



155-1475 Burraborang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road, Oakdale, NSW: Historical Heritage Assessment

Prepared for Colliers International Engineering & Design (NSW) Pty Ltd

FINAL REPORT

8 March 2024

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Executive summary

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) was commissioned by Colliers International Engineering & Design (NSW) Pty Ltd (Colliers) to undertake a Historical Heritage Assessment (HHA) to inform a proposed rezoning at 1455–1475 Burragorang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road, Oakdale, New South Wales (NSW) (Lots 1, 2, and 6 DP734561) (the study area). The study area is in private land in Sydney's south-west suburb of Oakdale and approximately 90 kilometres south-west of the Sydney central business district (CBD). The planning proposal will be assessed against Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 NSW* (EP&A Act).

A search of heritage databases was conducted to identify any heritage listings within the study area. This included a search of the State Heritage Inventory (SHI), Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL), National Heritage List (NHL), Section 170 heritage registers, *Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan 2011* (LEP) and *Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2016* (WDCP). These searches identified that there are no known heritage items within the study area. There is one item located within 100 metres of the study area:

- Oakdale Uniting Church (I118), 1442–1450 Burragorang Road, part of Lot 2, DP 524178. Built heritage item of local significance located approximately 90 metres east of the study area.

As part of the HHA, background research and a physical inspection was undertaken (25 September 2023) to identify the previous land use of the study area and to determine whether items of historical significance have the potential to be impacted by the proposed works.

The potential archaeological remains in the study area are associated with agricultural, pastoral, and domestic themes. Archaeological remains that may be present include fence post holes, agricultural marks, cut and fill deposits, foundations, footings, building materials, construction and demolition debris and services. The low or localised levels of disturbance from agriculture and development indicates it likely that any archaeological remains would still be present in the study area. However, these potential archaeological remains would not contribute information that is not already available and hence have been determined to be of low significance. No items of heritage significance or areas of historical archaeological potential have been identified within the study area.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1 Works may proceed with caution

There are no recorded items of heritage significance in or adjacent to the study area, and the study area has been assessed as holding low archaeological potential for significant archaeological deposits. Works may proceed in the study area with caution.

Recommendation 2 Unexpected finds protocol

Relics are historical archaeological resources of local or State significance and are protected in NSW under the Heritage Act from being 'exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed' by the disturbance or excavation of land. This protection extends to the situation where a person has 'reasonable cause to suspect' that archaeological remains may be affected by the disturbance or excavation of the land.

An unexpected finds protocol should be prepared and implemented as part of the works to ensure that unexpected archaeological finds are appropriately assessed and managed in accordance with the Heritage Act.

Contents

Executive summary	ii
Glossary	7
1 Introduction	8
1.1 Project background	8
1.2 Location of the study area	8
1.3 Proposed development.....	8
1.4 Scope of assessment.....	9
1.5 Limitations.....	9
2 Statutory framework	13
2.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.....	13
2.2 NSW Heritage Act 1977	13
2.2.1 State Heritage Register	13
2.2.2 Archaeological relics	14
2.2.3 Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers	14
2.3 <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	15
2.3.1 <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TSEPP)</i>	15
2.3.2 <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021 (ISEPP)</i>	15
2.3.3 <i>Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP)</i>	15
2.3.4 <i>Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2016 (DCP)</i>	15
2.4 Summary of heritage listings.....	16
3 Historical context	18
3.1 Topography and resources.....	18
3.2 Aboriginal past	18
3.3 Oakdale—historical development	19
3.3.1 Regional colonial development	19
3.3.2 Early history of the study area	21
3.3.3 20th-century developments.....	23
3.3.4 Mid-20th century to present day.....	26
3.4 Chronology of the study area	32
3.5 Historic themes	34
4 Physical inspection	36
4.1.1 Views to and from the study area	36
4.2 Built fabric assessment.....	39
5 Archaeological assessment	45
5.1 Archaeological resource	45
5.2 Integrity of sub-surface deposits	45
5.3 Research potential.....	46

5.4	Summary of archaeological potential.....	47
6	Significance assessment.....	50
6.1	Evaluation of significance.....	50
6.2	Statement of significance.....	52
7	Recommendations.....	53
	References.....	54

Tables

Table 1	Summary of heritage listings within the vicinity of the study area.....	16
Table 2	Summary of historical aerals and maps.....	32
Table 3	Chronology of the study area.....	33
Table 4	National Thematic Framework for the study area.....	34
Table 5	Identified state and local historical themes for the study area.....	35
Table 6	Assessment of archaeological potential.....	47
Table 7	Significance assessment for 1455–1475 Burraborang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road, Oakdale.....	51

Figures

Figure 1	Location of the study area.....	10
Figure 2	Study area detail.....	11
Figure 3	Proposed development.....	12
Figure 4	Heritage items in the vicinity of the study area.....	17
Figure 5	Archaeological assessment.....	49

Photos

Photo 1	"View upon the Nepean River at the Cow Pastures, New South Wales" by Joseph Lycett (1825). (Source: Trove 2023).....	20
Photo 2	Historic map from 1861 showing Barkers Lodge Road in red with the study area outlined in orange. (Source: Crown Plan R277.1603).....	22
Photo 3	Historic map from 1873 showing Patrick Martin's 210 acre grant, with the study area outlined in orange (Source: Crown Plan R277.1603).....	23
Photo 4	An article from 1893 about the disputed will of Edward Lummas Moore (here misspelled), which likely resulted in the ambiguous purchasing records (Source: Evening News Sydney 1893, pp. 6).....	24
Photo 5	Historic map ranging from 1863–c.1940 with the study area outlined in orange (Source: Crown Plan 189.1521).....	25
Photo 6	Elizabeth Willis' 210 acre property in 1920, with the study area outlined in orange (Source: Land Registry Services, Certificate of Title Volume 3030 Folio 122).....	26

Photo 7	Historical aerial image from 1961 with the study area outlined in orange. The road track parallel to Burragorang Road is listed [1] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)	27
Photo 8	Historical aerial image from 1969 with the study area is outlined in orange. The road track [1] and oval shaped dam [2] are still present. A pair of buildings, likely a residence and a shed [3] has been built near the southern border (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023).....	28
Photo 9	Historical aerial imagery from 1975 with the study area outlined in orange. Image shows the road track [1], oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings [3] to which another shed has been added [4], and the triangular-shaped dam [5]. Note that the new shed [4] is slightly obstructed by the outline of the study area (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023).....	29
Photo 10	Plan of the study area (outlined in orange) from 1986 showing its subdivision into three lots denoted Lots 1 and 2 in the northern portion and Lot 6 in the southern portion (Source: Deposited Plan 734561 via Land Registry Services).....	30
Photo 11	Historical aerial image from 1990 with the study area outlined in orange. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3] and the shed added to that cluster [4] and the triangular-shaped dam [5]. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6]. Within Lot 2 is a dam near Burragorang Road [7], a new green-roofed residential building [8] a small associated shed to its west [9], and the remnants of an old dam [10] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023).....	31
Photo 12	Historical aerial image from 2005 with the study area outlined in orange. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3], the shed later added to that cluster [4], the triangular-shaped dam [5], and two small new sheds [11] added to the north of the residence. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6] and a new orange-roofed residence [12]. Within Lot 2 is the dam near Burragorang Road [7], the green-roofed residential building [8] and the small associated shed to its west [9] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023).....	32
Photo 13	Views within the central portion of the study area, facing north-west	36
Photo 14	Views within the northern portion of the study area, facing south	37
Photo 15	Views within the eastern portion of the study area, facing north-west	37
Photo 16	Views within the western portion of the study area, facing south-east.....	38
Photo 17	Views within the south-eastern portion of the study area, facing north-east.....	38
Photo 18	Residential building [8] within the northern portion of the study area, facing south-east	39
Photo 19	Residential building [12] within the northern portion of the study area, facing south-west.....	39
Photo 20	Residential building [3] within the central portion of the study area, facing south-west.....	40
Photo 21	Artificial dam [5] within the eastern portion of the study area, facing south-east	40
Photo 22	Shed [9] within the northern portion of the study area, facing west	41
Photo 23	Concrete bore within the northern portion of the study area, facing west.....	41
Photo 24	Timber and steel bench within the northern portion of the study area, facing west	42
Photo 25	Driveway within the northern portion of the study area, associated with residential building [8], facing north.....	42
Photo 26	Concrete tanks within the northern portion of the study area, facing north.....	43
Photo 27	Small bridge and concrete pipe within the northern portion of the study area, facing west.....	43

Photo 28 Residential building [3] and shed [4], within the southern portion of study area, facing south.....	44
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Glossary

Biosis	Biosis Pty Ltd
CBD	Central Business District
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
Colliers	Colliers International Engineering & Design (NSW) Pty Ltd
DA	Development Application
DCCEEW	Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DCP	Development Control Plan
DP	Deposited Plan
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment
Heritage Act	<i>Heritage Act 1977</i>
HHA	Historical Heritage Assessment
HIS	Heritage Impact Statement
HLRV	Historical Land Records Viewer
ISEPP	<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021</i>
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
NHL	National Heritage List
NSW	New South Wales
REF	Review of Environmental Factors
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SHR	State Heritage Register
SoHI	Statement of Heritage Impacts
Study area	1455–1475 Burratorang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road, Oakdale, New South Wales
SSD	State Significant Development
TSEPP	<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021</i>

1 Introduction

1.1 Project background

Biosis was commissioned by Colliers to prepare a HHA for the proposed rezoning at 1455-1475 Burragorang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road (Lot 6 DP734561, Lot 2 DP734561, and Lot 1 DP734561), Oakdale, New South Wales (NSW) (the study area). The project will be assessed against Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 NSW* (EP&A Act).

1.2 Location of the study area

The study area is located within Lots 1, 2 and 6 DP734561 in Sydney's southwest suburb of Oakdale. It encompasses 22.7 hectares of semi-rural private land and the adjacent road reserves. The land is currently zoned as RU1 – Primary Production.

The study area is located within the:

- Wollondilly Local Government Area (LGA).
- Parish of Burragorang.
- County of Camden (Figure 1).

The study area is located approximately 5.75 kilometres west of The Oaks and approximately 90 kilometres southwest of the Sydney city central business district (CBD). The proposed disturbance area is yet to be defined but approximately 19.1 hectares is proposed to be rezoned to R2 Low Density Residential. The study area is adjacent to The Greater Blue Mountains Area, a World Heritage Site of mostly forested landscape on a sandstone plateau. The surrounding landscape is a mix of dense vegetation and semi-rural housing.

1.3 Proposed development

The proposed development would involve the subdivision and construction of residential buildings. This development would include several works associated with residential development of the area (Figure 3). This includes:

- The rezoning of up to 19.1 hectares of the study area to R2 – Low Density Residential,
- Facilitating a yield of up to 208 lots to enable urban development to occur within the study area,
- Retaining approximately 39146 square metres of C2 Environmental Conservation zoned land and 28207 square metres (4784 square metres on the northern portion and 23423 square metres on the southern portion) of C3 Environmental Management zoned land to support the conservation of existing native vegetation adjoining Willis Park.
- A total of 212 lots are proposed, with the aforementioned 208 Low Density Residential lots, as well as three super lots for Environmental Conservation and Environmental Management purposes and one lot containing a stormwater basin.

1.4 Scope of assessment

This report was prepared in accordance with current heritage guidelines including *Assessing Heritage Significance*, *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* and the *Burra Charter*.¹ This report provides a heritage assessment to identify if any heritage items or relics exist within or in the vicinity of the study area. The heritage significance of these heritage items has been investigated to determine the most appropriate management strategy.

