

AUSTRAL ARCHAEOLOGY PTY LTD

ABN: 55 629 860 975

info@australarch.com.au

www.australarchaeology.com.au



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NEPEAN GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK, WALLACIA, NEW SOUTH WALES

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

FINAL REPORT

Catholic Cemeteries Board

8 November 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd (Austral) has been commissioned by the Catholic Cemeteries Board (the proponent) to undertake a historical archaeological assessment (HAA) for the proposed redevelopment of Wallacia Golf Course, Wallacia, New South Wales (NSW) [study area].

The study area consists of portions of lots 1 & 2, DP1254545 and lots 3 & 4, DP18701. The study area is within the Penrith City Council Local Government Area (LGA) and is located approximately 13 kilometres south of Penrith and 50 kilometres west of Sydney. The study area is bounded by Park Road and various residential lots to the south, rural properties to the north, and residential properties to the east. The location of the study area is shown in Figure 1.1, Figure 1.2 and Figure 1.3.

This HAA is being prepared to support a Development Application being lodged by the proponent with Penrith City Council. The purpose of this HAA is to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource within the study area as well as to assess the potential impact of the development on the significance of any heritage values that may be present in the vicinity of the study area. The report will provide suitable management recommendations should impacts to heritage values be anticipated.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The study area was originally part of a grant of 6,710 acres (2,715.4 hectares) given to John Blaxland on 30 November 1813 which he named 'Luddenham' and he used primarily for the grazing of livestock while preferring to reside at his Newington estate, on the banks of the Parramatta River. The Luddenham estate was sold and subdivided in 1859, with the study area forming part of the central division. A contemporary plan of the subdivision shows either a U-shape house or driveway, with a detached stable block and two other buildings also present along with a detached kitchen and garden on the southern side of Park Road.

The Wallace family moved into the cottage after Henrietta Wallace took over the lease in the early 1870s, several years after the death of her husband, Robert. The Wallace's house started to become an unofficial receiving depot for any mail needing collection in the district from around the mid-1880s, on account of their property being the only residence to the south of Mulgoa, before being recognised as a formal post depot in the 1880s. A fledgling township began to grow around the post office, now being run by Henrietta's son, Robert George Wallace.

By the early 20th century, the simple cottage which served as both residence and post office was no longer fit for purpose and in 1907 the post office was enlarged, although there is no confirmation as to whether this represented a repurposing of space or construction of a new building. However, eventually the only recourse was to demolish the old post office building and to build a modern, purpose-built structure which also incorporated a small store and milk bar. In 1938, a hotel was built on the northern part of the property, possibly on the location of the original farm buildings.

The Wallacia golf club was founded in 1932, with the original club house being nothing more than a tin shed. The Women's Associates, founded in 1933, purchased the wooden building to function as a new club house until a brick club house was constructed in 1936. The golf club was disbanded during the war years as both the course and the neighbouring Wallacia Hotel were requisitioned with the hotel being used as a Radio Physics school and the golf course being used for exercises, and an air raid shelter was reportedly constructed below the green of the 10th hole.

While a replacement club house was constructed in 1967 which incorporated elements of the 1936 building, the club house currently in use appears to have been constructed between 1983 and 2011 which incorporates elements of the 1967 build.

The study area is not listed as a heritage item on Schedule 5 of the Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010 (Penrith LEP), however it is located immediately adjacent to numerous heritage items that are of local heritage significance. This includes:

- Wallacia Hotel, 1573-1585 Mulgoa Road (Item 325)
- St Andrew's Anglican Church (former), 25 Park Road (Item 326)
- Luddenham Homestead Site, 1-9 Park Road (Item A849)

PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed works within the study area relate to different works which are to occur in the eastern and western parts of the study area. The eastern area is to be converted from a golf course into a cemetery, which will include 27,000 burial plots, a chapel, administration building, internal roads, parking areas and amended access from Park Road. The western half of the study area will be converted into a 9-hole golf course, with a new pool, gym, putting and bowling greens, and alterations and additions to the golf clubhouse.

Other general works to undertaken within the study area include tree removal and landscaping, fencing, civil and storm-water works and new road intersections along Park Road.

It is understood that the construction works will involve:

- Large scale groundworks including extensive earth work, subsurface excavation and levelling.
- Construction of roadways, pathways, buildings related to the funerary services
- Installation of associated services including stormwater, sewerage and electrical services.
- Associated landscaping works and tree removal.

CONCLUSIONS

Historical research identified zones of varying degrees of historical archaeological potential located within the study area which may contain archaeological deposits. The archaeological remains may relate to occupation deposits or outbuildings associated with Blaxland's Luddenham Farm, and a Second World War air raid shelter. Any such archaeological deposits, should they be intact, are considered to range from local to State significance. While the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track is present within the study area, archaeological remains associated with the track are determined not to be of significance.

While previous impacts may have already removed much of the remains present within the study area, there are parts of the site where archaeological material may still remain. This is predominantly in the vicinity of the asphalt carpark surrounding the present clubhouse. The proposed works are therefore likely to impact on areas of both moderate and high archaeological potential. Where the pedestrian survey of the study area was unable to either confirm or refute the statement that an air raid shelter is present under the green of the 10th hole, further archaeological investigations will be required to determine whether this item is present.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 1) Given that parts of the study area have been assessed as having moderate archaeological potential, an excavation permit is required under Section 140 of the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*.
- 2) A research design detailing the proposed methodology for undertaking archaeological investigations within the study area is to be prepared and included as an addendum to this report when lodging the application for the Section 140 Excavation Permit. A suitably accredited archaeologist who is approved by Heritage NSW to oversee the excavation of sites of local significance will need to be nominated as Excavation Director.

- 3) To ensure that impacts to unknown heritage values are mitigated during construction, it is recommended that the contractor inductions include an unexpected finds protocol to ensure that archaeological relics not assessed or anticipated by this report are not impacted.
- 4) In the event suspected relics are encountered, all works in the immediate vicinity are to cease immediately and the Heritage Division be notified in accordance with Section 146 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*. A qualified archaeologist is to be contacted to assess the situation and consult with Heritage NSW team of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) regarding the most appropriate course of action.
- 5) Should the proposed development be altered significantly from designs and specifications outlined in this report then a reassessment of heritage/archaeological impacts may be required. This includes any impacts not explicitly stated in Section 8.
- 6) A copy of this assessment should be lodged by the proponent in the local history section of the local library, and in the library maintained by the Heritage NSW.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd (Austral) has been commissioned by the Catholic Cemeteries Board (the proponent) to undertake a historical archaeological assessment (HAA) for the proposed redevelopment of Wallacia Golf Course, Wallacia, New South Wales (NSW) [study area].

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This HAA is being prepared to support a Development Application being lodged by the proponent with Penrith City Council. The purpose of this HAA is to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource within the study area as well as to assess the potential impact of the development on the significance of any heritage values that may be present in the vicinity of the study area. The report will provide suitable management recommendations should impacts to heritage values be anticipated.

1.2 PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed works within the study area relate to different works which are to occur in the eastern and western parts of the study area. The eastern area is to be converted from a golf course into a cemetery, which will include 27,000 burial plots, a chapel, administration building, internal roads, parking areas and amended access from Park Road. The western half of the study area will be converted into a 9-hole golf course, with a new pool, gym, putting and bowling greens, and alterations and additions to the golf clubhouse.

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- Construction of roadways, pathways, buildings related to the funerary services
- Installation of associated services including stormwater, sewerage and electrical services.
- Associated landscaping works and tree removal.

1.3 METHODOLOGY

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

The report is underpinned by the philosophy of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and their *Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013* (Australia ICOMOS 2013) [Burra Charter], the practices and guidelines of Heritage NSW of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), and the requirements of the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010* (Penrith LEP) and *Penrith Development Control Plan 2014* (Penrith DCP).

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this HAA is to assess the potential impact of the development on the archaeological resource within the study area. The report will provide suitable management recommendations should impacts to heritage values be anticipated.

Specifically, the objectives of this report are to:

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

1.5 PROJECT TEAM AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The assessment was project managed by David Marcus (Director, Austral), and was authored by Miles Robson (Senior Archaeologist, Austral) and William Andrews (Graduate Archaeologist, Austral). The site inspection was undertaken by David Marcus and William Andrews, and the section was authored by David Marcus. GIS mapping was undertaken by William Andrews. David Marcus reviewed the draft report and provided input into the management recommendations.

1.6 LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

This report includes an assessment of only historic archaeological values. It does not include an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage or of any built heritage values that may be present within the study area except where they intersect with items of potential archaeological significance.

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

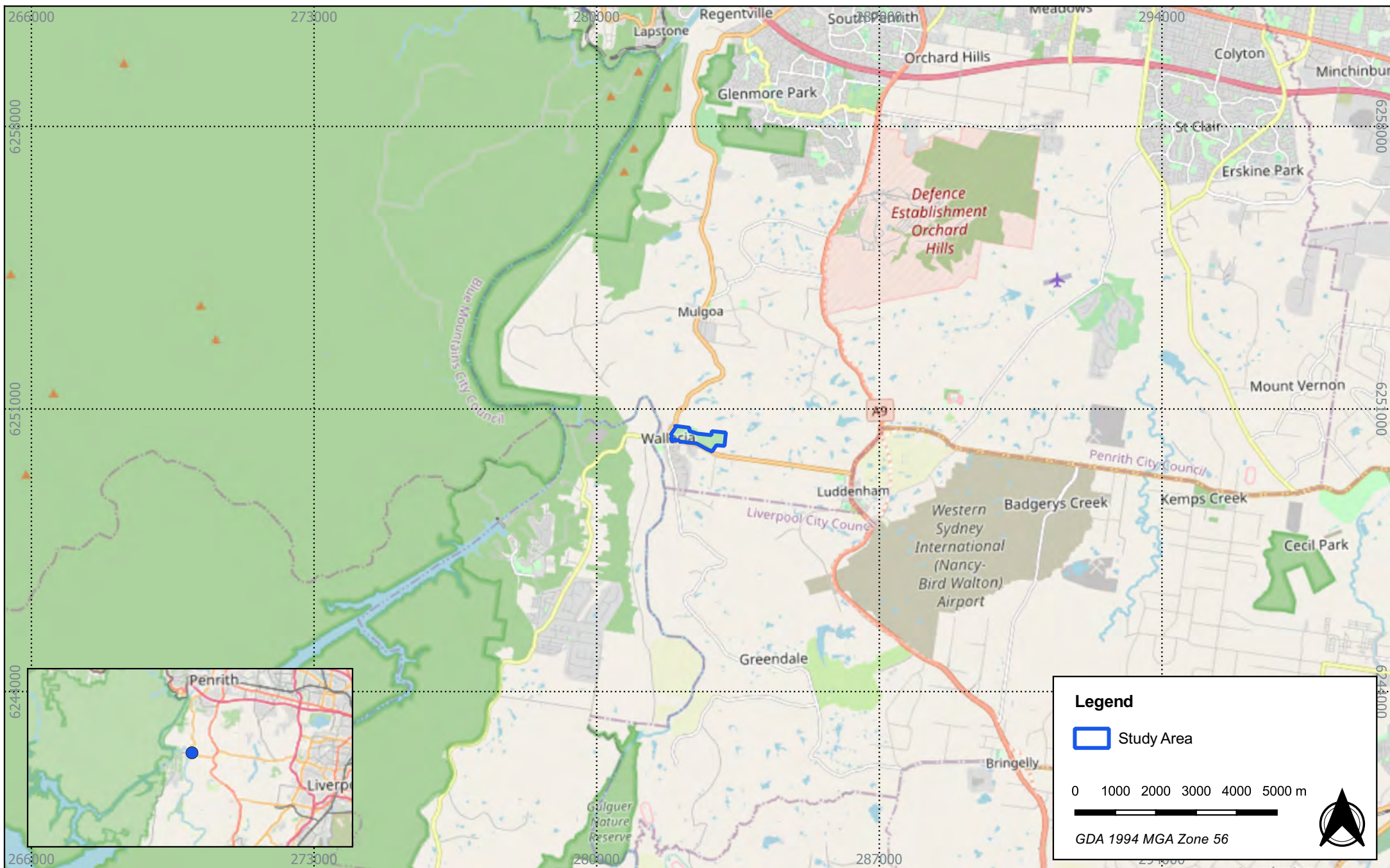


Figure 1.1 Location of the Study Area

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW





Figure 1.2 Detailed aerial of the study area



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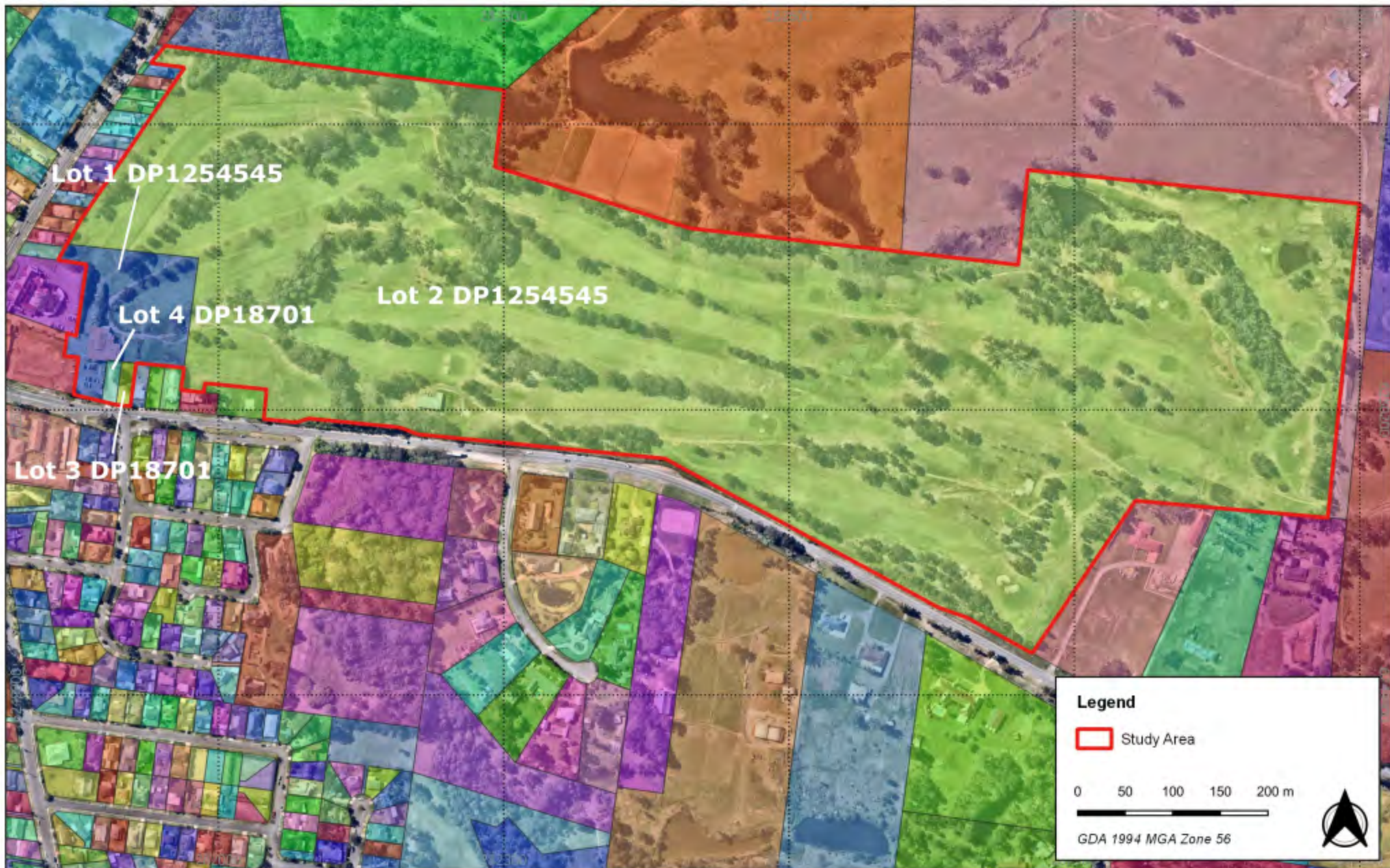


Figure 1.3 Cadastral boundaries associated with the study area
 Wallacia Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



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1.7 ABBREVIATIONS

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

Burra Charter	<i>Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013</i>
CBD	Central Business District
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPC	Department of Premier and Cabinet
EPA Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i>
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
Heritage Act	<i>NSW Heritage Act 1977</i>
HAA	Historical Archaeological Assessment
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IHO	Interim Heritage Order
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
NHL	National Heritage List
NPW Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
NSW	New South Wales
NT	<i>Nepean Times</i>
Penrith DCP	<i>Penrith Development Control Plan 2014</i>
Penrith LEP	<i>Dubbo Local Environmental Plan 2010</i>
The proponent	Catholic Cemeteries Board
RAIA	Royal Australian Institute of Architects
RNE	Register of the National Estate
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
SMH	<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>
Study Area	Lot 2, DP1108408 & Lot 512, DP1079728, Wallacia, NSW

2 STATUTORY CONTEXT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

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

2.2 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION & BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

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

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

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

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

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

No part of the study area appears on the RNE.

