which AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, AHIMS 38-4-2142 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 are located as RAPs believe these sites are part of a single site complex. It was recommended that camera survey should occur within the dune/crest/sandy rises in the northern extents of the study area instead of pit fall traps (Anderson Environment and Planning 2022).</li> <li>It was agreed within RAPs that if the methodology was unable to be changed to exclude pit fall traps, then pit falls traps were permitted to be undertaken in the low lying swampy landforms which dominated the southern portion of the study provided that pit fall traps were not within 50 metres of the dune/crest/sandy rises. It was also recommended that RAPs were provided with the opportunity to survey the pit falls trap locations with an archaeologist present, and that they would be engaged to supervise the excavation of the pit fall traps should the location be confirmed as suitable and low risk for Aboriginal heritage constraints.</li> <li>It was recommended that artefacts recovered from site should be reburied on site and should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner as per RAP wishes.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>    | 31 January 2023, phone call | -                         | Robert Syron recommended that the artefacts identified upon the surface of the study area should be given to the Worimi LALC so that they could be used for the teaching of future generations. No further comments were received regarding the future management of Aboriginal sites within the study area.  |

## Stage 4: Review of draft addendum ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 29 March 2023, email     | -                         | Copy of the draft addendum ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology sent. No response.  |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 14 April 2023, email     | 20 April 2023, email      | <p>Biosis sent reminder. Response received stating "Hi Ash,</p> <p>I agree and support the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>Regarding 3.1 I would like to add the report that the boundaries of the Worimi are incorrect. The boundaries of the Worimi also include Newcastle to Lake Macquarie.</p> <p>The Port Stephens Blacks, the Newcastle Blacks and the Lake Macquarie Blacks are the same blacks same people same country.</p> <p>When Dawson arrived in Newcastle from Sydney in 1825, he had come across around 70-100 blacks resting someone near now what would be hunter street. Upon speaking with the Blacks he had asked two of them if they could walk him to Port Stephens the following morning. The following morning one of the blacks agreed to walk him to Port Stephens. Upon arrival to Port Stephens Dawson then asked the black if he could stay and work for him there, the black informed Dawson that Port Stephens was a part of his traditional country and that he would stay and work for him there but he had left is wife in Newcastle and that he would have to go back and get her. (ref: Dawson book The present state of Australia)</p> <p>Threalkd attended Port Stephens on a trip with Biraban in 1837 and described that he was astonished that when Biraban spoke in the language to the Port Stephens blacks they both understood each other.</p> <p>Percy Haslam was a local historian at Newcastle University and on a video interview in 1974 regarding the Awabakal language, Percy Haslam was asked were the Awabakal people the only people to use the lands of Newcastle and Percy replied with "No, it was the Port Stephens Blacks the Newcastle Blacks, Lake Mac, CoalFields and that it should be called the Hunter Region. Percy also gives great detail on how similar the PS blacks N Blacks and LM Blacks all looked the same.</p> |

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|   |                          |                           | <p>Please see attachment of W.J.Enright Boundaries of the Worimi.</p> <p>Threlkeld wrote to the Attorney General in the first 5 months of the mission and said that the natives were connected in kind of a circle from Port Stephens to the Hawksbury River.</p> <p>There are Worimi people who were born and died in Newcastle Hospital</p> <p>There are burials of Worimi people at Sandgate Cemetery.</p> <p>6.4.7 Long term care agreement.</p> <p>I would request that any artefacts found not to be reburied and to be provided to Worimi TOIC or Worimi LALC for educational purposes for the future generations through workshops and or Cultural centre.</p> <p>We would like to be invited to participate in any testing excavations and or meetings that will take place regarding this project."</p> |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 1 May 2023, email        | 2 May 2023, email         | <p>Biosis responded</p> <p>"Hi Candy,</p> <p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>We have made updates to section 3.1 of our addendum ACHA report to reflect your recommendations below regarding the disputed Worimi territory boundaries.</p> <p>I have also reached out to Worimi LALC regarding what their preference is with regards to the future care and control of artefacts which will be recovered from site and have informed them of your recommendation.</p> <p>To date a majority of the RAPs have recommended that the artefacts be reburied on Country if possible.</p> <p>I will be in touch with Worimi LALC's response."</p> <p>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation responded, "Great Thank you!"</p>   |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 29 March 2023, email     | -                         | Copy of the draft addendum ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology sent. No response.  |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b>                                  | 14 April 2023, email     | -                         | Biosis sent reminder. No response.  |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                                     | 29 March 2023,           | 12 April 2023, email      | Responded,<br>"Dear Ash   |

| Organisation contacted           | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                                  | email                    |                           | Hope your well I have read the drat looks great thank you.<br>Kind regards Bob Syron".  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>       | 29 March 2023, email     | 29 March 2023, email      | Responded, "Hi Ash,<br>I can't get the downloads.<br>Lennie   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>       | 29 March 2023, email     | 29 March 2023, email      | Biosis responded stating that we would send in another format.  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>       | 3 April 2023, email      | 3 April 2023, email       | Biosis sent reduced version of the reports through. Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd stated that there were issues viewing the methodology.  |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>       | 14 April 2023, email     | 14 April 2023, email      | <p>Biosis resent methodology. Reminder was also sent regarding close of review.</p> <p>Response was received from Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd stating:<br/>"Hi Ash,</p> <p>I have read the Methodology and yes, I agree with your writings, A couple of things I would like to see included sometime-somewhere would be in addition to what was written in Para 2.2 and can we add dot point,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will these investigations enhance the RAP's Cultural Mapping Process for future planning. Yes, it does.</li> <li>• Intellectual Property Records and Oral History (Page 16)</li> </ul> <p>(4) Continued Aboriginal Consultation</p> <p>Can we make all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' OEH to lock away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non-Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.</p> <p>Once again, a very professional and thorough methodology."</p> |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>       | 18 April 2023, email     | 18 April 2023, email      | Biosis responded to Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd on 18 April 2023, asking for clarification on the dot point pertaining to Intellectual Property Records and Oral History. However, no further clarification was received. Section 2.2 and 4.3 of the Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology, and Section 1.5 and 6.4 of this report were updated.  |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Company</b> | 29 March 2023, email     | 10 April 2023, email      | <p>Karuah Indigenous Company responded<br/>"Hi Ashleigh;</p> <p>Karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd has read and understands the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report.</p>  |



| Organisation contacted                      | Date and type of contact    | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|   |                             |                           | <p>For 42 Fullerton Cove, Fullerton Cove NSW, we support all further investigation of this area with the support Of Aboriginal Cultural Officers if needed.</p> <p>PS: Please change in the Acknowledgements: Karuah Indigenous Service to Karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd</p> <p>PS: Please change in the List Registered Parties from karuah Indigenous Corporation to karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd".</p>   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 29 March 2023, email        | -                         | <p>No response.</p> <p>Biosis has updated Karuah Indigenous Corporation to Karuah Indigenous Company throughout the addendum ACHA.</p>   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 14 April 2023, email        | 14 April 2023, email      | <p>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council responded stating "Hi Ash</p> <p>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with the recommendations made in the Addendum Aboriginal Culture Heritage Assessment for 42 Fullerton Cove road Fullerton Cove".</p>   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 18 April 2023, email        | -                         | <p>Biosis asked if Worimi LALC had any comments on the test excavation methodology.</p> <p>No response was received.</p>   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 1 May 2023, email and phone | -                         | <p>Biosis tried calling Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council. Biosis reached out via email with the following:</p> <p>"Hi Jamie,</p> <p>I hope you are well?</p> <p>I was just reaching out to discuss the future care of artefacts to be recovered from 42 Fullerton Cove, Fullerton Cove, NSW.</p> <p>A majority of RAPs have expressed that they wish for the artefacts to be reburied on site if possible.</p> <p>However, we have had a couple of RAPs suggest that the artefacts be cared for by the LALC and used for educative purposes instead. Would you be able to confirm what the LALC's preference would be for the future care of the artefacts?"</p> <p>No response has yet been received.</p> |
| <b>Confidential Group No.1</b>              | 29 March 2023, email        | -                         | No response received.  |
| <b>Confidential Group No.1</b>              | 14 April 2023, email        | -                         | No response received.  |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal</b>                      | 29 March                    | 5 April                   | Response was received stating "Dear Ashleigh   |

| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Corporation</b>     | 2023, email              | 2023, email               | We have reviewed the ACHA and the Test Excavation Methodology with no objections or further recommendations raised." |

## Stage 4: Review of updated draft addendum ACHA and draft Test Excavation Report

A copy of the updated draft addendum ACHA report and the draft Test Excavation Report was provided to RAPs on 10 October 2023. RAPs were provided with 28 days to respond with comments, with responses requested by 8 November 2023. Responses and comments have been incorporated into the final version of this report.

| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response  |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 30 October 2023, email   | 2 November 2023, email    | <p>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation responded with the following questions and comments: "Guudji Bronte,</p> <p>Why was I not invited to the test excavations ? My people the Worimi are the traditional owners of the project area and my nurra (family group) hold the cultural continued connection to that country on which the project is.</p> <p>The Worimi have since the beginning of time used the country of the project area as a camping site, surname Russell that was my grandfathers mother line.</p> <p>The project country will hold many Worimi stone artefacts. It is important to acknowledge and accept that when digging the country and moving these artefacts that it is cultural protocol that it be done by traditional owners only and proving your traditional ownership should be done.</p> <p>All country that is traditionally owned by the Worimi is culturally significant to us.</p> <p>My grandfather Leonard Andrew Dates was the last Worimi man traditionally initiated on country 1935.</p> <p>Born on the country of the Worimi, Alexander Russell born 1848 daughter was Ellen Russell born 1884 who birthed Leonard Dates 1923 my grandfather Leonard they all born on country Leonard then had 10 children on country and 54 grandchildren then they had 176 children all born on the country of the Worimi, my bloodline has been here since the beginning of time our connection has never been broken. Now can we please get included in any</p> |

| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                        |                          |                           | <p>projects on our country ? Why are we getting left out on purpose ?</p> <p>1.3 Can we include some signage of Worimi Art and design wording within the development ?<br/>Consultation would be great.</p> <p>1.5,<br/>6.4.9,<br/>6.4.10 of the report - What does the wording below mean exactly can you clarify more please ?<br/>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. The findings should also be authenticated.</p> <p>4.2 Who will do the cultural awareness training ? and or cultural burn ?</p> <p>What is the "fingers" can you please tell me what this is or what this means ?</p> <p>I do not agree or support any sites being harmed on the project site, in total or partial harm.</p> <p>Can you please remove the tribal boundaries comment you have made please see below as it is incorrect, I have already provided to you my boundaries comments you should add them please ?<br/>Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports</p> |

| Organisation contacted           | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                                  |                          |                           | <p>that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline</p> <p>Please see your comment below, Q: was the area always swampy land ?</p> <p>As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people</p> <p>I do not support the following comment below as all the site was not surveyed</p> <p>"The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record present within the Proposal Site"</p> <p>6.1 -It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs. The above comment is true and accurate so I am still not sure as to why I was not invited to attend when my Nurra are the people who hold cultural connections to the project country.</p> <p>4.4. Restricted and confidential information Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that "all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by nonRegistered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated." This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential.</p> <p>What is the statemetnt above mean ? I do not support this as I do not understand its context."</p> |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners</b> | 2 November 2023, email   | -                         | <p>Biosis responded to the above with the following:</p> <p>"Dear Candy</p>  |



| Organisation contacted                                  | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Indigenous Corporation</b>                           |                          |                           | <p>Thank you for your email and for your comments on the draft report for 42 Fullerton Cove Road. I will review these in detail and provide you with a response soon.</p> <p>Many thanks and kind regards,<br/>Charlotte"</p> <p>No response was received to this email.</p>   |
| <b>Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation</b> | 7 November 2023, email   | -                         | <p>Biosis provided a detailed response to Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation's questions and comments received on 2 November 2023:<br/>"Dear Candy</p> <p>Thank you for your patience. I have added responses to your comments and questions below in blue text. Please let me know if you would like any further information.</p> <p>Why was I not invited to the test excavations ? My people the Worimi are the traditional owners of the project area and my nurra (family group) hold the cultural continued connection to that country on which the project is.</p> <p>The Worimi have since the beginning of time used the country of the project area as a camping site, surname Russell that was my grandfathers mother line.</p> <p>The project country will hold many Worimi stone artefacts. It is important to acknowledge and accept that when digging the country and moving these artefacts that it is cultural protocol that it be done by traditional owners only and proving your traditional ownership should be done.</p> <p>All country that is traditionally owned by the Worimi is culturally significant to us.</p> <p>My grandfather Leonard Andrew Dates was the last Worimi man traditionally initiated on country 1935.</p> <p>Born on the country of the Worimi, Alexander Russell born 1848 daughter was Ellen Russell born 1884 who birthed Leonard Dates 1923 my grandfather Leonard they all born on country Leonard then had 10 children on country and 54 grandchildren then they had 176 children all born on the country of the Worimi, my bloodline has been here since the beginning of time our connection has never been broken. Now can we please get included in any projects on our country ? Why are we getting left out on purpose ?</p> <p>Thank you for sharing this information about yourself and your family – I appreciate the time you have taken to explain this to us.</p> |

| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                        |                          |                           | <p>Biosis invited four of the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs) to participate in the test excavations: Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.; Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd; Karuah Indigenous Corporation; and Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council. As the excavations took place over only 6 days it was difficult to invite all those RAPs who had registered for such a short and small excavation. It was not intended to exclude any of the RAPs from involvement in the test excavations.</p> <p>We have noted your wish to participate in fieldwork, so for future projects Biosis will do our best to include Worimi TOC in invitations for fieldwork opportunities.</p> <p>1.3 Can we include some signage of Worimi Art and design wording within the development ?<br/>Consultation would be great.</p> <p>We will include a recommendation in the final report for heritage interpretation for Aboriginal cultural heritage for the project and will specifically mention your request for Worimi art and design wording in the development.</p> <p>1.5,<br/>6.4.9,<br/>6.4.10 of the report - What does the wording below mean exactly can you clarify more please ?<br/>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. The findings should also be authenticated.</p> <p>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.</p> <p>4.2 Who will do the cultural awareness training ? and or cultural burn ?</p> <p>It has yet to be decided who will deliver the cultural awareness training.</p> <p>The request for a cultural burn at the consultation meeting on 24 January 2023 was made in the context of providing better visibility</p> |

| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                        |                          |                           | <p>for the test excavations under the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit. I have confirmed with my colleague that a cultural burn was not undertaken in advance of the works.</p> <p>What is the "fingers" can you please tell me what this is or what this means ?</p> <p>The term 'finger' is used to describe long, thin, straight dunes (elongating linear dunes) that have formed due to two winds blowing on either side of a crest. We can add this explanation into the final report.</p> <p>I do not agree or support any sites being harmed on the project site, in total or partial harm.</p> <p>We acknowledge your comment and will ensure that this is recorded in the final ACHA.</p> <p>Can you please remove the tribal boundaries comment you have made please see below as it is incorrect, I have already provided to you my boundaries comments you should add them please ? Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline</p> |

| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                        |                          |                           | <p>Thank you for providing the above information. We will include this in the final report.</p> <p>Please see your comment below, Q: was the area always swampy land ?</p> <p>As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people</p> <p>I do not support the following comment below as all the site was not surveyed</p> <p>"The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record present within the Proposal Site"</p> <p>The first text you have quoted is from the ACHA prepared by NGH Pty Ltd, who undertook the original assessment and survey of the study area. The second text you have quoted was also from the NGH Pty Ltd ACHA. As such, Biosis is not able to change this wording as it is in another consultant's report. However, we have noted your comments about not supporting the second statement.</p> <p>Regarding your question about the area having always been swampy land, at the coldest part of the last ice age (about 20,000-21,000 years ago), sea levels were approximately 120 metres below the current level. However, when the last ice age began to end a few thousand years later, sea levels rose gradually due to melting ice and water running into the oceans. Sea levels were at 70 metres below current levels about 13,000 years ago, at 50 metres below present levels about 12,000 years ago, and current sea levels were reached around 7,500-8,000 years ago (Indigenous Languages (nsw.gov.au), The last ice age tells us why we need to care about a 2°C change in temperature (unsw.edu.au), Post-glacial sea-level changes around the Australian margin: a review (uow.edu.au)).</p> <p>Due to this changing sea level, the study area may not always have been swampy land but is likely to have been swampy land for around 8,000 years based on the rising sea levels at this time. We can note this as a caveat in the final report.</p> <p>6.1 -It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the</p> |