The following is a summary of the major objectives of the assessment:

- Identify and assess the heritage values associated with the study area and determine potential for historical archaeology.
- Identify sites and features within the study area which are already recognised for their heritage value through statutory and non-statutory heritage listings.
- Recommend next steps or measures to avoid or mitigate any negative impacts on the heritage significance of the study area (if required).

1.5 Limitations

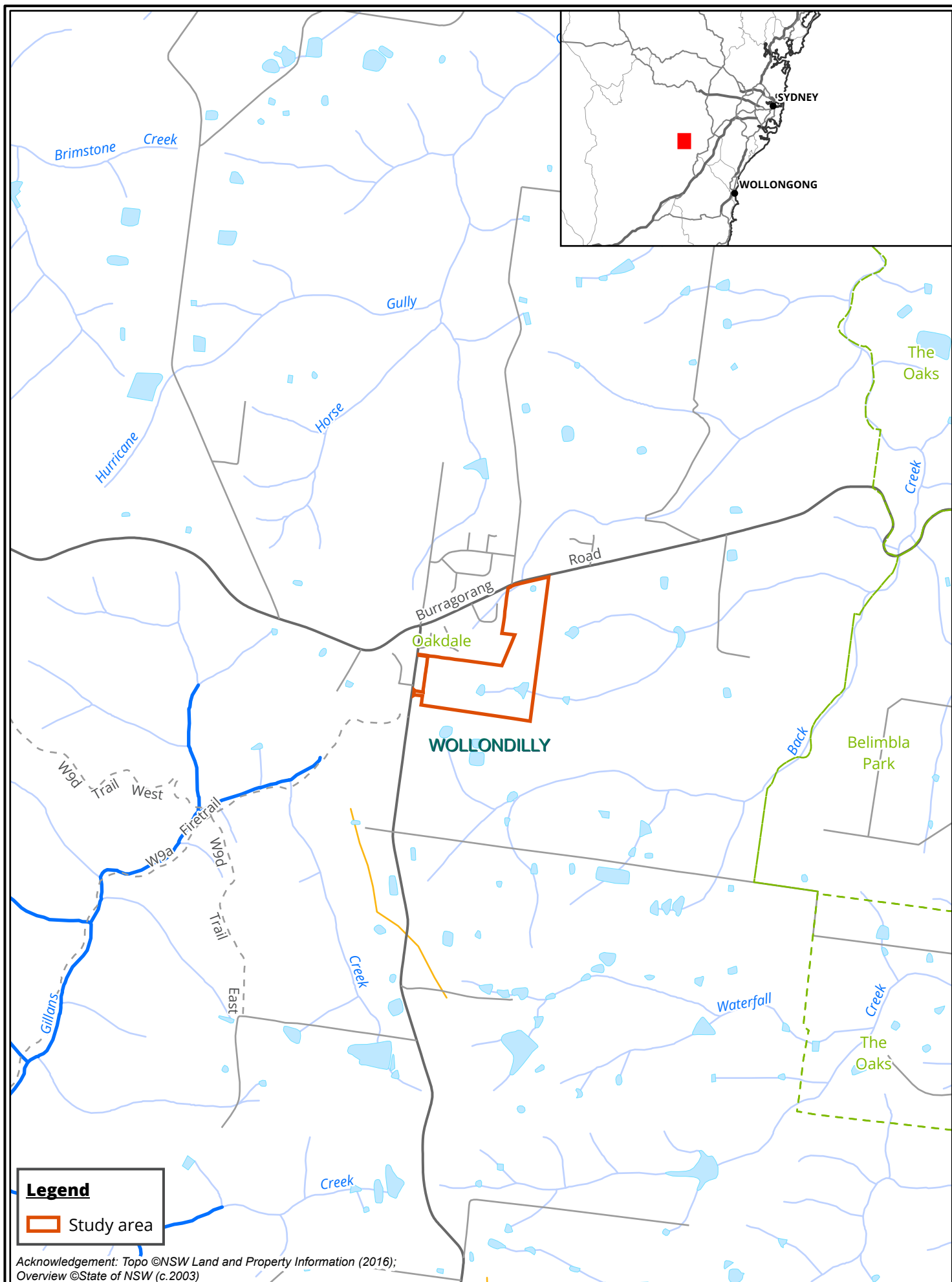
This report is based on historical research and field inspections. It is possible that further historical research or the emergence of new historical sources may support different interpretations of the evidence in this report. The physical inspection was partially limited due to access and coordination to the three properties, and safety concerns relating to domesticated animals which roamed some areas of the properties freely.

The background research was somewhat limited by the availability of early plans and aerial imagery which could not provide a wholly comprehensive understanding of the layout of early land use of the study area.

Although this report was undertaken to best archaeological practice and its conclusions are based on professional opinion, it does not warrant that there is no possibility that additional archaeological material will be identified in subsequent works in the study area. This is because limitations in historical documentation and archaeological methods make it difficult to accurately predict what is under the ground.

The significance assessment made in this report is a combination of both facts and interpretation of those facts in accordance with a standard set of assessment criteria. It is possible that another professional may interpret the historical facts and physical evidence in a different way.

¹ Heritage Office 2001, Australia ICOMOS 2013





- Legend**
- Study area
 - Lot
 - Proposed works

Figure 3 Proposed works

0 25 50 75 100

Metres
Scale: 1:3,000@ A3
Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 39164, Date: 10 November 2023,
Prepared for: CG, BB, HM, Prepared by: HL, Last edited by: jtowndsend
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39164_HL_OakdalePlanningProposalACHAandHHA,
Layout: 39164_ACHA_F3_ProposedWorks

2 Statutory framework

In NSW cultural heritage is managed in a three-tiered system: National, state, and local. Certain sites and items may require management under all three systems or only under one or two. The following discussion aims to outline the various levels of protection and approvals required to make changes to cultural heritage in the state.

2.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is the national Act protecting the natural and cultural environment. The EPBC Act is administered by the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). The EPBC Act establishes two heritage lists for the management of the natural and cultural environment:

- The NHL contains items that have been assessed to be of outstanding significance and define 'critical moments in our development as a nation'.²
- The CHL contains items that are natural and cultural heritage places on Commonwealth land, in Commonwealth waters or are owned or managed by the Commonwealth. A place or item on the CHL has been assessed as possessing 'significant' heritage value.³

A search of the NHL and CHL showed that the study area does not contain any NHL or CHL places. There are no NHL or CHL places in the vicinity of the study area.

2.2 NSW Heritage Act 1977

Heritage in NSW is principally protected by the Heritage Act (as amended) which was passed for the purpose of conserving items of environmental heritage of NSW. Environmental heritage is broadly defined under Section 4 of the Heritage Act as consisting of the following items: 'those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of State or Local heritage significance'. The Act is administered by the Heritage Council, under delegation by the Heritage Division, Heritage NSW. The Heritage Act is designed to protect both known heritage items (such as standing structures) and items that may not be immediately obvious (such as potential archaeological remains or 'relics'). Different parts of the Heritage Act deal with different situations and types of heritage and the Act provides several mechanisms by which items and places of heritage significance may be protected.

2.2.1 State Heritage Register

Protection of items of State significance is by nomination and listing on the SHR created under Part 3A of the Heritage Act. The Register came into effect on 2 April 1999. The Register was established under the *Heritage Amendment Act 1998*.

There are no items or conservation areas listed on the SHR within or adjacent to the study area.

² 'About National Heritage' <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/national/index.html>

³ 'Commonwealth Heritage List Criteria' <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/commonwealth/criteria.html>

2.2.2 Archaeological relics

Section 139 of the Heritage Act protects archaeological 'relics' from being 'exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed' by the disturbance or excavation of land. This protection extends to the situation where a person has 'reasonable cause to suspect' that archaeological remains may be affected by the disturbance or excavation of the land. This section applies to all land in NSW that is not included on the SHR.

Amendments to the Heritage Act made in 2009 changed the definition of an archaeological 'relic' under the Act. A 'relic' is defined by the Heritage Act as:

'Any deposit, object or material evidence:

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

(b) Which is of State or Local significance'.

It should be noted that not all remains that would be considered archaeological are relics under the NSW Heritage Act. Advice given in the Archaeological Significance Assessment Guidelines is that a 'relic' would be viewed as a chattel and it is stated that,

'In practice, an important historical archaeological site will be likely to contain a range of different elements as vestiges and remnants of the past. Such sites will include 'relics' of significance in the form of deposits, artefacts, objects and usually also other material evidence from demolished buildings, works or former structures which provide evidence of prior occupations but may not be "relics".'⁴

If a relic, including shipwrecks in NSW waters (that is rivers, harbours, lakes, and enclosed bays) is located, the discoverer is required to notify the NSW Heritage Council.

Section 139 of the Heritage Act requires any person who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that their proposed works will expose or disturb a 'relic' to first obtain an Excavation Permit from the Heritage Council of NSW (pursuant to Section 140 of the Act) unless there is an applicable exception (pursuant to Section 139(4)). Excavation permits are issued by the Heritage Council of NSW in accordance with Sections 60 or 140 of the Heritage Act. It is an offence to disturb or excavate land to discover, expose or move a relic without obtaining a permit. Excavation permits are usually issued subject to a range of conditions. These conditions will relate to matters such as reporting requirements and artefact cataloguing, storage, and curation.

Exceptions under Section 139(4) to the standard Section 140 process exist for applications that meet the appropriate criterion. The Section 139(4) self-assessment provides an argument for an exception from the requirement to obtain a Section 140 permit and reflects the nature of the impact and the significance of the relics or potential relics being impacted upon.

If it has been determined an exception is appropriate and, during the development, substantial intact archaeological relics of state or local significance, not identified in the archaeological assessment or statement required by this exception, are unexpectedly discovered during excavation, work must cease in the affected area and the Heritage Office must be notified in writing in accordance with Section 146 of the Heritage Act. Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment and, possibly, an excavation permit may be required prior to the recommencement of excavation in the affected area.

2.2.3 Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers

Section 170 of the Heritage Act requires that culturally significant items or places managed or owned by Government agencies are listed on departmental Heritage and Conservation Register. Information on these registers has been prepared in accordance with Heritage Division guidelines.

⁴ NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009, p.7

A search of available registers did not yield any results for items within or adjacent to the study area.

2.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

2.3.1 State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TSEPP)

The TSEPP contains schedules of heritage items by the controls in the instrument. These items contain state or regional environmental planning significance.

There are no heritage items listed in Schedule 2 of the TSEPP within the study area or located in the broader vicinity of the study area.

2.3.2 State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021 (ISEPP)

The ISEPP contains schedules of heritage items by the controls in the instrument. These items contain state or regional environmental planning significance.

There are no heritage items listed in Schedule 3 of the ISEPP within the study area or located in the broader vicinity of the study area.

2.3.3 Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP)

The Wollondilly LEP contains schedules of heritage items that are managed by the controls in the instrument.

There are no heritage items or conservation areas listed in Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP located within the study area.

There are four heritage items listed in Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly LEP located in the vicinity of the study area:

- Oakdale Uniting Church (I118), 1442–1450 Burraborang Road, part of Lot 2, DP 524178. Built heritage item of local significance located approximately 90 metres east of the study area.
- Slab Cottage (I116), 1710 Barkers Lodge Road, part of lot 78, DP 751261. Built heritage item of local significance located approximately 670 metres south of the study area.
- Oakdale Timber Mill Relics (A10), 55 Mill Road, part of lot 2, DP 598732. Archaeological-Terrestrial heritage item of local significance located approximately 690 metres south of the study area.
- Oakdale Winery Cottage (I117), 1355 Burraborang Road, part of lot 1, DP 557570. Archaeological-Terrestrial heritage item of local significance located approximately 910 metres east of the study area.
- Eugalo (I119), 25 Hutchinsons Road, part of Lot 21 DP1106389. Heritage item of local significance located approximately 1.7km south of the study area.

