



90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek

Statement of Heritage Impact

Lehr Consultants International (Australia) Pty Ltd

Document Tracking

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Cover Page

Name of heritage item	Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area
SHR / LEP heritage schedule item number and name	State Heritage Register (Listing no. 01370)
Address and location	90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek NSW
SOHI for	Eastern Creek Data Centre Modification Application
Prepared by	Jessica Horton BA (<i>Archaeology and History</i>); MA (<i>Heritage Conservation</i>) Heritage Consultant Kate Storan BA (<i>Archaeology</i>) Heritage Consultant
Prepared for	Lehr Consultants International (Australia) Pty Ltd
Date	April 2026
Issue	3

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ELA	Eco Logical Australia
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
DCP	Development Control Plan
DP	Deposited Plan
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
SOHI	Statement of Heritage Impact
SSD	State Significant Development

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1. The Heritage Item

1.1. Site description

1.1.1. Project overview

Lehr Consultants International (Australia) Pty Ltd engaged Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) to update the Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) for the Eastern Creek Data Centre, located at 90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek NSW (hereafter referred to as ‘the study area’; Figure 1).

ELA understands that the study area has previously been assessed and approved under State Significant Development Application (SSD-21342738), dated 1 September 2023 and a State Significant Development (SSD) Modification (SSD-21342738-Mod-1) dated 18 September 2025. This updated assessment will support the modification application (SSD-21342738-Mod-2) to amend onsite infrastructure to allow for an increase in the existing data centre’s power capacity. The modification is proposed to be located in an area previously approved for a State Significant Development.

The study area is located adjacent to Prospect Reservoir which is a State significant heritage item listed for its historical, technological and aesthetic values on the State Heritage Register (SHR listing no. 01370). The submission of a SoHI is required for works to heritage items, items in conservation areas and in the vicinity of heritage items.

This report will identify and assess any potential impacts to the heritage significance of Prospect Reservoir as a result of the proposal. Where necessary mitigative measures and recommendations for the long-term conservation of heritage values will be provided.

1.1.2. Heritage item

The study area is located adjacent to the curtilage of ‘Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area’ which is listed on the SHR (listing no. 01370), Sydney Water s170 Register (Listing no. 4575804) and the Institution of Engineers (NSW) Heritage Register (non-statutory; listing no. classified).

Prospect Reservoir is located approximately 34 km west of Sydney and is listed as a landscape/cultural item. The heritage curtilage includes the Prospect Reservoir, landscape elements and all associated structures, including the pumping stations. The listing includes examples of 1920s and 1930s pumping stations, a residence and the 1800 mm main constructed between the Upper Canal and Pipe Head in 1937. None of these items are visible from the study area.

1.1.3. Heritage listings

A search of all relevant statutory and non-statutory heritage registers identified no heritage items within the study area, and one within a 1 km radius. The items identified are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Listed heritage items within a 1km radius of the study area

Listing Type	Item name	Listing number	Location
Sydney Water s170 register	Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area	4575804	Adjacent to study area
State Heritage Register (SHR)	Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area	01370	Adjacent to study area
Register of the National Estate (RNE) (non-statutory)	Prospect Reservoir area	101536	Adjacent to study area

Listing Type	Item name	Listing number	Location
Institution of Engineers (NSW) Heritage Register (non-statutory)	Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area	Classified	Adjacent to study area

** Prospect Reservoir is no longer listed on the Blacktown Local Environmental Plan, as of 2015.

1.1.4. Site and its context

The study area is addressed as 90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek and comprises Lots 34 DP1131779, 32 and 33 DP1140168 and 25 DP1122038 (Figure 1). The study area is within the Parish of Prospect and County of Cumberland within the Blacktown City Council Local Government Area (LGA). The study area is located to the north of Prospect Reservoir and south of the M4 Western Motorway, approximately 7 km south Blacktown and 34 km west of the Sydney CBD.

The study area is within the Raceway Precinct of the Western Sydney Employment Area, is zoned for industrial purposes, and is fully developed for existing industrial purposes. The study area is adjacent to Prospect Nature Reserve which is subject to the *Prospect Nature Reserve Plan of Management* prepared by NPWS 2012.