| Organisation contacted | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                        |                          |                           | <p>Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs. The above comment is true and accurate so I am still not sure as to why I was not invited to attend when my Nurra are the people who hold cultural connections to the project country.</p> <p>As previously noted above, it was difficult to have representatives from all RAP groups out during the short period of test excavations. There was no intent to exclude any of the RAPs from this work. For future projects we will do our best to share fieldwork opportunities with Worimi TOC.</p> <p>4.4. Restricted and confidential information Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that “all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by nonRegistered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.” This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential.</p> <p>What is the statemetnt above mean ? I do not support this as I do not understand its context.</p> <p>As per my earlier response to a similar question in your email, Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.</p> <p>Many thanks and kind regards,<br/>Charlotte”</p> <p>No further response was received prior to the closure of the response period on 8 November 2023.</p> |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b> | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.</b> | 31 October 2023, email   | 31 October 2023, email    | <p>Mur-Roo-Ma Inc. provided the following response:</p> <p>“To Biosis,<br/>Murrooma have read and fully understands the draft addendum and test excavation report for the proposed project.<br/>We agree with all of the management recommendations for this</p>   |

| Organisation contacted                      | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|   |                          |                           | <p>area.</p> <p>This area is extremely significant to our people, and we are aware of the extent of the Aboriginal sites that are listed in this report. The report reflects an accurate assessment on this area and the test excavations that were complete- including identification of shell midden material and stone artefacts within this proposed project area.</p> <p>We would like to highlight that we agree that if there is an opportunity to avoid some areas and they will not be impacted on during the proposed project this would be the best outcome.</p> <p>All recommendations and phases within this report meet our requirements and responsibilities as Traditional Owners of this land."</p> |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                         | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Robert Syron</b>                         | 31 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                  | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd</b>                  | 31 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Corporation</b>        | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Karuah Indigenous Corporation</b>        | 31 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council</b> | 31 October 2023, email   | 30 October 2023, email    | <p>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council responded with the following:</p> <p>"Hi Charlotte</p> <p>Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with all of the recommendations for the Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment draft report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW.</p> <p>We also agree with the recommendations in the Test Excavation Report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW."</p>  |
|   |                          | 6 November 2023, email    | <p>A second response was received from Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council:</p> <p>"To Charlotte, Joel Henderson from Worimi LALC am happy with</p>   |

| Organisation contacted             | Date and type of contact | Date and type of response | Response details   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                                    |                          |                           | recommendations put in report also with chatting to RAPS we are happy to do a salvage of artefacts and be present during any excavations in the building process.<br>Kind Regards Joel Henderson Worimi Sites Officer" |
| <b>Confidential Group No.1</b>     | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Confidential Group No.1</b>     | 31 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b> | 10 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |
| <b>Woka Aboriginal Corporation</b> | 31 October 2023, email   | -                         | No response.   |

## Appendix 4 Update to Register Aboriginal Parties

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:38 PM  
**To:** 'Bob & Sam'  
**Subject:** FW: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



### Leaders in Ecology and Heritage Consulting

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

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

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

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** 'bobsam1@bigpond.com.au' <bobsam1@bigpond.com.au>  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

Dear sir/madam,

Please find a project update attached regarding 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove.

Biosis has been commissioned by the proponent to carry on works associated with 42 Fullerton Cove Road, by providing an Amended ACHA, continued Aboriginal Community Consultation and an AHIP Application.

Should you wish to discuss any concerns you may have about the project please do not hesitate to contact me on 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** 'sites@worimi.org.au'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

Dear sir/madam,

Please find a project update attached regarding 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove.

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Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** 'indigenousskaruah@outlook.com'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

Dear sir/madam,

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Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** 'lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

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Kind regards,  
Ashleigh



## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** 'murroomainc1@gmail.com'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

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Ashleigh

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** 'worimitoc@hotmail.com'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

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Ashleigh

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** 'wokacorp@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis  
**Attachments:** PDFMailer.pdf

Dear sir/madam,

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Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

8 November 2022

Candy Lee Towers  
Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation

Dear Candy Lee Towers,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an amendment to an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) previously produced by NGH for Monteath & Powys on behalf of Christine Jordan to inform the development of a shopping mall at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The amended ACHA will support an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application to be submitted to Heritage NSW Department of Energy and Environment (Heritage NSW). The project is to be assessed as development application under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Biosis is assisting Monteath & Powys with continued consultation with the Aboriginal community to inform the ACHA amendment in accordance with *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements). The amended ACHA will be prepared in as per the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010b) (the Code), and will include:

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The consultant archaeologist for this project is:

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Biosis Pty Ltd  
8/27 Annie Street  
Wickham NSW 2293  
**[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)**

If you have any queries regarding the project please don't hesitate to contact Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman on the details above, or alternatively the main office number on 02 4911 4040.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Windram', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

Anthony Anderson  
Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.

Dear Anthony Anderson,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an amendment to an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) previously produced by NGH for Monteath & Powys on behalf of Christine Jordan to inform the development of a shopping mall at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The amended ACHA will support an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application to be submitted to Heritage NSW Department of Energy and Environment (Heritage NSW). The project is to be assessed as development application under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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Yours sincerely

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

Robert Syron

Dear Robert Syron,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an amendment to an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) previously produced by NGH for Monteath & Powys on behalf of Christine Jordan to inform the development of a shopping mall at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (the project). The amended ACHA will support an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application to be submitted to Heritage NSW Department of Energy and Environment (Heritage NSW). The project is to be assessed as development application under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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Yours sincerely

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

Leonard Anderson  
Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd

Dear Leonard Anderson,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

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Yours sincerely

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

David Feeney  
Karuah Indigenous Corporation

Dear David Feeney,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

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8/27 Annie Street  
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**[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)**

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Yours sincerely

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

Jamie Merrick  
Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council

Dear Jamie Merrick,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

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Yours sincerely

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

8 November 2022

Stephen Johnson  
Woka Aboriginal Corporation

Dear Stephen Johnson,

**RE: PROJECT UPDATE: Amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW**  
**Our Ref: 38294**

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**Nathan Windram**  
**Heritage Research Assistant**

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Anthony Anderson <murroomainc1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 November 2022 1:53 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

Received thanks Ash

On Tuesday, November 22, 2022, Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)> wrote:  
Hey Bec,

Let me know if you get this one. I've attached a concept plan as well.  
Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** 'murroomainc1@gmail.com' <[murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Project Update [42 Fullerton Cove Road](#) ACHA - Biosis

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Should you wish to discuss any concerns you may have about the project please do not hesitate to contact me on 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

--

Anthony Anderson  
CEO Mur-roo-ma Incorporated  
Justice of The Peace

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Anthony Anderson <murroomainc1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 December 2022 6:32 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: 42 Fullerton Cove ACHA - Concerns  
**Attachments:** Monteath and Powys- 551.pdf

Hi Ash,

Thanks for following up on this project and supplying us with all of this information, your work is much appreciated. Hopefully we can have a better understanding of what is happening and a more positive approach moving forward.

We still have not received payment of the invoice that was sent to Monteath Powys so I have re-attached this for you to forward to your contact and see if this can be sorted.

Thanks  
Bec

On Wed, Nov 23, 2022 at 3:14 PM Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)> wrote:

Hey Bec and Lennie,

I spoke with Monteath and Powys yesterday to raise a few of the concerns you both had.

Isaac Conway the project manager I am working with has his team looking into it. So far they have confirmed that the Optus tower was approved by Council in 2020 (DA 16/2019/750/1) per the attached consent.

They are chasing up the reports supplied with the DA now so that we can review and see what exactly has gone on here and confirm whether due diligence has been undertaken at all.

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Will send through any more information I know.

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--

**Anthony Anderson**

**CEO Mur-roo-ma Incorporated**

**Justice of The Peace**



## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 November 2022 2:57 PM  
**To:** 'Anthony Anderson'  
**Subject:** RE: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

So I had a chat with Taz. She said with regards to the telecommunications tower basically if they knew about the site through their due diligence process then they have done the wrong thing and you should report them. But if the sites weren't recorded and they weren't informed then the blame wouldn't fall on them because of the telecommunications Act. Potentially whom ever was responsible for informing them of any heritage constraints would be at fault but.

Let me know if you want to catch up about this. Me and Taz can always do coffee.

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

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Sent: Tuesday, 8 November 2022 4:36 PM

To: '[murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)' <[murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)>

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CEO Mur-roo-ma Incorporated  
Justice of The Peace

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 November 2022 3:14 PM  
**To:** 'Anthony Anderson'  
**Cc:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011  
**Subject:** 42 Fullerton Cove ACHA - Concerns  
**Attachments:** UNSIGNED Standard Determination - 16-2019-750-1 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road FULLERTON COVE 2318.PDF

Hey Bec and Lennie,

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 November 2022 1:34 PM  
**To:** 'lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com'  
**Cc:** murroomainc1@gmail.com; indigenousskaruah@outlook.com; jamie.merrick@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** RE: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

Hey Lennie,

Just spoke with Bec on this one. Send through your invoice to me and I will see what's going on here. I am also going to ask about the telecom tower and am organising for a consultation meeting to take place on site.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
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**From:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 November 2022 1:07 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Cc:** murroomainc1@gmail.com; indigenousskaruah@outlook.com; jamie.merrick@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** RE: Project Update 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA - Biosis

Hi Ash,

Sorry I'm in a meeting, But Lot 42 we have not been paid for in it was done in May Kirwan was the Archy (Monteith and Powyrs) but WE found heaps, the ridge line that surrounds the Telecom tower is full also a lot of shell etc scattered over the surface. This area was rejected years ago for a development because of the Cultural material found. We recommended digs all over the paddock. But until they pay us nothing is going to happen.

Lennie

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2022 9:48 AM  
**To:** 'lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011' <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
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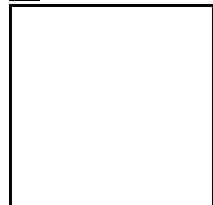


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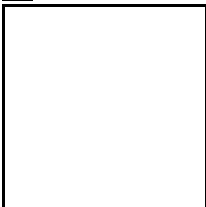
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## Appendix 5 Aboriginal community consultation meeting

---



**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:27:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [image855546.png](#)  
[image531756.png](#)  
[image833438.png](#)

---

Dear Jamie

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
Biosis is currently preparing an amended ACHA for the project in order to obtain an AHIP to allow for test excavations to occur within the study area.

Meeting details are as follows:

**Date:** Thursday 12 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please ensure that if you are attending that you wear all appropriate PPE for visiting site including enclosed shoes, long shirt, and long pants as we will likely walk around whilst discussing portions of the site.

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If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

📞 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [indigenousskaruah@outlook.com](mailto:indigenousskaruah@outlook.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:27:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [image360618.png](#)  
[image982478.png](#)  
[image885258.png](#)

---

Dear Dave

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
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**Date:** Thursday 12 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [image338807.png](#)  
[image261783.png](#)  
[image196114.png](#)

---

Dear Lennie,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image251947.png](#)  
[image791711.png](#)  
[image463470.png](#)

---

Dear Robert

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:25:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [image367783.png](#)  
[image938422.png](#)  
[image868565.png](#)

---

Dear Bec,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [wokacorp@yahoo.com](mailto:wokacorp@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:28:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [image292930.png](#)  
[image725735.png](#)  
[image890763.png](#)

---

Dear Stephen

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**From:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**To:** [worimitoc@hotmail.com](mailto:worimitoc@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** 3Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:24:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [image543238.png](#)  
[image478643.png](#)  
[image469280.png](#)

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Dear Candy,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.  
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Kind regards,

Ashleigh

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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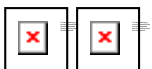
**From:** Steven Johnson <wokacorp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 January 2023 12:16 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Attention: Ashleigh

Re: Our Corporation representatives are not volunteers

We cannot afford to be volunteering, just as I believe the company you work for cannot afford to do. We have to pay bills like everyone else. We have to pay corporation running costs like everyone else. We pay insurances, PPE, tools, tax, car running costs, accommodation, ect. We pay our representatives to work, as it's work. We are not volunteers. We are not government funded. We have to be paid, as we cannot afford to attend sites unpaid. Inviting us to work for free as our ancestors had to do is not a privilege we find this insulting that we are asked to work for free. There's labour costs, travel costs, our time, our required work gear, insurances, etc. Its unfair for big developers or yourselves to ask we work for free, to preserve what's left out our culture. To When our ancestral land is being torn up that we come work for free. We are running not for profit corporations which provide paid employment to Aboriginal people from all over Australia.

Sincerely  
Steve J  
Aboriginal Heritage Custodian  
Mob: 0406991221  
Email: wokacorp@yahoo.com



*We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands upon which we work and pay our deep respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*

On Monday, December 19, 2022, 1:48 pm, Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au> wrote:

Hi Stephen,

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023

**Time:** 10 am

**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW



**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

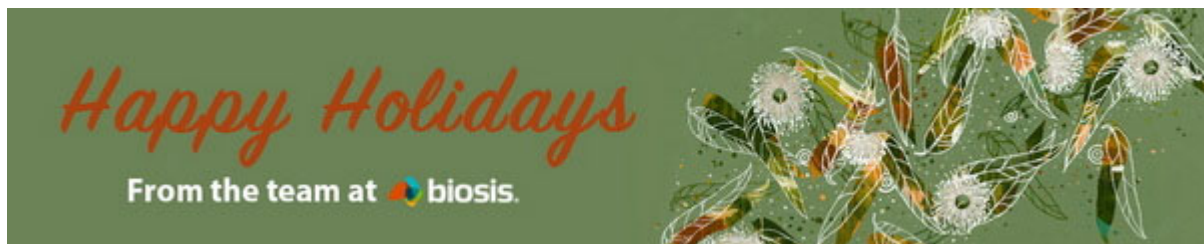
I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:29 PM

**To:** wokacorp@yahoo.com

**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Stephen

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Kind regards,

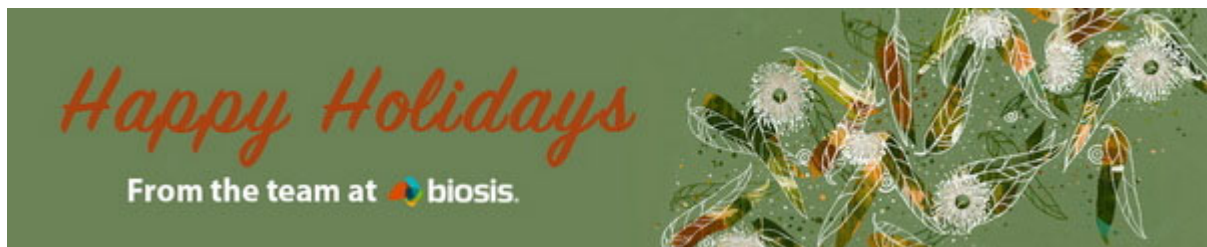
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** BS <bobsam1@bigpond.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Ashleigh

Yes please dial me into the meeting on site **Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023 **Time:** 10 am

Same to you have a great Xmass

Kind regards Bob Syron

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:18 PM  
**To:** bobsam1@bigpond.net.au  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Robert

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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

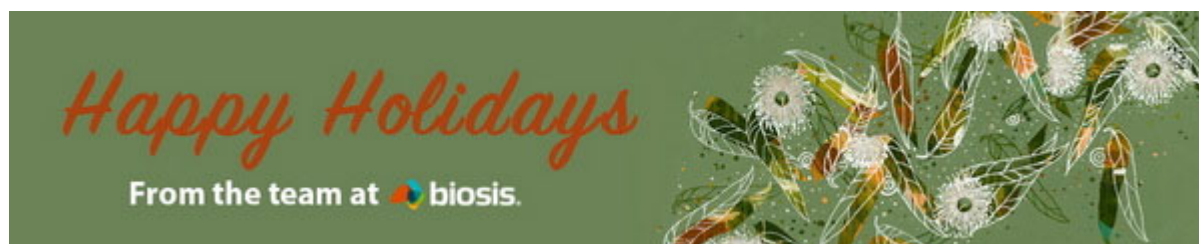
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I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** [bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

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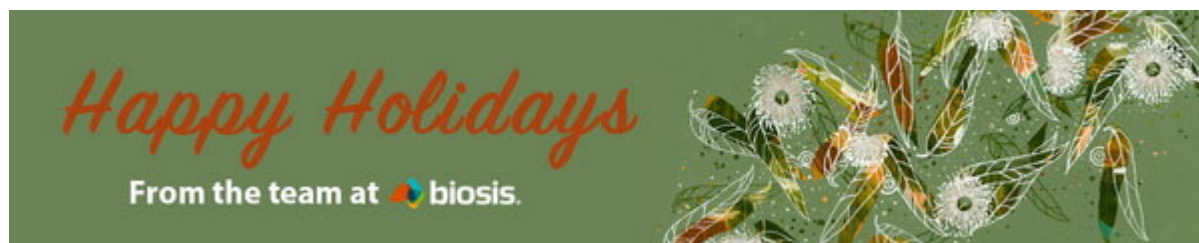
If you have any concerns with regards to the project and the future protection of Aboriginal sites within the study, we also invite you to voice these concerns prior to the meeting so that they may be included in the meeting agenda.