2.3.4 Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2016 (DCP)

The Wollondilly DCP⁵ provides development controls related to historical heritage items within *Volume 1 – General*, primarily under *Part 5 – Colonial Heritage (General)*.⁶ The study area is not within any of the listed specific areas of heritage significance within the Wollondilly LGA, nor is it a site containing a listed heritage item or within a heritage conservation area.

There is one control within the Wollondilly DCP that may be relevant to the study area: that to be an exempt advertising structure under Schedule 2 of the Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan 2011, the structure must

⁵ Wollondilly Shire Council 2016a

⁶ Wollondilly Shire Council 2016b

not be within 100 metres of a heritage item. As Oakdale Uniting Church (I118) is located 90 metres north of the study area, any signage should not be constructed the 100 metre buffer zone from the curtilages of this item.

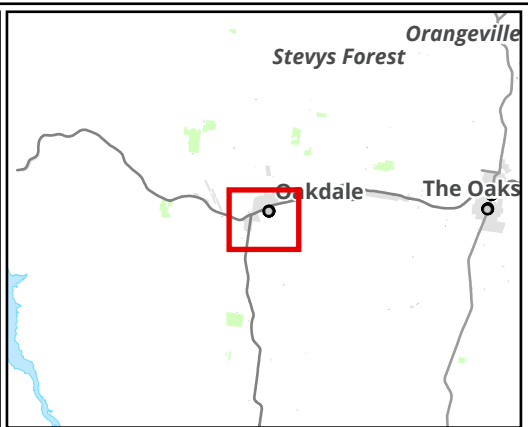
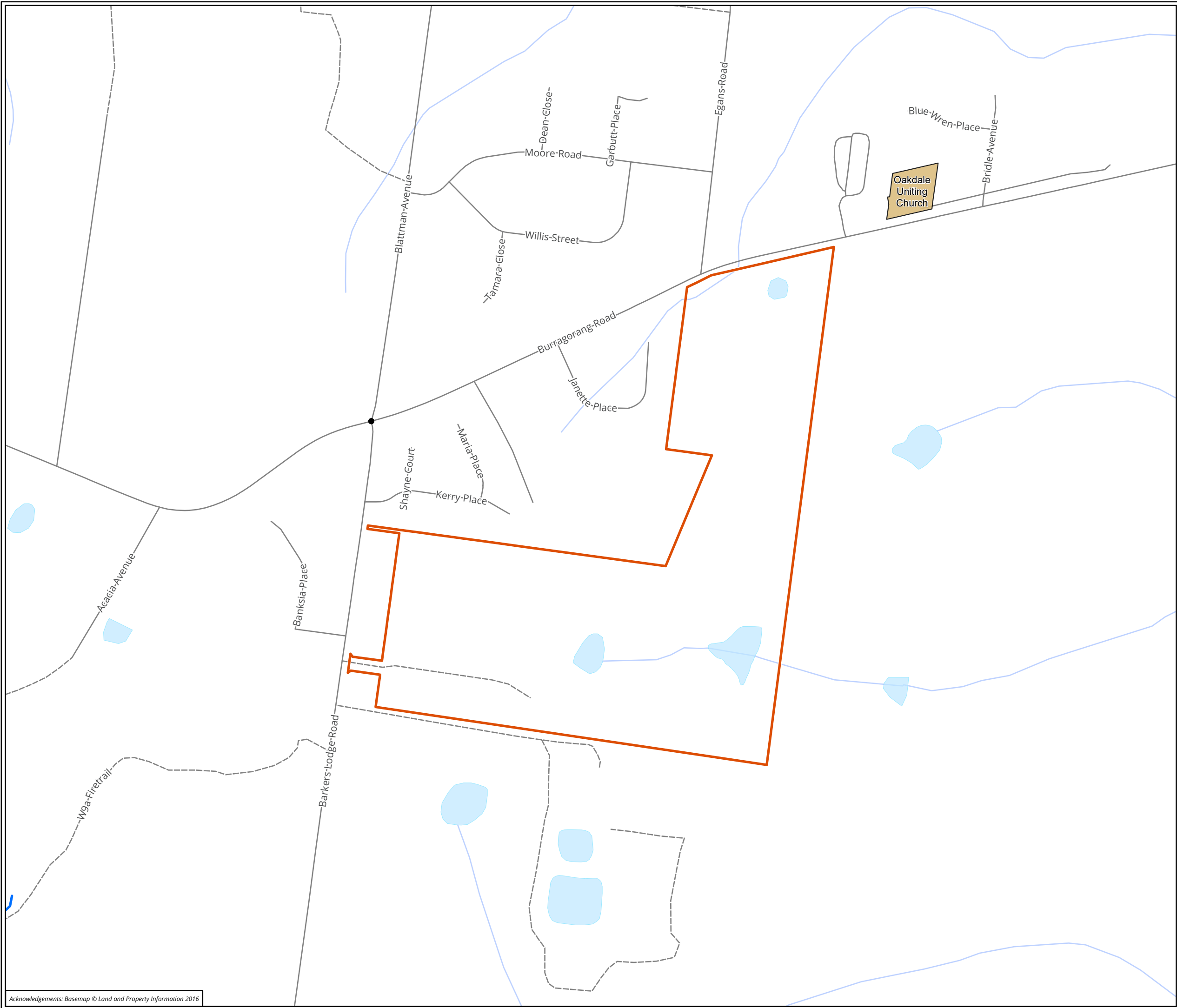
There are no further development controls relevant to the study area outlined within the Wollondilly DCP.

2.4 Summary of heritage listings


A summary of heritage listings within and in the vicinity of the study area is presented in Table 1 and Figure 4.

Table 1 Summary of heritage listings within the vicinity of the study area

Site number	Site name	Address / Property description	Location from study area	Listings: Individual item	Significance
I118	Oakdale Uniting Church	1442-1450 Burragorang Road, part of Lot 2, DP 524178	Located approximately 90 metres east of the study area	Wollondilly LEP	Local
I116	Slab Cottage	1710 Barkers Lodge Road, part of Lot 78, DP 751261	Located approximately 670 metres south of the study area	Wollondilly LEP	Local
A10	Oakdale Timber Mill Relics	55 Mill Road, part of Lot 2, DP 598732	Located approximately 690 metres south of the study area	Wollondilly LEP	Local
I117	Oakdale Winery Cottage	1355 Burragorang Road, part of Lot 1, DP 557570	Located approximately 910 metres east of the study area	Wollondilly LEP	Local
I119	Eugalo	25 Hutchinsons Road, part of Lot 21 DP1106389	Located approximately 1.7km south of the study area	Wollondilly LEP	Local



Legend

 Study area

Local Environmental Plan



 Item - General

Figure 4 Heritage items in the vicinity of the study area

0 50 100 150 200 Metres

Scale: 1:5,000@ A3
Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

 **biosis**

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Location: P:\39100s\39164\Mapping\
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Layout: 39164_HHA_F4_HeritageItems

3 Historical context

Historical research has been undertaken to identify the land use history of the study area, to isolate key phases in its history and to identify the location of any built heritage or archaeological resources which may be associated with the study area. The historical research places the history of the study area into the broader context of Oakdale.

3.1 Topography and resources

The study area lies within Sydney Basin Bioregion of Burratorang, whose geology primarily consists of Permian and Triassic sandstones and shales on the western edge of the Basin⁷. The study area lies within Wianamatta Group shales and sandstones in the northern and western portions and the central portion lies within the Hawkesbury sandstone geological formation. The study area is comprised of the Blacktown soil landscape which is a residual soil landscape consisting of gently undulating rises, broad rounded crests, and gently inclined slopes with a gradient of less than 5%. Topography within the study area can be characterised as undulating. There is a crest located in the west that slopes down in an eastward direction towards drainage depressions in the south-east and north-west. There are two non-perennial water courses present within the study area which flow to Back Creek, approximately two kilometres north-east from the study area.

The Blacktown soil landscape, while now almost fully cleared, would have supported tall open-forest (wet sclerophyll forest, open-forest, and woodland (dry sclerophyll forest). Remaining traces of these may include remnant Sydney Blue Gum *Eucalyptus saligna* and Blackbutt *E. pilularis* in higher rainfall areas, while in drier areas, original woodlands and open-forests feature Forest Red Gum *E. tereticornis*, Narrow-leaved Ironbark *E. crebra* and Grey Box *E. microcarpa*.⁸ Native fauna that may have inhabited the area or its surrounds include mammals such as the Koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*, Common Ringtail Possum *Pseudocheirus peregrinus*, Common Wombat *Vombatus ursinus*, Eastern Grey Kangaroo *Macropus giganteus*, Short-beaked Echidna *Tachyglossus aculeatus*, Swamp Wallaby *Wallabia bicolor* and Common Brushtail Possum *Trichosurus vulpecula*. Bird species that may have inhabited the area include the Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*, Glossy Black-cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*, Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*, Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae* and the Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus (Zanda) funereus*. The Red-bellied Black Snake *Pseudechis porphyriacus* may also have been present.⁹

3.2 Aboriginal past

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

Despite a proliferation of Aboriginal heritage sites there is considerable ongoing debate about the nature, territory, and range of pre-contact Aboriginal language groups in the greater Sydney region. These debates

⁷ NPWS 2003

⁸ eSPADE 2023

⁹ ALA 2023

have arisen largely because, by the time colonial diarists, missionaries and proto-anthropologists began making detailed records of Aboriginal people in the late-19th century, pre-European Aboriginal groups had been broken up and reconfigured by European settlement activity. The following information relating to Aboriginal people on the Cumberland Plains is based on such early records.

There is some confusion relating to group names, which can be explained using differing terminologies in early historical references. Language groups were not the main political or social units in Aboriginal life. Instead, land custodianship and ownership centred on the smaller named groups that comprised the broader language grouping. There is some variation in the terminology used to categorise these smaller groups; the terms used by Attenbrow will be used here.¹⁰

The study area is in the vicinity of three language groups, Dharawal, Gundungurra and the hinterland Darug. Attenbrow suggests:

- The Gundungurra covered “the southern rim of the Cumberland Plain west of the Georges River, as well as the southern Blue Mountains”.
- The Dharawal, or Tharawal, covered “the south side of Botany Bay, extending as far as the Shoalhaven River; from the coast to the Georges River and Appin, possibly as far west as Camden”.
- The hinterland Darug covered the area “from Appin in the south to the Hawkesbury River in the north; west of the Georges River, Parramatta, the Lane Cove River and Berowra Creek”.¹¹ The area of Cowpastures was specifically known as Muringong country.

These areas are indicative only and would have changed through time.

After the arrival of European settlers, the movement of Aboriginal people became increasingly restricted. European expansion along the Cumberland Plain was swift and soon there had been considerable loss of land to agriculture. At the same time diseases such as smallpox were having a devastating effect on the Aboriginal population. Death, starvation, and disease were some of the disrupting factors that led to a reorganisation of the social practices of Aboriginal communities after European contact. The formation of new social groups and alliances were made as Aboriginal people sought to retain some semblance of their previous lifestyle.