2.3 NSW HERITAGE ACT 1977

The Heritage Council is the approval authority under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) for works to an item on the SHR. Section 57(1) of the Heritage Act identifies the need for Heritage Council approval if the work involves the following tasks:

- demolishing the building or work;
- damaging or despoiling the place, precinct or land, or any part of the place, precinct or land;
- moving, damaging or destroying the relic or moveable object;
- excavating any land for the purpose of exposing or moving the relic;
- carrying out any development in relation to the land on which the building, work or relic is situated, the land that comprises the place, or land within the precinct;
- altering the building, work, relic or moveable object;
- displaying any notice or advertisement on the place, building, work, relic, moveable object or land, or in the precinct; and
- damaging or destroying any tree or other vegetation on, or removal of any tree or other vegetation from the place, precinct or land.

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

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

No part of the study area is listed on the SHR.

EXCAVATION PERMITS

Archaeological remains on sites not listed on the SHR are addressed under Section 139 of the Heritage Act, which states that:

a person must not disturb or excavate any land knowing or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance or excavation is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.

Relics are defined by the Heritage Act to be:

any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) *relates to the settlement of the area that comprises NSW, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- (b) *is of State or local heritage significance.*

An excavation permit is also required if a relic has been discovered in the course of excavation without a permit (Section 139(2) of the Heritage Act). Section 139 of the Heritage Act applies to all relics which are not listed on the SHR or protected by an Interim Heritage Order (IHO). Relics protected by an SHR listing or an IHO are subject to approval under Section 57(1) of the Heritage Act and require a Section 60 Application instead.

If an excavation permit is required by Section 139 of the Heritage Act, an application is made under Section 140 of the Act. To obtain an excavation permit, the Section 140 application must include an archaeological assessment and Research Design. The archaeological assessment establishes the archaeological sensitivity of the site, its significance and the likely impact of the proposed development. The Research Design outlines the method proposed to mitigate the impact of the development (such as monitoring, test excavation, sampling, or open area excavation). The Research Design also provides research questions which the archaeological resource has the potential to answer. An archaeological assessment, which includes a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) and research design, needs to be prepared in accordance with the Heritage Council's relevant guidelines, including Historical Archaeological Sites and the Historical Archaeology Code of Practice. For further details of these guidelines, refer to the Heritage Division website:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage/publications/index.htm>

The Heritage Act also contains provisions for the unintentional disturbance of archaeological relics. Under Section 146 of the Act, the Heritage Council must be immediately notified in the event of relics being unintentionally located or disturbed. Works may be required to cease, pending consultation and further research.

Heritage and Conservation Register (Section 170 Register)

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

No part of the study area is listed on any Section 170 Register.

2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS

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

PENRITH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2010

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

The study area is not listed as a heritage item on Schedule 5 of the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010*. However, the study area is immediately adjacent to the following heritage items and conservation zones which are shown in Figure 2.1.

- Wallacia Hotel, 1573-1585 Mulgoa Road (Item 325)
- St Andrew's Anglican Church (former), 25 Park Road (Item 326)
- Luddenham Homestead Site, 1-9 Park Road (Item A849)
- Wallacia Post Office (Item 851)
- Mulgoa Road Conservation Area (HCA5)
- Park Road Conservation Area (HCA6)

Archaeological remains associated with these heritage items may extend into the study area.

PENRITH DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2014

The applicable DCP for the study area is the Penrith DCP. Section 4.1.2 of the Wollongong DCP outlines design controls to be implemented when dealing with heritage items. This includes the requirement for heritage reports and conservation strategies to be prepared when developing heritage items. In accordance with Section C7.1.2, Any heritage impact statement prepared as a requirement of the Penrith DCP must consider archaeological matters as well as built heritage.

2.5 NON-STATUTORY HERITAGE LISTINGS

A number of organisations maintain registers of buildings or sites which they have assessed and believe to be of cultural heritage significance. These registers have no statutory authority. However, the inclusion of a place on a non-statutory register suggests a certain degree of community esteem and appreciation. Non-statutory registers include the National Trust Register, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA) 20th Century Register of Significant Buildings, and the Art Deco Society of NSW Art Deco Building Register.

No part of the study area is listed on the National Trust Register, the RAIA 20th Century Register of Significant Buildings, or the Art Deco Building Register.

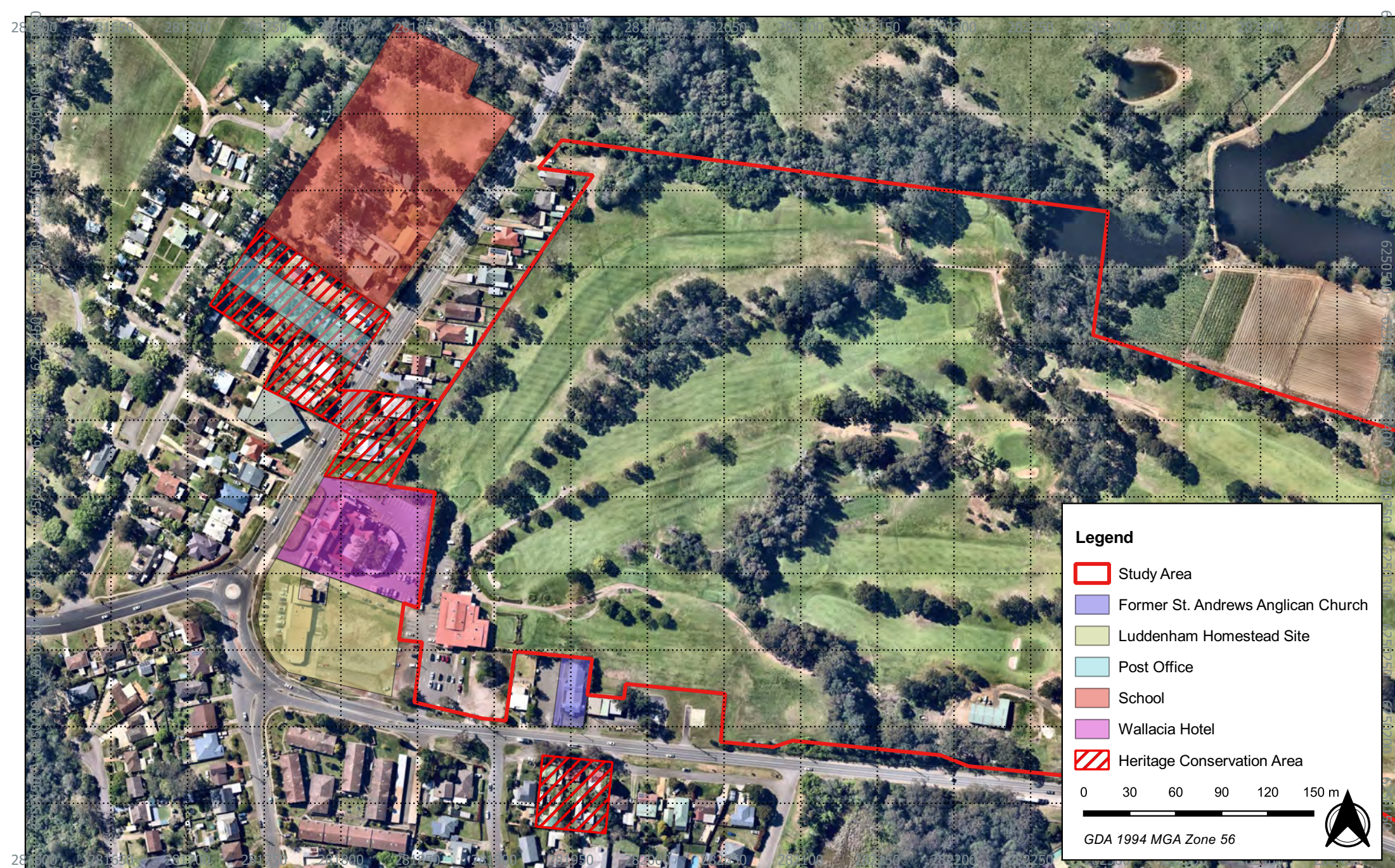


Figure 2.1 Location of heritage items in the immediate vicinity of the study area.

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



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2.6 SECTION SUMMARY

Table 2.1 lists the relevant statutory and non-statutory registers, listings and orders, and identifies those in which any part of the site is listed.

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

Register/Listing	Inclusion	Statutory implications
NHL	No	No
CHL	No	No
RNE	No	No
SHR	No	No
Penrith LEP	No	No
Penrith DCP	No	No
Register of the National Trust (NSW)	No	No
The RAI A 20 th Century Register	No	No
The Art Deco Society's Art Deco Building Register	No	No

3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following historical background is taken directly from the relevant parts of the previous report (Austral Archaeology 2019). It is designed to contextualise a site-specific history which will aid in the undertaking of the archaeological potential of the study area. This section aims to provide a historical sketch of early settlement of the region and a targeted historical account of the study area. This work will provide a useful and concise summary of the history of Wallacia and archaeological potential of the study area.

3.1 ABORIGINAL BACKGROUND AND POST CONTACT HISTORY

Aboriginal occupation of the Cumberland Plain and Nepean River valley extends back well into the Pleistocene, around 10,000 years Before Present (BP). Currently the oldest accepted date for an archaeological site in the Sydney region is a date of about 14,700 years BP which was obtained from Shaws Creek Rockshelter K2, located to the north of Penrith and not far from the present study area (Attenbrow 2002, p.20). Relatively early dates were obtained by McDonald. et al. (1996) for artefact-bearing deposits at open site RS1 (45-5-982) at Mulgoa Creek, Regentville, but the reliability of these is uncertain (McDonald. et al. 1996, pp.61–62), while Austral Archaeology have also recorded similar dates within an aeolian sand body associated with the Hawkesbury River at Windsor (Austral Archaeology 2011).

Aboriginal people formed part of a dynamic culture which encouraged movement throughout the landscape in order to assist in the ceremonial and functional practicalities of daily life (Helms 1895, p.389, Niche Environment and Heritage 2010, p.17). As such, defined borders for tribal groups need to be recognised as an artificial constraint designed by anthropologists (Organ 1990, p.xliii).

With these constraints in place, it is possible to characterise the Aboriginal history of the study area. The present study area is thought to lie near the boundary of two major Aboriginal language groups, with Darug (alternatively spelt Dharug or various other spellings – see Attenbrow 2002, Table 3.3) speakers occupying the region to the north and east of the Mulgoa valley while the Gundungarra speakers were located to the south and west (Kohen 2009, p.3). Anthropologist and linguist R.H. Mathews stated that:

The Dhar-rook dialect, very closely resembling the Gundungarra, was spoken at Campbelltown, Liverpool, Camden, Penrith, and possibly as far east as Sydney, where it merged into the Thurawal (Mathews & Everitt 1900, p.265).

According to Kohen 'the band that lived in the [Mulgoa] valley at the time of contact were Dharug, and were known from the early part of the 19th century as the Mulgoa Tribe' (Kohen 1982, p.3). 'Mulgoa', 'mulgowy' or 'mulgaway' meaning 'black swan' is also believed to be the Dharug name for the area (Kohen 1982, p.4), while an alternative origin for the name is also suggested based on the word *Mulgowrie*, meaning 'a place for water' in a local dialect (*Nepean Times*, 18 May 1939; Reed 2010, p.59).

The pre-contact Aboriginal population numbers for the study area are not known and, due to epidemics often preceding the arrival of European settlers into a region (Attenbrow 2002, p.21), it is unlikely that the early European explorers were able to successfully grasp the traditional population size. However, in the early days of the Sydney Cove settlement, Governor Phillip estimated that about 1,500 Aboriginal people lived in the Sydney district. More recent estimates of the contact period population of the greater Sydney region place the number between 5,000 and 8,000, although other estimates are much lower (Kohen 1995, p.1, Turbet 2001, pp.25–26). For the western Cumberland Plain, Kohen has estimated a pre-contact population of 500 to 1000 people, or a minimum overall density of about 0.5 persons per kilometre² (Attenbrow 2002, p.17, Kohen 2009, p.4).

The Aboriginal population of the Sydney district declined dramatically following European settlement even before European explorers reached Mulgoa, as many Aboriginal people had been killed by the smallpox epidemic which spread through the area in 1789. The epidemic is thought to have caused the deaths of at least half of the Aboriginal population of the Sydney district, while some accounts testify that 90% of the population were decimated (Attenbrow 2002, p.21, Kohen 1995, p.2).

3.2 WALLACIA HISTORICAL SKETCH

BLAXLAND'S GRANT (1813 – 1851)

The study area was originally part of a grant of 6,710 acres (2,715.4 hectares) given to John Blaxland on 30 November 1813 which he named 'Luddenham' after his family property in the Kent, England, and which he used primarily for the grazing of livestock. To the north of Blaxland's grant was a 30 acre (12.14 hectare) grant given to McDonald, while to the south near the study area, his land bordered a grant of 1,200 acres (485.6 hectares) given to D'arcy Wentworth. An early parish map of the district also shows two fording points across the Nepean River; an unnamed ford on Blaxland's property and a ford on Wentworth's which appears to be named 'Cogan's [or Cugan's] Ford' (Thorp 1989).