If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** BS <bobsam1@bigpond.net.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 December 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Ash yes I do thank you this would be great  
Kind regards Bob

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 3:10 PM  
**To:** BS <bobsam1@bigpond.net.au>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

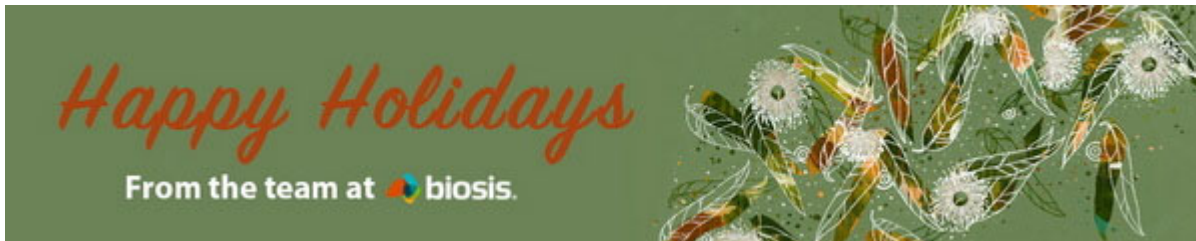
No problems.

Do you have access to Microsoft teams meeting?  
I can set up a meeting and send you a request?

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** BS <[bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Ashleigh  
Yes please dial me into the meeting on site **Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023 **Time:** 10 am  
Same to you have a great Xmass  
Kind regards Bob Syron

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:18 PM  
**To:** [bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Robert

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

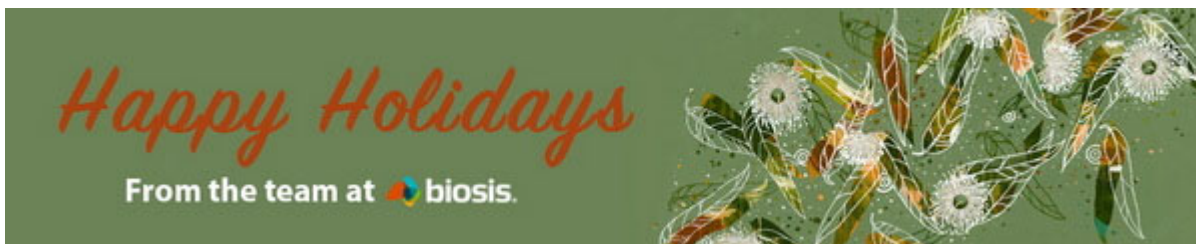
Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** [bobsam1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bobsam1@bigpond.net.au)  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Robert

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Biosis is currently preparing an amended ACHA for the project in order to obtain an AHIP to allow for test excavations to occur within the study area.

Meeting details are as follows:

**Date:** Thursday 12 January 2023

**Time:** 10 am

**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW

**Duration:** 1-2 hours

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If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

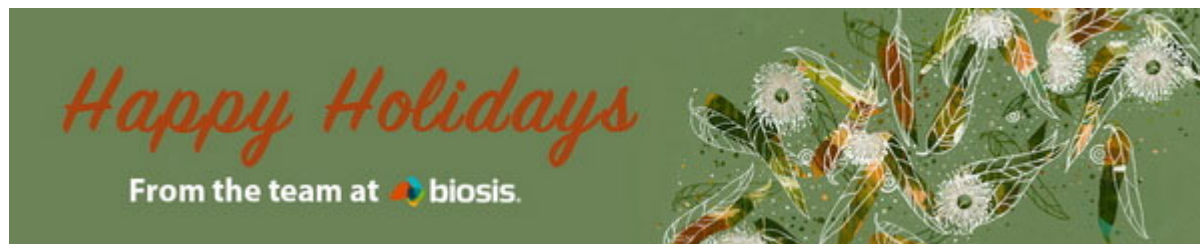
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Anthony Anderson <murroomainc1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 22 December 2022 8:34 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Ash  
Thanks for the invite  
I will be able to attend onsite  
Thanks Bec

On Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 4:25 PM Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)> wrote:

Dear Bec,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Biosis is currently preparing an amended ACHA for the project in order to obtain an AHIP to allow for test excavations to occur within the study area.

Meeting details are as follows:

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If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Ashleigh

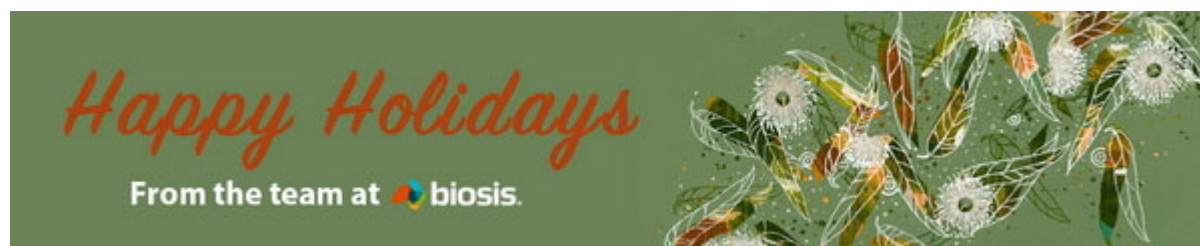
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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--

**Anthony Anderson**  
**CEO Mur-roo-ma Incorporated**  
**Justice of The Peace**



## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:49 PM  
**To:** wokacorp@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Stephen,

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

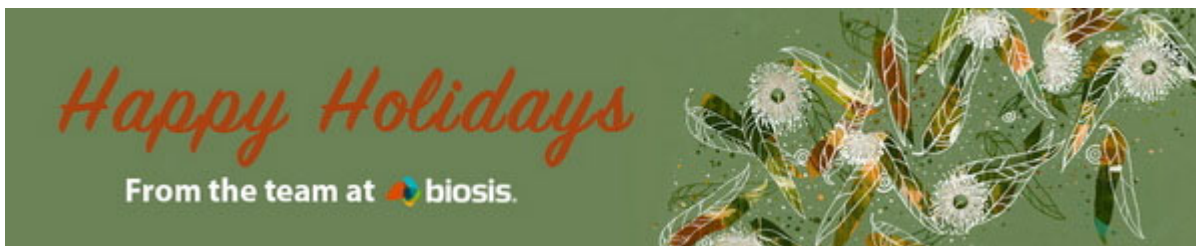
Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:29 PM  
**To:** wokacorp@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Stephen

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

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**Time:** 10 am

**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW

**Duration:** 1-2 hours

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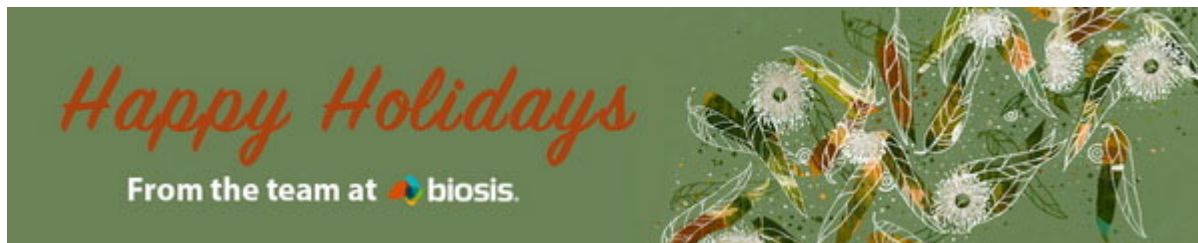
Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** sites@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Jamie,

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** sites@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Jamie

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

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If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** indigenousskaruah@outlook.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hey Dave,

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:27 PM  
**To:** indigenousskaruah@outlook.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Dave

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

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Meeting details are as follows:

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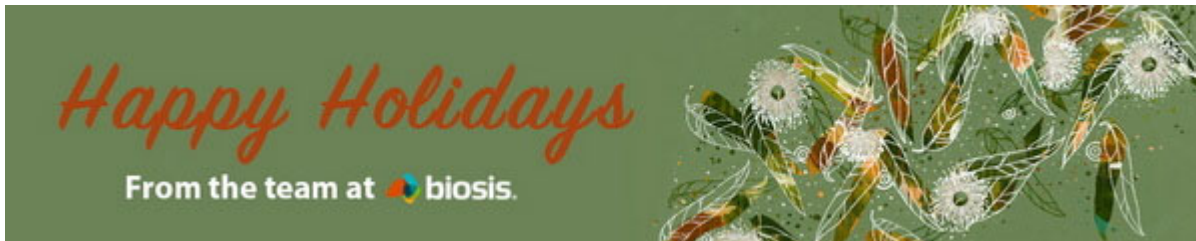


If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hey Lennie,

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:27 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Lennie,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

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If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** bobsam1@bigpond.net.au  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Robert

The meeting details for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW have been updated to the following:

**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW  
**Duration:** 1-2 hours

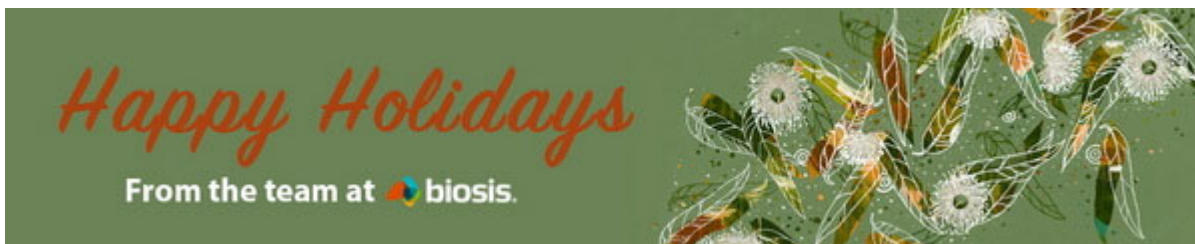
Please let me know if you are available to attend this on site meeting or would like us to dial you into the meeting on site if you are unable to attend in person.

I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



Artwork: *Flowering Gum* by Anthony Walker. Click on the banner to find out more about this piece.

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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** bobsam1@bigpond.net.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Robert

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

Biosis is currently preparing an amended ACHA for the project in order to obtain an AHIP to allow for test excavations to occur within the study area.

Meeting details are as follows:

**Date:** Thursday 12 January 2023

**Time:** 10 am

**Place:** 42 Fullerton Cover Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW

**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Please ensure that if you are attending that you wear all appropriate PPE for visiting site including enclosed shoes, long shirt, and long pants as we will likely walk around whilst discussing portions of the site.

Please note that this meeting opportunity is not a paid opportunity. If you are unable to attend, a summary of the meeting will be provided to all RAPs who have identified an interest in the study area to allow for review and comment on the information presented at the meeting.

If you have any concerns with regards to the project and the future protection of Aboriginal sites within the study, we also invite you to voice these concerns prior to the meeting so that they may be included in the meeting agenda.

If you have any questions or would like to register your availability to attend the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

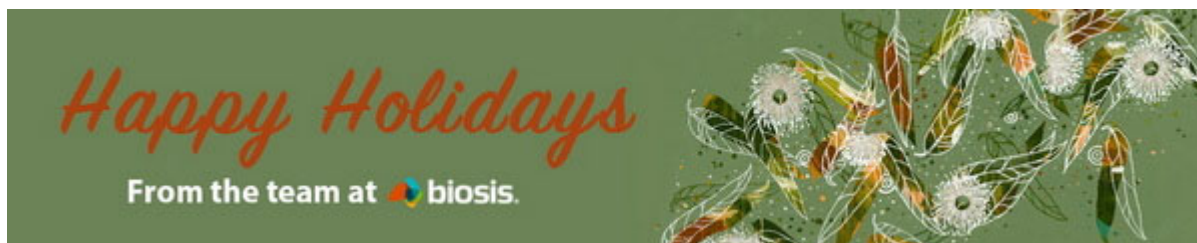
Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 December 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** murroomainc1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Hi Bec,

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**Date:** Tuesday 24 January 2023  
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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

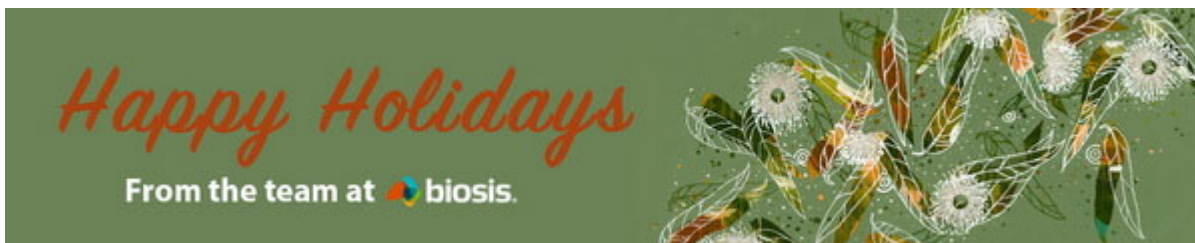
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I hope you have a great Christmas.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

📠 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** murroomainc1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - Invitation - Consultation Meeting - 42 Fullerton Cover Road Addendum ACHA and AHIP

Dear Bec,

Biosis wish to invite you to a consultation meeting to be held for the retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

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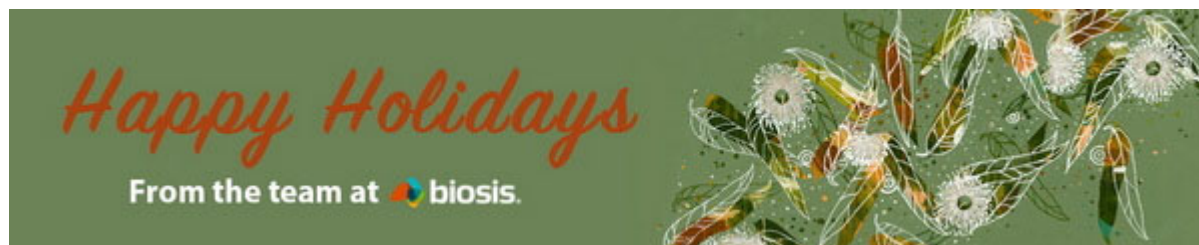
Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Consultant Archaeologist

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Appendix 6 Stage 4: Review of draft addendum ACHA report and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:07 PM  
**To:** wokacorp@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

Biosis would also like to provide a copy of the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology prepared to support an AHIP to undertake test excavations within the study area.

Both documents can be downloaded via the following link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/hTmVrH4t3h>

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the draft ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology by **5pm 26 April 2023** either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:04 PM  
**To:** sites@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Jamie

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:04 PM  
**To:** bobsam1@bigpond.net.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Bob

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:03 PM  
**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Candy

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:03 PM  
**To:** indigenousskaruah@outlook.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Dave

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:02 PM  
**To:** Anthony Anderson  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Bec

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

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Senior Heritage Consultant

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

I hope you received the PDF versions.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
📞 (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Just checking you received both documents?

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



## Leaders in Ecology and Heritage Consulting

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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Please find the reduced ACHA attached.

Hope this works.

I will send the methodology soon.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

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Kind regards,

Ash

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Senior Heritage Consultant

📠 0428 175 025  
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Candy,

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If you have any issues downloading the documents please let me know.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
📞 (02) 4911 4042  
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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:03 PM  
**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Candy

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** sites@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Jamie,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

If you have any issues downloading the documents please let me know.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

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📞 (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:04 PM  
**To:** sites@worimi.org.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Jamie

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** Anthony Anderson  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Bec,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

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Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:02 PM  
**To:** Anthony Anderson <[murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Bec

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Worimi TOC <worimitoc@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 April 2023 1:46 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Cc:** tam1937@outlook.com  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology  
**Attachments:** enright1933boundary.pdf

Hi Ash,

I agree and support the recommendations in the report.

Regarding 3.1 I would like to add the report that the boundaries of the Worimi are incorrect. The boundaries of the Worimi also include Newcastle to Lake Macquarie.