3.3 Oakdale—historical development

3.3.1 Regional colonial development

The first colonial exploration of Camden occurred as early as 1790, notably including a party headed by Governor Hunter in November of 1795.¹² The area was already renowned as desirable pastureland for cattle, populated by herds of free roaming wild cattle descended from five cows and two bulls that had gone missing from Farm Cove in 1788¹³ so much so that within a year, Governor Hunter had dubbed the locality “Cowpastures.” An artist’s rendition of Cowpastures can be seen in Photo 1.¹⁴

¹⁰ Attenbrow 2010

¹¹ Attenbrow 2010, pp. 34

¹² Wrigley 2001, p. 7

¹³ Casey & Lowe Archaeology and Heritage 2018, p. 12

¹⁴ Lycett 1825



Photo 1 "View upon the Nepean River at the Cow Pastures, New South Wales" by Joseph Lycett (1825). (Source: Trove 2023)

The first grant of land in the Camden area was made in 1805 to John Macarthur, named Camden Park.¹⁵ Macarthur was granted the 5000 acres in support of his idea that there was potential to produce fine quality wool in the colony.¹⁶ Thanks to his experience, abundant resources, and monopoly of the nascent wool industry, it was wool and not cattle that subsequently became the first main industry of the Camden area.¹⁷

In 1812 when Governor Macquarie began to increase the number of land grants given to farmers, their associated fences, structures, and impacts upon the native ecology became more apparent. Conflict intensified between the colonial settlers and the Aboriginal people of the area; farmland obstructed kangaroo feeding grounds, depleting that food source for Aboriginal communities. This was worsened after a serious drought in 1814, forcing Gundungurra and Tharawal people to raid food from the colonial farmers whose lands and pastoralism had destroyed their traditional means of subsistence. The colonists responded to this with violence and the resulting conflicts escalated into a declaration of war from Governor Macquarie upon the local Aboriginal people in 1816. Camden was at the centre of this violence, where three detachments of the 46th Regiment were sent to 'chasten these hostile tribes, and to inflict terrible and exemplary punishments on them...' It was during this time that troops came across a camp at Appin and massacred fourteen Tharawal and Gundungurra men, women, and children, taking a further five surviving women and

¹⁵ Wrigley 2001, p. 10

¹⁶ Mylrea 2002, p. 17

¹⁷ Wrigley 2001, p. 18

children as prisoners.¹⁸ This event crushed the Aboriginal resistance to colonial forces in the area, and the survivors were forced off the local lands.

A route was formed for Pastoralists from Camden and The Oaks to run their cattle in the Burragorang Valley, which was first explored in 1802 by Francis Barrallier.¹⁹ This was a request by Governor King who wanted a route formed through the Blue Mountains. Burragorang Road was surveyed in 1827 by Robert Dixon, and when mining became more prominent in the Blue Mountains, the surface was gradually improved. Labor shortages in the 1840s due to convicts receiving their tickets of leave forced many landowners in the area to sell or let portions of land to the emancipated, and the economy shifted from predominantly mixed farming to wheat. Farmers shifted their focus once more in the 1860s due to concerns with wheat rust. Market gardening and dairy farming became common place methods of production.²⁰

Oakdale emerged in 1863 after the local area between modern day The Oaks (then Vanderville) and the perimeter of the Blue Mountains. Timber felling and milling was the primary use of this area, but land was quickly bought up and a school house was constructed in 1870, which served as a point of reference for a more permanent settlement.²¹ A Crown plan (Photo 3) from 1863 illustrates Burragorang Road and Barkers Lodge Road, important pathways for travellers and workers from southern and eastern parishes and particularly for those travelling east to the Oaks. Once timber in the locality was depleted, a variety of farming styles boomed, particularly orchards.²² Coal mining near Nattai began in 1932, further necessitating the improvement of local infrastructure.

3.3.2 Early history of the study area

The first historical documentation of the study area is within a land parcel purchased by Patrick Martin on 7 January 1862.²³ Martin's name is therefore missing on the earliest available map of the area from 1861, though the neighbouring land grant of 200 acres is attributed to an Edward Lummas Moore (Photo 2). By 1873 Martin's grant is noted on local maps though they show no discernible structures or land usage within the boundaries of the study area (Photo 3). One crown plan that appears to have been originally drafted in 1861 and was cumulatively annotated, interpreted here as being updated until at least 1940 according to dates and information added to the map (Photo 5). In these notes is a disclaimer that a conditional purchase of Patrick Martin's 210-acre grant was forfeited but then reversed in 1907, followed by this land being reserved for classification.²⁴

¹⁸ Wrigley 2001, p.7

¹⁹ Lhuedé 2004

²⁰ 'The Oaks', 2004

²¹ Cardno, Urbacity, & TCG Planning 2020

²² Cardno, Urbacity, & TCG Planning 2020

²³ Land Registry Services, Conditional Purchase Index, Surname Initial WI, Index 094, Year Range 1915-1920, p.264

²⁴ Crown plan 189.1521



Photo 3 Historic map from 1873 showing Patrick Martin's 210 acre grant, with the study area outlined in orange (Source: Crown Plan R277.1603)

3.3.3 20th-century developments

A transfer of conditional purchase form from 1917 lists Henry Willis, Annie Lousia Willis (the wife of Henry Willis), and Fanny Maria Trotter as the vendors. Annie Willis was one of Edward Lummas Moore's daughters,²⁵ and the transfer document lists them as the trustees of his will.²⁶ It is not clear from the available historical documentation exactly when, or even if the land ever came into their legal possession, or if it had ever been bought by or transferred to Edward Lummas Moore before his death in 1887.²⁷ Executing Moore's will

²⁵ (Camden News 1897, pp. 4)

²⁶ Land Registry Services, General Register of Deeds Book 1116 Number 622

²⁷ (Sydney Morning Herald 1887, pp. 2)

appears to have been a complicated affair in which the study area was a part, given that the disputed case was taken to court in 1893 (Photo 4). From these available records there are still no indications that any modifications to the study area had occurred.

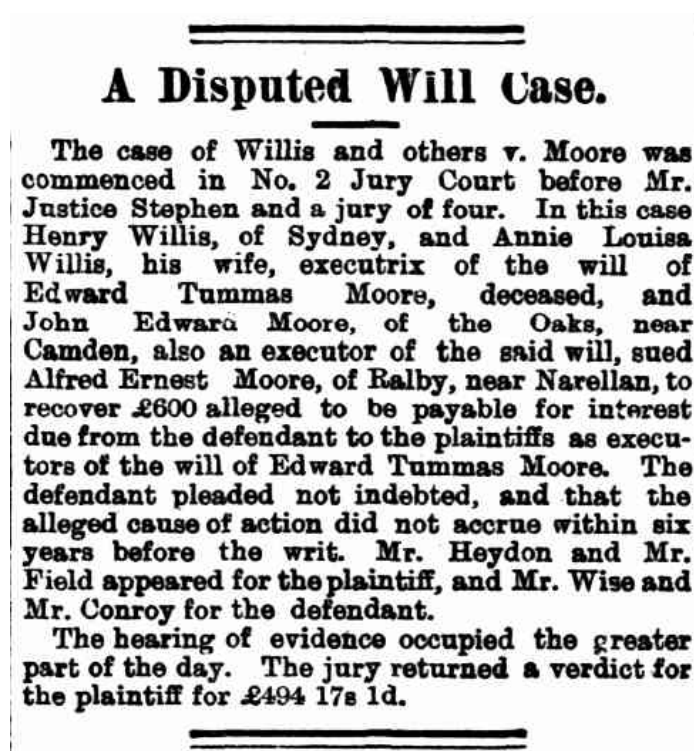


Photo 4 An article from 1893 about the disputed will of Edward Lummas Moore (here misspelled), which likely resulted in the ambiguous purchasing records (Source: Evening News Sydney 1893, pp. 6)

The 1917 transfer of conditional purchase lists an Elizabeth Willis, another of Moore's daughters,²⁸ as having paid only 25 shillings for the property (Photo 5).²⁹ In 1920 Elizabeth Willis paid a further 210 pounds to the crown in a conditional purchase of the land grant, typical of conditional purchases which charged 1 pound per acre of land (Photo 6).³⁰ It is possible that the reason for this second purchase directly from the Crown was because the original 1917 transfer was not legally binding, due to the disputes surrounding Moore's will.

²⁸ (Camden News 1897, pp. 4)

²⁹ Land Registry Services, General Register of Deeds Book 1116 Number 622

³⁰ Land Registry Services, Grant of Land Purchased by Conditional Sale Without Competition Volume 3030 Folio 122



Photo 5 Historic map ranging from 1863–c.1940 with the study area outlined in orange (Source: Crown Plan 189.1521)

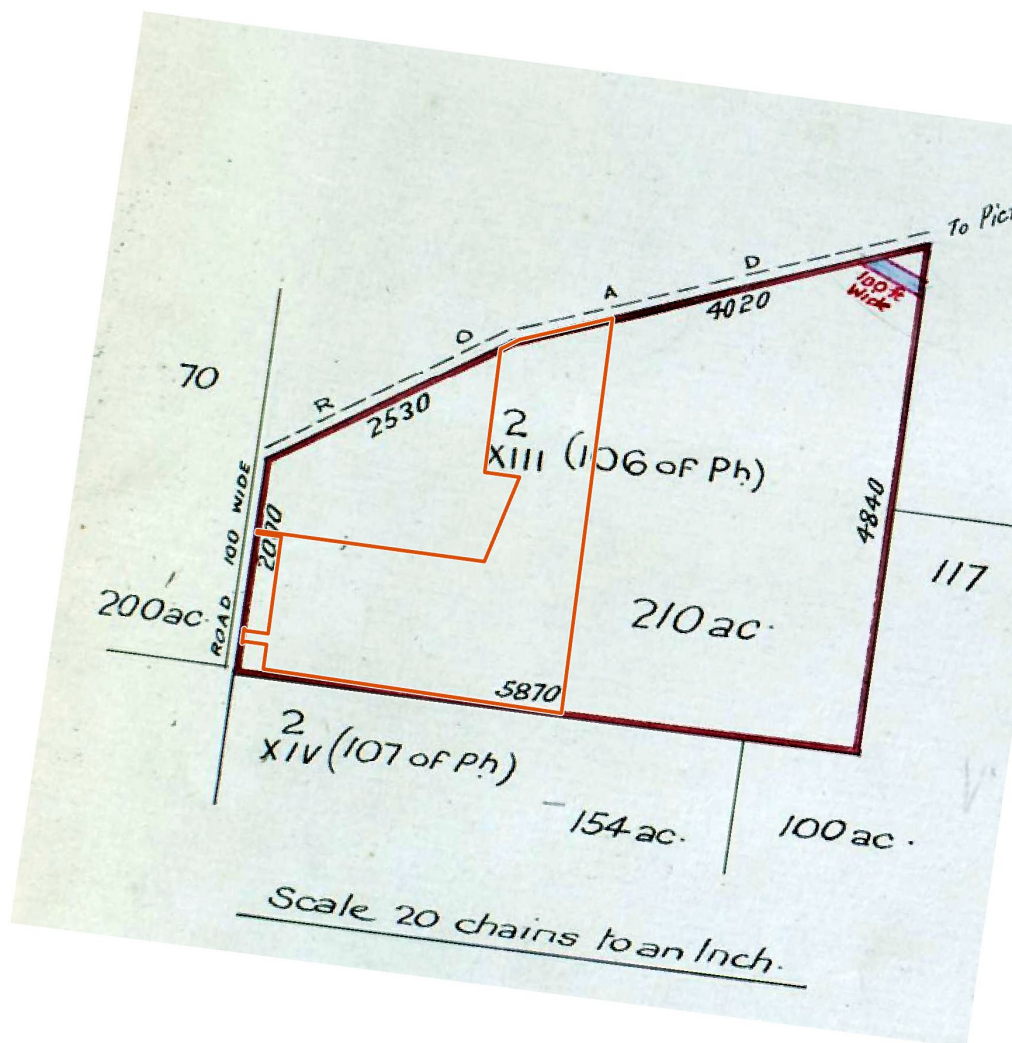


Photo 6 Elizabeth Willis' 210 acre property in 1920, with the study area outlined in orange
(Source: Land Registry Services, Certificate of Title Volume 3030 Folio 122)

3.3.4 Mid-20th century to present day

Willis passed away in 1946.³¹ Her husband, Francis Cherry Willis³² had passed away 8 years prior,³³ and the study area was transferred to their son Roland Cherry Willis in 1941.³⁴ Roland Willis split the 210 acre property in 1954 and sold the western portion outside the bounds of the study area to be subdivided and developed.³⁵ Another portion to the northwest of the study area was sold to the Wollondilly Shire Council in 1961³⁶ and subsequently converted to Willis Park, which it currently remains.