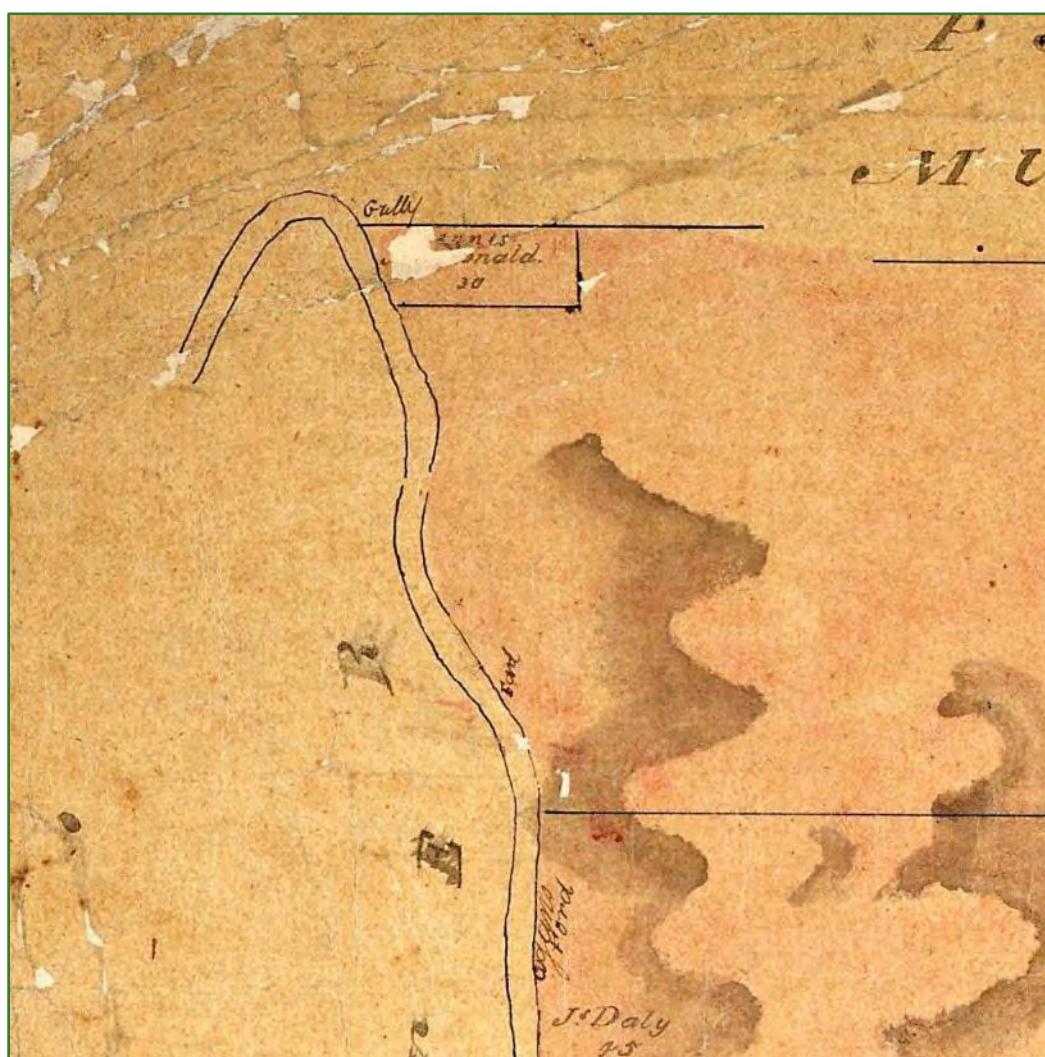


Figure 3.1 Detail from an undated plan of the parish of Bringelly which shows the location of two fords (LRS, Map 14071101)

Blaxland appears to have chosen to develop the Luddenham estate as a working farm rather than a country retreat, as his preferred place of residence was at his Newington estate on the banks of the Parramatta River and it is unclear exactly how much time he spent at Luddenham (AHMS 2010). However, the Luddenham estate was not left unstaffed, as Blaxland's daughter is recorded as noting that Blaxland 'divided the 80 men he first received from the Government between the two properties' (*The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 27 October 1883, pg. 775).

The main farm complex is shown on an early but undated parish map as lying at the end of a looping cart track which connected the homestead to the Northern Road, which ran between Camden and Richmond. Also shown is the first bridge over the Nepean River, which became known as Blaxland's Crossing. Early references to the farm occur in 1814, in connection with the spearing of Reardon, and in May 1816, when instructions issued by Governor Macquarie to Sergeant Robert Broadfoot in relation to a punitive raid states:

You are to march early tomorrow morning...to the Farm of Mr John Blaxland in the District of Bringelly on the East Back of the River Nepean...[and o]n your arrival at Mr Blaxland's Farm, you will inquire from his overseer Alexr. Everitt. (Organ 1990).

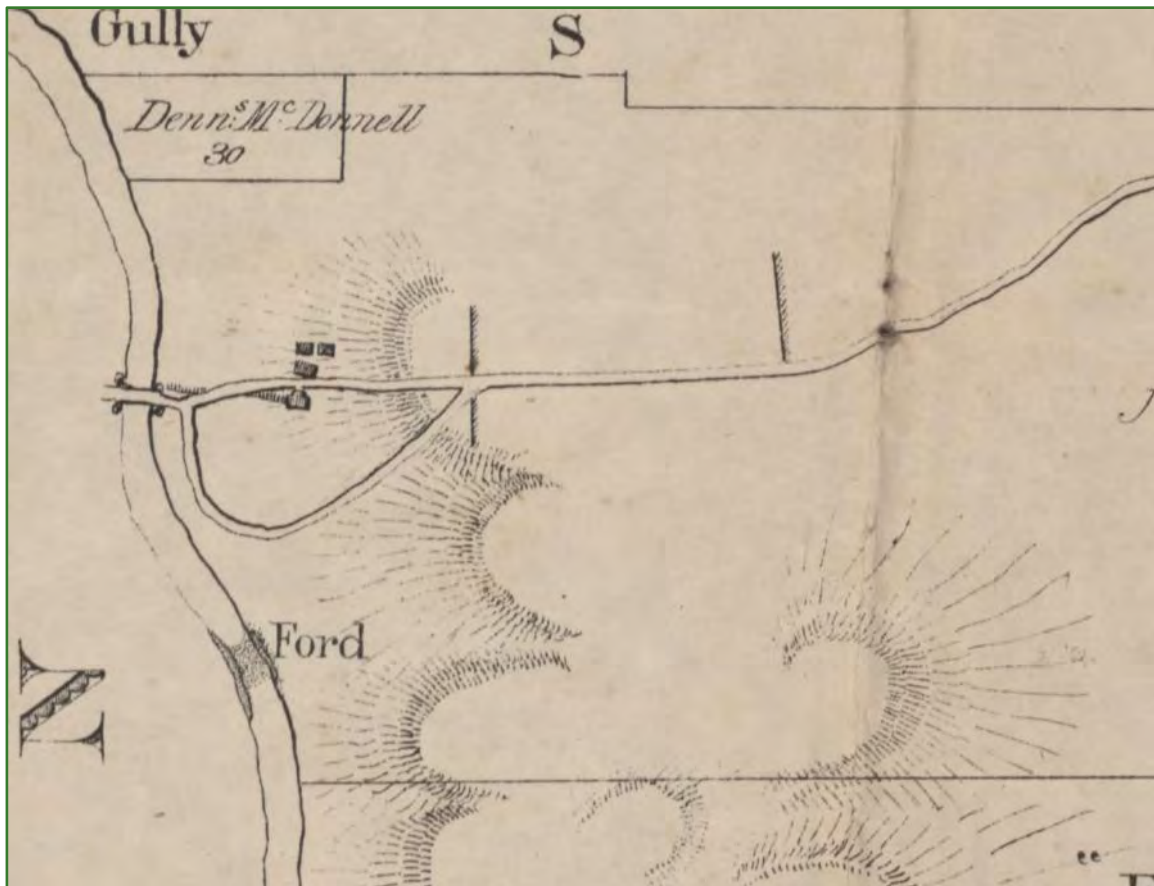


Figure 3.2 Detail from an undated plan of the Parish of Bringelly showing the layout of the buildings (NLA, MAP F 140)

The undated plan (Figure 3.2) shows a complex of three buildings to the north of the track with a fourth building to the south. However, as the plan pre-dates the existence of Mulgoa Road, attempts to correlate the location of the buildings in relation to the current topography are extremely difficult and to make it more difficult, the channel of the Nepean River is incorrectly plotted on the plan. Later plans and photos (c.f. Figure 3.5 and Figure 3.7) show the property fronting Mulgoa Road, which is in accordance with the findings of AHMS who place the complex of buildings 'in, or in the vicinity of' 1 Park Road, Wallacia (AHMS 2010, p.7).

Of note is that the original alignment of the track which connected the farm to the Northern Road is on a different alignment to the present route of Park Road. Where the current route of Park Road runs eastwards along the southern edge of the study area before turning south-east and joining the Northern Road at the present day town of Luddenham, the original alignment continued eastwards, crossing the study area (Figure 3.4), before turning north-east and joining the Northern Road near the present day junction with Elizabeth Drive.

By 1819, Blaxland had procured land on the opposite bank of the Nepean River where he constructed a dam near the present-day Wallacia Weir and built a mill and brewery. This suggests that Blaxland sought to use the western side of the river for operating his business interests while retaining the eastern side for crops and farming. While the mill was relatively successful, a combination of a drought and an outbreak of rust disease meant that there was insufficient wheat available for the brewery, and it failed to attract any business (AHMS 2010, p.17, Jack 1980, p.46).

Assistant Surveyor Felton Mathews visited the farm along with his wife, Sarah, while preparing a survey of the surrounding allotments in 1833. Sarah's journal describes her initial opinion of the local environs and, following a week accompanying her husband on his surveying of the western bank of the Nepean, her rather more prosaic description of the buildings themselves:

The approach to the cottage and farm buildings at Luddenham [sic] is rather pretty, and just before, the undulating country of Mulgoa is seen to the right, and forms pleasing variety in the picture.

...

Luddenham [sic] as a house, is nothing, a mere settlers habitation, of wood principally and set up with all that neglect of comfort, convenience and appearance, which is so strikingly displayed in all the earlier buildings of the colony (AHMS 2010, p.21).

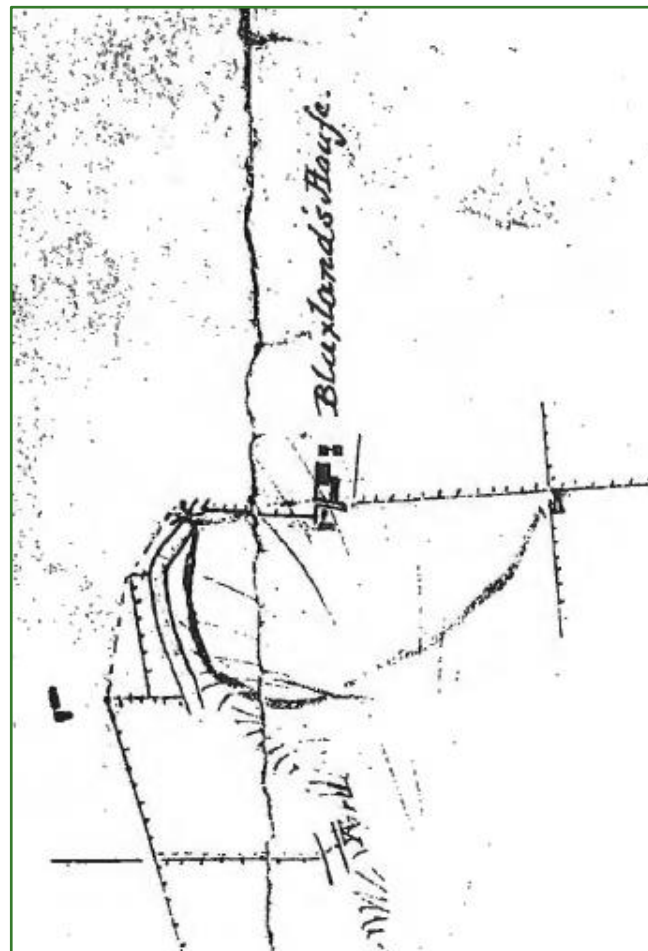


Figure 3.3 Detail from Matthew's 1833 plan showing 'Blaxland's House' (after (AHMS 2010, p.28).

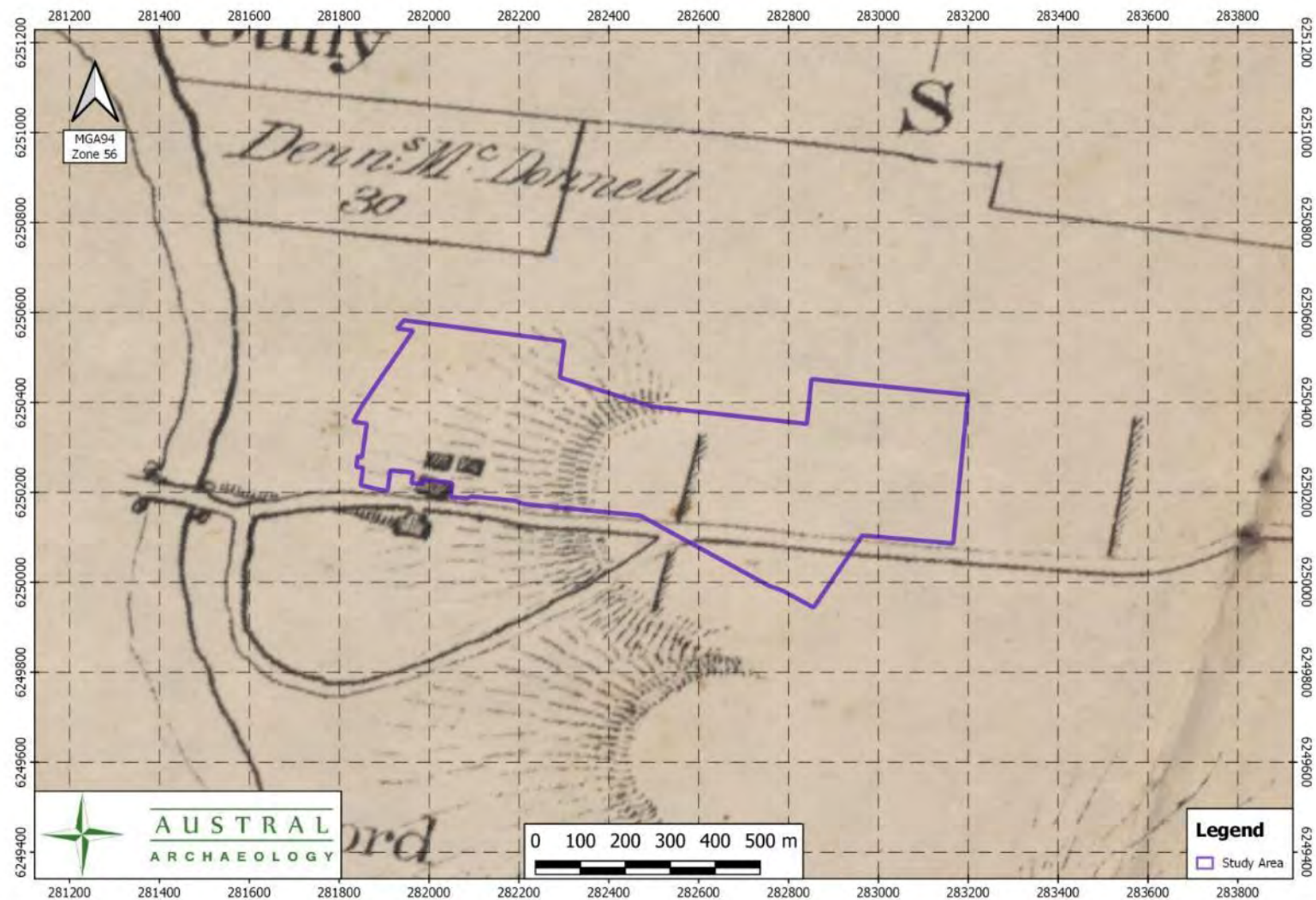


Figure 3.4 Overlay of undated plan of Parish of Bringelly and current topographic maps. Note the alignment of the cart track crossing the study area.

Mathew's plan (Figure 3.3) roughly matches the layout of buildings shown on the undated parish map (Figure 3.2), with three buildings to the north of the trackway and, although difficult to identify, potentially the fourth building shown on the southern side. AHMS interpret the linear structure on the eastern end of the main building as being a potential stable block, with the overall impression of the farm complex being one constructed for functionality rather than luxuriousness (AHMS 2010, p.21).

Due to financial problems suffered by Blaxland leading up to, and exasperated by the depression of the 1840s, John was forced to undertake several measures to ameliorate his losses; he undertook an indenture of mortgage on the property to Thomas Foster in 1830, an indenture of lease followed by a mortgage with Thomas Barker and others in 1841, and a last mortgage with the Australian Trust Company in 1842 (AHMS 2010, p.22).