The Port Stephens Blacks, the Newcastle Blacks and the Lake Macquarie Blacks are the same blacks same people same country.

When Dawson arrived in Newcastle from Sydney in 1825, he had come across around 70-100 blacks resting someone near now what would be hunter street. Upon speaking with the Blacks he had asked two of them if they could walk him to Port Stephens the following morning. The following morning one of the blacks agreed to walk him to Port Stephens. Upon arrival to Port Stephens Dawson then asked the black if he could stay and work for him there, the black informed Dawson that Port Stephens was a part of his traditional country and that he would stay and work for him there but he had left his wife in Newcastle and that he would have to go back and get her. (ref: Dawson book The present state of Australia)

Threlkeld attended Port Stephens on a trip with Biraban in 1837 and described that he was astonished that when Biraban spoke in the language to the Port Stephens blacks they both understood each other.

Percy Haslam was a local historian at Newcastle University and on a video interview in 1974 regarding the Awabakal language, Percy Haslam was asked were the Awabakal people the only people to use the lands of Newcastle and Percy replied with "No, it was the Port Stephens Blacks the Newcastle Blacks, Lake Mac, CoalFields and that it should be called the Hunter Region. Percy also gives great detail on how similar the PS blacks N Blacks and LM Blacks all looked the same.

Please see attachment of W.J.Enright Boundaries of the Worimi.

Threlkeld wrote to the Attorney General in the first 5 months of the mission and said that the natives were connected in kind of a circle from Port Stephens to the Hawksbury river.

There are Worimi people who were born and died in Newcastle Hospital  
There are burials of Worimi people at Sandgate Cemetery.

6.4.7 Long term care agreement.

I would request that any artefacts found not to be reburied and to be provided to Worimi TOIC or Worimi LALC for educational purposes for the future generations through workshops and or Cultural centre.

We would like to be invited to participate in any testing excavations and or meetings that will take place regarding this project.

I'll say cheerio for now,  
Candy

*Candy Towers*

Worimi Cultural Advisor

Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation

ph: 0412 475 362

e: worimitoc@hotmail.com



WORIMI TOIC

*Guudji Yiigu, I am a Worimi and Yorta Yorta woman from Newcastle NSW, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which I live and work, to their continuing connection to land, water, culture and community and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and to our future generations.*

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 10:46 AM

**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com <worimitoc@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Candy,

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If you have any issues downloading the documents please let me know.

Kind regards,  
Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

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☎ (02) 4911 4042

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:03 PM

**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com

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Kind regards,  
Ash

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:15 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

The actual letter and first page came up but as soon as you tap it it disappears, can you send in different format than PDF?

Regards

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
To: "lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com" <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 10:48 AM  
Subject: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

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I hope you received the PDF versions.

Kind regards,

Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042

 AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,


Just checking you received both documents?


Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

 0428 175 025

 (02) 4911 4042

 AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Please find the reduced ACHA attached.

Hope this works.

I will send the methodology soon.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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---

**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

Biosis would also like to provide a copy of the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology prepared to support an AHIP to undertake test excavations within the study area.

Both documents can be downloaded via the following link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/hTmVrH4t3h>

It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the draft ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology by **5pm 26 April 2023** either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,

Ash

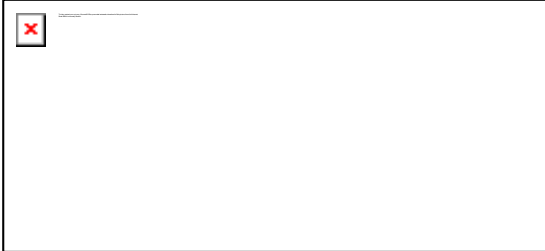
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025

☐ (02) 4911 4042

☐ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Steven Johnson <wokacorp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 11:29 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Ashleigh

We have reviewed the AHCA and the Test Excavation Methodology with no objections or further recommendations raised.

Kind Regards  
Steve Johnson

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 5:07 pm, Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au> wrote:

Dear

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/hTmVrH4t3h>

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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** BS <bobsam1@bigpond.net.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 12 April 2023 11:52 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Ash

Hope your well I have read the drat looks great thank you.

Kind regards Bob Syron

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** bobsam1@bigpond.net.au  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Bob

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** David Feeney <indigenouskaruah@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 April 2023 12:10 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ashleigh;

Karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd has read and understands the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report  
For 42 Fullerton Cove, Fullerton Cove NSW, We support all further investigation of this area with the support  
Of Aboriginal Cultural Officers if needed.

PS: Please change in the Acknowledgements: Karuah Indigenous Service to Karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd

PS: Please change in the List Registered Parties from karuah Indigenous Corporation to karuah Indigenous Company Pty Ltd

Thanks

David J Feeney  
Chief Executive Officer  
Snr Aboriginal Cultural Officer  
Karuah Indigenous Company Pty.Ltd  
0421114853

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:03 PM  
**To:** indigenouskaruah@outlook.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear Dave

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Jamie Merrick <jamie.merrick@worimi.org.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** ACHA

Hi Ash

Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with the recommendations made in the Addendum Aboriginal Culture Heritage Assessment for 42 Fullerton Cove road Fullerton Cove

Regards,

***Jamie Merrick***

Snr Site Officer

**Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council**

P: 02 4033 8800 F: 02 4033 8899 E: [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au) M: 0429 994 292

*The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council respects the privacy of individuals and strives to comply with all areas of the Privacy Act. The contents of this email are intended for the purpose of the person or persons named in either the "To" or "CC" boxes of the email. Any person not named in these boxes in receipt of this email should immediately delete this email and advise the sender accordingly.*



Think before you print.



## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I have read the Methodology and yes I agree with your writings, A couple of things I would like to see included sometime-somewhere would be in addition to what was written in Para 2.2 and can we add dot point,

- Will these investigations enhance the RAP's Cultural Mapping Process for future planning. Yes it does.
- Intellectual Property Records and Oral History (Page 16)

### (4) Continued Aboriginal Consultation

Can we make all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' OEH to lock away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.

Once again, a very professional and thorough methodology.

Warm Regards

Lennie Anderson OAM ASM  
Worimi Traditional Custodian (WNTAECG Chair)  
Senior Fellow In Ceremony  
'Keeper Of The Stories'  
Native Title Recipient  
Indigenous Archaeologist  
NUR-RUN-GEE Pty Ltd (Director)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
To: "lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011" <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 11:19 AM  
Subject: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hey Lennie,

I have reattached it. If it doesn't work I will send it out to you via express post on Monday.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025

☐ (02) 4911 4042

☐ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>

**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:15 AM

**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

**Subject:** Re: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

The actual letter and first page came up but as soon as you tap it it disappears, can you send in different format than PDF?

Regards

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

To: "[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)" <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 10:48 AM

Subject: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

I hope you received the PDF versions.

Kind regards,

Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Just checking you received both documents?

Kind regards,

Ash



**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Please find the reduced ACHA attached.

Hope this works.

I will send the methodology soon.

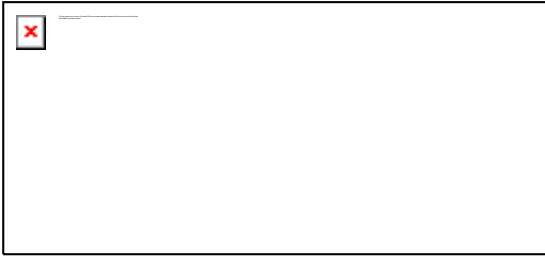
Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

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**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM

**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:15 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** Re: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

The actual letter and first page came up but as soon as you tap it it disappears, can you send in different format than PDF?

Regards

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

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To: "lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com" <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 10:48 AM  
Subject: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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Lennie

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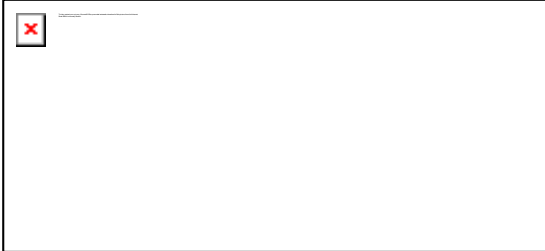
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 9:17 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011  
**Subject:** Re: RE: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Apologies I thought the comments were with regards to the test methodology only.

Thank you.

Kind regards,  
Ash

Get [Outlook for Android](#)  
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

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☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 18, 2023 5:52:05 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash If I hadn't looked at it I wouldn't know about 2.2 etc, I did comment and yes Kim at OEH is well aware of the confidentiality procedures.

Thanking You

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>

To: "lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011" <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 Apr, 2023 At 10:42 AM

Subject: RE: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Thank you for your email.

I will include your first dot point in section 2.2.

Would you mind expanding a little more on the second dot point regarding intellectual property record and oral history?

I will look into the process for making the project confidential – it is not yet something we have come across so will reach out to Heritage NSW on how they will manage this.

Were you able to have a look at the ACHA?

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

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**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I have read the Methodology and yes I agree with your writings, A couple of things I would like to see included sometime-somewhere would be in addition to what was written in Para 2.2 and can we add dot point,

- Will these investigations enhance the RAP's Cultural Mapping Process for future planning. Yes it does.
- Intellectual Property Records and Oral History (Page 16)

(4) Continued Aboriginal Consultation

Can we make all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' OEH to lock away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.

Once again, a very professional and thorough methodology.

Warm Regards

Lennie Anderson OAM ASM

Worimi Traditional Custodian (WNTAECG Chair)

Senior Fellow In Ceremony

'Keeper Of The Stories'

Native Title Recipient

Indigenous Archaeologist

NUR-RUN-GEE Pty Ltd (Director)

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From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
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Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 11:19 AM

Subject: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hey Lennie,

I have reattached it. If it doesn't work I will send it out to you via express post on Monday.

Kind regards,

Ash

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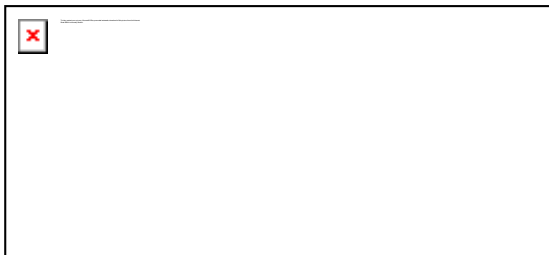
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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

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**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology  
**Attachments:** 38294.42.Fullerton.Cove.Rd.Addendum.ACHA.DFT01.20230229reduced.pdf

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Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
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---

**From:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW 2010), a draft amended Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Road, NSW has been provided for your review and comment over a 28 day review period ending on 26 April 2023.

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the draft ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology by **5pm 26 April 2023** either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology  
**Attachments:** 38294.42.Fullerton.Cove.Road.Test.Excavation.Methodology.DFT01.20230329reduced.pdf

Hi Lennie,

Testing methodology attached.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
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Lennie



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 10:59 AM  
**To:** Jamie Merrick  
**Subject:** RE: ACHA

Thanks Jamie.

Did you have any comments on the test excavation methodology?

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** Jamie Merrick <jamie.merrick@worimi.org.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** ACHA

Hi Ash

Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with the recommendations made in the Addendum Aboriginal Culture Heritage Assessment for 42 Fullerton Cove road Fullerton Cove

Regards,

***Jamie Merrick***

Snr Site Officer

**Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council**

P: 02 4033 8800 F: 02 4033 8899 E: [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au) M: 0429 994 292

*The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council respects the privacy of individuals and strives to comply with all areas of the Privacy Act. The contents of this email are intended for the purpose of the person or persons named in either the "To" or "CC" boxes of the email. Any person not named in these boxes in receipt of this email should immediately delete this email and advise the sender accordingly.*



Think before you print.

## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:14 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

I will try send another way! :)

Get [Outlook for Android](#)  
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:11:09 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

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It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the draft ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology by **5pm 26 April 2023** either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025

☎ (02) 4911 4042

✉ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011  
**Subject:** RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology  
**Attachments:** 38294.42.Fullerton.Cove.Road.Test.Excavation.Methodology.DFT01.20230329reduced.pdf

Hey Lennie,

I have reattached it. If it doesn't work I will send it out to you via express post on Monday.

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

📞 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:15 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

The actual letter and first page came up but as soon as you tap it it disappears, can you send in different format than PDF?

Regards

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

To: "[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)" <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 10:48 AM

Subject: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

I hope you received the PDF versions.

Kind regards,

Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025

☐ (02) 4911 4042

☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Just checking you received both documents?

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025

☐ (02) 4911 4042

☐ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Please find the reduced ACHA attached.

Hope this works.

I will send the methodology soon.

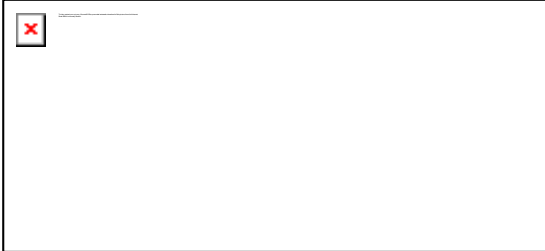
Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM

**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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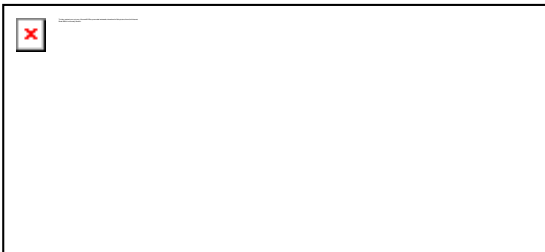
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Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 10:42 AM  
**To:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011  
**Subject:** RE: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Thank you for your email.

I will include your first dot point in section 2.2.

Would you mind expanding a little more on the second dot point regarding intellectual property record and oral history?

I will look into the process for making the project confidential – it is not yet something we have come across so will reach out to Heritage NSW on how they will manage this.

Were you able to have a look at the ACHA?

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

📠 0428 175 025  
☎ (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I have read the Methodology and yes I agree with your writings, A couple of things I would like to see included sometime-somewhere would be in addition to what was written in Para 2.2 and can we add dot point,

- Will these investigations enhance the RAP's Cultural Mapping Process for future planning. Yes it does.
- Intellectual Property Records and Oral History (Page 16)

#### (4) Continued Aboriginal Consultation

Can we make all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' OEH to lock away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.

Once again, a very professional and thorough methodology.

Warm Regards

Lennie Anderson OAM ASM  
Worimi Traditional Custodian (WNTAECG Chair)  
Senior Fellow In Ceremony  
'Keeper Of The Stories'  
Native Title Recipient  
Indigenous Archaeologist  
NUR-RUN-GEE Pty Ltd (Director)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

To: "lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011" <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 11:19 AM

Subject: RE: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hey Lennie,

I have reattached it. If it doesn't work I will send it out to you via express post on Monday.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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**From:** lennie.anderson011 lennie.anderson011 <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:15 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

The actual letter and first page came up but as soon as you tap it it disappears, can you send in different format than PDF?

Regards

Lennie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman" <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
To: "[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)" <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
Sent: Friday, 14 Apr, 2023 At 10:48 AM  
Subject: RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

This is a reminder that the close of review period is approaching. If you would like to provide a response, please do so by 5pm 26 April 2023, either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

I hope you received the PDF versions.

Kind regards,

Ashleigh

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Just checking you received both documents?

Kind regards,

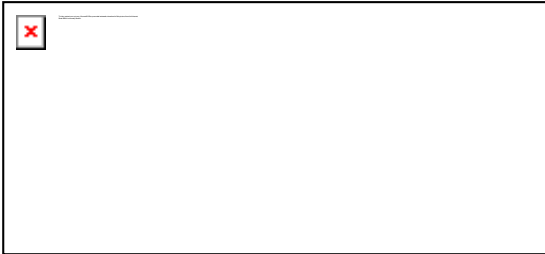
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

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---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 3 April 2023 11:31 AM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Lennie,

Please find the reduced ACHA attached.

Hope this works.

I will send the methodology soon.

Kind regards,

Ash

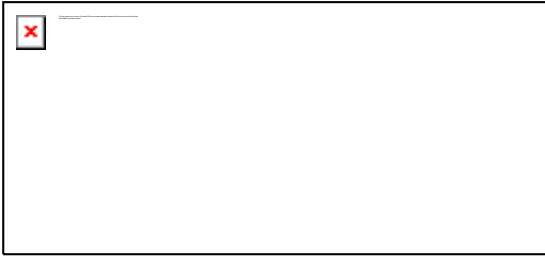
**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**

Senior Heritage Consultant

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**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM

**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

I can't get the downloads.

Lennie

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

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Biosis would also like to provide a copy of the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology prepared to support an AHIP to undertake test excavations within the study area.