1.1.5. The proposed work area

The subdivision, demolition works and expansion of the existing data centre have been approved (SSD-21342738) and have commenced. The proposed modification works would involve the construction, fit out and operation of a multi-story, 63MW Data Centre building (SYD02) comprising:

- Two low levels of plants, office, storage areas and three levels of Data Halls
 - Lvl 1 – 4 off 4.5 MW Air Cooled
 - Lvl 2 – 4 off 9 MW Liquid Cooled
 - Lvl 3 – 2 off 4.5 MW Air Cooled + plant
- Ancillary office spaces and amenities
- Carparking, loading docks, access roadways and landscaping
- Zone Substation Support Works.

Additional works associated with the increased size of the onsite substation would involve ancillary works along the south-eastern boundary of the study area, including excavation alongside the Prospect Nature Reserve (the 'Reserve'), the removal and replacement of the existing batter with a high retaining wall, shoring and the installation of temporary anchors and soil nails.

The modification is proposed to be located in an area previously approved for the development and only below ground soil nails and rock pinning will encroach slightly into the reserve along their common boundary (Figure 2 – Figure 4).



Figure 1: The study area and Mod 2 location

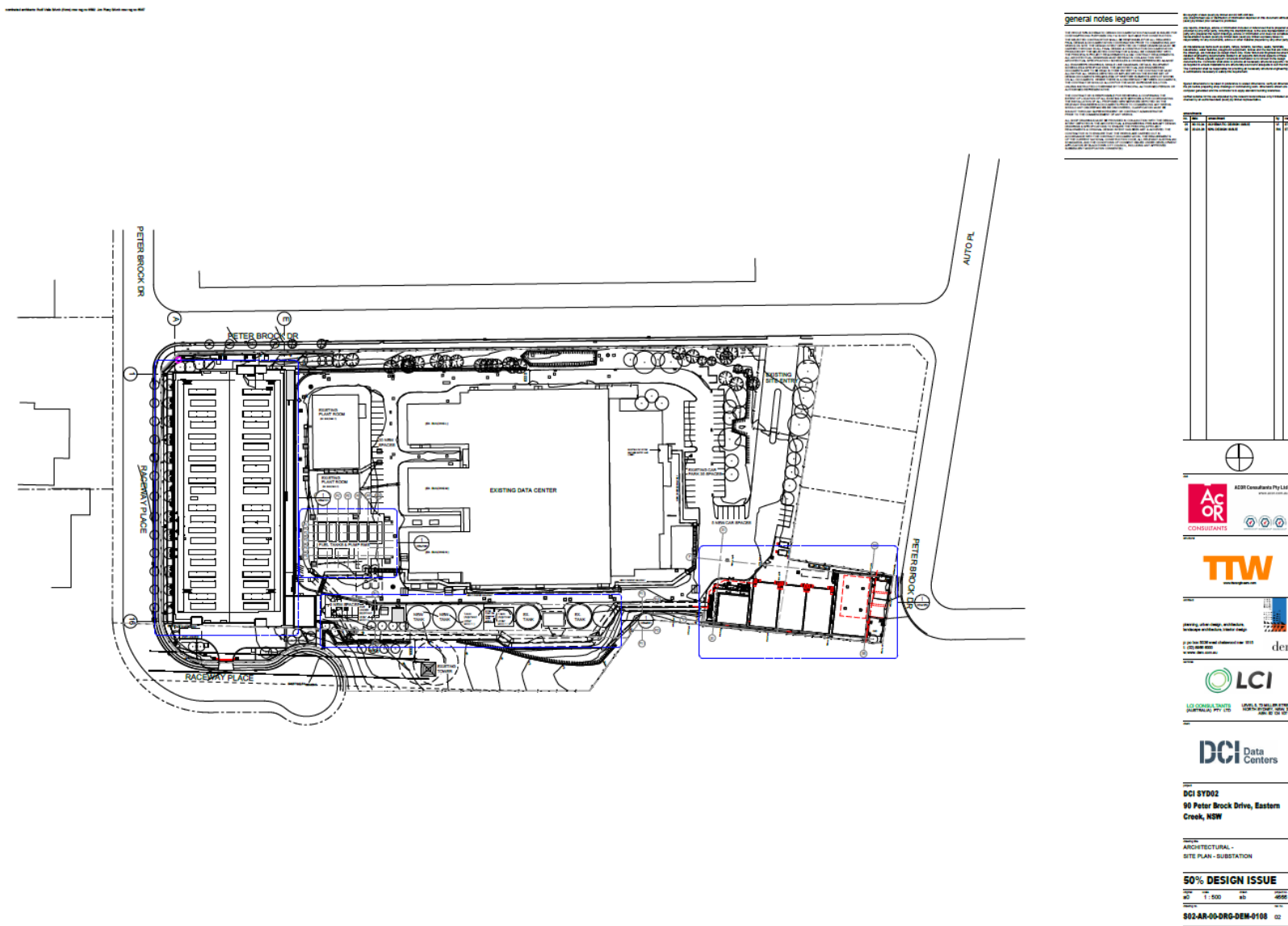


Figure 2: Modification plan (50% Design) (DEM/TTW 2026)

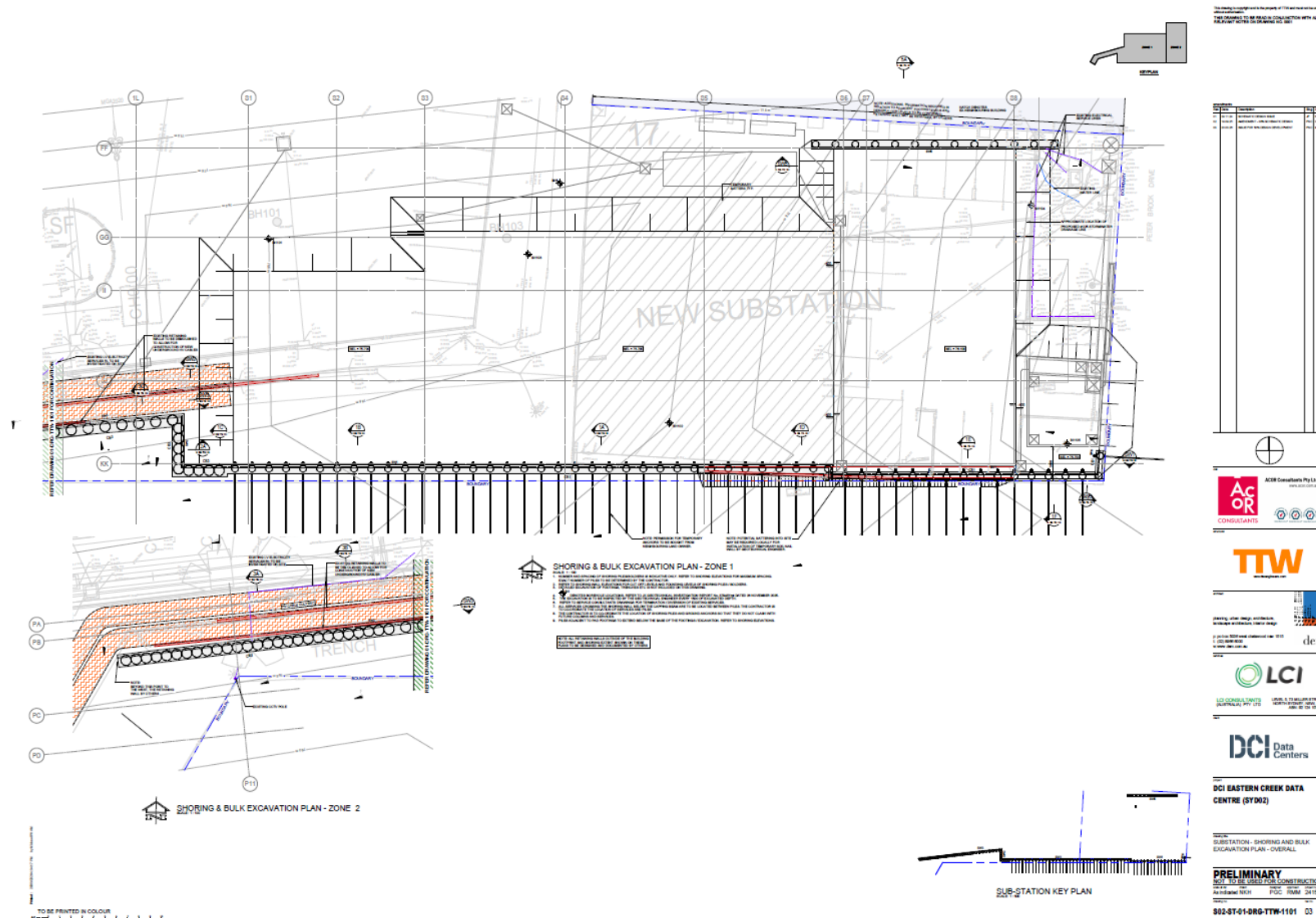


Figure 3: Preliminary plan showing location of shoring and bulk excavation inside the southern boundary (DEM/TTW 2026)