A list of assets on the estate dated to March 1840 includes a water mill (valued at £1,800), brewery (£2,750), bridge (£200), barn and a threshing machine. In contrast to the value of these items and emphasising the 'rustic' nature of the farm, the valuation includes a 'building of old establishment' which is thought to be the original farmstead, and which is valued at only £100. The drop in value during the subsequent depression of the 1840s is evident from a later valuation following the 1841 mortgage which records:

10,029 acres [4,058.6 hectares] of land where of 7229 acres [2,925.5 hectares] are mortgaged to the Trust Company and 2,800 acres [1133.1 hectares] to Messr J Blaxland. On this estate there are a water mill and dam valued at £1,000, a brewery; and mill house with brewen; coppers, vats, steam engine, refrigerator, coolers, casks and all brewing utensils valued at £7,000 (AHMS 2010, p.22).

John Blaxland died at his beloved Newington estate on 5 August 1845, and ownership of both the Newington and Luddenham estates passed into the hands of his son, Edward Blaxland (AHMS 2008, p.22).

By the end of the 1840s, the estate continued to remain in financial difficulties. Edward was seeking new means of financing the estate and sought to strike a deal with a brewer in Sydney to use his functional but still vacant brewery (AHMS 2008, p.22). George Cox, owner of the nearby Winbourne property, for unknown reasons disapproved of the brewery and noted in a letter to his son on 25 May 1848 that:

Edward Blaxland passed by here with three other persons in a carriage. I fear the brewery will commence again. One of the persons is a Mr. Wright, the man whose boards used to be stuck up all over Sydney a long time since. Wright's Colonial Beer. I hope they may not come to terms. It would be a great comfort to us if it were never again established, but I fear there has been too much done to allow it to go to ruin (Hickson 1980, p.45).

While Cox may have wished ill-fortune upon the brewing enterprise, Cox was well aware of the dire financial problems the Blaxland's were experiencing and that a successful venture would ease their burden. Cox, writing to his son a few weeks later, outlines the problems facing the Blaxlands:

The Blaxlands are still in an unsettled state. [John?] Dobie and John Blaxland have taken all the stock and stations for their money, eleven thousand pounds, and Arthur went up to deliver them over. The Trust Co. have Luddenham and Newington, and they are now offering a composition to other creditors of 5/- in the pound to be paid in twelve months out of some funded property that old Mrs Blaxland seems to have in England. I understand most of the creditors have agreed to it. I suppose finding there is no likelihood of getting anything better, and I believe they promise that every exertion on their part will be used to pay off the rest at some future time. But they will not agree to be disturbed at Newington. Luddenham they want to let, but Arthur says he is sure it will have to be sold. I have not yet heard that Peter [?] has succeeded in getting a situation. I think after all he will get into some brewery in Sydney. They are very much cut up as they think Edward might have done more for them before things went to the extremity they did, and I think myself he might be paying over some stock or teams or something of that kind to serve his large arrear of wages (Hickson 1980, p.52).

CHARLES NICHOLSON & SUBDIVISION (1851 TO 1859)

Eventually, the only recourse was to sell the Luddenham estate, with Sir Charles Nicholson reportedly purchasing the estate in 1851 (Stacker 2014, p.123), although this is contradicted by AHMS who report that the estate was initially sold to JW Lowe in 1869 (AHMS 2008, p.24) before Nicholson purchased the estate in 1883 [note that this reference erroneously says 1833, which is corrected to 1883 in AHMS 2010:8]. A subdivision of the Luddenham estate was definitely announced in 1859 which resulted in the production of plans showing the eastern, western and central divisions of the estate. The current study area formed part of the central division (Figure 3.5), which was described as containing 'the original homestead of Luddenham' (*The Sydney Morning Herald* [SMH], 22 October 1859, pg. 8) and as having:

About 700 acres [283.3 acres] are cleared, divided into paddocks, and ready for the plough. There is a capital dwelling-house, of eight rooms, with stabling, stores, and outoffices, near the banks of the river, on an elevated site, commanding one of the most charming panoramic views to be found in the colony (SMH, 22 October 1859, pg. 8).

The western division, on the other bank of the Nepean River, contained vineyards, a garden, flour mills and the brewery, which was recorded as having been 'erected at an immense cost...being built of cut-stone, containing brewhouse, malt-house, stores, cellars &c' (SMH, 22 October 1859, pg. 8). The brewery had previously been thought to have been destroyed in 1857 (AHMS 2008, p.25) although it appears that both the brewery and mill finally went out of business following a later outbreak of rust in the local wheat crops in the years following the flood (NT, 8 June 1939, pg. 6). Interestingly, tunnelling works under the riverbed of the Nepean River during the creation of the Warragamba Dam found worked timbers and shingles which were attributed to having come from the brewery, which locals describe as having been swept downstream following a disastrous flood in 1867 (*Liverpool News*, 29 June 1939, pg. 3).

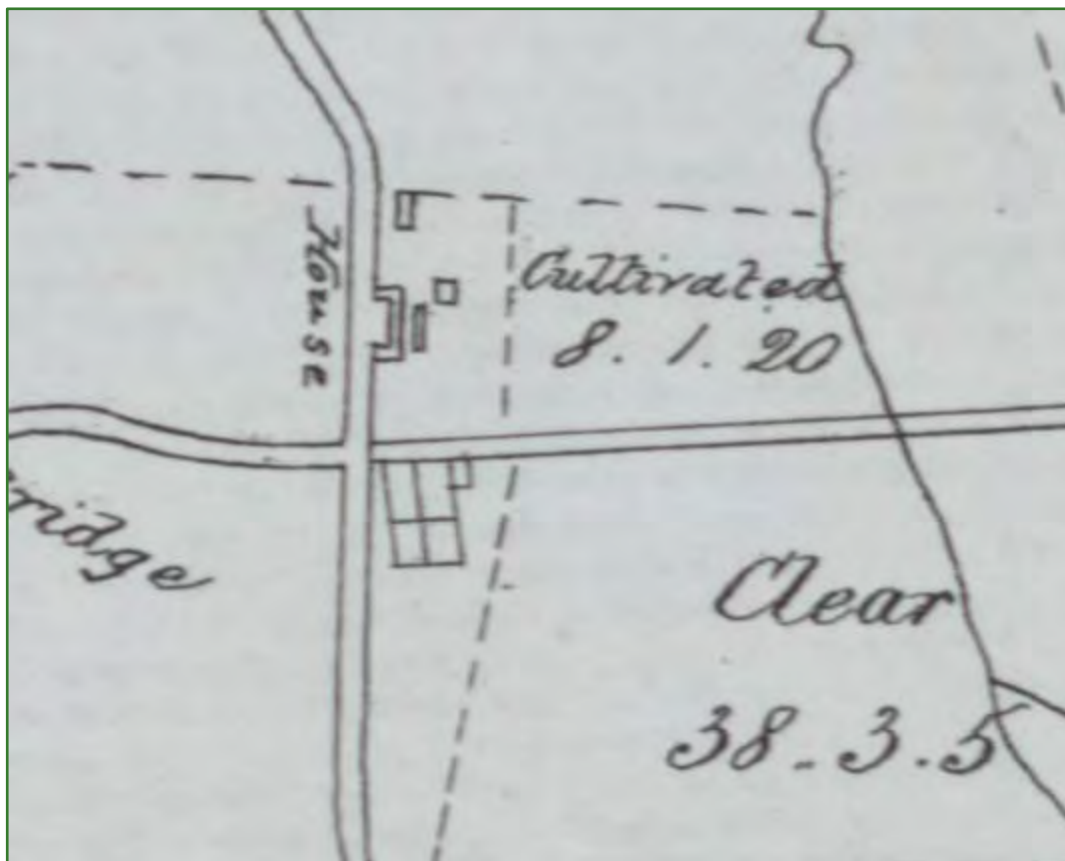


Figure 3.5 Extract from Luddenham estate subdivision plan, showing the house and outbuildings (NLA, MAP F 814).

As with Figure 3.2, it has proven difficult to accurately georeference the subdivision plan. However, the key feature to note is the location of the house and outbuildings in relation to both Park Road and to the original alignment of Mulgoa Road. The house is not shown as being immediately at the intersection of the two tracks but further north, and it directly fronts the recently established Mulgoa Road instead of Park Road as shown on the earlier plans. Park Road itself continues on the alignment noted on the earlier parish plan (Figure 3.2), crossing the south-eastern corner of the study area, with the remainder of the study area marked as either 'cultivated' or 'cleared' (Figure 3.7).

AHMS interpret the layout of the farm complex as being 'a shallow 'U' shape' building or 'a long corridor structure with two projecting rooms at the end of the frontage' (AHMS 2008, p.29). In their interpretation, the linear object to the east of the U-shape is a stable block, while two other buildings are also present along with a detached kitchen and garden on the southern side of Park Road (AHMS 2008, p.23). However, the plan is ambiguous and the 'U' shape may be a building or it may also be a shallow driveway leading off Mulgoa Road to the main residence.

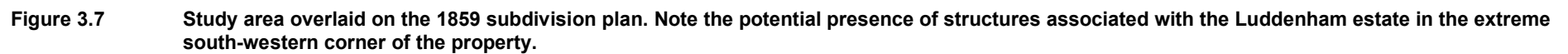
The only known photograph of the farmstead was identified by AHMS and included in their 2008 assessment and is reproduced below as Figure 3.6. AHMS describe the building as:

a long structure with projecting rooms at either end. The photo shows a shingled roof with weatherboard rooms and verandah with part of the central range of the structure of stone rubble construction. A brick chimney indicates the position of a fireplace at the northern end of the central range. Split log post and rail fences sit hard against the road with a bark roofed slab outbuilding to the rear.

The house sits, not at the crest of the slope but some way down the Mulgoa Road which still is nothing more than a dirt track (AHMS 2008, p.23).



Figure 3.6 Half of a stereoscopic image showing Blaxland's House (AHMS 2008, p.29).



WALLACIA (1859 TO 1932)

The association of the Wallace family with Wallacia is, as with much of the history of the property, contradicted by various sources and complicated by commonness of the name Robert Wallace.

The account which gives the earliest date for the arrival of the Wallace family is the obituary of Henrietta Wallace written in the *Nepean Times* of 1895 and which records that shortly after her arrival in Australia with her husband Robert in 1840, they were employed by Blaxland and 'took up residence in the cottage on exactly the same spot where Alderman Robert Wallace now resides' (NT, 25 May 1895, pg. 4). The obituary notes that Robert Wallace took charge of the local school, while also farming land at Pemberton, presumably in the vicinity of Pemberton Gully, located approximately 2.5 kilometres south of the study area. Robert Wallace then left teaching to take up farming as a full-time pursuit before moving to Charleville, on the western side of the Nepean River, where Robert died in 1867 (NT, 25 May 1895, pg. 4). Henrietta then returned to Blaxland's cottage, where Henrietta and her daughter took over the running of the post office, until Henrietta passed away on 8 June 1895 (NT, pg. 1193).

The reference to the Wallace's first residing 'in the cottage on exactly the same spot where Alderman Robert Wallace now resides' (NT, 25 May 1895, pg. 4) is problematic. Robert George Wallace's own obituary notes that he had been born in a building opposite Mulgoa Hall where Robert and Henrietta were residing in 1841 (NT, 23 April 1904, pg. 6), but this is not the same location where Robert George Wallace was recorded as living in his later years. By the end of the 19th century, Robert George Wallace is variously recorded as living at a house named 'Riverview' (Stacker 2014, p.33), at Luddenham (NT, 8 February 1900, pg. 5) and at Wallace (NT, 3 July 1897, pg. 3). Even if Robert George Wallace was living in the township of Wallacia, the suggestion that the earlier cottage stood 'on the same spot' may mean that the original house, constructed by Blaxland, had been replaced. The wording used by several other contemporary and early 20th century accounts also appears to suggest that the original house had been replaced, as will be discussed below.

Stacker, in her history of the Penrith region, implies that Henrietta Wallace first moved into Blaxland's cottage upon taking over a lease formerly held by Joseph Hayes in 1872, several years after the death of Robert. Stacker records that Henrietta moved her family in to Blaxland's old farmstead which had now become known as 'Luddenham Cottage', but Stacker also asserts that Henrietta moved out of the property to a cottage near the church in Luddenham in 1880 (Stacker 2014, p.136) this is contradicted by her obituary which states that Henrietta resided at the post office until the end of her life (NT, 25 May 1895, pg.4).

Regardless, the Wallace's house started to become an unofficial receiving depot for any mail needing collection in the district from around the mid-1880s, on account of their property being the only residence to the south of Mulgoa (AHMS 2008, p.24, Stacker 2014, p.136), and assumedly the fording point of the Nepean River meant that it was the first house reached by any settlers living on the western bank of the Nepean. While Stacker says that it was Robert George Wallace's property of 'Riverview' which served as the post office, this appears to be an alternate name for Luddenham Cottage, as notices for the birth of Robert George Wallace's children, Robert Vincent Wallace (*Australian Town and Country Journal*, 25 July 1874, pg. 35) and Ruby Wallace (NT, 14 August 1886, pg. 2), are both made from Luddenham Cottage, suggesting that Riverview and Luddenham Cottage are one and the same. The *Nepean Times* records that 'a receiving office has been established at Riveview [sic] near Luddenham (Wallace's)' (NT, 3 November 1888, pg. 4), which in 1882, was being run by postmistress 'Miss Wallace' (NT, 3 March 1882, pg. 7), presumably one of Henrietta's daughters, Ann Wallace or Caroline Wallace.

In 1885, Nicholson sold the Luddenham estate to land developers who proceeded to subdivide and open up for sale land at both Wallacia and Luddenham and by all accounts the sales were a success (AHMS 2008, p.24, Stacker 2014, p.136). The fledgling township began to grow around the post office, which in 1889 was listed as being under the charge of 'Mr Wallace', presumably Robert George, when the building was used for voting in the elections of the same year (NT, 2 February 1889, pg. 5).

By 1895, a new subdivision was proposed, and the subdivision plan (Figure 3.8) shows 'R Wallace' as being the tenant in a 10 acre (4 hectare) plot with two buildings present, one immediately fronting Mulgoa Road and a second behind it and to the east. However, the plan also shows that the alignments of both Mulgoa Road and Park Road match their present counterparts; Park Road now running eastwards before turning south-east instead of crossing the study area, and Mulgoa Road no longer runs directly north to south, but now curves in from the south-west (c.f. Figure 3.5 and Figure 3.8). This means that the location of the buildings shown on the subdivision plan cannot be accurate, as if the building was to directly front the new alignment of Mulgoa Road, then this building would have been beneath the original road alignment. Instead, the map must therefore be taken to simply convey the impression that the buildings are close to the junction of Park Road and Mulgoa Road.



Figure 3.8 Extract from an 1895 subdivision plan (after AHMS 2008:33).

Robert George Wallace was a well-known individual in the area, serving as the Returning Officer for the first municipal election at Mulgoa (NT, 23 April 1904, pg. 6), standing for the role of Alderman in the 1890 elections (NT, 8 February 1890, pg. 5), being elected an Alderman in 1895 (NT, 23 March 1895, pg. 2), and the Mayor of Mulgoa between 1896 and 1898, and again in 1903 until ill health forced his resignation (AHMS 2008, p.24, Stacker 2014, p.136). In his professional life, Stacker refers to Robert as being a teacher (Stacker 2014:136), although Wallace himself frequently referred to himself as being a butcher (NT, 23 March 1895, pg. 2; 3 July 1897, pg. 3). Robert George Wallace's profession as a butcher is again noted in a pamphlet supporting the sale of land in a second subdivision of the Luddenham estate, circa 1900, which records:

Messrs. G. Wallace, Easterbrook and Smith have been residents for some time, especially Mr. Wallace, who is the local butcher. He owns and occupies the cottage and some 10 acres [4 hectares] of land immediately at the corner of Park and Mulgoa Roads. The cottage is the first built on the Estate – upwards of 20 years ago (NLA, MAP Folder 94, LFSP 1388).