Both documents can be downloaded via the following link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/hTmVrH4t3h>

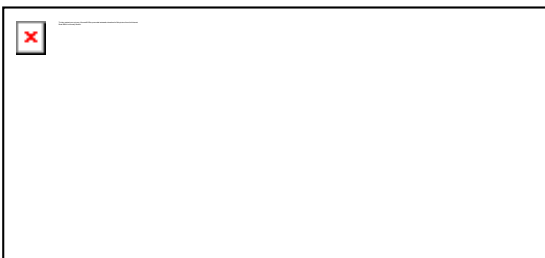
It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the draft ACHA and Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology by **5pm 26 April 2023** either by email, return mail or a phone call. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to me via [akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:akeevers-eastman@biosis.com.au) or 0428 175 025.

Kind regards,

Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☐ 0428 175 025  
☐ (02) 4911 4042  
☐ [AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)



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## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Monday, 1 May 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Jamie Merrick  
**Subject:** RE: ACHA

Hi Jamie,

I hope you are well?

I was just reaching out to discuss the future care of artefacts to be recovered from 42 Fullerton Cove, Fullerton Cove, NSW.

A majority of RAPs have expressed that they wish for the artefacts to be reburied on site if possible.

However, we have had a couple of RAPs suggest that the artefacts be cared for by the LALC and used for educative purposes instead. Would you be able to confirm what the LALC's preference would be for the future care of the artefacts?

Kind regards,  
Ash

**Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0428 175 025  
📞 (02) 4911 4042  
✉ AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au



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---

**From:** Jamie Merrick <jamie.merrick@worimi.org.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** ACHA

Hi Ash

Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with the recommendations made in the Addendum Aboriginal Culture Heritage Assessment for 42 Fullerton Cove road Fullerton Cove

Regards,

**Jamie Merrick**  
Snr Site Officer

## **Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council**

P: 02 4033 8800 F: 02 4033 8899 E: [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au) M: 0429 994 292

*The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council respects the privacy of individuals and strives to comply with all areas of the Privacy Act. The contents of this email are intended for the purpose of the person or persons named in either the "To" or "CC" boxes of the email. Any person not named in these boxes in receipt of this email should immediately delete this email and advise the sender accordingly.*



Think before you print.



## Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman

---

**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 April 2023 1:13 PM  
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**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

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**From:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com) <[lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Hi Ash,

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Lennie

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**From:** Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road Amended draft ACHA and draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology

Dear

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Biosis would also like to provide a copy of the draft Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology prepared to support an AHIP to undertake test excavations within the study area.

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## Appendix 7 Test excavation methodology

---

3 May 2023

First Name Last Name

Role

Organisation

Address

Address Vic 3000

Dear First Name

## **Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology: 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove, NSW**

**Our Ref: Matter: 38294**

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) is currently undertaking an addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for Monteath and Powys, for the proposed retail development at 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove, New South Wales (NSW) (Lot 14 DP 258848) (the study area) (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

The study area was previously assessed by NGH in 2022 to inform a rezoning application which would allow for future retail development (NGH 2022). An ACHA was prepared by NGH in accordance with the consultation requirements and the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010a) (the Code). Consultation with the Aboriginal community undertaken by NGH to inform the ACHA has been maintained in accordance with the consultation requirements.

The addendum ACHA will support a Development Application (DA) to be prepared by Monteath Powys for the proposed retail development. The proposed development will be assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Port Stephens Council is the determining authority and will assess the DA to determine if the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, including Aboriginal cultural heritage. The addendum ACHA will also support an application to Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment (Heritage NSW) for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). The purpose of this AHIP will be to undertake test excavations within areas of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) with midden deposits previously identified by NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) as part of their 2022 assessment (NGH 2022). Under Requirement 14 of the Code, it is necessary to apply for an AHIP in or within 50 metres of a shell midden or an area where burial sites are known to/or likely to exist (DECCW 2010b, pp.24–25).

Following an onsite consultation meeting held on Tuesday 24 January 2023, Biosis has been engaged by Monteath and Powys to prepare an Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology at the request of Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs). The Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology will support an application to Heritage NSW for an AHIP to allow for test excavations of Aboriginal sites which will be impacted by the proposed works.



The aim of this letter is to provide you with updated information about the project and the proposed Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology and to seek your feedback to inform the Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology. The following Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology and updated project information has been prepared in accordance the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010a) (consultation requirements).

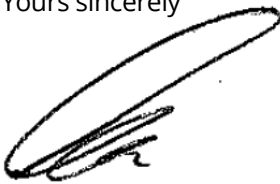
It would be appreciated if you would provide feedback on the project information and methodology presented in this letter, please contact Biosis by 26 April 2023 either by email, phone or return mail.

Please address feedback to:

Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
Biosis Pty Ltd  
8/27 Annie Street  
Wickham NSW 2293  
[Akeever-eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:Akeever-eastman@biosis.com.au)  
0428 175 025

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any queries about the methodology or information provided.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ashleigh', written in a cursive style.

Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
Senior Heritage Consultant

# 1. Project information

---

## 1.1. The project

Monteath and Powys are proposing to construct a retail development (Figure 3) which will include the following:

- A supermarket and liquor store (2,655 metres squared).
- Fore court (1,793 metres squared).
- A loading dock.
- Truck manoeuvring area.
- Four lettable tenancies (01, 02, 03, 05) which cover an area of 1,451 metres squared in total.
- A fifth tenancy (04) with a lettable area of 851 metres squared.
- A mall (364 metres squared).
- 12 accessible car spaces (5.5 by 2.6 metres each).
- 5 direct to boot car spaces (6.2 by 2.2 metres squared each).
- 269 standard car spaces (5.5 by 2.6 metres squared each).
- 15 motorbike parking spaces.
- Associated infrastructure, signage, and landscaping.

The total built floor area will cover an area of 6,931 metres squared.

## 1.2. Study area

The study area is located within Lot 14 DP 258848 at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Cove, approximately 8 kilometres north of Newcastle Central Business District (Figure 1). It encompasses 4.2 hectares of private land and is bounded by Fullerton Cove Road to the north west and south west, undeveloped land north east, and Nelson Bay Road to the south.

The study area is within the:

- Port Stephens Council Government Area (LGA).
- Parish of Stockton.
- County of Worimi (Figure 2).

## 1.3. Background

The study area was previously assessed by NGH in 2022 to inform a rezoning application which would allow for future retail development (NGH 2022). An ACHA was prepared by NGH in accordance with the

consultation requirements and the Code. Consultation with the Aboriginal community undertaken by NGH to inform the ACHA has been maintained in accordance with the consultation requirements.

Biosis has continued Aboriginal community consultation and prepared an addendum ACHA to support a DA to be prepared by Monteath Powys for the proposed retail development. The addendum ACHA will also support an application to Heritage NSW for an AHIP to undertake test excavations within areas of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) previously identified by NGH as part of their 2022 assessment. Biosis' addendum ACHA has determined that further archaeological assessment in the form of archaeological test excavations and an updated ACHA will be required within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 which consist of PAD and midden deposit sites. Under Requirement 14 of the Code, it is necessary to apply for an AHIP in or within 50 metres of a shell midden or an area where burial sites are known to/or likely to exist (DECCW 2010b, pp.24–25).

As part of Biosis' addendum ACHA, a review of background research and local archaeological assessments was undertaken. A review of the study areas local context identified that it is located within the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight within stabilised transgressive dunes, stabilised dunes, and back-barrier flat and inter-barrier depression deposits. According to Pam-Dean Jones the outer barrier of the Newcastle Bight began forming during the Last Glacial Maximum (Dean-Jones 1990, p.10), and Holocene transgressive dune fields have been dated to  $9,520 \pm 1,590$  and  $8,260 \pm 295$  years Before Present (BP), and are overlain by sands dated to  $6,070 \pm 130$  years BP (Dean-Jones 1990, p.24).

A search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database (Client Service ID: 741769) completed on 19 December 2022 identified 105 Aboriginal archaeological sites within a 4 by 4 kilometre search area, centred on the study area. Four of these registered sites are located within the study area (Table 1 and Figure 3). A review of archaeological assessments and AHIMS data within the local and wider region indicate that artefact sites and midden/shell sites are the most common site types within the local region. Artefact sites may consist of either isolated finds or artefact scatters made predominately of tuff. Artefact and shell midden sites have been previously recorded in the area upon ground surfaces within exposures or as subsurface archaeological deposits within dune/sandy rises adjacent to water resources (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, ERM 2008, NGH 2021, NGH 2022).

The study area is located approximately 315 metres north-east of the estuarine flats of Fullerton Cove which would have been a valuable resource to Aboriginal people within the local area. A number of fresh water sources are also located within close proximity to the study area. Fullerton Cove and its tributaries would have provided an important estuarine food resource to Aboriginal particularly with regards to the availability of shellfish, such as cockles *Anadara trapezia* and *Katelysia sp* which would have been consumed all year round as a staple food (Dean-Jones 1990, p.68).

A field survey of the study area was undertaken on 31 May 2022 by NGH which resulted in the identification of four areas of archaeological potential (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3). These sites were identified within the sandy rises/dune landforms in the northern and north western portions of the study area. AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 each contained shell exposures which included mud whelk *Pyrazus sp.* and cockle species. Three tuff artefacts were also identified within AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3, thereby supporting predictive modelling for the local region.

It is anticipated that test excavations within these site extents are likely to extend to a maximum depth of 800 millimetres, with higher densities of artefacts and shell occurring in the in the upper spits (McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, ERM 2008, NGH 2021, NGH 2022). It is also anticipated that archaeological deposits associated with AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 are likely to be representative of a single site complex which extends across the extent of the dune/sandy rise landform in the northern extent of the study area. Test excavations have the potential to identify further shell/midden and artefact assemblages, and it is suspected that these sites are most likely to date to the late Holocene. However, there remains potential for early Holocene deposits to be present where deeper cultural deposits are identified.

The proposed works will have the potential to directly impact AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1; and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3. Specific mitigation measures and an assessment of impacts for Aboriginal sites within the study area is provided below in Table 2. Test excavations have been recommended in order to collect information about the nature and extent of potential sub-surface Aboriginal objects which may be present. The results of the test excavations will determine the impact the proposed works will have on Aboriginal heritage sites/objects within the study area.

Under Requirement 14 of the Code, it is necessary to apply for an AHIP in or within 50 metres of a shell midden or an area where burial sites are known to/or likely to exist (DECCW 2010b, pp.24–25). An AHIP will therefore be required, due to the presence of previously recorded midden sites or areas where midden sites are likely to be identified within 50 metres of the impact area (including AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3). Furthermore, predictive modelling developed for this assessment also indicates high potential for further midden material to be present within the study area, and moderate potential for burial sites to be present.

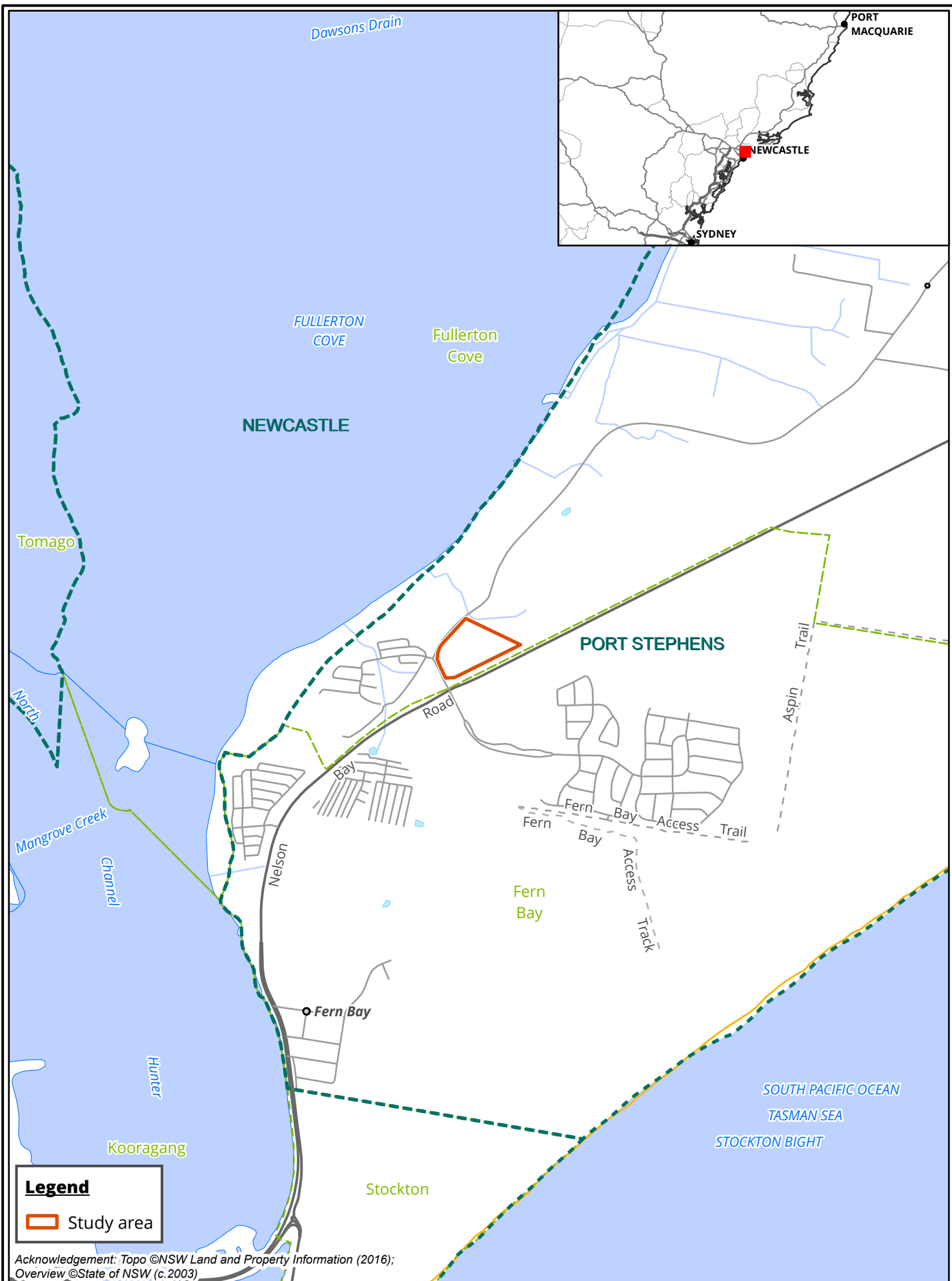
**Table 1 AHIMS sites located within the study area**

| AHIMS No.              | Site name                    | Site type            | Description   |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-0333</b> | Fullerton Cove Road;site 1;  |                      | This potential site lies along the western boundary of the study area. It is approximately 100 by 60 m and is located within a sandy rise adjacent to a swampy depression. This PAD extends into the adjacent property to the north-west. While no surface expression of cultural material was seen at this location, this humic sandy deposit and slightly raised landform was determined to have potential for subsurface cultural material.  |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2142</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 | PAD                  | An area of PAD identified in the north-eastern extent of the study area. The area of PAD measures approximately 70 by 35 m and is situated upon a sandy rise. A swampy depression is positioned adjacent to the PAD. While no cultural material was identified in association with the PAD, the humic sandy deposits and landform were indicators of potential. The proximity of other Aboriginal sites within the same landform also suggests that similar cultural material will be found beneath the grounds surface.  |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2141</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 |                      | NGH identified this midden site in the northern section of the study area. The PAD extent measures approximately 60 by 80 m and is located within a sandy rise between two minor drainage channels and adjacent to a swampy depression. An Optus telecommunication tower has been installed within the area causing significant disturbance to the site landscape. Shell material from mud whelk and cockle species were observed in a cutting associated with a farm track running along the northern boundary of the study area. The PAD contains humic sandy deposits and an elevated landform determined to have potential for cultural material. |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2140</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | Artefact, PAD, Shell | This site is located in the north-western portion of the study area and is approximately 120 by 120 m. It contains humic sandy deposits within an elevated landform indicating potential for subsurface cultural material. The PAD area was indicated to be highly disturbed as a result of vegetation clearance and the construction of sheds and residential properties. Shell material from mud whelk and cockle species were located throughout the extent of the site, along with three tuff artefacts.  |