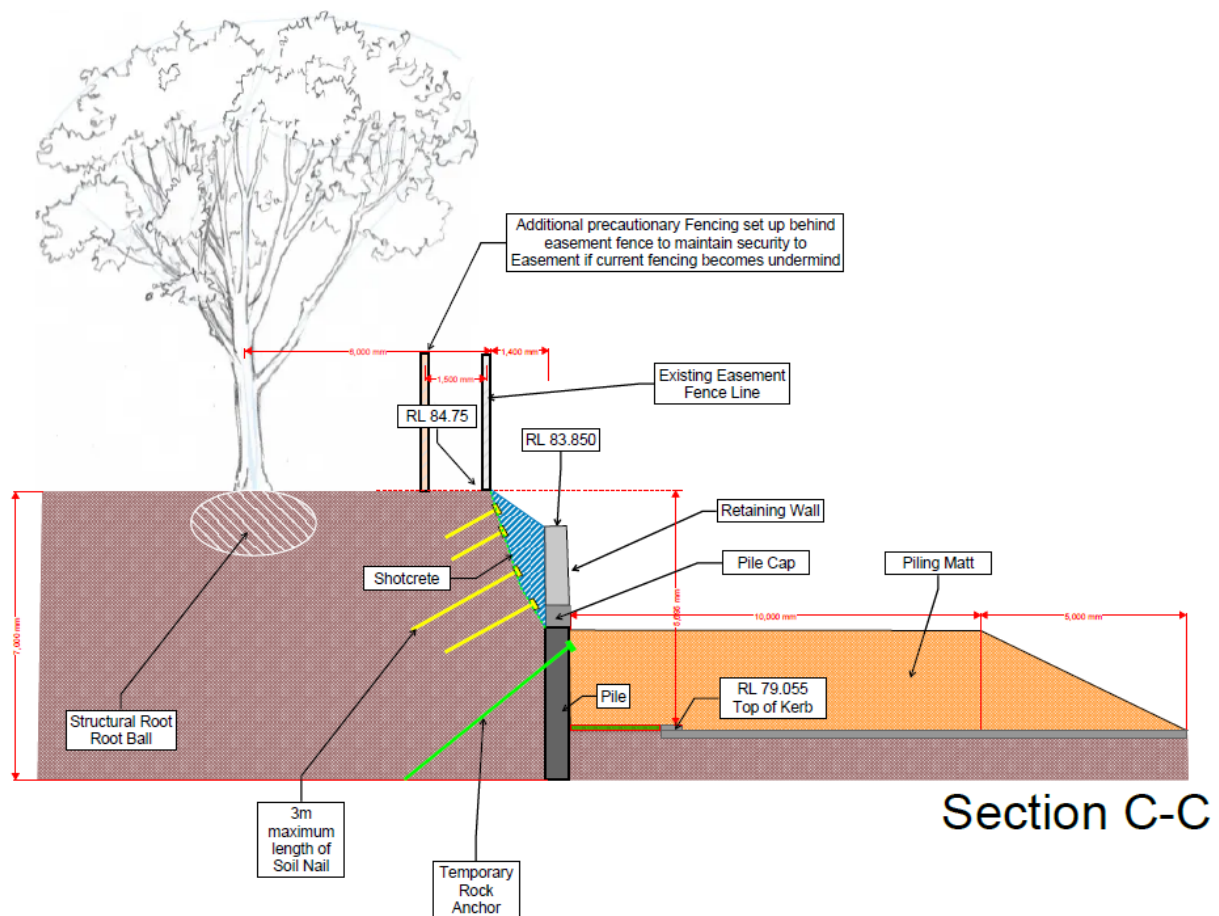
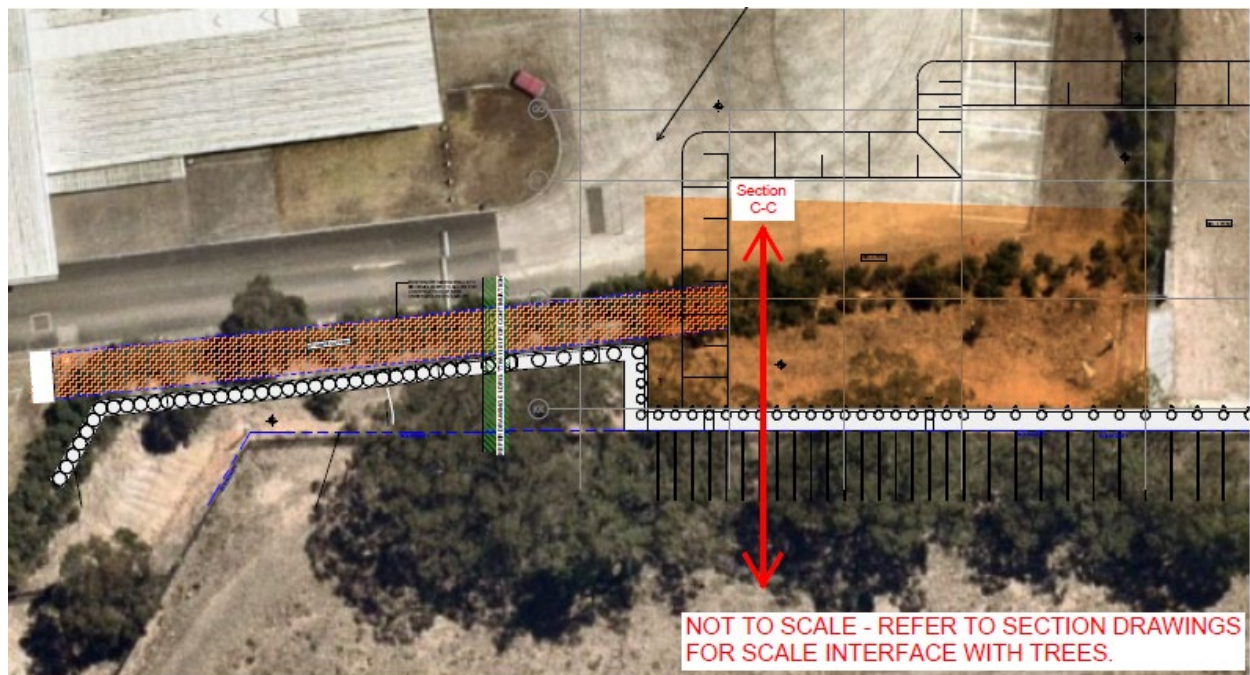