The first historical aerial imagery of the study area comes from this same year (Photo 7). It shows that in 1961 little physical impact had been made to the study area with dense vegetation largely undisturbed throughout. Impacts are limited to a portion of a road track running parallel to Burragorang Road near the northern portion of the study area [1], one small walking track running east to west through the central section of the

³¹ Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales 1947

³² *Sydney Morning Herald* 1891, pp. 1

³³ *Sydney Morning Herald* 1939

³⁴ Land Registry Services, Grant of Land Purchased by Conditional Sale Without Competition Volume 3030 Folio 122

³⁵ Land Registry Services, Deposited Plan 25502

³⁶ Land Registry Services, Certificate of Title 8311 Folio 37

study area, and vegetation cleared along southern border in relation to the development of the neighbouring property.



Photo 7 Historical aerial image from 1961 with the study area outlined in orange. The road track parallel to Burraborang Road is listed [1] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)

In 1962 the study area was part of land reissued by Roland Cherry Willis under a new Certificate of Title.³⁷ Between 1962 and 1969 some development occurred within the study area (Photo 8). Historical aerial imagery from 1969 shows that vegetation has been almost completely cleared from the southern portion of the study area. An oval-shaped dam [2] has been constructed in that southern portion and the cleared land appears to be in use for market gardening, agriculture, or grazing. A driveway leading from the south-western corner of the study area has been established and a pair of buildings have been built at its end along the south border of the study area [3], likely a residence and an associated shed. Outside the study area, development in the neighbouring properties shows that rural houses with associated market gardens and grazing areas were spreading in the area. There are also small, more condensed housing developments being constructed in the locality.

³⁷ Land Registry Services, Certificate of Title Volume 8398 Folio 217

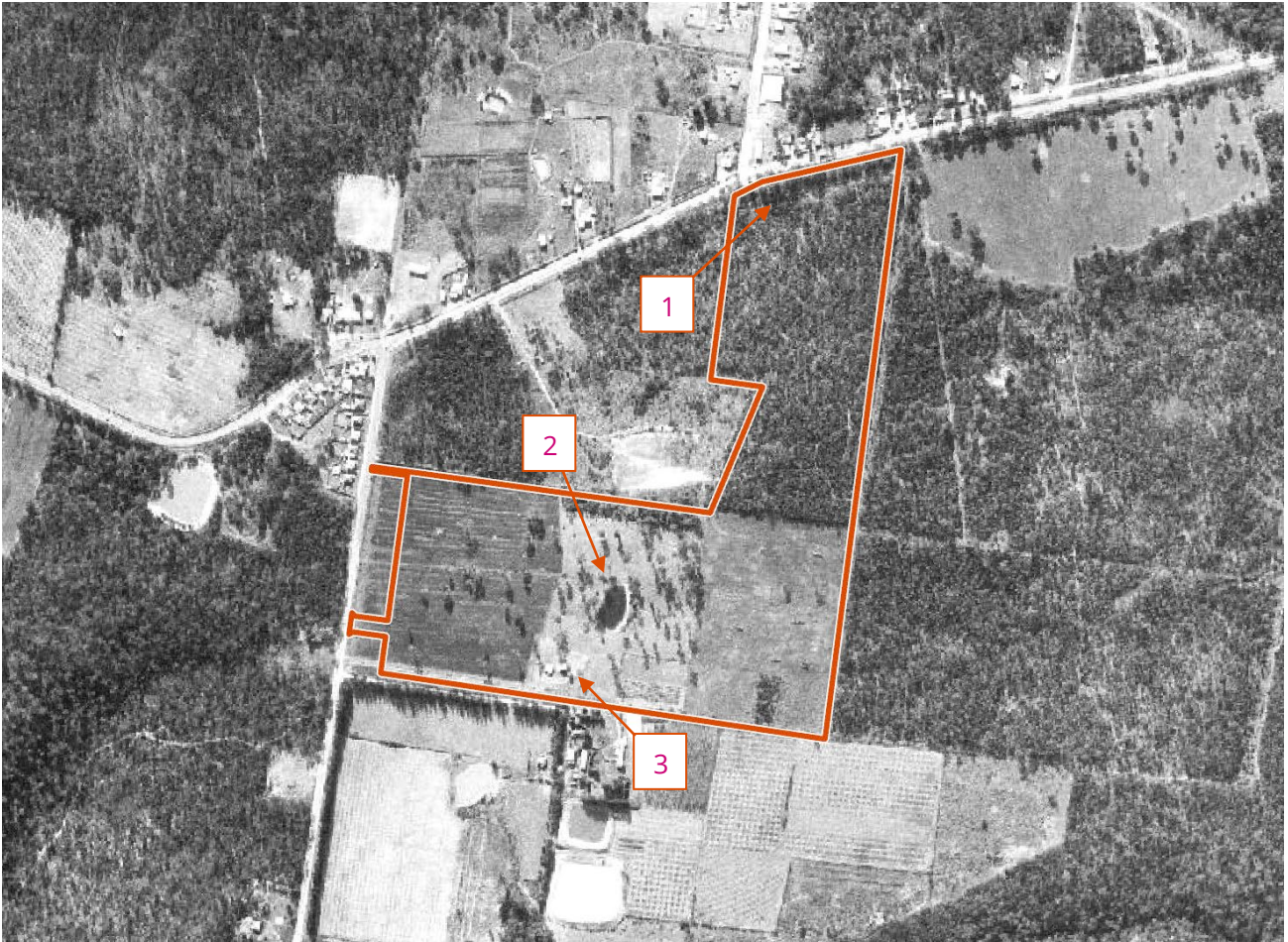


Photo 8 Historical aerial image from 1969 with the study area is outlined in orange. The road track [1] and oval shaped dam [2] are still present. A pair of buildings, likely a residence and a shed [3] has been built near the southern border (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)

In 1973 Roland Willis further subdivided the property, and the study area was within the 73.5 hectare part of that deposited plan.³⁸ Historical aerial imagery from 1975 shows that a second, triangular-shaped dam [5] has been constructed within the study area to the east of the oval-shaped dam [2] (Photo 9). The pair of buildings [3] is still visible and another shed has been added to this cluster [4]. Most of the southern portion of the study area remained cleared and in use for either agriculture or grazing. Some minor tracks are visible in the northern portion of the study area, though beyond this, the northern portion remains uncleared of vegetation.

³⁸ Deposited Plan 563547

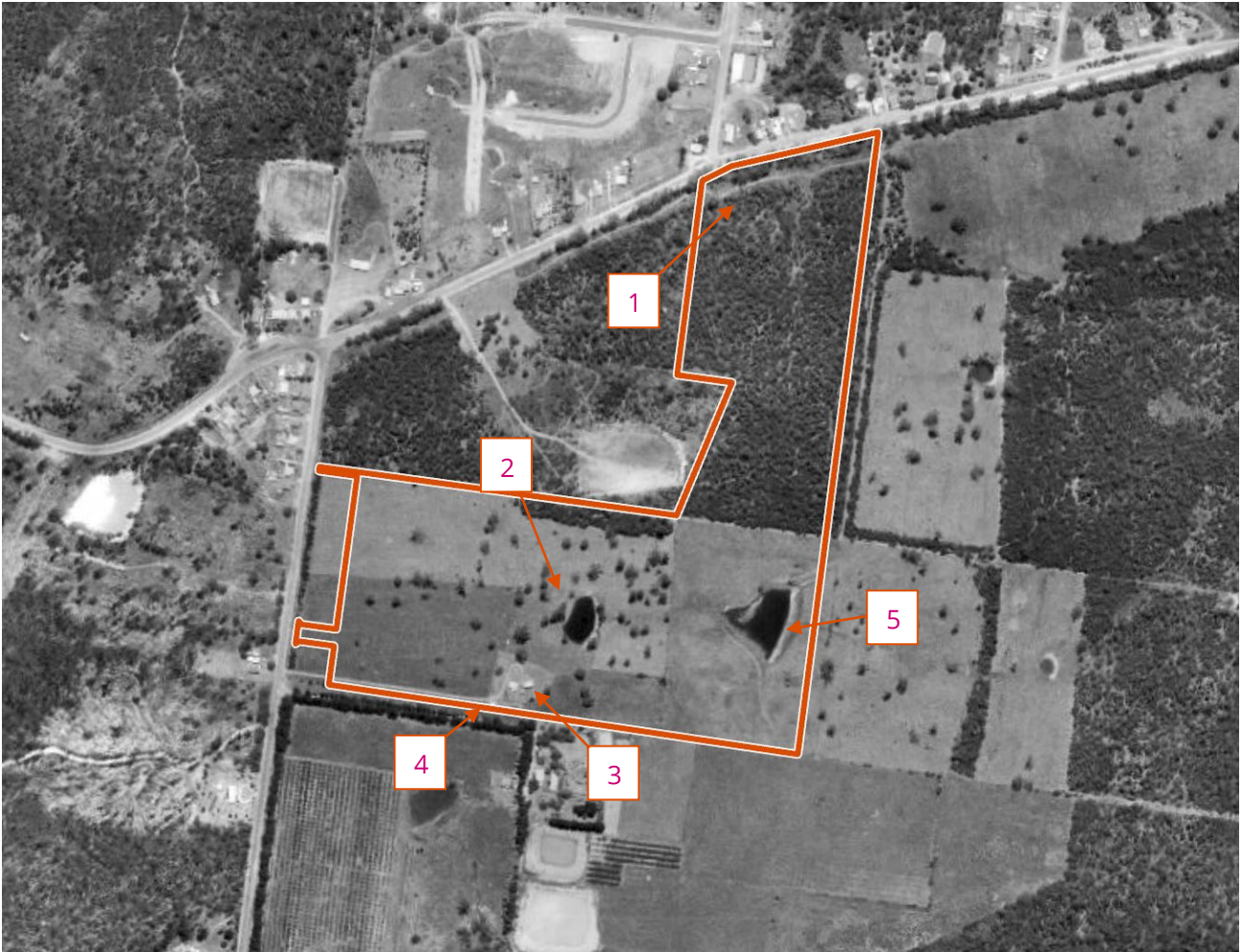


Photo 9 Historical aerial imagery from 1975 with the study area outlined in orange. Image shows the road track [1], oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings [3] to which another shed has been added [4], and the triangular-shaped dam [5]. Note that the new shed [4] is slightly obstructed by the outline of the study area (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)

In 1981 the study area was repackaged of a new Certificate of Title owned by Blakeberg Nominees Pty. Limited.³⁹ The same year a portion northwest of the study area was subdivided into a residential community with Kerry Place, Shayne Court, and Maria Place constructed.⁴⁰ In 1985 the study area was registered under Lot 201 DP 713860. The following year it was re-registered again as DP734561⁴¹ and the study area was subdivided; the northern portion was split into Lots 1 and 2, with Lot 6 taking up the whole of the southern portion and the middle portion (Photo 10).