**Table 2 Assessment of impacts and specific recommendations**

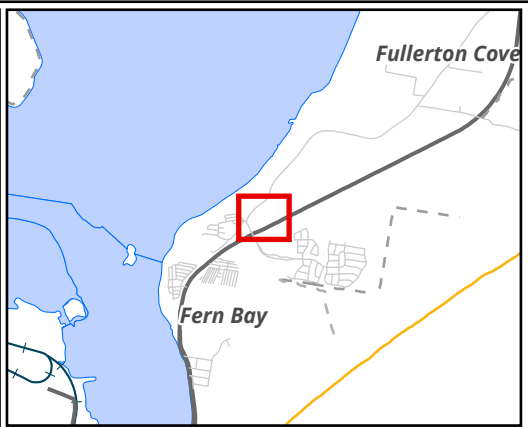
| Site name              | Site type                    | Significance      | Type of harm before mitigated | Consequence of unmitigated harm | Consequence of mitigated harm | Site specific recommendations   |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-0333</b> | Fullerton Cove Road; site 1; | To be determined. | Direct.                       | Partial.                        | Partial loss of value.        | AHIP required to allow for test excavations to determine the significance of the site so that further recommendations can be made. It is recommended that where impacts can be avoided that fencing should be established to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase. |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2142</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1 | To be determined. | No harm.                      | No harm.                        | No harm.                      | Should be avoided and fencing should be established to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase.   |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2141</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2 | To be determined. | No harm.                      | No harm.                        | No harm.                      | Should be avoided and fencing should be established to avoid unintended harm during the lifespan of the construction phase.   |
| <b>AHIMS 38-4-2140</b> | 42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 | To be determined. | Direct.                       | Total.                          | Total loss of value.          | AHIP required to allow for test excavations to determine the significance of the site so that further recommendations can be made.  |





**Figure 1 Location of the study area**

Matter: 38294, Date: 06 February 2023,  
 Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: jbeckius  
 Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
 38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR





**Legend**

-  Study area
-  Lot

**Figure 2 Study area detail**

0 10 20 30 40



Metres

Scale: 1:2,000@ A3

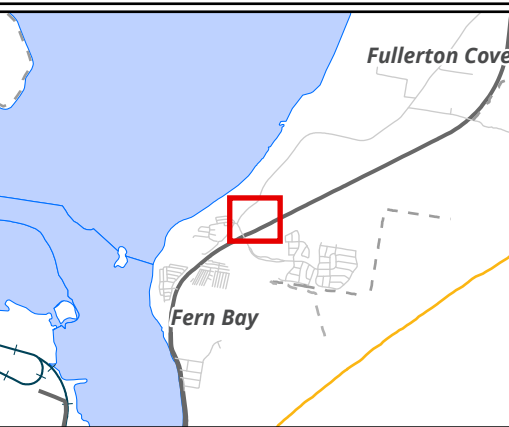
Coordinate System:



GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 06 February 2023,  
Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: jbeckius  
Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR, Layout: 38294\_ACHA\_F2\_StudyArea





- Legend**
-  Study area
  -  Lot

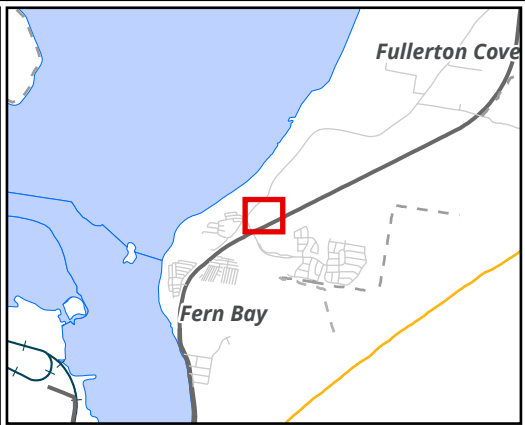
**Figure 3 Proposed works**

0 10 20 30 40  
Metres  
Scale: 1:2,000@ A3  
Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 28 March 2023,  
Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: amackegard  
Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ACHA\_AR, Layout: 38294\_ACHA\_F3\_PropWork





#### Legend

- Study area
- Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
- Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)

#### Areas of PAD (NGH, 2022)

- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 1
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 2
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 1
- PAD associated with AHIMS# 38-4-0333

#### AHIMS Registered Sites (NGH, 2022)

- Artefact, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell
- Artefact, Shell
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell

**Figure 4 Aboriginal sites located within the study area**

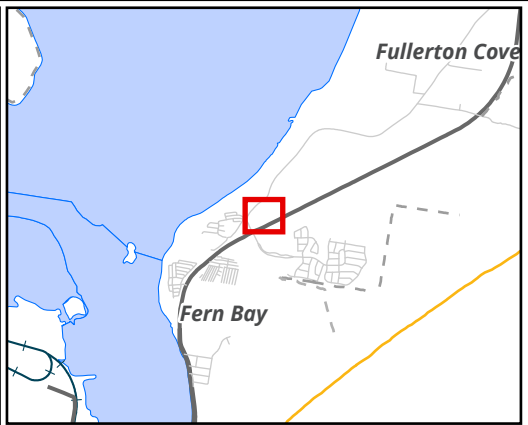
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GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



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38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ATEM, Layout: 38294\_F4\_AboriginalSites





**Legend**

- Study area
- Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
- Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)

**Areas of PAD (NGH, 2022)**

- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 1
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 2
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 1
- PAD associated with AHIMS# 38-4-0333

**AHIMS Registered Sites (NGH, 2022)**

- Artefact, Potential
- Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell
- Artefact, Shell
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)
- Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell

**Figure 5 Impact assessment**

0 10 20 30 40

Metres  
Scale: 1:1,500@ A3  
Coordinate System:  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 38294, Date: 28 March 2023,  
Drawn by: JCB, Checked by: AKE, Last edited by: amackegard  
Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ATEM, Layout: 38294\_F5\_ImpactAssess



## 2. Archaeological test excavation methodology

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Biosis' addendum ACHA has determined that further archaeological assessment in the form of archaeological test excavations and an updated ACHA will be required within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 if the proposed development of the study is unable to avoid impacts.

Under Requirement 14 of the Code, it is necessary to apply for an AHIP in or within 50 metres of a shell midden or an area where burial sites are known to/or likely to exist (DECCW 2010b, pp.24–25). An AHIP will therefore be required, due to the presence of previously recorded midden sites or areas where midden sites are likely to be identified within 50 metres of the impact area (including AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, AHIMS 38-4-2142/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 1, AHIMS 38-4-2141/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 2, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3).

This testing methodology has been developed in consultation with RAPs and will support an AHIP application to Heritage NSW, which will allow for test excavations to occur within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 in accordance with the below methodology.

Biosis has provided indicative mapping of test pit and augur hole locations which may be undertaken in the study area in accordance with the methodology presented below. However, this may be subject to further revision following consultation with RAPs, Heritage NSW, and depending on the initial result of the test excavations (Figure 6).

### 2.1. Aims

The principle objectives of the test excavations are to identify and understand the nature, extent and significance of any areas of PAD (AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3) within the study area which will be impacted by the proposed works (Figure 5). This will further our knowledge of Aboriginal archaeological site patterning within the study area and enable the predictive model to be further tested and refined.

The aims of the testing program are to:

- Determine the nature and extent of the sub-surface archaeological deposits in the study area.
- Identify if the archaeological material occurs in an intact, undisturbed context, by examining the soil profile and stratigraphy.
- Analyse and interpret any archaeological finds (such as stone artefacts, hearths, etc.) recovered during the testing program.
- Inform current knowledge of Aboriginal occupation and land use models of the region.
- Provide management and mitigation measures for Aboriginal archaeological objects located during the subsurface testing program.
- Test the predictive model and answer the research questions developed as part of this assessment.

## 2.2. Research questions

Research questions provide a framework for undertaking sub-surface investigations and ensure that the information collected during the sub-surface testing program contributes to the knowledge of the sites and the broader archaeological record. Research questions include:

- Do non-disturbed or minimally-disturbed soil profiles exist within the study area?
- Are AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3 representative of a single site complex or separate site complexes?
- Is there any evidence of stratigraphic sequences that are comparable to the middens/artefact assemblages excavated within the local region?
- What species of shell or vertebrate exist within the deposits and what can they tell us about the subsistence patterns of Aboriginal people living in the area?
- Are the species of shell or vertebrate remains found within the deposit comparable with the species found in other excavated middens within the region, particularly middens within the local region?
- Does the study area display differential use of the site and labour divisions?
- What technological strategies and raw material procurement can be inferred from artefact assemblages identified within the study area?
- Does the study are contain any features such as hearths, charcoal or intact stratigraphical sand deposits that could be used for dating?
- What management is appropriate? Does the area warrant further investigation, conservation, or could proposed development works proceed as planned?
- How have these investigations enhanced the RAPS' Cultural Mapping Process for future planning?
- Are there oral history records associated with the study area?
- Do the findings contribute to our understanding of oral history records?

## 2.3. Test excavation methodology

Test excavations will conform to the following methodology:

- Test excavations will be conducted in 1 by 1 metre units.
- The test pits will be excavated by hand (inclusive of trowels, spades, a hand augur, and other hand tools) along transects at intervals of between 10 and 20 metres or other justifiable and regular spacing (being no smaller than 5 metres).
- The first test pit within a site or PAD area will be excavated in 5 centimetre spits; the subsequent test pits conducted within the site or PAD area can then be excavated in either 10 centimetre spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to the base of Aboriginal object-bearing units being the removal of the A-horizon soil deposit down to the sterile clay, bedrock layer (B-horizon), or the water table.
- Where a sterile clay, bedrock layer (B-horizon), or the water table has not been reached by 1.5 metres, test excavations may cease when more than three spits which are sterile of cultural deposits are present.

- If the depth of the deposit prevents reaching sterile deposits within the 1 by 1 metre test pit, additional 1 by 1 metre test pits may be excavated adjacent to the original test pit (for example expanding the test pit to 1 by 2 metres) to reach the sterile deposits.
- Test pits may be combined and excavated as necessary in 1 by 1 metre units for the purposes of further understanding site characteristics.
- Test pits will be expanded where significant ), archaeological features (such as hearths, stratified midden material, or knapping floors) are encountered in order to establish the nature of the archaeological deposits or features.
- Expanded test excavation areas will not exceed a maximum area of 3 metres squared, unless negotiated otherwise in consultation with the RAPs or should it be required to further explore the nature and extent of archaeological deposits or features as noted above (this does not allow salvage of sites however and excavation will cease when enough information has been collected to adequately determine the nature or extent of the site).
- All excavated soil will be sieved in 5 millimetre sieves. Where evidence of stone tool production is identified or consultation with RAPs determines otherwise, 3 millimetre aperture wire-mesh sieves may be used.
- Dry sieving will be attempted in the first instance, however wet sieving may be used if deposits cannot be dry sieved, unless negotiated otherwise with RAPs.
- Where midden material is encountered, a grid will also be established in the vicinity and auger holes dug at justifiable intervals to establish the extent of the midden deposit following the excavation of test pits within AHIMS 38-4-0333/Fullerton Cove Road;site 1,, and AHIMS 38-4-2140/42 Fullerton Cove Road PAD 3.
- Where auguring shows dense archaeological and stratified deposits with stone artefacts present, a 1 by 1 metre pit will only be excavated if enough information has not been recovered to adequately characterise the nature and significance of the study area.
- All cultural material will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office for analysis (at 8/27 Annie Street, Wickham, NSW 2293).
- All faunal/shell remains recovered from the test pits will be analysed using the following method where applicable:
  - Minimum number of individual (MNI) animals represented in each discrete area and on site overall.
  - Number of species (NISF) represented in each discrete area and on site overall.
  - Dimensions of each element.
  - Butchery/heat marks.
  - Pathologies.
  - Faunal remains will be photographed in-situ where possible to understand the relationship of the remains with other artefactual material.
- For each test pit or auger hole that is excavated, the following documentation will be taken where applicable:
  - Unique test pit identification number.

- GPS coordinate of each test pit.
  - Munsell soil colour, texture and pH.
  - Amount and location of cultural material within the deposit.
  - Nature of disturbance where present.
  - Stratigraphy.
  - Archaeological features (if present).
  - Photographic records.
  - Context records.
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
  - An AHIMS Site Impact Recording form will be completed and submitted to the AHIMS Registrar for any sites impacted during test excavations.
  - Datable material may be collected for the purposes of radiometric, Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) or Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL). Datable materials will be collected, bagged and clearly labelled. They will be temporarily stored in the Biosis office at 8/27 Annie Street, Wickham, NSW before being sent to a laboratory to be analysed.
  - Test excavations can cease when enough information\* has been recovered to adequately characterise the cultural material present with regard to their nature and significance within the study area.
  - In the event that human remains or an unexpected find is discovered the standard protocols for the discovery of any human remains or unexpected finds is to be followed (see Section 4.1).

*\*Enough information is defined by Heritage NSW as meaning “the sample of excavated material clearly and self-evidently demonstrates the deposit’s nature and significance. This may include things like locally or regionally high object density; presence of rare or representative objects; presence of archaeological features; or locally or regionally significant deposits stratified or not.”(DECCW 2010b, p.28).*

### **Storage of cultural material**

Any cultural material identified during test excavations will be temporarily stored in the Biosis, Newcastle office for analysis (at 8/27 Annie Street, Wickham, NSW 2293). Once analysed, artefacts will be managed in accordance with a long term care and control agreement to be established in consultation with RAPs (see Section 4.2).



### 3. Vegetation reduction and hazard reduction burning

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During the consultation meeting undertaken on Tuesday 24 January 2023, RAPs (Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, David Feeney of Karuah Indigenous Corporation, and Jamie Merrick of Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council) requested that a cultural burn/hazard reduction burn be undertaken within the study area prior to further investigation of areas of PAD within study area to improve ground surface visibility and access to landforms requiring further assessment.

RAPs recommended this measure as it is a culturally appropriate measure to remove vegetation on site without disturbing the grounds surface or significantly impacting shell or artefacts present. It was recommended that where possible an Aboriginal company should be engaged to undertake the cultural burn. It was also recommended that RAPs and a Biosis archaeologist be present on site whilst the hazard reduction or cultural burning is being undertaken, providing that it is safe to do so.

Biosis proposes to undertake vegetation reduction and hazard reduction burning in the areas identified within Figure 7. It is recommended that hand removal of vegetation be undertaken in the first instance, followed by a hazard reduction burn, if requested by RAPs.

Biosis proposes to undertake the following measures to reduce vegetation/fuel in site:

- Hand clearing using tools for cutting and pruning.
- Brush cutting/mowing.
- Slashing.
- Pile burning (if required).
- Burning of vegetation (if required).

A methodology for vegetation reduction is presented below:

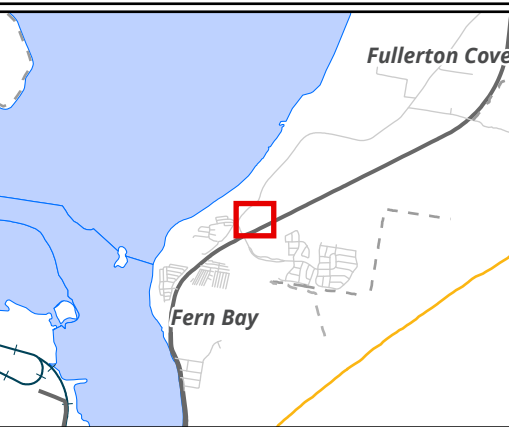
- Archaeologists and RAPs will locate and tape off areas containing previously identified AHIMS sites to ensure they are not disturbed as part of the slashing works.
- Under the close supervision of archaeologists and RAPs, a subcontractor who has undergone a heritage induction and briefing by the archaeologists will slash vegetation using either hand operated equipment or a small tractor with a slasher or mower attachment.
- The proposed tractor specifications are as follows:
  - The combined weight of the tractor and slashing attachment would be less than 1.5 tons.
  - The proposed tractor features rubber 4WD wheels.
  - The proposed slasher attachment has an adjustable height, so vegetation can be slashed gradually at different levels to minimise damage of any possible archaeological remains present on the surface.
- Archaeologists and RAPs will clear away vegetation cuttings using plastic-headed garden rakes and inspect the ground surface without disturbing soils as best as possible.

- Any Aboriginal objects or non-Aboriginal archaeological surface remains identified during the slashing/removal works will be flagged and their locations and details recorded by archaeologists and/or RAPS.

This activity will also allow for inspection of areas with better ground visibility, particularly where it is not possible to undertake test excavations. If visibility is not improved by vegetation reduction and testing is unable to be undertaken, hazard reduction burning will be required. It is recommended that where hazard reduction burning is required, these works should be undertaken under the supervision of archaeologists and RAPS.