Figure 4: Preliminary section plan showing location of piling, retaining wall and excavation inside the study area and rock anchor and soil nails in the heritage curtilage (DEM/TTW 2026)

1.2. Site history

The following history is taken directly from the State Heritage Inventory listing for the Prospect Reservoir (see: www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=5045336) and is supplemented by additional research.

1.2.1. Indigenous context and early European contact

The Prospect area, within the Cumberland Plain, is located within the traditional lands of the Darug Indigenous people. Aboriginal occupation within the western Cumberland Plain has been dated to at least 30,000 years (Karskens 1991). The area of Prospect Reservoir is an area of known Aboriginal occupation, with favourable camping locations along the Eastern Creek and Prospect Creek catchments, and in elevated landscapes to the south. There is also evidence to suggest that the occupation of these lands continued after European contact through discovery of intermingled glass and stone flakes during archaeological surveys.

Prospect Hill, Sydney's largest body of igneous rock, lies centrally in the Cumberland Plain and dominates the surrounding landscape (Ashton 2000). Following European settlement, in 1788, an exploration party heading west, led by Governor Phillip, climbed Prospect Hill. An account by Phillip states that the exploration party saw from Prospect Hill, *'for the first time since we landed at Carmarthen Hills (Blue Mountains) as likewise the hills to the southward'*. Phillip's 'Bellevue' (Prospect Hill) acquired considerable significance for the new settlers. Prospect Hill provided a point from which distances could be meaningfully calculated and became a major reference point for other early explorers (Karskens 1991). When Watkin Tench made another official journey to the west in 1789, he began his journey with reference to Prospect Hill, which commanded a view of the great chain of mountains to the west. Prospect Hill has been quarried and now is no longer the highest point in the landscape.