The pamphlet uses curious wording by suggesting that his cottage is 'upwards of 20 years' old, as Robert himself had been residing there since at least 1874. This could again be taken as evidence that the original farm buildings had been replaced shortly before Henrietta and her family moved in.

The confusion in Robert George Wallace's profession highlights the contradictions between the various sources, as Robert George Wallace was clearly a butcher by his own admission. However, the obituary of Henrietta Wallace notes that her husband ran the local school, suggesting that Robert senior, not junior was a teacher. This however, is contradicted by Robert George Wallace's obituary which, along with Stacker, states his father was a constable. Further complicating matters, George Robert Wallace's obituary incorrectly states that his father died in 1863 and his mother died in 1893 (*NT*, 23 April 1904, pg. 6), despite the same newspaper having covered Henrietta's own death in 1895 (*NT*, 25 May 1895). While a Robert Wallace did die in 1863, this occurred in the Berrima district and relates to a different gentleman (NSW BDM 2927/1863), and is not the death of Robert senior at Charleville, which is recorded as having occurred in the Penrith district (NSW BDM 7351/1867).

By the start of the 19th century, the Wallace family were acknowledged as being the oldest continuous residents of the district, and the role of the Wallace's house as a post office and meeting place had meant that locals came to refer to the surrounding district simply as 'Wallace' (Stacker 2014, p.136). However, when the General Post Office in Sydney requested that a name be conferred upon the new town, Robert George Wallace initially submitted 'Riverview'. As this name was already taken, the Postmaster General decided to gazette the already common name of area and proclaimed it 'Wallace'.

Robert George Wallace died in April 1904 (*NT*, 23 April 1904), and shortly afterwards, the General Post Office realised that it had been incorrect to gazette the township as Wallace, which was too similar to that of Wallace Town, near to Wagga Wagga, which had been gazetted first. A campaign was led by Penrith postmaster John Fowler to notify the General Post Office that, if the name of the village was to be changed, it should only be to a name which honoured the ties to the Wallace family. Their request was ignored and in November 1905 the residents were informed that their town was to be known as Boondah (*NT*, 11 November 1905, pg. 3). The new name was approved by the Mayor of Mulgoa although locals were vocal in their complaints and eventually the General Post Office agreed to the gazettal of the new name of Wallacia (*NT*, 26 May 1906, pg. 4). While the memory of the Wallace family was retained, the physical link was broken when Ellen, widow to Robert, and their children moved out of the district in 1908. The farewell celebration was held, appropriately, in the post office (*NT*, 4 April 1908, pg. 8).

The running of the post office passed from the Wallace family to the Fowlers, starting with John, who had led the call for creating the name 'Wallacia' (*NT*, 26 May 1906, pg. 4). The Fowler family retained ownership of the post office for over 100 years and through three generations, finally stepping down from the role in 2015 (*Western Weekender*, 2 December 2015).

By the early 20th century, the simple cottage which served as both residence and post office was no longer fit for purpose and in 1907 the post office was enlarged from a reported, and unbelievably small, space of 6 ½ feet² (0.6 metres²) to a 12 foot (3.6 metres) by 10 foot (3 metre) space (*NT*, 2 November 1907, pg. 6). There is no suggestion in the news article that a new building had been constructed, and therefore the change in size represented a repurposing of space rather than new build. However, a history of Wallacia written shortly afterwards in 1911 states that Robert Wallace once 'resided where the present Wallacia Post-office now stands' (*Camden News*, 30 November 1911, pg. 3). Again, this phrasing is unclear, suggesting that the author of the article may have been aware of the demolition and construction of a new cottage which has not been specifically identified in this assessment.

With regards to the post office, eventually the only recourse was demolish the older building and to build a modern, purpose-built structure which also incorporated a small store and milk bar (Figure 3.9). The new building was placed directly on the corner of Mulgoa Road and Park Road, and while it has since been demolished, the concrete steps on the corner of the two roads still remain (AHMS 2010, p.28). The date of construction of the new building was not ascertained by AHMS beyond stating that it 'is likely to have been a pre-World War 2 construction' (AHMS 2010, p.8). As the building is outside of the present study area, no further research has been undertaken to date this structure.

In 1938, Fowler sold the northern part of his property to Tooheys Ltd, who constructed a hotel on the land in 1938 (AHMS 2008, p.25). The hotel is believed by Historian Ian Jacks to have been built on the location of Blaxland's Luddenham Farm buildings (Jack 1980, p.6).



Figure 3.9 Photo of the new Wallacia post office in 1950 (NAA C4076, HN1071).

WALLACIA GOLF COURSE (1932 TO PRESENT)

The Wallacia golf club was founded in 1932, with the original club house consisting of 'a tin shed, open on two sides, with a table and bench made from bush timber', while a female associates club was founded shortly afterwards in 1933 (N&IDAGA 1983:29). The links was constructed on grazing land owned by John Fowler (NT, 5 July 1951, pg. 5), with special rules in play for hitting cattle or losing balls down rabbit holes (Stacker 2014, p.246).

Unhappy with the poor state of the club house/tin shed, the associates sought to join with their male counterparts and raise funds to build a new clubhouse but this offer was rejected. Instead, the associates took it upon themselves to purchase a second-hand timber building which was offered for sale for a sum of £30, and which was brought to the site by a timber jinker, a flat cart usually used for transporting milled wood (Stacker 2014, p.246).

A pamphlet produced by the Nepean & Illawarra District Associates Golf Association reports that the idea of a woman's golf association owning the club house caused such an outrage that the NSW Ladies' Golf Union took a complaint to the Australian Ladies Golf Union, who in turn sought advice from the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. The response from the Scottish association was reportedly that, while the situation should not act as a precedent, the women would be able to keep the club house. There may be an element of a tall tale to this story as while it may have happened, no other sources could be located which corroborate this story, nor is the incident reported in any contemporary newspapers despite many such newspaper including extensive coverage of golf news, gossip and results. The only references in newspapers relating to the acquisition of the club house are all positive, with *The Sun* reporting that the 'Wallacia associates are to be congratulated on having purchased and furnished the club-house themselves' (*The Sun*, 15 August 1934, pg. 3) and the *Nepean Times* reporting that:

The club held its first open day and also had the opening of the new club house, the opening ceremony being performed by Mrs R. Payton of Campbelltown, who paid high tribute to [sic] wonderful energy of the Wallacia Club, which had purchased and furnished such a delightful '19th' without the assistance of the members (NT, 18 August 1934, pg. 7)

The golf club formally tendered for the construction of a new club house in 1936 (Construction and Real Estate Journal, 11 March 1936, pg. 8) which was completed in 1937. The now obsolete timber club house was sold by the associates for £30 and it was moved offsite to be used as a bank. When the building came up for sale, the associates purchased it, again for £30, and it returned to the golf course before deciding to later sell it for £30, when it was again moved offsite to become a fish shop. The building was eventually offered for sale a third time and the associates purchased it, again for £30, and it was returned to the golf course. However, this time, the building was incorporated into the brick club house where it served as a golf buggy storeroom until being destroyed in the 1970s (Stacker 2014, p.286).

The golf club was disbanded during the war years as both the course and the neighbouring Wallacia Hotel were requisitioned, the hotel being used as a Radio Physics school and the golf course being used for exercises (N&IDAGA 1983:29). In the 1980s, Arthur Downes recalled the 9th fairway being used for bayonet practices and that there is 'still an air-raid shelter under the 10th tee' (Stacker 2014, p.286). Following the end of the Second World War, the course was restored to a full 18 holes and the club reformed shortly thereafter in May 1946.

An aerial photograph of Wallacia from 1955 shows the condition of the golf course at the time, although the fairways are difficult to distinguish on the black and white photograph (Figure 3.10). The club house constructed in 1936 is visible in the south-western corner of the study area (Figure 3.11), located in the car park to the west of the current building. Of note is that the original alignment of the track or rural version of a scrangleway linking Wallacia and Luddenham is visible crossing the south-eastern corner of the study area (Figure 3.12).

A later aerial photograph, taken in 1965, shows little changing within the overall study area, although the actual fairways of each hole are still difficult to identify on the black and white photograph (Figure 3.13). In general, the major changes which occurred between 1955 and 1965 were the planting of trees between several holes, the creation of a dam in the north-eastern corner of the study area, and the enlargement of the club house with the addition of an extension on the south-eastern corner (Figure 3.14).

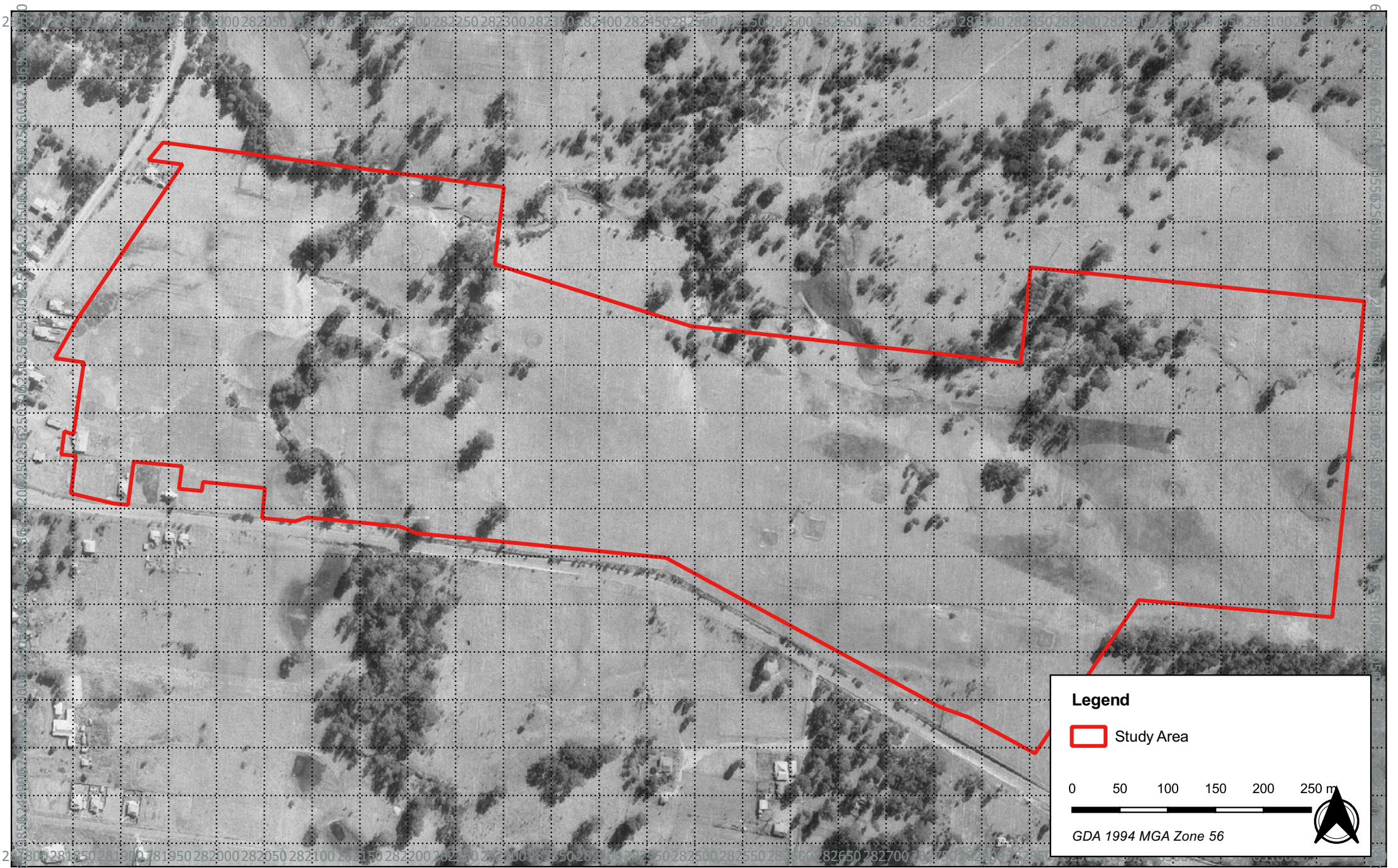


Figure 3.10 Overlay of the study area on to the 1955 aerial photo
Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



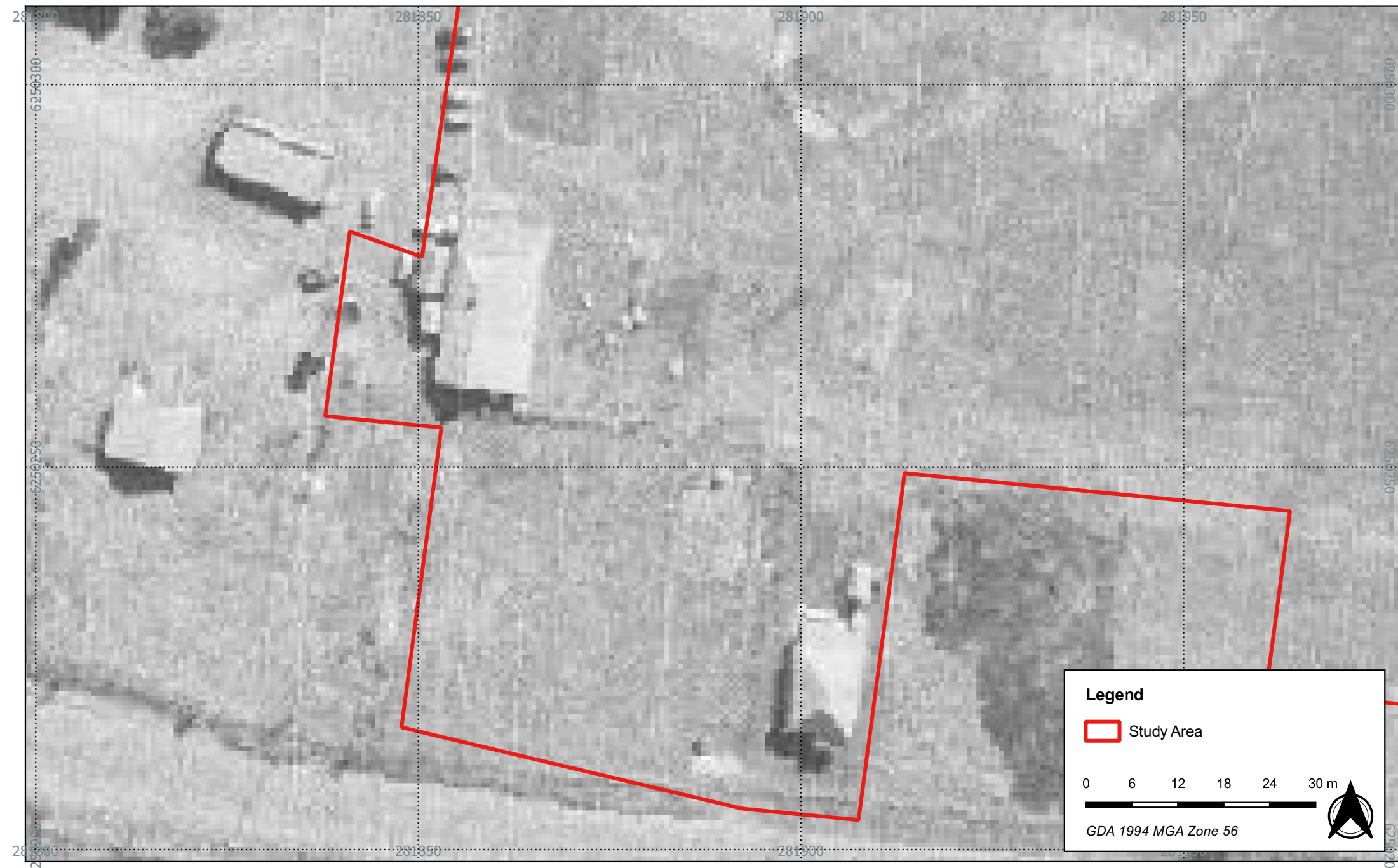


Figure 3.11 Detail of the south-western corner of the golf course showing the study area in relation to the club house.