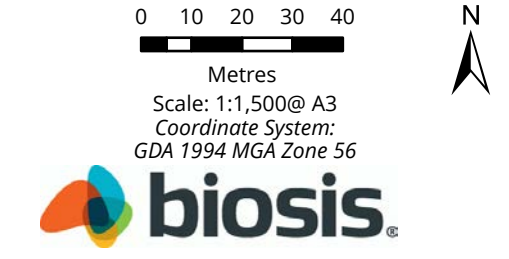
**Biosis requests any further comments regarding the vegetation clearance and hazard reduction burning be included as part of the review of this methodology.**





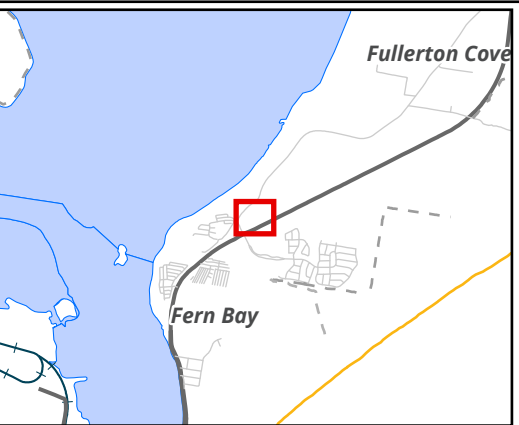
- Legend**
- Study area
  - AHIP area
  - Indicative test pit location
  - Augur hole
  - Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
  - Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)
- Areas of PAD (NGH, 2022)**
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 1
  - 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 2
  - 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 1
  - PAD associated with AHIMS# 38-4-0333
- AHIMS Registered Sites (NGH, 2022)**
- Artefact, Potential
  - Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell
  - Artefact, Shell
  - Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)
  - Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell

**Figure 6 Indicative test pit locations and AHIP area**



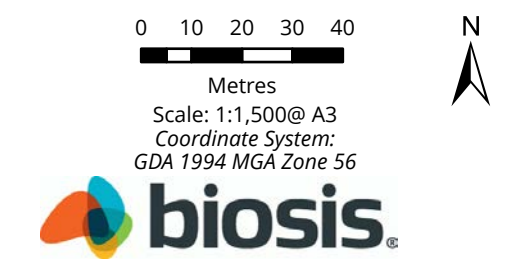
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Location: P:\38200s\38294\Mapping\  
38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ATEM, Layout: 38294\_F6\_IndicTPs





- Legend**
- Study area
  - Proposed clearing and hazard reduction area
  - Recorded Artefact Locations (NGH, 2022)
  - Recorded Surface Shell (NGH, 2022)
- Areas of PAD (NGH, 2022)**
- 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 1
  - 42 Fullerton Cove Road - Midden 2
  - 42 Fullerton Cove Road - PAD 1
  - PAD associated with AHIMS# 38-4-0333
- AHIMS Registered Sites (NGH, 2022)**
- Artefact, Potential
  - Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell
  - Artefact, Shell
  - Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)
  - Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), Shell

**Figure 7 Areas identified for vegetation clearance or hazard reduction burning**



Matter: 38294, Date: 29 March 2023,  
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38294\_Fullerton\_Cove\_ATEM, Layout: 38294\_F7\_HazardReduc



## 4. Continued Aboriginal Community Consultation

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken by NGH and Biosis in compliance with the consultation requirements. As part of the consultation undertaken by NGH, the appropriate government bodies were notified, and an advertisement placed in the Port Stephens *Examiner* newspaper (9 December 2021), which resulted in the following Aboriginal organisations registering their interest in the study area:

**Table 3 List of RAPs**

| No. | Organisation                                     | Contact person          |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 1   | Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation                | Marilyn Carroll-Johnson |
| 2   | Karuah Indigenous Corporation                    | David Feeney            |
| 3   | Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.                                  | Bec Young               |
| 4   | Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd                              | Leonard Anderson OAM    |
| 5   | Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council             |                         |
| 6   | Worimi Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation | Candy Lee Towers        |
| 7   | Robert Syron                                     | Robert Syron            |
| 8   | Woka Aboriginal Corporation                      | Stephen Johnson         |

Ongoing consultation with RAPs for this project regarding the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage associated with the study area will continue throughout the life of this project. Ongoing consultation will consist of the following actions:

- A copy of this Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology and the addendum ACHA will be provided to RAPs for review over a 28 day review period.
- Biosis will continue to consult with RAPs to establish a long term care and control agreement for artefacts recovered from the site.
- A final copy of the Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology and the addendum ACHA will be provided to RAPs for their records.
- A copy of the AHIP to allow for test excavations will be provided to RAPs in accordance with the AHIP conditions.
- RAPs will be informed of the intention to commence test excavations within the study area in accordance with the AHIP conditions.
- RAPs will be informed of the completion of the test excavations within the study area in accordance with the AHIP conditions.
- A copy of the updated ACHA and AR detailing the results of the consultation process and the test excavations will be provided to RAPs for review over a 28 day review period before being finalised.
- Biosis will provided RAPs with an update on the outcomes of any unexpected Aboriginal finds in accordance with the AHIP conditions.



All continued Aboriginal community consultation will be incorporated in the updated ACHA and AR (refer to Section 5) to be prepared following the completion of the test excavation program.

## **4.1. Unexpected finds procedures**

In the event of an unexpected Aboriginal or historical heritage find Biosis will consult with RAPS and Heritage NSW regarding the management of Aboriginal heritage items in accordance with the below procedures.

### **4.1.1. Procedure to follow in the event of the discovery of human remains**

If any suspected human remains are discovered during the proposed works, all activity in the area must cease. The following process must be undertaken:

- Immediately cease all work at that location and not further move or disturb the remains.
- Notify the NSW Police and DPE's Environmental Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide details of the remains and their location.
- Establish an appropriate no-go area. This will need to be established in consultation with NSW Police, DPE and RAPS, where appropriate.
- Works will not be able to recommence within the location of the find until written confirmation from NSW Police, DPE and RAPS is obtained where applicable. If the remains are confirmed as not being human, then works may recommence. In the event that remains are human then consultation with NSW Police, DPE and RAPS to establish a plan of management will be required.
- Works in the vicinity of the remains will only be able to recommence once the plan of management has been established and approval has been obtained from all relevant parties.
- Should any human remains be identified, this will trigger a review of this methodology.

### **4.1.2. Procedure to follow in the event of the discovery of unanticipated historical relics**

- Relics are historical archaeological resources of local or state significance and are protected in NSW under the *Heritage Act 1977*. Relics cannot be disturbed except with a permit or exception notification. Should unanticipated relics be discovered during the course of the project, work in the vicinity must cease and a suitably qualified archaeologist must make a preliminary assessment of the find. Heritage NSW will require notification if the find is assessed as a relic.

## **4.2. Long term care and control agreement**

Once the cultural material has been analysed, the establishment of a long-term care agreement in consultation with RAPS should be developed in order to ensure the artefacts collected during test excavations are adequately cared for in accordance with RAP recommendations.

The cultural material can be managed in the following manners:

- Cultural material can be held by the Aboriginal community under a care and control agreement.
- Cultural material can be returned to Country and reburied as soon as practicable in a secure location in accordance with Requirements 16b and 26 of the Code.

It was noted during the consultation meeting held on site (24 January 2023) attended by Lennie Anderson of Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd, David Feeney of Karuah Indigenous Company, and Jamie Merrick of Worimi LALC that reburial was the preferred future management option, and that artefacts recovered from site should be wrapped in bark and buried in a culturally appropriate manner as per RAP wishes.

Robert Syron (31 January 2023) has recommended that surface artefacts recovered from site should be handed over to the Worimi LALC for teaching and education purposes. This option was also supported by Worimi Traditional Owners Indigenous Corporation (20 April 2023), who also offered to care for the artefacts in place of Worimi LALC. This option would need to be discussed further with Worimi LALC and other RAPS to confirm whether Worimi LALC had the capacity to accept the artefacts, or would prefer to see them reburied.

### **4.3. Culturally sensitive material and confidentiality**

Biosis invites RAPS to provide culturally appropriate information via mail, email, or phone with regards to this project.

Cultural information provided will be recorded in the Aboriginal consultation log and discussed in the report as per RAP wishes. If the information is regarded as too sensitive to be made public, then RAPS should advise Biosis and identify the nature of the sensitivity. Biosis will then arrange for the recording of the information in accordance with its sensitivity. Documents which hold sensitive information will clearly list, on the front cover, who can have access to the document. These documents will be stored securely.

### **4.4. Restricted and confidential information**

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that “all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by non-Registered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated.” This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential.

## 5. Updated Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Archaeological Report

---

Biosis will prepare an updated ACHA and Archaeological Report (AR) for the project. The ACHA will document the findings of the archaeological test excavations and detail the continued Aboriginal community consultation process. The AR will be included as an appendix to the ACHA and will document the desktop assessment, previous field investigation, and test excavation results.

The main aim of the updated ACHA and AR is to document the assessment of potential development related impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and to formulate strategies to manage these impacts. Reporting will follow the guidelines of Heritage NSW, in particular the consultation requirements, the Code, and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011).

The ACHA and AR reports will contain:

- Details of the Aboriginal consultation process undertaken as part of the assessment.
- A review and summary of the environmental context of the study area.
- A review and summary of the Aboriginal archaeological context of the study area.
- Archaeological test excavation results.
- Aboriginal site significance assessment.
- Impact assessment.
- Management strategies.
- Maps detailing any Aboriginal sites identified during the assessment process.

RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA and AR for review, and their comments on the report content sought. Comments on the report's content are to be provided to Biosis by RAP's respective nominated spokesperson(s). All comments not provided in writing will be recorded in an informal logbook by Biosis. These comments and responses to these comments will be documented in the final ACHA.

As part of this methodology RAPs will be provided with the draft ACHA and AR reports for comment and allowed **28 days** for review.

The final reports will incorporate all comments and will be forwarded on to RAPs once completed.

## 6. Project schedule

The proposed schedule and time allocations for the consultation stages are summarised below.

| Action   | Timeframe    | Potential constraints and limitations  |
|--|--------------|--|
| <b>Commencement of Aboriginal community consultation – advertising of project and notification to stakeholders</b> | Completed.   | NGH contacted relevant government agencies to ascertain the names of Aboriginal stakeholder groups on 1 December 2021. Project advertised in the Port Stephens <i>Examiner</i> newspaper (9 December 2021) by NGH.   |
| <b>Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties</b>   | Completed.   | Notices sent to identified Aboriginal parties 19 January 2022.   |
| <b>Aboriginal stakeholder registration period</b>  | Completed    | The registration period ran from 19 January 2022 –2 February 2022.   |
| <b>Information gathering and review of project methodology</b>   | Completed.   | NGH sent a copy of the project methodology and information for review over a 28 day period on 11 February 2022.  |
| <b>Field investigation</b>   | Completed.   | 31 May 2022 by NGH.  |
| <b>Review of draft ACHA and AR report</b>  | Completed.   | NGH sent a copy of the draft ACHA and AR for review over a 28 day period on 22 July 2022.  |
| <b>Final ACHA and AR report</b>  | Completed.   | Reports were finalised by NGH on 22 August 2022.   |
| <b>Project Update</b>  | Completed.   | Biosis provided a project update to RAPs on 8 November 2022.   |
| <b>Consultation meeting with RAPs</b>  | Completed.   | An onsite consultation meeting was held on Tuesday 24 January 2023.  |
| <b>Review of draft addendum ACHA and Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology.</b>                                   | In progress. | Biosis has provided a draft copy of the addendum ACHA and this methodology for review over a 28 day period to RAPs.  |
| <b>Final addendum ACHA and Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology</b>  | TBC.         | A copy of the final addendum ACHA and Aboriginal Test Excavation Methodology will be provided to all RAPs.   |
| <b>AHIP Submission (testing AHIP)</b>  | TBC.         | The approval of the AHIP application is dependent on Heritage NSW's availability to approve the AHIP within the allocated 60 day review period. The approval of an AHIP can also be delayed if a Notice to Supply Further Information is received from Heritage NSW. |
| <b>Notification to Heritage NSW and RAPs of intention to undertake test excavations</b>                            | TBC.         | Required generally 7-14 days prior to date of intended excavations.  |
| <b>Test excavations under AHIP</b>   | TBC.         | Availability of RAPs, wet weather, or other extreme  |

|  |      |  |
|--|------|--|
|  |      | weather events. Vegetation clearing and hazard reduction burning works may also be required prior to test excavations occurring.   |
| <b>Notification to Heritage NSW and RAPs of completion of test excavations</b> | TBC. | Required generally 7-14 days post excavations.   |
| <b>Review of updated draft ACHA and AR report</b>                              | TBC. | 28 day statutory review period as per consultation requirements.   |
| <b>Final updated ACHA and AR report</b>  | TBC. | A copy of the final updated ACHA and AR will be provided to RAPs for their records.  |
| <b>AHIP Submission (to harm)</b>   | TBC. | The approval of the AHIP application is dependent on Heritage NSW's availability to approve the AHIP within the allocated 60 day review period. The approval of an AHIP can also be delayed if a Notice to Supply Further Information is received from Heritage NSW. |



## References

Dean-Jones, P 1990, *Newcastle Bight Aboriginal Sites Study*, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, and National Estate Grants Committee.

DECCW 2010a, *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*, New South Wales Government Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

DECCW 2010b, *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney NSW.

ERM 2008, *Fern Bay Estate Master Plan Study Aboriginal Heritage Assessment Report*, Prepared for Winten Property Group and Continental Venture Capital Limited.

McCardle Cultural Heritage 2005, *Proposed Sewerage System, Fern Bay. Stage 2 Excavations*.

NGH 2021, *Archaeological Test Excavation Report: 21 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove*, Report for Ingenia.

NGH 2022, *42 Fullerton Cove Road Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment*, NGH Pty Ltd, Sydney, NSW, Monteath and Powys.

OEH 2011, 'Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW', <Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Sydney NSW>.

## Appendix 8 Stage 4: Review of draft 2 Addendum ACHA and Test Excavation Report

---

**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**To:** [wokacorp@yahoo.com](mailto:wokacorp@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** Charlotte Allen; Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:47:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [image622019.png](#)  
[image220671.png](#)  
[image722779.png](#)  
[image042780.png](#)  
[image713751.png](#)

---

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your continued registration on the 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) project.

Please find below links to the draft Fullerton Cove Road Addendum ACHA and the Test Excavation Report:

<https://we.tl/t-OQVcAd1kx2>  
<https://we.tl/t-8dSp4IkLLk>

If you could please provide any comments via return email or phone by 5pm 7 November 2023, that would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Bronte Baonza

**Bronte Baonza**  
Graduate Heritage Consultant

☎ 0438 191 025  
☎ (02) 4201 1090  
✉ [BBaonza@biosis.com.au](mailto:BBaonza@biosis.com.au)  
🌐 [www.biosis.com.au](http://www.biosis.com.au)



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**From:** [Bronte Baonza](#)  
**To:** [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au)  
**Cc:** [Charlotte Allen](#); [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:45:29 PM  
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[image520230.png](#)  
[image594524.png](#)  
[image732187.png](#)

---

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**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**To:** [lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com](mailto:lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com)  
**Cc:** [Charlotte Allen](#); [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
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[image381512.png](#)  
[image005290.png](#)

---

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<https://we.tl/t-8dSp4IkLLk>

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**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**To:** bobsam1@biopond.net.au  
**Cc:** Charlotte Allen; Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:44:06 PM  
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---

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**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**To:** [indigenoukruah@outlook.com](mailto:indigenoukruah@outlook.com)  
**Cc:** [Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman](#); [Charlotte Allen](#)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:45:07 PM  
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---

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**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**To:** [murroomainc1@gmail.com](mailto:murroomainc1@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:43:38 PM  
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---

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Kind regards,

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## Charlotte Allen

---

**From:** Bronte Baonza  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** worimitoc@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Charlotte Allen; Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman  
**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your continued registration on the 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) project.

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<https://we.tl/t-8dSp4lkLLk>

If you could please provide any comments via return email or phone by 5pm 7 November 2023, that would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Bronte Baonza

**Bronte Baonza**

Graduate Heritage Consultant

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## Charlotte Allen

---

**From:** Anthony Anderson <murroomainc1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 4:54 PM  
**To:** Bronte Baonza  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report  
**Attachments:** 42 Fullerton Cove Rd ACHA- response.pdf

Hi Bronte

Please find attached Murrooma response for draft ACHA and test excavation report

Thanks

Bec Young

On Tue, Oct 10, 2023 at 2:43 PM Bronte Baonza <[BBaonza@biosis.com.au](mailto:BBaonza@biosis.com.au)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your continued registration on the 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) project.