³⁹ Certificate of Title 14588 Folio 250

⁴⁰ Land Registry Services, Deposited Plan 261211

⁴¹ Land Registry Services, Deposited Plan 734561

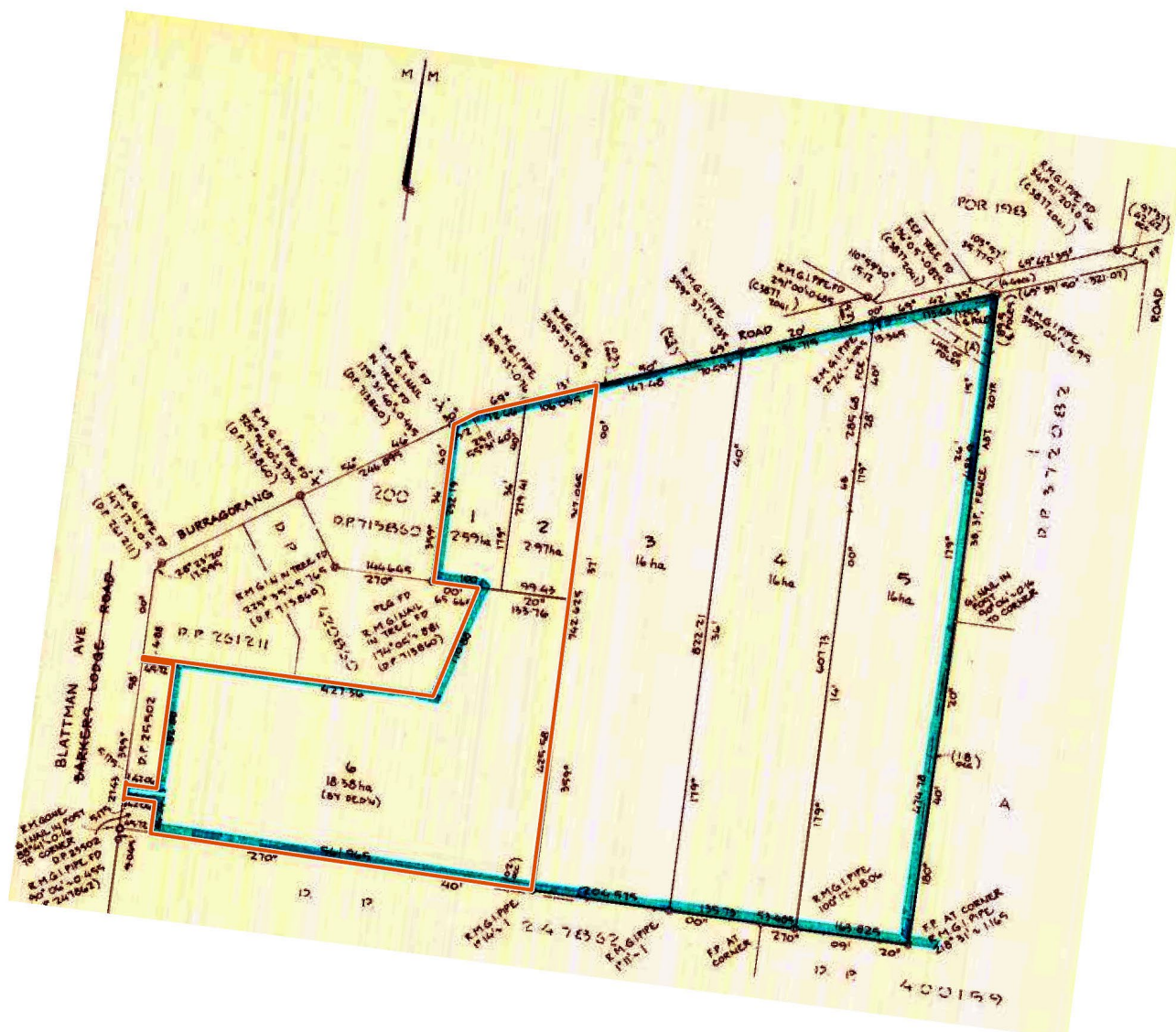


Photo 10 Plan of the study area (outlined in orange) from 1986 showing its subdivision into three lots denoted Lots 1 and 2 in the northern portion and Lot 6 in the southern portion (Source: Deposited Plan 734561 via Land Registry Services)

Historical aerial imagery is from 1990 (Photo 11) shows that no significant changes have been made to Lot 6 beyond some minor roads and tracks leading throughout the property. Vegetation has been extensively cleared from Lot 1. The road track near Burragorang Road [1] has been cleared and is no longer in the study area. Also in Lot 1, a shed with a water tank [6] has been constructed. Within Lot 2 a dam [7] has been constructed towards Burragorang Road. A driveway leading from Burragorang Road southwards into the study area leads to a new green-roofed residential building [8] and a small shed on its western side [9], with a dirt cleaning to its south. Further south from this shed are the remnants of another small dam [10] is visible among the trees. Several road tracks can also be seen leading through the vegetation to various parts of the study area. Around the study area residential communities have continued to expand and the locality is becoming more developed.

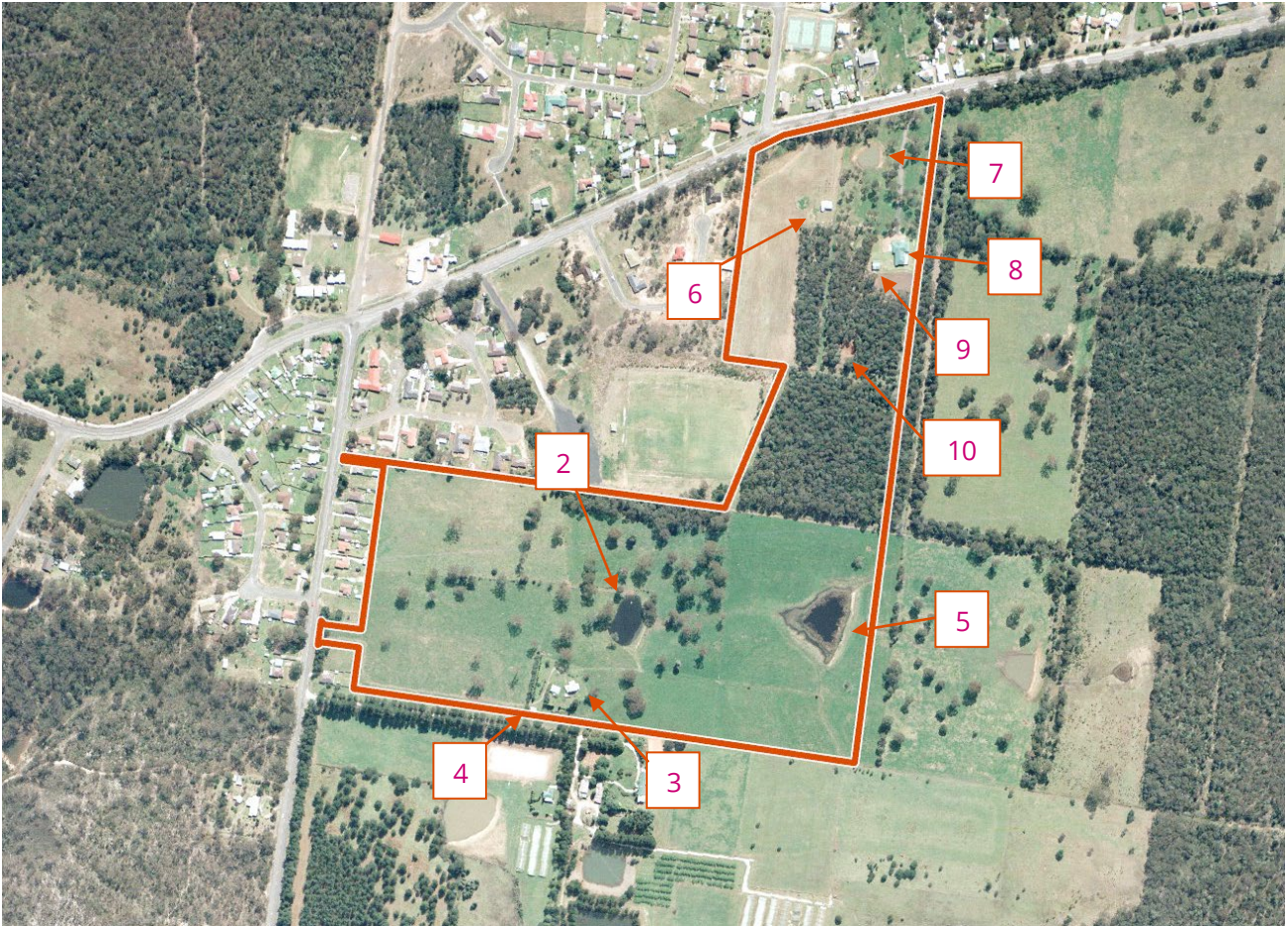


Photo 11 Historical aerial image from 1990 with the study area outlined in orange. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3] and the shed added to that cluster [4] and the triangular-shaped dam [5]. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6]. Within Lot 2 is a dam near Burragorang Road [7], a new green-roofed residential building [8] a small associated shed to its west [9], and the remnants of an old dam [10] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)

The latest available historical aerial imagery is from 2005 (Photo 12). It shows that within Lot 6 some clearing of grass has occurred just north of the pair of buildings [3] and associated shed [4]. Two small sheds have been built north of these buildings [11]. Within Lot 1 an orange-roofed residence [12] has been constructed just west of the shed [6], accessible by a driveway leading from Burragorang Road. Within Lot 2 more vegetation has been cleared and the formerly visible remnants of a dam [10] are no longer present.