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



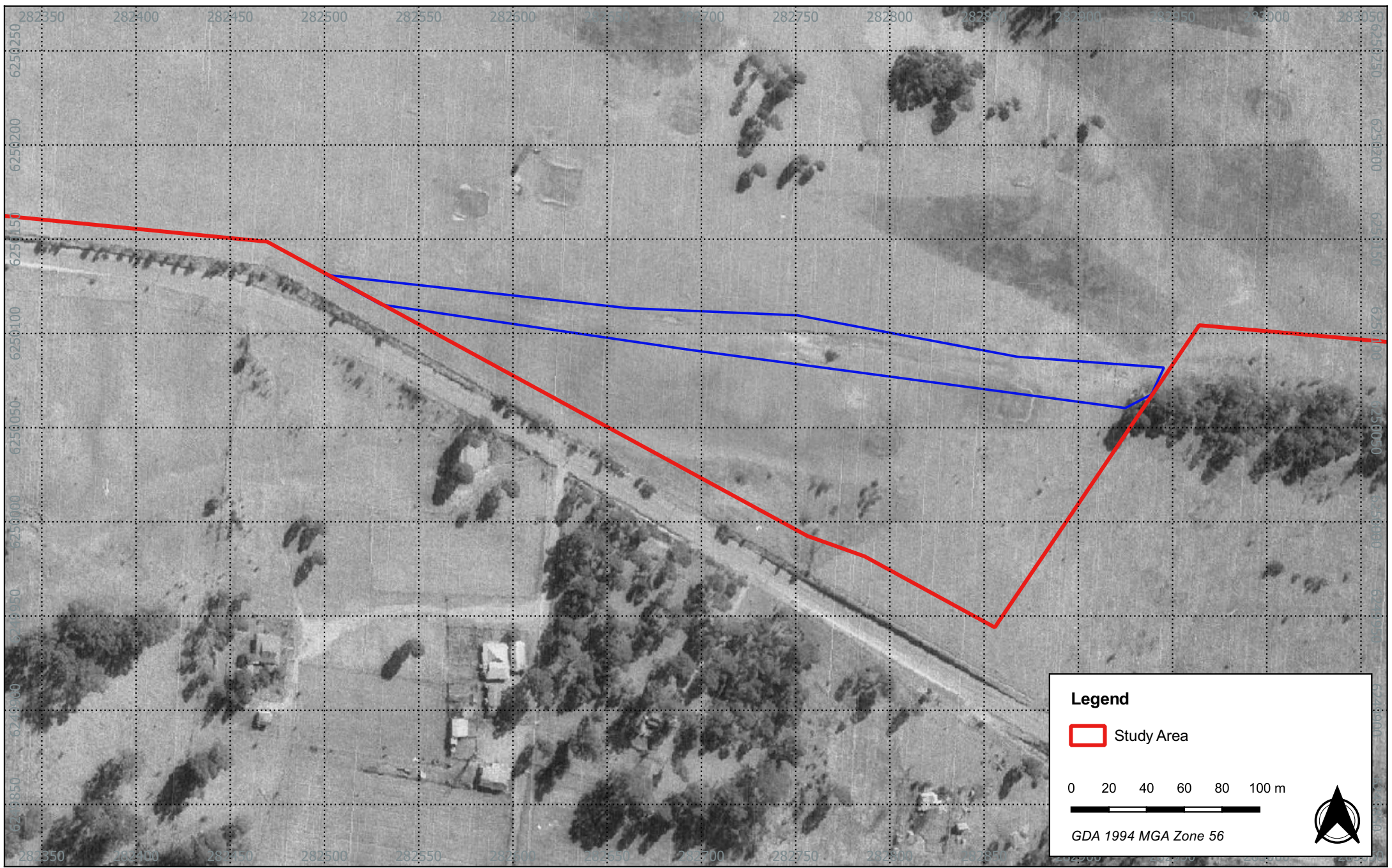


Figure 3.12 Original alignment of Wallacia to Luddenham track, outlined in blue.

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW

Document Set ID: 9372486
 Source: NSW Spatial Services
 Version: 1, Version Date: 11/11/2020

Drawn by: WA Date: 2020-11-09



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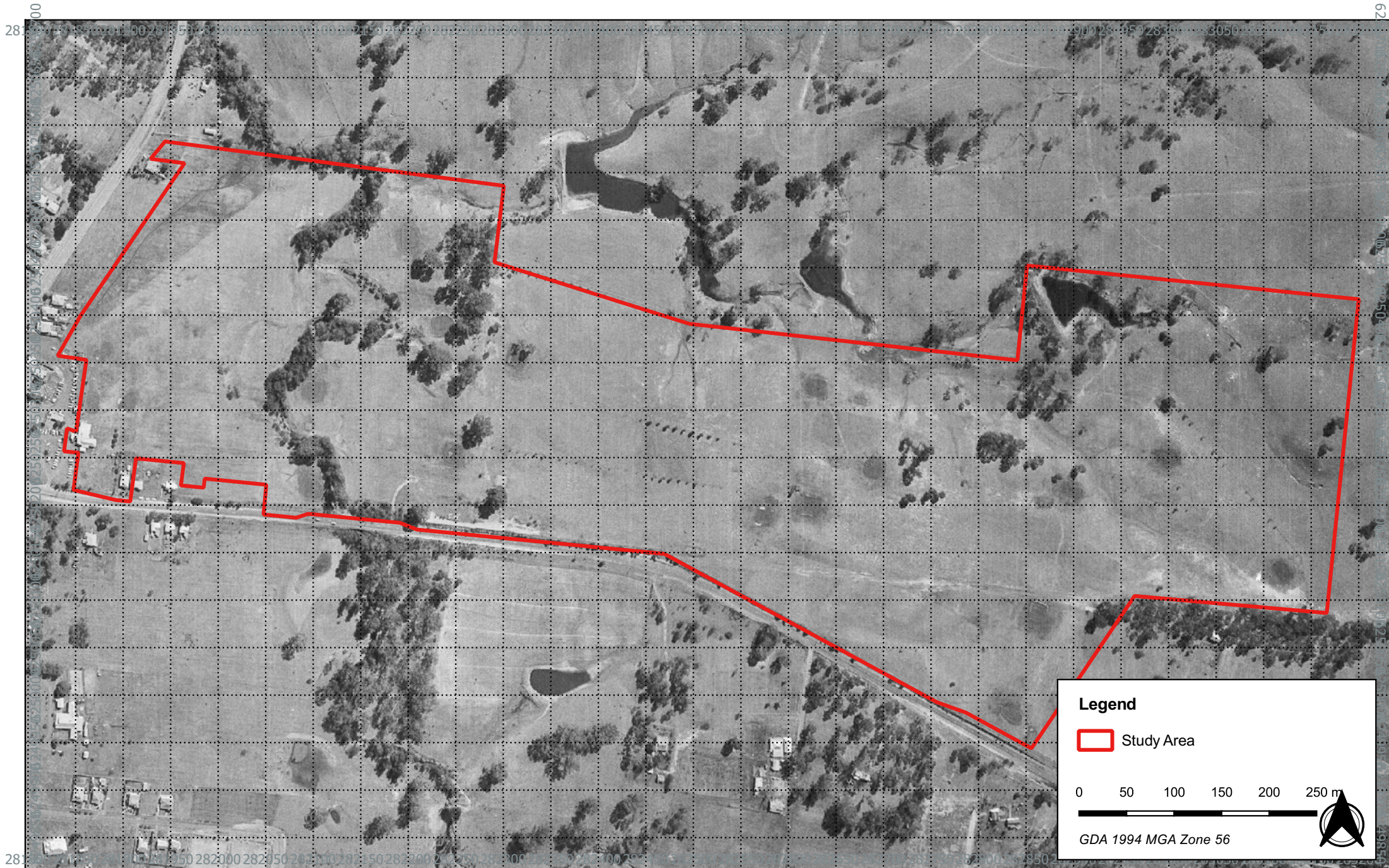


Figure 3.13 Overlay of study area on to the 1965 aerial photo.

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



AUSTRAL
ARCHAEOLOGY



Figure 3.14 Detail of the south-western corner of the golf course, showing the club house. Note the new extension, marked with an orange arrow.

A new club house was constructed in 1967 which incorporated elements of the earlier building and is shown on the aerial photograph taken in 1975 (Figure 3.15). As with the other photographs, individual fairways are difficult to identify, although the trees first visible in the 1965 aerial have continued to grow. The former alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track is barely identifiable by 1975, but no other significant changes occurred within the study area (Stacker 2014, p.286) (Figure 3.15).

The current club house appears to have been constructed between 1983, the date of publication of the N&IDAGA pamphlet, and prior to 2011, when aerial images become easily available for research. Based solely on placement of buildings identified from the aerial photographs, the current club house appears to include a hall constructed as part of the 1967 build, but neither the original 1936 club house nor the extension constructed between 1955 and 1966.

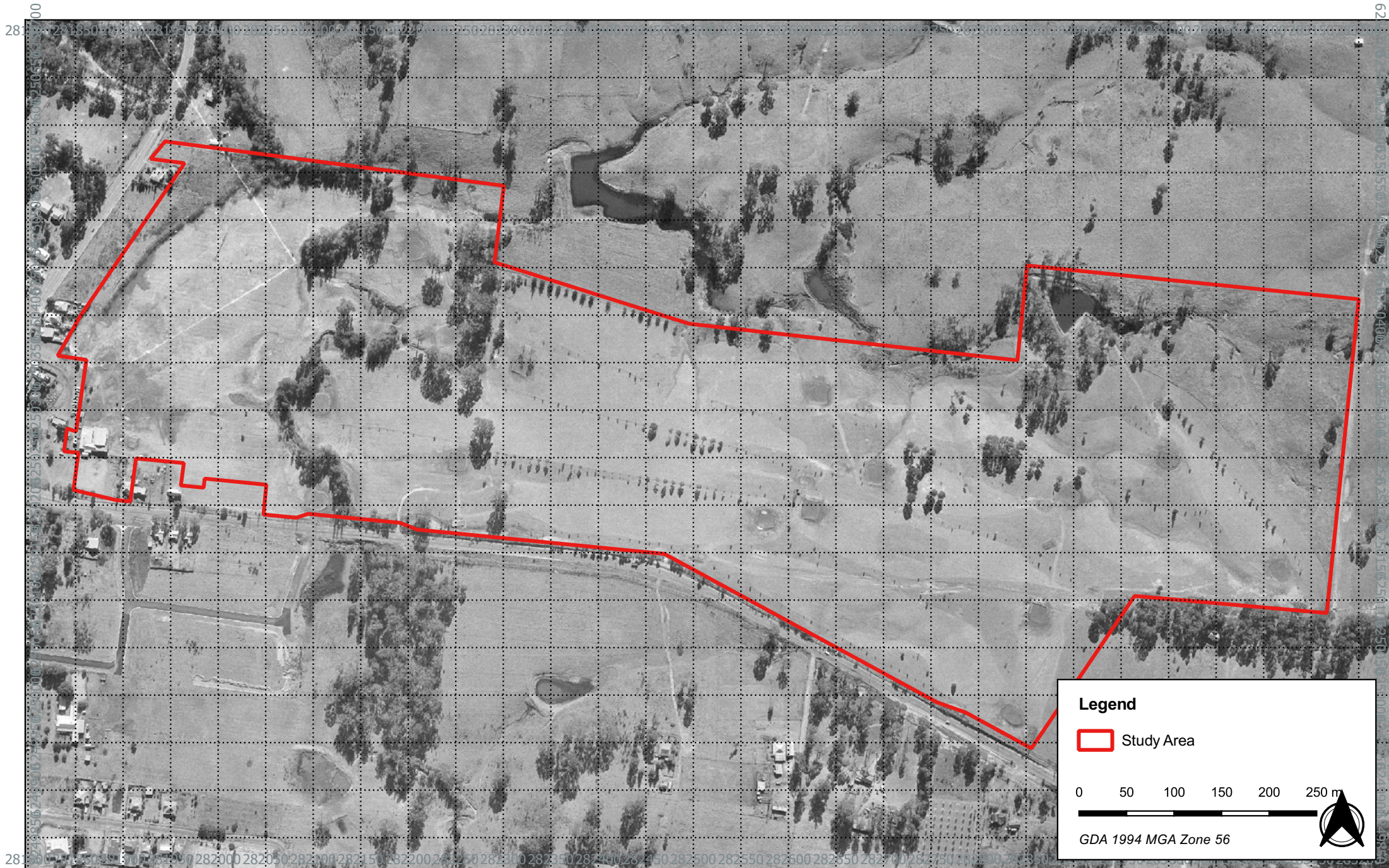


Figure 3.13 Overlay of study area on to the 1975 aerial photo.

Nepean Gardens Memorial Park, Wallacia, NSW



AUSTRAL
ARCHAEOLOGY



Figure 3.16 Detail of the south-western corner of the golf course, showing the study area in relation to the club house. Note the new extension, marked with an **orange** arrow, which may have been incorporated into the current club house.



Figure 3.17 Extract from current NearMap aerial photo, showing the large building which corresponds with the location of the extension shown on Figure 5.16.

Table 3.1 Chronology of key events within study area.

Year	Event
1813	6,710 acres of land granted to John Blaxland, which he names 'Luddenham'. Uses the land for grazing.
1840	Robert and Henrietta Wallace are employed by Blaxland and take up residence at Luddenham
1845	John Blaxland dies, ownership of Luddenham transfers to his son Edward Blaxland
1851	Sir Charles Nicholson purchases the property.
1859	Luddenham is subdivided
1870s	Henrietta Wallace takes over the lease
Mid-1880s	The Wallace house becomes the unofficial post office for the area
1880s	The Wallace house becomes the official post office for the area, and the town begins to grow around it.
1907	Post office is enlarged
1932	Wallacia Golf Club is founded
1933	The Women's Associates are founded and a wooden building is purchased to function as the club house until one can be constructed
1936	Brick club house is built
1938	Wallacia Hotel is built
1939 – 1945	Air raid shelter reported as being constructed under location of 10 th hole of present day course; golf course used for military exercises
1967	Replacement club house built, incorporating the 1936 building
1983 – 2011	Current club house is built, incorporating elements of the 1967 building

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PREDICTIVE MODELLING

4.1 INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

4.2 PREDICTIVE MODEL

The following predictive statement draws on the areas of known archaeological sensitivity. As a general rule of archaeology, sites first redeveloped in either the late 19th or early 20th century can also retain evidence of occupation from earlier periods. It is also very common that such evidence can be recovered even when sites have been redeveloped or disturbed by modern developments. The following statements serve as a framework for developing an archaeological predictive model for the study area:

- Archaeological remains associated with the original cottage or outbuildings are likely to be ephemeral in nature, as the cottage was primarily constructed of timber which would not necessarily require any brick footings.
- Due to the ephemeral nature of any early archaeological remains likely to be present in the study area associated with the original cottage or outbuildings, construction of any building is considered likely to have removed any archaeological remains.
- On the basis of the above statements, the presence of an extant or demolished 20th century building is considered to have removed all archaeological potential within its footprint.
- Construction of bitumen road surfaces often serve to 'cap' any underlying deposits, acting to preserve archaeological material *in situ*.
- The creation of the golf course is likely to have had varying levels of impact, dependant on whether the original ground level has been raised or lowered. However, ongoing maintenance of the golf course is considered to be detrimental to the preservation of archaeological deposits.