During the initial years of European settlement in NSW, Governor Phillip began to settle time-expired convicts on the land as farmers, after the success of James Ruse at Rose Hill (Higginbotham 2000). On 18 July 1791 Phillip placed a number of men on the eastern and southern slopes of Prospect Hill, as the soils weathered from the basalt cap were richer than the sandstone derived soils of the Cumberland Plain.

The arrival of the first settlers prompted the first organised Aboriginal resistance to the spread of settlement, with the commencement of a violent frontier conflict in which Pemulwuy and his Bidjigal clan played a central role (Flynn 1997). On 1 May 1801 Governor King took drastic action, issuing a public order requiring that Aboriginal people around Parramatta, Prospect Hill and Georges River should be 'driven back from the settlers' habitations by firing at them'. King's edicts appear to have encouraged a shoot-on-sight attitude whenever any Aboriginal men, women or children appeared (Karskens 1991).

1.2.2. Early land grants

Agricultural pursuits are known to have defined Prospect Hill from the point of European settlement. Much of the land appears to have been cleared by the 1820s and pastoral use was well established. When Governor Macquarie paid a visit to the area in 1810, he was favourably impressed by the comfortable conditions that had been created (Pollon and Healy 1988:210). The explorer William Lawson was granted 500 acres on the western slopes of the west ridge of Prospect Hill in 1810. Lawson erected Veteran Hall in about 1821 which either replaced or was an enlargement of Lawson's

first house, which was built on the same site around 1810. It was a large, single-storey building in typical Colonial Georgian style including verandahs.

The property was resumed during the 1880s for the construction of Prospect Reservoir, and Veteran Hall became the residence and local office of the Water Board's Engineer-In-Charge of Headworks, from 1888 until 1912. The homestead was then briefly leased with the surrounding paddocks to the Commonwealth military authorities until 1915. The building then became vacant and was demolished in 1929. The foundations of Veteran Hall are marked by a memorial cairn constructed of bricks from the house and erected in 1970, just off William Lawson Drive, Prospect. The site is listed on the SHR (01370). The study area is located within Frederick Dixon's 500-acre grant, whilst Prospect Hill is located to the south east of William Lawson's grant (Figure 5).

Nelson Lawson, third son of explorer William Lawson built 'Grey Stanes' in 1837 on the crest of the eastern ridge of Prospect Hill. Grey Stanes was approached by a long drive lined with an avenue of English trees including elms, hawthorns, holly, and woodbine mingling with jacarandas. It had a wide, semi-circular front verandah supported by 4 pillars. The foundations were of stone, the roof of slate, and the doors and architraves of heavy red cedar. It was richly furnished with articles of the best quality available and was the scene of many glittering soirées attended by the elite of the colony. Grey Stanes was demolished in the 1940s and its remains have now been removed due to quarrying of Prospect Hill and redevelopment as an industrial complex (State Heritage Inventory).