Photo 12 Historical aerial image from 2005 with the study area outlined in orange. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3], the shed later added to that cluster [4], the triangular-shaped dam [5], and two small new sheds [11] added to the north of the residence. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6] and a new orange-roofed residence [12]. Within Lot 2 is the dam near Burragorang Road [7], the green-roofed residential building [8] and the small associated shed to its west [9] (Source: NSW Spatial Services 2023)

3.4 Chronology of the study area

Based upon the historical research presented it is possible to summarise the chronology of the structures within the study area, presented in Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2 Summary of historical aerals and maps

Reference	Description	Date
Crown Plan R277.1603 (Photo 2)	Historic map from 1861 showing Barkers Lodge Road. Map predates Patrick Martin's initial grant.	1861
Crown Plan R277.1603 (Photo 3)	Historic map from 1873 showing Patrick Martin's 210-acre grant that includes the study area.	1873

Reference	Description	Date
Crown Plan 189.1521 (Photo 5)	Historic map ranging from 1863-c.1940 that shows Elizabeth Willis as the owner of the study area, with Patrick Martin's name faintly annotated as the former grant owner. This map contained annotations relating to a reversed conditional purchase of the study area in 1907.	1863-c.1940
Certificate of Title Volume 3030 Folio 122 (Photo 6)	Map of Elizabeth Willis' 210-acre property showing the study area in 1920, from her Certificate of Title following a conditional purchase from the Crown.	1920
Historical aerial image 1961 (Photo 7)	Historical aerial image from 1961 showing road track parallel to Burragorang Road [1].	1961
Historical aerial image 1969 (Photo 8)	Historical aerial image from 1969 where the road track [1] and oval shaped dam [2] are still present. A pair of buildings, likely a residence and a shed [3] has been built near the southern border.	1969
Historical aerial image 1975 (Photo 9)	Historical aerial imagery from 1975 showing the road track [1], oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings [3] to which another shed has been added [4], and the triangular-shaped dam [5].	1975
Deposited Plan 734561 (Photo 10)	Plan of the study area from 1986 showing its subdivision into three lots denoted Lots 1 and 2 in the northern portion and Lot 6 in the southern portion	1986
Historical aerial image 1990 (Photo 11)	Historical aerial image from 1990. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3] and the shed added to that cluster [4] and the triangular-shaped dam [5]. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6]. Within Lot 2 is the dam near Burragorang Road [7], the new green-roofed residential building [8] and small associated shed to its west [9], and the remnants of an old dam [10].	1990
Historical aerial image 2005 (Photo 12)	Historical aerial image from 2005. Within Lot 6 is the oval-shaped dam [2], the pair of buildings to the south [3], the shed later added to that cluster [4], the triangular-shaped dam [5], and two small new sheds [11] added to the north of the residence. Within Lot 1 is the shed with a water tank [6] and a new orange-roofed residence [12]. Within Lot 2 is the dam near Burragorang Road [7], the green-roofed residential building [8] and the small associated shed to its west [9].	2005

Table 3 Chronology of the study area

No.	Building or feature	Possible construction date	Possible demolition date
1	Road track running parallel to Burragorang Road along the northern border of the study area.	Pre-1961	Pre-1990
2	Oval-shaped dam in the southern portion of study area	1961–1969	N/A
3	Residential building and associated shed in the southern portion of study area.	1961–1969	N/A
4	Shed added to the south of Feature 3 along the southern border of the study area.	1969–1975	N/A
5	Triangular-shaped dam in the southern portion of study area.	1969–1975	N/A

No.	Building or feature	Possible construction date	Possible demolition date
6	Shed with water tank within Lot 1 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A
7	A dam near Burragorang Road within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A
8	A green-roofed residential building within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A
9	A small shed associated with Feature 8 within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A
10	The remnants of an old dam within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	Pre-2005
11	Two small sheds to the north of Features 3 and 4 within Lot 6 of DP734561	1990–2005	N/A
12	An orange-roofed residence within Lot 1 of DP734561	1990–2005	N/A

3.5 Historic themes

Contextual analysis is undertaken to place the history of a particular site within relevant historical contexts to gauge how typical or unique the history of a particular site is. This is usually ascertained by gaining an understanding of the history of a site in relation to the broad historical themes characterising Australia at the time. Such themes have been established by the Australian Heritage Council and the Heritage Office and are outlined in synoptic form in Historical Themes.

There are six overarching National Themes, with 30 subthemes, within the National Thematic Framework.⁴² The framework was developed to aid in the assessment of National Heritage values, when considering nominations for the NHL.

There are 38 State historical themes, which have been developed for NSW.⁴³ These broader themes are usually referred to when developing sub-themes for a local area to ensure they complement the overall thematic framework for the broader region.

A review of the contextual history in conjunction with the local historical thematic history has identified one national theme, with two subthemes (Table 4) and three State and local themes which relate to the occupational history of the study area (Table 5).

Table 4 National Thematic Framework for the study area

National Theme	Subtheme	Description
4 Understanding and Shaping the Land	Land, water and resource use—Agriculture	Places that show Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge of what is now known as Australia and the use of natural resources. Includes the story of how First Nations people modified and managed the environment in accordance with traditional law and changes in ways of life including responses to environmental changes over thousands of years. Places also include sites associated with the exploration and understanding of Australia and those that show discoveries, innovations and achievements in the areas of technology and engineering associated with land, water and resource use.
	Land, water and resource use—Pastoralism	

⁴² Australian Heritage Council 2022

⁴³ NSW Heritage Council 2001

Table 5 Identified state and local historical themes for the study area

NSW theme	Local theme
Agriculture	Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture.
Pastoralism	Activities associated with the breeding, raising, processing and distribution of livestock for human use.
Domestic life	Activities associated with creating, maintaining, living in, and working around houses and institutions.

4 Physical inspection

A physical inspection of the study area was undertaken on 25 September 2023 by Crystal Garabedian (Biosis, Heritage Consultant) and Otto Reichelt (Biosis, Graduate Heritage Consultant). The principal aims of the inspection were to identify heritage items within or adjacent to the study area; this included any heritage items (heritage items can be buildings, structures, places, relics, or other works) or 'Places' (which include conservation areas, sites, precincts, gardens, landscapes, and areas of archaeological potential).

4.1 Site setting

4.1.1 Views to and from the study area

It is important to analyse and describe views to and from components within a landscape to help understand how it is experienced and to understand the nature of an evolving landscape. This enables a greater understanding of what aspects of the landscape need to be conserved and protected. Significant views to, from and within the study area are shown in Photo 13 and Photo 17 below.



Photo 13 Views within the central portion of the study area, facing north-west



Photo 14 Views within the northern portion of the study area, facing south



Photo 15 Views within the eastern portion of the study area, facing north-west

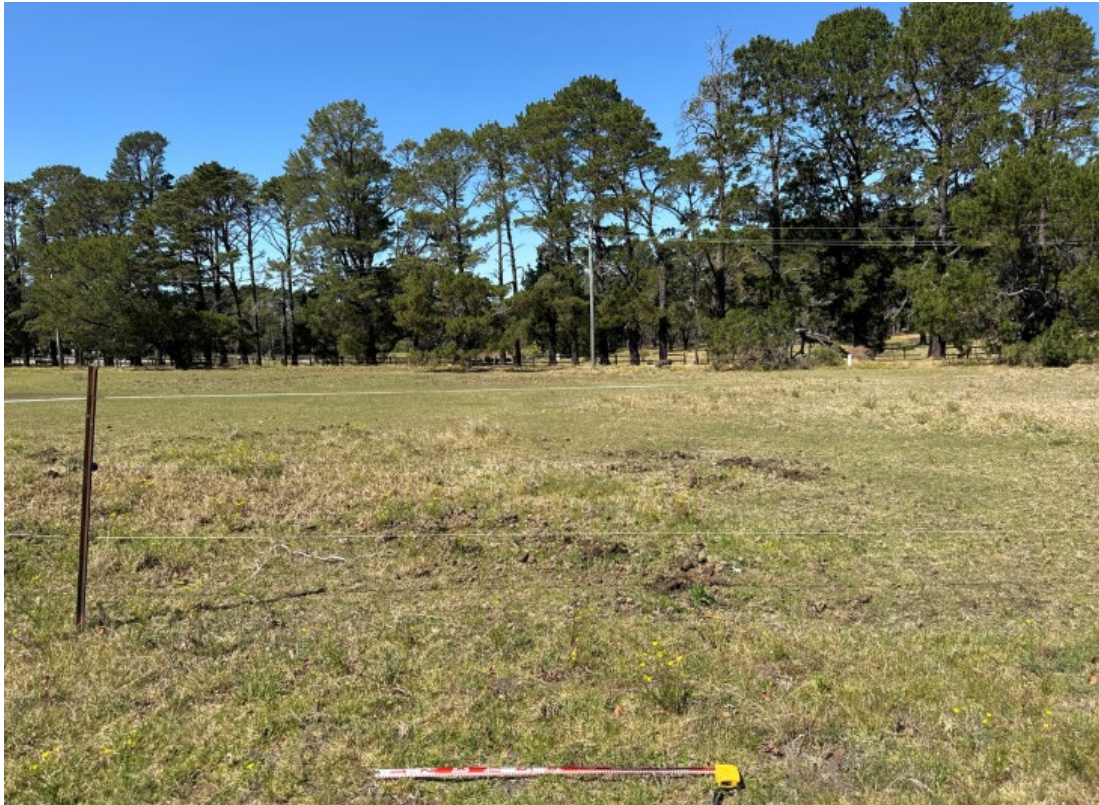


Photo 16 Views within the western portion of the study area, facing south-east



Photo 17 Views within the south-eastern portion of the study area, facing north-east

4.2 Built fabric assessment

Within the study area, few structures or built elements were present. These included residential buildings, sheds, fence lines, driveways, artificial dams, concrete tanks and bores, garden furniture, and a small bridge (Photo 18 to Photo 28).



Photo 18 Residential building [8] within the northern portion of the study area, facing south-east



Photo 19 Residential building [12] within the northern portion of the study area, facing south-west



Photo 20 Residential building [3] within the central portion of the study area, facing south-west



Photo 21 Artificial dam [5] within the eastern portion of the study area, facing south-east



Photo 22 Shed [9] within the northern portion of the study area, facing west



Photo 23 Concrete bore within the northern portion of the study area, facing west



Photo 24 Timber and steel bench within the northern portion of the study area, facing west



Photo 25 Driveway within the northern portion of the study area, associated with residential building [8], facing north



Photo 26 Concrete tanks within the northern portion of the study area, facing north



Photo 27 Small bridge and concrete pipe within the northern portion of the study area, facing west



Photo 28 Residential building [3] and shed [4], within the southern portion of study area, facing south

5 Archaeological assessment

The potential archaeological resource relates to the predicted level of preservation of historical archaeological resources within the study area. Archaeological potential is influenced by the geographical and topographical location, the level of development, subsequent impacts, levels of onsite fill and the factors influencing preservation such as soil type. An assessment of archaeological potential has been derived from the historical analysis undertaken during the preparation of this report.

5.1 Archaeological resource

This section discusses the archaeological resource within the study area. The purpose of the analysis is to outline what archaeological remains are likely to be present within the study area and how these relate to the history of land use associated with the study area.

The first historical documentation of the study area is within a land parcel of 210 acres which was purchased by Patrick Martin on 7 January 1862.⁴⁴ A transfer of conditional purchase form from 1917 lists Henry Willis, Annie Lousia Willis (the wife of Henry Willis), and Fanny Maria Trotter as the vendors. In 1920, Elizabeth Willis paid the crown for a conditional purchase of the land grant. Roland Willis, who obtained the parcel in 1941, subdivided the 210 acre property in 1954. The historical context presented in this report indicates that the study area remained undeveloped until c. 1960s. After this time, the southern portion of Lot 6 DP734561 was cleared of large vegetation and appears to have been used for agricultural and residential purposes. The northern lots, Lot 1 and Lot 2 DP734561 remained undeveloped until c. 1990, where some of the land was cleared for residential purposes. The available historical maps and plans show no discernible structures or land usage within the boundaries of the study area during the 19th- and 20th-century land transfers.

Aerial imagery from 1969 indicates that there was a residential building [3] within the study area at this time. This structure does not exist in the 1961 aerial. No evidence was found during the historical research or the field investigation to suggest that residential structures were built prior to the mid-20th century. As such, the residential property [3] is the earliest archaeological resource, and its age suggests that underfloor deposits would not be found beneath the residence. Similarly, the second and third residences having been built after 1990 is unlikely to contain underfloor deposits. These regions of the study area may contain remains in the form of foundations, footings, building materials, construction and demolition debris and services. Other potential archaeological resources in the study area would be associated with the agricultural or pastoral activities undertaken in the southern portion. This may consist of post holes and agricultural marks such as plough lines.