One other issue which complicates matters is the uncertainty regarding the actual location of the Luddenham Farm buildings. The Penrith LEP, based on the results of a heritage study, places the homestead in the lot immediately west of the present study area and assumes its location is at the corner of Mulgoa Road and Park Road, whereas Jack's analysis places the farmstead under the location of the present Wallacia Hotel (Jack 1980, p.46). While the farm is marked on early plans of the district, both AHMS and the present assessment have repeatedly noted the difficulties associated with trying to use these plans to plot the location of the farm complex (AHMS 2008, p.26).

In 2010, AHMS undertook a period of test excavations at 1 Park Road (Lot 1, DP1169209), the corner site marked as the location of the farm complex on the Penrith LEP. While the excavation identified evidence of 19th and 20th century occupation, including rubbish disposal and yard surfaces, the excavations failed to locate any archaeological material directly related to Blaxland's occupation of the site. Their conclusion was that either all remains of the farmstead had been destroyed, or the house was located elsewhere (AHMS 2010, p.56).

In the absence of any solid confirmation as to the actual location of Blaxland's farm, it is not considered possible to discount the possibility that, if not the actual farmhouse, then outbuildings and rubbish deposits associated with Luddenham Farm may extend westwards into the present study area.

Based on the detailed background history and the above assumptions, the following general predictive statements can be made:

- There are areas of moderate potential for archaeological remains to be present in the western part of the study area which relate to the Luddenham Farm buildings. As the exact locations of the farm buildings are unknown, this potential is considered highest beneath the current car park in the western part of the study area, and includes a buffer zone of low archaeological potential extending eastwards into grassed areas forming the golf course. This area may also contain deeper features, such as wells, cesspits, cellars or underground storage areas; the potential to identify these features are difficult to predict as the location of any such features are not recorded historically and may have been disturbed by later construction.
- There is moderate to high potential for the original track linking Wallacia and Luddenham to be identified in the landscape. However, there is unlikely to be any archaeological material associated with the route of the track, and the track is likely to consist of a shallow depression in the ground and possibly a buried, compacted surface.
- There is an unquantifiable potential for an air raid shelter to be present under the green of Hole 10. The presence of the shelter is based on a single oral source provided by Stacker (2014, p.46).

5 SITE INSPECTION

A physical inspection of the study area was undertaken on 7 July 2020 by David Marcus (Director, Austral) and William Andrews (Graduate Archaeologist, Austral). The aims of the inspection were to identify the potential for archaeological heritage values to be present within the study area.

The pedestrian survey identified varying degrees of impacts as having occurred within the study area in relation to the creation and ongoing use of the golf course. These impacts have affected the archaeological potential of large parts of the study area, essentially removing any archaeological material which may have been present. As such, the survey then focussed on three areas where it was determined had retained potential for archaeological material to be present; around the clubhouse, the green of Hole 10, and the alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track.

CLUBHOUSE BUILDING (LUDDENHAM FARM BUILDINGS/DEPOSITS)

The current clubhouse is the result of expansions and extensions made to the original building which was constructed in the 1930s. As the topography of the land slopes sharply downwards from west to east, the building currently consists of two-storeys on the eastern elevation (Figure 5.1), and a single storey on the western elevation (Figure 5.2), with an undercroft parking area and basement under at least part of the western half of the building footprint (Figure 5.3). Land surrounding the clubhouse to the west and north is generally flat and either consists of an asphalt or blue-metal gravel car park (Figure 5.4). The land to east of the clubhouse has undergone varying degrees of landscaping which is likely to have impacted on any archaeological remains which may have been present.

In summary, areas of archaeological potential are present to the west and north of the clubhouse building, where archaeological features may have been capped by the asphalt car park area or the blue-metal gravel.



Figure 5.1 West facing view showing clubhouse (1m scale).



Figure 5.2 South facing view showing carpark adjacent to clubhouse (1m scale).



Figure 5.3 South-facing view showing undercroft parking area and door to basement (no scale).



Figure 5.4 North facing view showing asphalt car park between the clubhouse and Hole 10 (1m scale).

HOLE 10 (AIR RAID SHELTER)

An inspection was undertaken of the green on Hole 10 and the surrounding area (Figure 5.5) in order to determine if there was any evidence of an air raid shelter having been constructed below the green. The pedestrian survey was unable to find any evidence to either prove or contradict the oral history, and further archaeological investigations will be required at this location.



Figure 5.5 North-west facing view showing green, with bunker and surrounding landscaping (1m scale).

WALLACIA TO LUDDENHAM TRACK

The original alignment of the track connecting Wallacia to Luddenham has been identified as continuing along the line of Park Road, crossing the fairway of Hole 13 before running alongside a copse of trees separating holes 13 and 15. In general, landscaping of the fairway has removed any evidence of the former alignment of the track (Figure 5.6 and Figure 5.7). Along the north side of the fairway, the pedestrian survey identified ruts (Figure 5.8), which were interpreted as either being a relict of the track or having been caused by modern vehicles used by groundskeepers.



Figure 5.6 West facing view along the alignment of the former track (1m scale).



Figure 5.7 East facing view along the alignment of the former track.



Figure 5.8 Low angle, east facing view with interpreted wheel ruts (1m scale).

6 HISTORICAL LAND USE AND SENSITIVITY MAPPING

6.1 HISTORICAL LAND USE

The earliest known occupation of the study area was in 1813 when the John Blaxland was granted 6,710 acres of land in the area, which he named 'Luddenham'. Blaxland primarily utilised the land for agricultural purposes, including the grazing of livestock.

The Luddenham estate remained in the hands of the Blaxland family and continued to be used for farming until 1859 when the estate was sold and subdivided. A contemporary plan of the subdivision shows either a U-shape house or driveway, with a detached stable block and two other buildings also present along with a detached kitchen and garden on the southern side of Park Road.

In the 1870s, the Wallace family moved into the cottage after Henrietta Wallace took over the lease after the death of her husband, Robert. During this time, the house was utilised as an unofficial receiving depot for any mail needing collection in the district on account of their property being the only residence to the south of Mulgoa.

By the start of the 19th century, the Wallace family were acknowledged as being the oldest continuous residents of the district, and the role of the Wallace's house as a post office and meeting place had meant that locals came to refer to the surrounding district simply as 'Wallace'. By the early 20th century, the simple cottage which served as both residence and post office was no longer fit for purpose and in 1907 the post office was enlarged, although there is no confirmation as to whether this represented a repurposing of space or construction of a new building.

In 1932, the Wallacia Golf Course was founded, with the original club comprising a very simple tin shed. The golf club was disbanded during the war years as both the course and the neighbouring Wallacia Hotel were requisitioned with the hotel being used as a Radio Physics school and the golf course being used for exercises, and an air raid shelter was reportedly constructed below the green of Hole 10. In 1938, a hotel was built on the northern part of the property, possibly on the location of the original farm buildings.

While a replacement club house was constructed in 1967 which incorporated elements of the 1936 building, the club house currently in use appears to have been constructed between 1983 and 2011 which incorporates elements of the 1967 build.

6.2 DEGREE OF HISTORICAL DISTURBANCE AND IMPACTS

The largest impacts to the site have occurred due to the construction of the clubhouse, and the construction and ongoing maintenance of the golf course. This has resulted in widespread disturbance associated with all 18 holes of the course as well the landscaping which has occurred around each hole. In particular, the alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham trackway has undergone impacts to the point where the original track can not be identified with any degree of certainty.

However, there remain parts of the site which are considerably less disturbed, predominantly the land to the north and west of the clubhouse, which has remained in use as carparking for much of the 20th century. The assumed substantial nature of any remains associated with the air raid shelter, which would need to be deep and made of concrete, also makes it likely that it has survived any modern impacts, should the oral history regarding its existence be correct.

As such, while the vast majority of the study area is considered to retain minimal archaeological potential, *in situ* archaeological remains may be present within the parts of the study area.

6.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAPPING

The results of Section 4 and Section 5 are depicted in an archaeological sensitivity map below (Figure 6.1 and Figure 6.2). This map shows the degree of predicted historical, archaeological potential within the study area following site development. The map forms the basis for the conclusions and management recommendations outlined in Section 9. However, one key point to note is that potential is not equal to significance, and areas of even moderate archaeological potential may not contain archaeological material which is considered significant (see Section 7).

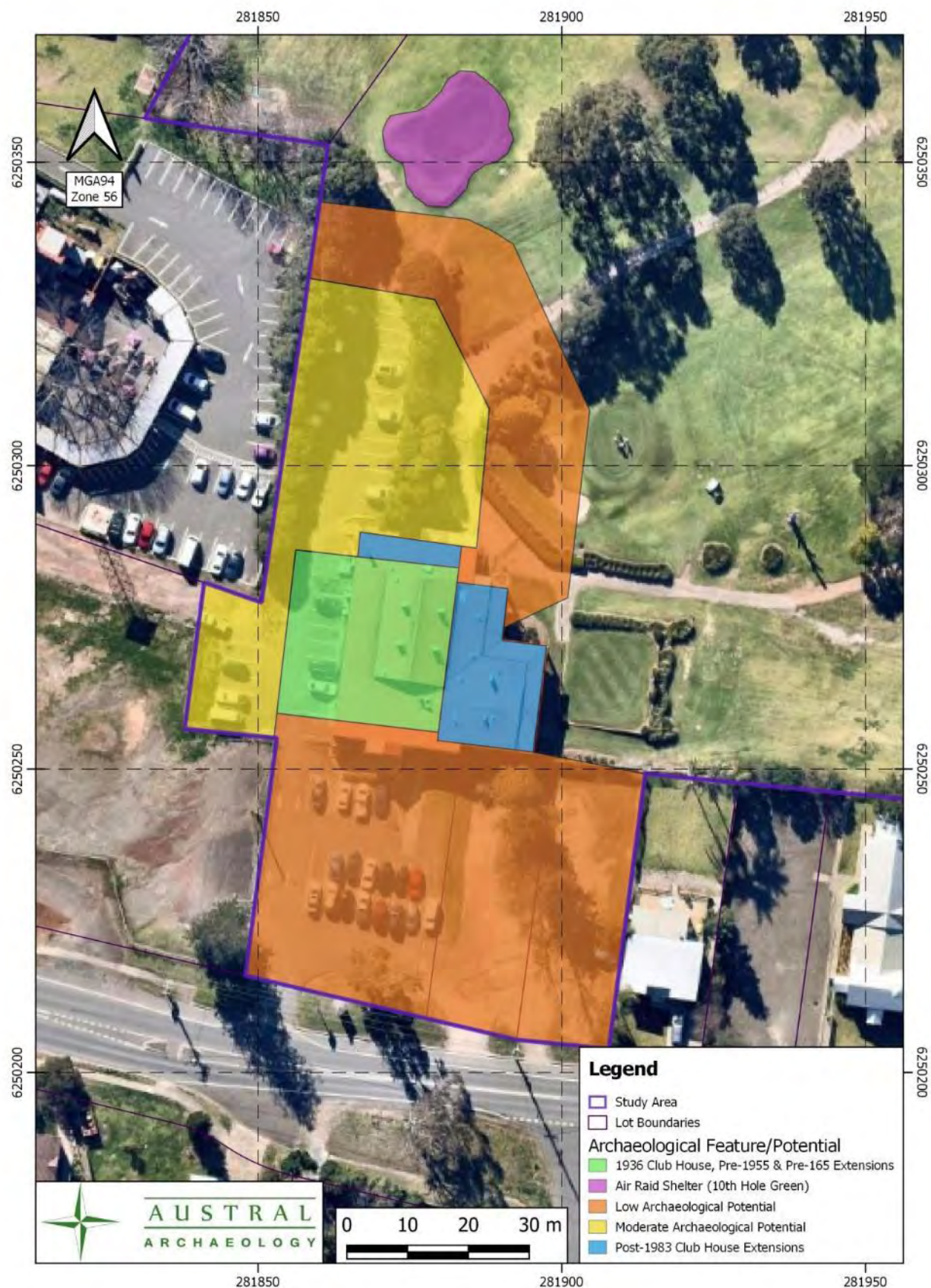


Figure 6.1 Historical archaeological potential of the western portion of the study area associated with Luddenham Farm and the air raid shelter.

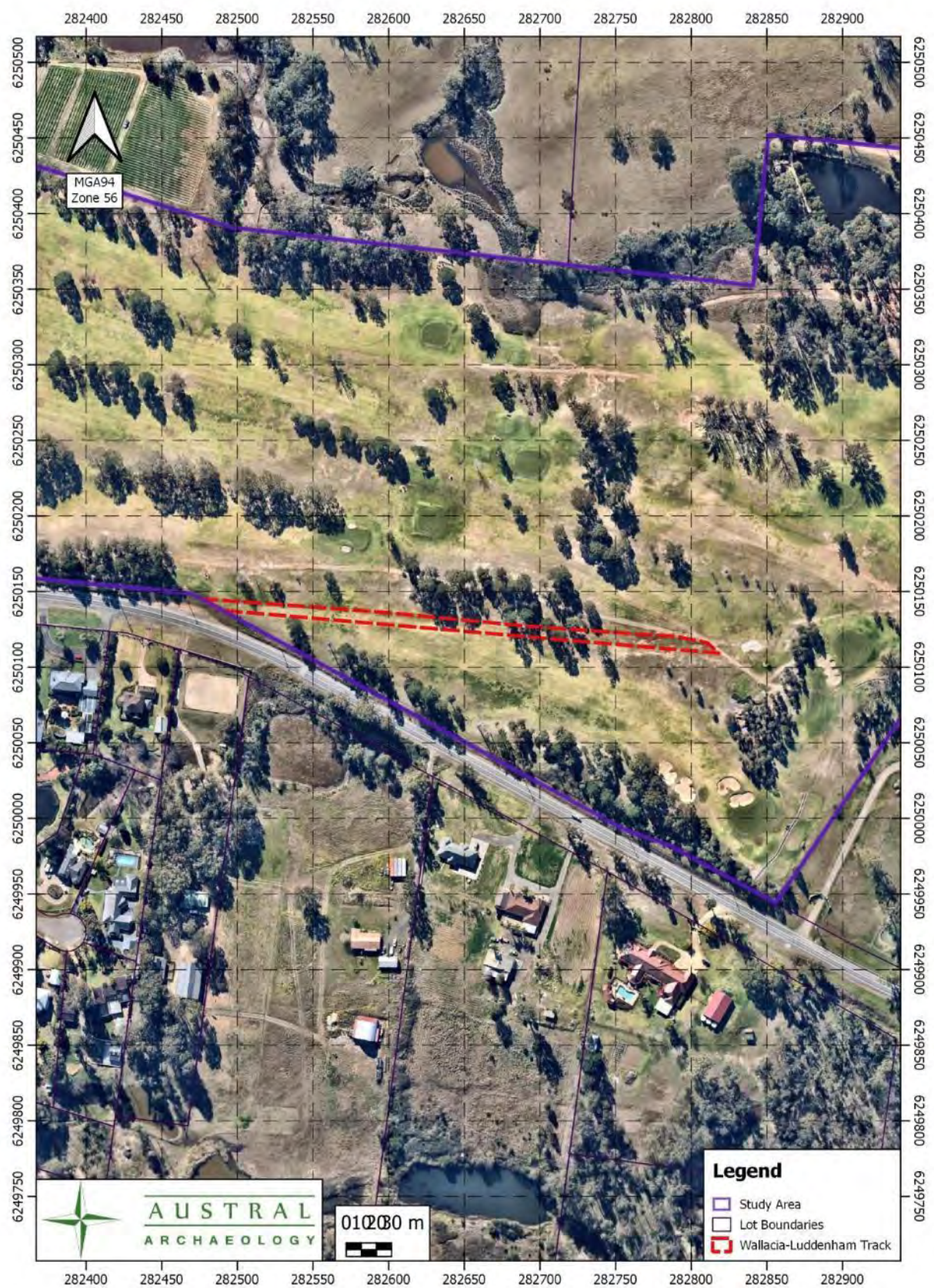


Figure 6.2 Historical archaeological potential of the eastern portion of the study area.