Please find below links to the draft Fullerton Cove Road Addendum ACHA and the Test Excavation Report:

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If you could please provide any comments via return email or phone by 5pm 7 November 2023, that would be greatly appreciated.



Kind regards,

Bronte Baonza

**Bronte Baonza**

Graduate Heritage Consultant

☎ 0438 191 025

☎ (02) 4201 1090

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--

**Bec Young**

**Murrooma Operations Manager**

**0421078695**

# MURROOMA



# INCORPORATED

9 Vardon Road Fern Bay 2295 NSW  
0421078695  
Murroomainc1@gmail.com

ABN: 97 807 719 484

Biosis

RE: 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

To Biosis,

Murrooma have read and fully understands the draft addendum and test excavation report for the proposed project.

We agree with all of the management recommendations for this area.

This area is extremely significant to our people, and we are aware of the extent of the Aboriginal sites that are listed in this report. The report reflects an accurate assessment on this area and the test excavations that were complete- including identification of shell midden material and stone artefacts within this proposed project area.

We would like to highlight that we agree that if there is an opportunity to avoid some areas and they will not be impacted on during the proposed project this would be the best outcome.

All recommendations and phases within this report meet our requirements and responsibilities as Traditional Owners of this land.

Thankyou

Bec Young- Operations Manager

Anthony Anderson- CEO

**From:** [Jamie Merrick](#)  
**To:** [Charlotte Allen](#)  
**Subject:** Fullerton Cove  
**Date:** Monday, 30 October 2023 3:00:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

Hi Charlotte

Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council agree with all of the recommendations for the Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment draft report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW.

We also agree with the recommendations in the Test Excavation Report at 42 Fullerton Cove Road Fullerton Cove NSW.

Regards,

**Jamie Merrick**

Snr Site Officer

**Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council**

P: 02 4033 8800 F: 02 4033 8899 E: [sites@worimi.org.au](mailto:sites@worimi.org.au) M: 0429 994 292

*The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council respects the privacy of individuals and strives to comply with all areas of the Privacy Act. The contents of this email are intended for the purpose of the person or persons named in either the "To" or "CC" boxes of the email. Any person not named in these boxes in receipt of this email should immediately delete this email and advise the sender accordingly.*



 Think before you print.

## Charlotte Allen

---

**From:** Sites <Sites@worimi.org.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 November 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Charlotte Allen  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - Reminder of review for Fullerton Cove Addendum ACHA and Test Excavation Report

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Charlotte, Joel Henderson from Worimi LALC am happy with recommendations put in report also with chatting to RAPS we are happy to do a salvage of artefacts and be present during any excavations in the building process.  
Kind Regards Joel Henderson Worimi Sites Officer

---

**From:** Molly Crissell <MCrissell@biosis.com.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 October 2023 11:13 AM  
**To:** Sites <Sites@worimi.org.au>  
**Cc:** Charlotte Allen <callen@biosis.com.au>  
**Subject:** 38294 - Reminder of review for Fullerton Cove Addendum ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Good morning,

This is a reminder that the review for the draft Fullerton Cove Addendum ACHA and Test Excavation Report closes in **one week**.

The reports can be found in the links below:

<https://we.tl/t-OQVcAd1kx2>  
<https://we.tl/t-8dSp4IkLLk>

If you could please provide any feedback via return email or to Charlotte Allen (details below) by **5pm, 7 November 2023** that would be greatly appreciated.

**Charlotte Allen**  
Senior Heritage Consultant

☎ 0437 641 267  
☎ (02) 9101 8712  
✉ callen@biosis.com.au

If you have any issues accessing the reports via the link provided, please let me know.

Kind regards,  
Molly

**Molly Crissell**  
Heritage Consultant  
☎ 0438 390 129  
☎ (02) 4911 4043  
✉ MCrissell@biosis.com.au  
🌐 [www.biosis.com.au](http://www.biosis.com.au)



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## Charlotte Allen

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**From:** Charlotte Allen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 November 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** 'worimitoc@hotmail.com'  
**Cc:** Bronte Baonza; Molly Crissell  
**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Dear Candy

Thank you for your patience. I have added responses to your comments and questions below in [blue text](#). Please let me know if you would like any further information.

Why was I not invited to the test excavations ? My people the Worimi are the traditional owners of the project area and my nurra (family group) hold the cultural continued connection to that country on which the project is.

The Worimi have since the beginning of time used the country of the project area as a camping site, surname Russell that was my grandfathers mother line.

The project country will hold many Worimi stone artefacts. It is important to acknowledge and accept that when digging the country and moving these artefacts that it is cultural protocol that it be done by traditional owners only and proving your traditional ownership should be done.

All country that is traditionally owned by the Worimi is culturally significant to us.

My grandfather Leonard Andrew Dates was the last Worimi man traditionally initiated on country 1935.

Born on the country of the Worimi, Alexander Russell born 1848 daughter was Ellen Russell born 1884 who birthed Leonard Dates 1923 my grandfather Leonard they all born on country Leonard then had 10 children on country and 54 grandchildren then they had 176 children all born on the country of the Worimi, my bloodline has been here since the beginning of time our connection has never been broken.

Now can we please get included in any projects on our country ? Why are we getting left out on purpose ?

[Thank you for sharing this information about yourself and your family – I appreciate the time you have taken to explain this to us.](#)

[Biosis invited four of the registered Aboriginal parties \(RAPs\) to participate in the test excavations: Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.; Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd; Karuah Indigenous Corporation; and Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council. As the excavations took place over only 6 days it was difficult to invite all those RAPs who had registered for such a short and small excavation. It was not intended to exclude any of the RAPs from involvement in the test excavations.](#)

We have noted your wish to participate in fieldwork, so for future projects Biosis will do our best to include Worimi TOC in invitations for fieldwork opportunities.

1.3 Can we include some signage of Worimi Art and design wording within the development ?

Consultation would be great.

[We will include a recommendation in the final report for heritage interpretation for Aboriginal cultural heritage for the project and will specifically mention your request for Worimi art and design wording in the development.](#)

1.5,

6.4.9,

6.4.10 of the report - What does the wording below mean exactly can you clarify more please ?

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. The findings should also be authenticated.

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.

#### 4.2 Who will do the cultural awareness training ? and or cultural burn ?

It has yet to be decided who will deliver the cultural awareness training.

The request for a cultural burn at the consultation meeting on 24 January 2023 was made in the context of providing better visibility for the test excavations under the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit. I have confirmed with my colleague that a cultural burn was not undertaken in advance of the works.

What is the "fingers" can you please tell me what this is or what this means ?

The term 'finger' is used to describe long, thin, straight dunes (elongating linear dunes) that have formed due to two winds blowing on either side of a crest. We can add this explanation into the final report.

I do not agree or support any sites being harmed on the project site, in total or partial harm.

We acknowledge your comment and will ensure that this is recorded in the final ACHA.

Can you please remove the tribal boundaries comment you have made please see below as it is incorrect, I have already provided to you my boundaries comments you should add them please ? Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline

Thank you for providing the above information. We will include this in the final report.

Please see your comment below, Q: was the area always swampy land ?

As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people

I do not support the following comment below as all the site was not surveyed

"The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record present within the Proposal Site"

The first text you have quoted is from the ACHA prepared by NGH Pty Ltd, who undertook the original assessment and survey of the study area. The second text you have quoted was also from the NGH Pty Ltd ACHA. As such, Biosis is not able to change this wording as it is in another consultant's report. However, we have noted your comments about not supporting the second statement.

Regarding your question about the area having always been swampy land, at the coldest part of the last ice age (about 20,000-21,000 years ago), sea levels were approximately 120 metres below the current level. However, when the last ice age began to end a few thousand years later, sea levels rose gradually due to melting ice and water running into the oceans. Sea levels were at 70 metres below current levels about 13,000 years ago, at 50 metres below present levels about 12,000 years ago, and current sea levels were reached around 7,500-8,000 years ago ([Indigenous Languages \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.indigenousspeakers.com.au/indigenous-languages), [The last ice age tells us why we need to care about a 2°C change in temperature \(unsw.edu.au\)](https://www.unsw.edu.au/news/stories/2018/05/24/the-last-ice-age-tells-us-why-we-need-to-care-about-a-2c-change-in-temperature), [Post-glacial sea-level changes around the Australian margin: a review \(uow.edu.au\)](https://www.uow.edu.au/research/centres/centres-for-research-in-archaeology/post-glacial-sea-level-changes-around-the-australian-margin-a-review)).

Due to this changing sea level, the study area may not always have been swampy land but is likely to have been swampy land for around 8,000 years based on the rising sea levels at this time. We can note this as a caveat in the final report.

6.1 -It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs.

The above comment is true and accurate so I am still not sure as to why I was not invited to attend when my Nurra are the people who hold cultural connections to the project country.

As previously noted above, it was difficult to have representatives from all RAP groups out during the short period of test excavations. There was no intent to exclude any of the RAPs from this work. For future projects we will do our best to share fieldwork opportunities with Worimi TOC.

4.4. Restricted and confidential information Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that "all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by nonRegistered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated." This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential.

What is the statemetnt above mean ? I do not support this as I do not understand its context.

As per my earlier response to a similar question in your email, Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd requested that the report be made confidential to ensure that sensitive cultural and archaeological information can be protected and not exploited by non-registered parties and non-recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. I am in the process of confirming the procedure of making a report confidential and will provide you with an update once I have this information.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Charlotte

**Charlotte Allen**She/Her

Senior Heritage Consultant

0437 641 267

(02) 9101 8712

callen@biosis.com.au

www.biosis.com.au



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**From:** Charlotte Allen <callen@biosis.com.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 11:56 AM

**To:** 'worimitoc@hotmail.com' <worimitoc@hotmail.com>

**Cc:** Bronte Baonza <BBaonza@biosis.com.au>; Molly Crissell <MCrissell@biosis.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Dear Candy

Thank you for your email and for your comments on the draft report for 42 Fullerton Cove Road. I will review these in detail and provide you with a response soon.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Charlotte

**Charlotte Allen**She/Her

Senior Heritage Consultant

0437 641 267

(02) 9101 8712

callen@biosis.com.au

www.biosis.com.au



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**From:** Worimi TOC <[worimitoc@hotmail.com](mailto:worimitoc@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** Bronte Baonza <[BBaonza@biosis.com.au](mailto:BBaonza@biosis.com.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Guudji Bronte,

Why was I not invited to the test excavations ? My people the Worimi are the traditional owners of the project area and my nurra (family group) hold the cultural continued connection to that country on which the project is.

The Worimi have since the beginning of time used the country of the project area as a camping site, surname Russell that was my grandfathers mother line.

The project country will hold many Worimi stone artefacts. It is important to acknowledge and accept that when digging the country and moving these artefacts that it is cultural protocol that it be done by traditional owners only and proving your traditional ownership should be done.

All country that is traditionally owned by the Worimi is culturally significant to us.

My grandfather Leonard Andrew Dates was the last Worimi man traditionally initiated on country 1935.

Born on the country of the Worimi, Alexander Russell born 1848 daughter was Ellen Russell born 1884 who birthed Leonard Dates 1923 my grandfather Leonard they all born on country Leonard then had 10 children on country and 54 grandchildren then they had 176 children all born on the country of the Worimi, my bloodline has been here since the beginning of time our connection has never been broken.

Now can we please get included in any projects on our country ? Why are we getting left out on purpose ?

1.3 Can we include some signage of Worimi Art and design wording within the development ?

Consultation would be great.

1.5,

6.4.9,

6.4.10 of the report - What does the wording below mean exactly can you clarify more please ?

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have requested that all findings and cultural entities remain confidential to ensure that information cannot be utilised by non-registered or recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians. The findings should also be authenticated.

4.2 Who will do the cultural awareness training ? and or cultural burn ?

What is the "fingers" can you please tell me what this is or what this means ?

I do not agree or support any sites being harmed on the project site, in total or partial harm.

Can you please remove the tribal boundaries comment you have made please see below as it is incorrect, I have already provided to you my boundaries comments you should add them please ?

Tribal boundaries Aboriginal people have occupied the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Karuah is located within lands traditionally inhabited by the Worimi people. Worimi territory extended from north of the Hunter River to Forster near Cape Hawke along the coastline, encompassing Port Stephens and stretching inland close to Gresford and as far south as Maitland (Tindale 1974). The Worimi were hunter-gatherers and Sokoloff (1977) argues that the territories of the Worimi were established to include a variety of habitats rich in raw materials and food resources. Trade, intermarriage, and the sharing of ceremonial places were central to the Worimi nation's interaction with



neighbouring tribal groups such as the Awabakal, Kamilaroi, Gringai, Wonnarua, and other tribes of the region. Little is known about the size of the population of the Worimi tribe within Port Stephens before white settlement, however it is agreed that numbers declined rapidly after contact (Dean-Jones 1990). Sources from the early 1800s to the 1840s vary in their estimates, from 120 at a single campsite (Ebsworth 1826), to 500 Worimi individuals within the Port Stephens Area in 1837. Threkeld (in Dean-Jones 1990) even reports that by 1839, the population of the Awabakal People around the Lake Macquarie area, to the south of Worimi territory had declined to as low as 20. Exposure to diseases brought by white settlers, the destruction of food resources, and instances of hostile relations between white settlers/ Europeans and the Worimi people would have contributed significantly to this decline

Please see your comment below, Q: was the area always swampy land ?

As a result of this, much of the survey effort was placed on the northern section of the Proposal Site where the height of the landform kept above the flood level. The remaining portion of the Project Site was inundated and was assessed from the roadside. These low lying inundated swampy areas were considered as less likely to have been utilised by Aboriginal people and are not conducive for camping by Aboriginal people

I do not support the following comment below as all the site was not surveyed

"The results identified are considered a true reflection of the nature of the Aboriginal archaeological record present within the Proposal Site"

6.1 -It was clear from the conversations held in the field with the Aboriginal community representatives that all sites hold cultural value to the local Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal community representatives also reiterate the point that Aboriginal community members must be present when the subsurface testing occurs.

The above comment is true and accurate so I am still not sure as to why I was not invited to attend when my Nurra are the people who hold cultural connections to the project country.

4.4. Restricted and confidential information Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd (14 April 2023) have also requested that "all findings, and Cultural entities 'Confidential' [Heritage NSW] [are] to [be] lock[ed] away, as we do not want this information to be utilised by nonRegistered or Recognised Worimi Traditional Custodians in the future by this all intelligence gathered will be Authenticated." This Aboriginal Archaeological Test Excavation Methodology is therefore to remain confidential.

What is the statemetnt above mean ? I do not support this as I do not understand its context.

I'll say cheerio for now,

*Candy Towers*

Worimi Yorta Yorta Woman

ph: 0412 475 362

e: [worimitoc@hotmail.com](mailto:worimitoc@hotmail.com)



*Guudji Yiigu, I am a Worimi Yorta Yorta woman, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the people of the Worimi who are the traditional owners of the land on which I live and work, to their continuing connection to land, water, culture and community and pay my respects to our Elders past, present and to our future generations.*

---

**From:** Bronte Baonza <[BBaonza@biosis.com.au](mailto:BBaonza@biosis.com.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 October 2023 2:43 PM

**To:** [worimitoc@hotmail.com](mailto:worimitoc@hotmail.com) <[worimitoc@hotmail.com](mailto:worimitoc@hotmail.com)>

**Cc:** Charlotte Allen <[callen@biosis.com.au](mailto:callen@biosis.com.au)>; Ashleigh Keevers-Eastman <[AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au](mailto:AKeevers-Eastman@biosis.com.au)>

**Subject:** 38294 - 42 Fullerton Cove Road ACHA and Test Excavation Report

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your continued registration on the 42 Fullerton Cove Road, Fullerton Cove Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) project.

Please find below links to the draft Fullerton Cove Road Addendum ACHA and the Test Excavation Report:

<https://we.tl/t-OQVcAd1kx2>

<https://we.tl/t-8dSp4IkLLk>

If you could please provide any comments via return email or phone by 5pm 7 November 2023, that would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Bronte Baonza

**Bronte Baonza**

Graduate Heritage Consultant

☎ 0438 191 025

☎ (02) 4201 1090

✉ BBaonza@biosis.com.au

🌐 [www.biosis.com.au](http://www.biosis.com.au)



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## Appendix 9 Test Excavation Report

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