5.2 Integrity of sub-surface deposits

The study area has been subjected to limited use and subsequent disturbance throughout time. Large vegetation clearance has occurred throughout, though outside this, only localised instances of disturbance are evident in the study area. These disturbances are in relation to agricultural, pastoral activities and the housing developments. As a result, if archaeological resources were to be present within the study area, it is likely for the sub-surface deposits to have a high level of integrity.

⁴⁴ Land Registry Services, Conditional Purchase Index, Surname Initial WI, Index 094, Year Range 1915-1920, p.264

5.3 Research potential

Archaeological research potential refers to the ability of archaeological evidence to provide information about a site that could not be derived from any other source, and which contributes to the archaeological significance of that site. Archaeological research potential differs from archaeological potential in that the presence of an archaeological resource (i.e., archaeological potential) does not mean that it can provide any additional information that increases our understanding of a site or the past (i.e., archaeological research potential).

The research potential of a site is also affected by the integrity of the archaeological resource within a study area. If a site is disturbed, then vital contextual information that links material evidence to a stratigraphic sequence may be missing and it may be impossible to relate material evidence to activities on a site. This is generally held to reduce the ability of an archaeological site to answer research questions.

Assessment of the research potential of a site also relates to the level of existing documentation of a site and of the nature of the research done so far (the research framework), to produce a 'knowledge' pool to which research into archaeological remains can add.

Research theme

Understanding and Shaping the Land - Land, water and resource use—Agriculture

Based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant deposits associated with agriculture will occur within the study area. These deposits, if present, will likely consist of fence lines, post holes, plough lines and agricultural marks.

There is no research potential in relation to this theme, as any remains present would not add to current knowledge that could not already be gained from existing documentary sources.

Understanding and Shaping the Land - Land, water and resource use—Pastoralism

Based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant deposits associated with pastoralism will occur within the study area. These remains, if present, will likely consist of post holes and fence lines.

There is no research potential in relation to this theme, as any remains present would not add to current knowledge that could not already be gained from existing documentary sources.

Developing local, regional, and national economies—Agriculture

Based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant deposits associated with agriculture will occur within the study area. If present, archaeological remains will likely consist of fence lines, post holes and agricultural marks.

There is no research potential in relation to this theme, as any remains present would not add to current knowledge that could not already be gained from existing documentary sources. Agricultural practises of this time and region were common, and are thoroughly researched and well understood, therefore the study area is unlikely to present as an area of high research potential for this theme.

Developing local, regional, and national economies—Pastoralism

Based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant deposits associated with pastoralism will occur within the study area. Assessment of the pastoral remains would provide a limited understanding of specific activities associated with pastoralism, including breeding, raising, processing and distribution of livestock for human consumption.

There is no research potential in relation to this theme, as any remains present would not add to current knowledge that could not already be gained from existing documentary sources. Pastoralism of this time and region were common, and are thoroughly researched and well understood, therefore the study area is unlikely to present as an area of high research potential for this theme.

Developing Australia's cultural life—Domestic life

Based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant deposits associated with domestic life will occur within the study area. If present, archaeological remains will likely consist of foundations, footings, building materials, construction and demolition debris and services.

There is no research potential in relation to this theme, as any remains present would not add to current knowledge that could not already be gained from existing documentary sources.

5.4 Summary of archaeological potential

Through an analysis of the above factors a number of assumptions have been made relating to the archaeological potential of the study area, these are presented in Table 6 and Figure 5.

The assessment of archaeological potential has been divided into three categories:

- **High archaeological potential**—based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this report there is a high degree of certainty that archaeologically significant remains relating to this period, theme or event will occur within the study area.
- **Moderate archaeological potential**—based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment it is probable that archaeological significant remains relating to this period, theme or event could be present within the study area.
- **Low archaeological potential**—based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this assessment it is unlikely that archaeological significant remains relating to this period, theme or event will occur within the study area.

Table 6 Assessment of archaeological potential

No.	Building or feature	Possible construction date	Possible demolition date	Archaeological potential
1	Road track running parallel to Burragorang Road along the northern border of the study area.	Pre-1961	Pre-1990	Low
2	Oval-shaped dam in the southern portion of study area	1961–1969	N/A	Low
3	Residential building and associated shed in the southern portion of study area.	1961–1969	N/A	Low
4	Shed added to the south of Feature 3 along the southern border of the study area.	1969–1975	N/A	Low

No.	Building or feature	Possible construction date	Possible demolition date	Archaeological potential
5	Triangular-shaped dam in the southern portion of study area.	1969–1975	N/A	Low
6	Shed with water tank within Lot 1 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A	Low
7	A dam near Burragorang Road within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A	Low
8	A green-roofed residential building within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A	Low
9	A small shed associated with Feature 8 within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	N/A	Low
10	The remnants of an old dam within Lot 2 of DP734561	1975–1990	Pre-2005	Low
11	Two small sheds to the north of Features 3 and 4 within Lot 6 of DP734561	1990–2005	N/A	Low
12	An orange-roofed residence within Lot 1 of DP734561	1990–2005	N/A	Low



Legend

Study area

Archaeological potential

Low potential

Figure 5 Archaeological assessment

0 20 40 60 80
Metres

Scale: 1:3,000@ A3
Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Matter: 39164, Date: 24 October 2023,
Prepared for: CG, BB, Prepared by: HL, Last edited by: hliswoyo
Location: P:\39100s\39164\Mapping\
39164_HL_OakdalePlanningProposalACHAandHHA,
Layout: 39164_AR_F10_SurveyResults

6 Significance assessment

An assessment of heritage significance encompasses a range of heritage criteria and values. The heritage values of a site or place are broadly defined as the 'aesthetic, historic, scientific or social values for past, present or future generations'.⁴⁵ This means a place can have different levels of heritage value and significance to different groups of people.

The archaeological significance of a site is commonly assessed in terms of historical and scientific values, particularly by what a site can tell us about past lifestyles and people. There is an accepted procedure for determining the level of significance of an archaeological site.

A detailed set of criteria for assessing the State's cultural heritage was published by the (then) NSW Heritage Office. These criteria are divided into two categories: nature of significance, and comparative significance.

The NSW Heritage Office issued a set of assessment criteria to provide consistency with heritage agencies in other States and to avoid ambiguity and misinterpretation. These criteria are based on the Burra Charter. The following SHR criteria were gazetted following amendments to the Heritage Act that came into effect in April 1999:

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

Items, places, buildings, works, relics, movable objects, or precincts can be of either local or state heritage significance or have both local and state heritage significance. Places can have different values to different people or groups.

6.1 Evaluation of significance

The significance of the study area has been evaluated in Table 7.

⁴⁵ Heritage Office 2001

Table 7 Significance assessment for 1455–1475 Burragorang Road, and 1838 Barkers Lodge Road, Oakdale

Significance assessment	
Criterion A—Historical	<p>While the official date of construction of the initial residential and its associated structures cannot be definitively determined, the background research and physical inspection has concluded that the building was constructed prior to 1969 and post-1961. Evidence of agricultural use can be seen within the study area during this time, with no evidence of structures or land usage prior to this.</p> <p>Similarly, the official construction dates of the second [8] and third [12] residential buildings cannot be definitively determined. The background research and physical inspection concluded that these structures were built between 1975–1990 and 1990–2005 respectively. The historical research does not indicate that any potential archaeological remains within the study area would be associated with an important event in the local area or NSW.</p> <p>These items are not important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history, or of the local area.</p> <p>The items within the study area, and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>
Criterion B—Historic Association	<p>No individuals or groups of historical importance have been identified to be associated with the residential buildings and its associated structures. The items within the study area, and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>
Criterion C—Assessment of aesthetic or technical significance	<p>The residential buildings [3, 8, 12] are considered typical dwellings constructed during the mid- to late- twentieth century which are common throughout the Western Sydney area. They do not demonstrate aesthetic characteristics of creative or technical achievement either at the time of construction or today.</p> <p>The historical research does not indicate that any potential archaeological remains within the study area would hold any aesthetic or technical significance. As such, the items within the study area, and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>
Criterion D—Social	<p>No individuals or groups of historical importance have been identified to be associated with the residential buildings and its associated structures. The items within the study area, and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>
Criterion E—Archaeological Research Potential	<p>Based on a site inspection of the residential buildings and their associated structures, the materials used, and construction techniques are well understood and common throughout NSW during this time. There were no previous important structures at the site that may have remains on site.</p> <p>As such, the historical research does not indicate that any potential archaeological remains within the study area would be able to provide information not already available in existing sources. These items are unlikely to provide contribution to furthering an understanding of the archaeological resources present, or of the local area or NSW.</p> <p>The items within the study area and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>
Criterion F—Rarity	<p>The first residential building [3] is a typical timber panel and corrugated iron dwelling and the second [8] and third [12] residential buildings are typical brick houses. All three were constructed during the mid-twentieth century are considered as common throughout the South-west Sydney area during this time.</p> <p>The historical research does not indicate that any potential archaeological remains within the study area are rare or exceptional.</p> <p>The items within the study area and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.</p>

Significance assessment

Criterion G— Representativeness

The residential buildings and shed structures are vernacular buildings, and are not exceptional in terms of their design. They are common types of structures built during the early- to mid-20th century.

The design, form and materials used are typical of comparative residential buildings and shed structures throughout NSW during this time. They are not good representative examples of a significant type of residence.

The historical research indicated that any potential archaeological remains within the study area would also be considered representative of properties of a similar nature.

The items within the study area and the study area itself do not meet this criterion.

6.2 Statement of significance

The first residential building [3] is a typical timber panel and corrugated iron dwelling, constructed prior to 1969 and post-1961 and the second [8] and third [12] residential buildings are typical brick houses, constructed in the late-19th century. The construction materials and methods are well known and understood, and based on the field investigation, no features that could render the residential buildings or associated structures exceptional were identified. The historical research indicated that these features did not have a special association with any person or groups. The residential buildings and associated ancillary structures are assessed as not retaining any heritage significance.

The historical research and the archaeological survey did not indicate that any potential archaeological remains within the study area possessed any importance to local or NSW's cultural or natural history, nor was it identified as having a special association with a significant person or group of persons. The study area does not have a known historic association with any individuals or groups of historical importance. No known items of historical heritage are located within the study area. The closest item of heritage significance is the Oakdale Uniting Church (I118) and it is unlikely that any relics or features associated with the item are located within the study area.

The data collected in this assessment suggests that there is unlikely to be significance regarding the research potential, aesthetic, technical or social aspects of any potential archaeological remains. The potential archaeological remains are considered common resources that are typical in form and nature to similar resources throughout the local region and NSW during this time.

The items within the study area, and the study area itself, are unlikely to be able to provide information not already available in the existing literature. As such, any potential archaeological remains are unlikely to possess any historical heritage significance.

7 Recommendations

Recommendation 1 Works may proceed with caution

There are no recorded items of heritage significance in the study area, and the study area has been assessed as holding low archaeological potential for significant archaeological deposits. Works may proceed in the study area with caution. Given the nature of the proposed rezoning, the adjacent Oakdale Uniting Church is a significant distance, physically and visually, from the area and does not require formal assessment of impacts.

Recommendation 2 Unexpected finds protocol

Relics are historical archaeological resources of local or State significance and are protected in NSW under the Heritage Act from being 'exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed' by the disturbance or excavation of land. This protection extends to the situation where a person has 'reasonable cause to suspect' that archaeological remains may be affected by the disturbance or excavation of the land.

An unexpected finds protocol should be prepared and implemented as part of the works to ensure that unexpected archaeological finds are appropriately assessed and managed in accordance with the Heritage Act.

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