7 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 INTRODUCTION

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

7.2 BASIS FOR ASSESSMENT

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

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

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

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

These criteria were designed for use on known or built heritage items, where above-ground heritage is both tangible and easily identified. As the nature of archaeology is that it is invisible until disturbed, the presence and attributes of archaeological material must be assumed based on the recorded levels of disturbance, known site history and the creation of predictive statements. Ultimately, the actual presence of archaeological material can only ever be framed in terms of the potential for it to be present.

Heritage NSW has assisted archaeologists by creating questions which are framed around the main NSW Heritage Criteria, and which can be used to assess the relative importance of any archaeology which is likely to be present. The questions to be asked of an archaeological deposit differ from the main criteria. Still, they can be seen to be referential to them, to create a suitable framework for assessing archaeological sites.

7.3 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

The evaluation of significance is quoted from the historical archaeological significance assessment prepared by AHMS to support a Section 140 permit prior to undertaking test excavations at the neighbouring property of 1 Park Road, Wallacia. Permit 2010/s140/16 was approved on the basis of this significance assessment, which is relevant to the current project as it deals with the same potential archaeological features that AHMS were investigating.

The following section therefore quotes verbatim from AHMS (2010, pp.46–49) [sic throughout] and is presented with additional commentary as required. Significance relating to the air raid shelter and the alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track are discussed as well.

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

The Blaxland farm is a significant component of the wider rural landscape development of the early colony. It reflects the importance of the operations of large scale grants and the management of this type of establishment in the pastoral development of NSW. The potential archaeological remains of the Blaxland occupation may provide information related to the occupation of the site during the critical years of its early development. This information has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the development of the early colony in NSW.

The Wallacia area was also important in the early 20th Century as part of the development of holiday guest house areas within easy travel of Sydney. While there is no evidence to suggest that the site itself was directly associated with a guest house the adjacent Wallacia Hotel was constructed as a substantial amenity for guest house occupants in the mid 20th century.

The post office was the first local post office in Wallacia. In general, post offices' were central to the local community, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The post office would be important to the social and cultural history of the local area.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (a) at the State level in this regard.

The original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track shows how access to both the farm and to Wallacia has changed throughout the years. While it is likely that Blaxland's property had an informal track running to the various farmsteads to the north, the primary link was eastwards towards the Northern Road. However, as Wallacia became a self-sufficient township, the link to the neighbouring community of Mulgoa to the north became the dominant road. As such, the route of the original cart track is evidence of the early years of settlement in the Mulgoa valley.

As such, the alignment of the original Wallacia to Luddenham track satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (a) at the local level in this regard.

The air raid shelter serves as a demonstration of the wide-ranging effects that the Second World War caused in both urban and rural settings across Australia. While the town of Wallacia would have been spared the worst hardships brought on by the war conditions, the requisitioning of the golf course and hotel is evidence that the town contributed to the war effort, and the air raid shelter would be a tangible link to that period.

Should it be present, the air raid shelter satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (a) at a local level in terms of this criterion.

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

The site has a strong association with the Blaxland family, an early settler family of the Wallacia area.

John Blaxland was granted the land by Gov. Macquarie and though he does not appear to have resided there for any appreciable time, however historical evidence indicates his son Edward was a resident. The Blaxlands were pioneers in the early NSW settlement and John Blaxland was a key player in the course of politics and the pastoral development of the colony.

The area in which the Park Road site now sits was originally part of the Luddenham Estate and this area was an important local crossing point on the upper Nepean River originally named, and still known as, Blaxlands Crossing.

The post office has no known association with any person or group of persons. Any association that may be established is likely to be of local importance only.

The property also has strong links to the Wallace family, whom the town of Wallacia is named after. The Wallace's had been living in the Mulgoa region since the mid-19th century with Robert Wallace being described either as the local constable, or a teacher at Mulgoa. After his death, Henrietta leased Luddenham Cottage in the 1870s, and shortly afterwards their residence became an informal post office, leading to the vicinity simply being known as Wallace. Robert George Wallace went on to become a significant figure in local politics, repeatedly serving on the Council and acting as Mayor on several occasions.

The post office was subsequently run by the Fowler family, who retained ownership of the post office for over 100 years, passing the title of postmaster through several generations of the family.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (b) at the State level in this regard.

The original road alignment is most strongly linked to the early settlers of the district; however, while the track is identified as the main route to Luddenham and beyond, it is unlikely to have been the only route in the area, with informal tracks likely existing which linked local farms.

The air raid shelter is linked with the period during the Second World War when the hotel and golf club was requisitioned by the military. Although a relatively significant period of Australian history, the air raid shelter does not hold a strong association with those who were stationed at the hotel as it is unlikely to have formed a large part of the daily lives of the military personal.

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track and the air raid shelter do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (b) in this regard.

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

The former Blaxland period buildings and infrastructure at the Park Road site are likely to have consisted of rough vernacular structures consisting of post and slab construction. Any potential archaeological remains of this period are unlikely to be represented by substantial physical remains.

The buildings and infrastructure associated with the post office and cottage are likely to have been typical late to early 19th century vernacular structure, typical of the period.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (c) in this regard.

Neither the Wallacia to Luddenham road nor the air raid shelter demonstrate either aesthetic characteristics or high degree of creative or technical achievement.

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track and the air raid shelter do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (c) in this regard.

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

The sites of the Blaxland House and the Post Office/Wallace House do not have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in either a local or state context.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (d) in this regard.

Neither the Wallacia to Luddenham road nor the air raid shelter demonstrate a strong or special associated with a particular community or cultural group.

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track and the air raid shelter do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (d) in this regard.

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

The early development of the NSW pastoral industry and its subsequent success has been largely based on the success of men such as John Blaxland. The manner in which the holding was operated has been largely unrecorded as Blaxland's major concerns were with his Newington Estate where he spent the majority of his time. Nevertheless, the run was a success at least until his death in 1845.

The potential archaeological remains of the Blaxland period occupation may be able to provide us with information related to the exact position, arrangements, and other material culture aspects of the site. They have the potential to yield information regarding early settlement and pastoralism in NSW.

The Post office site may be able to provide details related to construction, configuration of external spaces and living conditions in the latter 19th Century/ early 20th Century in western Sydney.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (e) at the State level in this regard.

The alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham road is likely to be typical of the various roads and tracks which bisected the countryside, and there is no evidence to suggest that

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track does not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (e) in this regard.

While much has been written on the history and layout of the numerous structures and fortifications constructed during the Second World War, a sealed air raid shelter may contain materials and relics which is likely to open pathways of research which are presently unknown. Even being able to confirm that an air raid shelter is present will confirm the oral history of the site.

As such, the air raid shelter satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (e) in this regard.

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

Early rural sites are well known from the local area. The Blaxland complex at Wallacia is an unrepresentative example in that many of the other larger concerns once established were developed into the major residences of their owners, i.e. Regentville, Fernhill, etc. Blaxland's farm remained a purely rural/ working estate with no investment in the production of fine residences or substantial buildings.

The post office is neither a rare nor endangered example of its type in NSW. Late 19th Century housing, while not as once prevalent, is still well represented in both central and western Sydney.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (f) at the State level in this regard.

The original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track represents a common site type within NSW, and a relatively high number of air raid shelters are known within NSW. This particular example, if present, is unlikely to include any aspects which are considered uncommon, rare or endangered.

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track and the air raid shelter do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (d) in this regard.

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

The Blaxland House site is an important site as it has the ability to demonstrate the materials, techniques and development of early rural technology in a small rural context. The fabric form and use of similar structures, once common in NSW, now no longer exist. Any archaeological remains of the structures and their landscape setting have the potential of providing an important contribution of a particular way of life now largely lost.

While the potential remains of the Post Office may be able to demonstrate principal characteristics of similar cultural places they do not represent a significant example of its type nor is it outstanding because of its size, setting, integrity etc.

As such, any archaeological features identified which relate to Blaxland's farm satisfies NSW Heritage Criterion (g) at the State level in this regard.

Neither the Wallacia to Luddenham road nor the air raid shelter demonstrate a characteristics of a class of place or environment.

As such, the original alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham track and the air raid shelter do not satisfy NSW Heritage Criterion (g) in this regard.

7.4 ASSESSMENT OF NSW HISTORIC THEMES

Table 7.1 provides an outline of the relevant historical themes which may be applied to the archaeological remains within the study area.

Table 7.1 Historical Themes

Australian Theme	New South Wales Theme	Local Theme	Element of Site
3. Developing local, regional and national economies	Agriculture	Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture.	Country estates
	Pastoralism	Activities associated with the breeding, raising, processing and distribution of livestock for human use.	Rural settlement
4. Building settlements, towns and cities	Accommodation	Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles.	Rural settlement
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour	Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Rural settlement
9. Marking the phases of life	Persons	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups.	Country estates

7.5 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The statement of significance is quoted from the historical archaeological significance assessment prepared by AHMS to support a Section 140 permit prior to undertaking test excavations at the neighbouring property of 1 Park Road, Wallacia. Permit 2010/s140/16 was approved on the basis of this significance assessment.

The following section is taken verbatim from AHMS (2008, p.49) [sic throughout] and is presented with additional commentary as required.

The potential archaeological remains at Park Road Wallacia have been generally assessed as being of State significant, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Office Assessing Heritage Significance Guidelines (2001).

The archaeological resources at the site have the potential to demonstrate elements of the historic, economic and technological development of the local area and of the state. The information that may be yielded from these potential resources would contribute to an understanding of the development of the colony and pastoralist enterprises, particularly in the period of the first half of the 19th century. The resources have the potential to illustrate the nature of the site's occupation and the types of techniques used by rural populations over an occupation span of 200 years. In particular, the site has some potential to demonstrate the manner in which it was utilized for local rural requirements and the manner in which it ensured the provision of adequate resources in the development of early rural establishments. The site also has an association with John Blaxland, who was granted the estate and whose son lived in the property. There remains an unbroken association of the Blaxlands with the site as a local crossing in the area is still known as Blaxland's Crossing.

Any archaeological remains of the structures, occupation deposits and their landscape setting has the potential to yield information regarding the early occupation, the occupants and rural activities undertaken on the site and may provide an important contribution to our understanding of the local and state cultural history.

The Post Office/Wallace house is a representative example of a late 19th Century domestic structure adapted for a variety of uses in a semi-rural context. It is locally significant and its potential archaeological remains have the ability to demonstrate aspects of the interplay between domestic life and 'official' status of the local postmaster. The remains of the house have some potential for demonstrating building techniques and adaptation of external spaces in this period.

The alignment of the Wallacia to Luddenham is considered to be a typical track, with no specific elements which make it of either significance or which provide research potential. The only reason that the track is considered to embody significance is in how it represents the means of communication and access for the early settlers of the region.

Similarly, the air raid shelter is expected to be typical of the site type, being an underground room with concrete walls and ceilings. However, the shelter is considered to be significant in how it represents a structure which was constructed to meet a specific need at a specific point in the history of NSW. There is also research potential in being able to confirm the presence of the shelter, which is discussed as an off-hand remark in a single historical source. Should the shelter be present, then it will offer an opportunity to examine material culture which may have been left from during or the immediate aftermath of the Second World War.

8 STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

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

8.1 PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed works within the study area are mainly concerned with the redevelopment of the eastern half of the study area from a golf course to a proposed cemetery, which will include 27,000 burial plots, a chapel, administration building, internal roads, parking areas and amended access from Park Road.

The golf course will be configured to include 9 holes, a new pool, gym, putting and bowling greens, and alterations and additions to Wallacia Golf Club.

Other works will also include tree removal and landscaping, fencing, civil and stormwater works and new intersection works along Park Road.

It is understood that the construction works will involve:

- Large scale groundworks including extensive earth work, subsurface excavation and levelling.
- Construction of roadways, pathways, buildings related to the funerary services
- Installation of associated services including stormwater, sewerage and electrical services.
- Associated landscaping works and tree removal.

8.2 ASSESSED IMPACTS

There will be a high level of impact resulting in the complete destruction of potential archaeological material across a large portion of the study area.

The current concept plans for the proposed works, provided by the proponent, are shown in Figure 8.1.

Wallacia Golf Course & Memorial Park Masterplan
PARK ROAD, WALLACIA



Figure 8.1 Proposed site plan for the study area (Source: Catholic Cemeteries + Crematoria).

8.3 PREDICTED IMPACT ON THE POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

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

Predicted Impacts with Potential to Harm the Archaeological Resource

- **Alterations and additions to the Wallacia Golf Clubhouse in the western portion of the study area.**
- **Construction of proposed roads and carparks adjacent to the Wallacia Golf Clubhouse in the western portion of the study area.**
- **Landscaping works and installation of associated services in the western portion of the study area, in the vicinity of the existing Wallacia Golf Clubhouse.**

The proposed works in the south-western corner of the study area, in the vicinity of the existing Wallacia Golf Clubhouse will cause harm to the potential archaeological remains associated with Luddenham Farm, including potential farm buildings and occupational deposits, and possible deeper features such as cesspits and wells. The development in this portion of the study area may also cause harm to the potential archaeological remains associated with the Air Raid Shelter.

8.3.1 Predicted Impacts with Limited Effect on the Archaeological Resource

The high level of previous impacts on the archaeological record from the construction and use of the golf course coupled with the lack of documented use of the study area means that all other predicted impacts will have limited effect on the archaeological resource.

The proposed works in the eastern portion of the study area will cause harm to the alignment of the original track linking Wallacia and Luddenham. However, it has been determined that there are unlikely to be archaeological remains associated with the track alignment.

8.4 CONSIDERATION OF HERITAGE VALUES IN THE DESIGN PROCESS

The following questions are taken from the Heritage Division's guidelines to preparing statements of heritage impact.

What aspects of the proposal respect or enhance the heritage significance of the study area?

The proponent has not developed any aspects of the proposal that respect or enhance the heritage significance of the study area. However, given that the heritage significance of the study area is present on an archaeological standpoint, of which holds an unknown nature, rather than on an existing built heritage standpoint, it is difficult to incorporate the heritage significance of the study area into the proposed designs.

What aspects of the proposal could have a detrimental effect on the heritage significance of the study area?

Excavation and construction of the internal roads and carpark in the south-western portion of the study area will have a detrimental effect on the potential archaeological remains associated with occupation of Luddenham Farm.

Have more sympathetic options been considered and discounted?

The archaeological consultant did not have an opportunity to provide input into any other design options which may have been more sympathetic to the archaeological resource.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 1) Given that parts of the study area have been assessed as having moderate archaeological potential, an excavation permit is required under Section 140 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*.
- 2) A research design detailing the proposed methodology for undertaking archaeological investigations within the study area is to be prepared and included as an addendum to this report when lodging the application for the Section 140 Excavation Permit. A suitably accredited archaeologist who is approved by Heritage NSW to oversee the excavation of sites of local significance will need to be nominated as Excavation Director.
- 3) To ensure that impacts to unknown heritage values are mitigated during construction, it is recommended that the contractor inductions include an unexpected finds protocol to ensure that archaeological relics not assessed or anticipated by this report are not impacted.
- 4) In the event suspected relics are encountered, all works in the immediate vicinity are to cease immediately and the Heritage Division be notified in accordance with Section 146 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*. A qualified archaeologist is to be contacted to assess the situation and consult with Heritage NSW team of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) regarding the most appropriate course of action.
- 5) Should the proposed development be altered significantly from designs and specifications outlined in this report then a reassessment of heritage/archaeological impacts may be required. This includes any impacts not explicitly stated in Section 8.
- 6) A copy of this assessment should be lodged by the proponent in the local history section of the local library, and in the library maintained by the Heritage NSW.

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