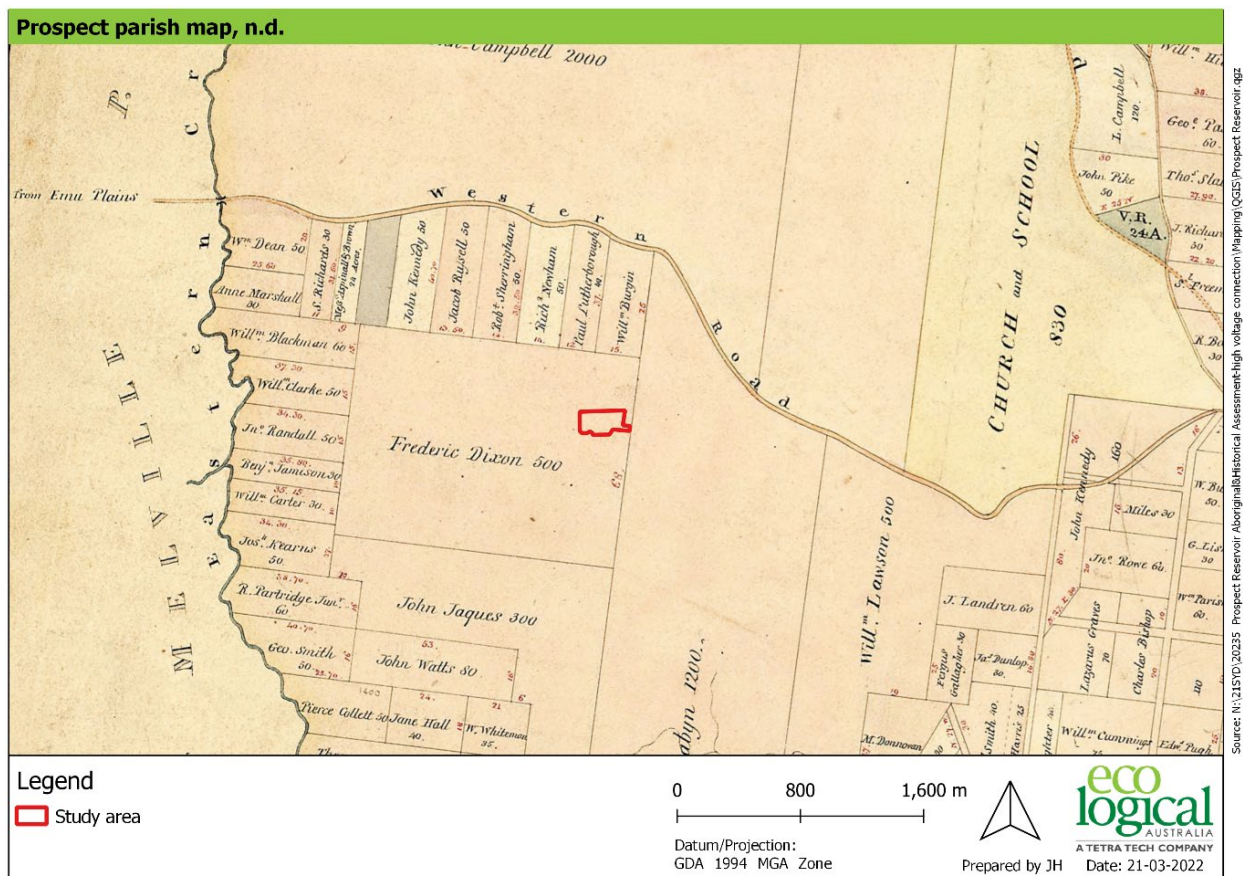


Figure 5: Prospect parish map, n.d. showing the study area within Frederick Dixon's 500-acre grant, with William Lawson's grant to the east (Source: HLRV)

1.2.3. Prospect Reservoir and the Upper Nepean Scheme

In 1867, the Governor of NSW appointed a Commission to recommend a scheme for Sydney's water supply, and by 1869 it was recommended that construction commence on the Upper Nepean Scheme. This consisted of two diversion weirs, located at Pheasant's Nest and Broughton's Pass, in the Upper Nepean River catchment, with water feeding into a series of tunnels, canals and aqueducts known as the Upper Canal. It was intended that water be fed by gravity from the catchment into a reservoir at Prospect.

Designed and constructed by the Public Works Department of NSW, Prospect Reservoir was built during the 1880s and completed in 1888. Credit for the Upper Nepean Scheme is largely given to Edward Orpen Moriarty, the Engineer in Chief of the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the Public Works Department from 1858-88 (B Cubed Sustainability 2005:7). The quintessential feature of the scheme was the diversion of the Nepean River below its junction with the Avon and Cordeaux Rivers. The Peasant's Nest weir, near the township of Wilton, diverts the water through a 7 km long tunnel to the Cataract River at Broughton's Pass, near the township of Appin, where a similar weir diverts the flow of the four rivers through a 58 km system of tunnels, aqueducts and open channels to Prospect Creek upon which the earthen dam wall is located. When it was completed in 1888, Prospect Reservoir provided the storage component of the scheme, as the weirs did not have the capacity to store water. Prospect Reservoir is an earth dam 2210 m long, 26 m high and consists essentially of a clay core with shoulders of selected earth placed in layers 300 mm thick compacted by rolling.

With completion of Warragamba Dam in 1960, Prospect Reservoir continued to play an important role in storing Sydney's water. The reservoir's role is now that of an off-line storage service reservoir, which covers daily fluctuations of demand in the distribution system. The reservoir can now be drawn on when needed to supplement the Warragamba Pipeline and Upper Canal inflows into the Filtration Plant. It remains an essential component of Sydney's water supply system and therefore is critical Government infrastructure (State Heritage Inventory).



Figure 6: Prospect Reservoir during construction, c1880s (Source: Blacktown City Libraries)

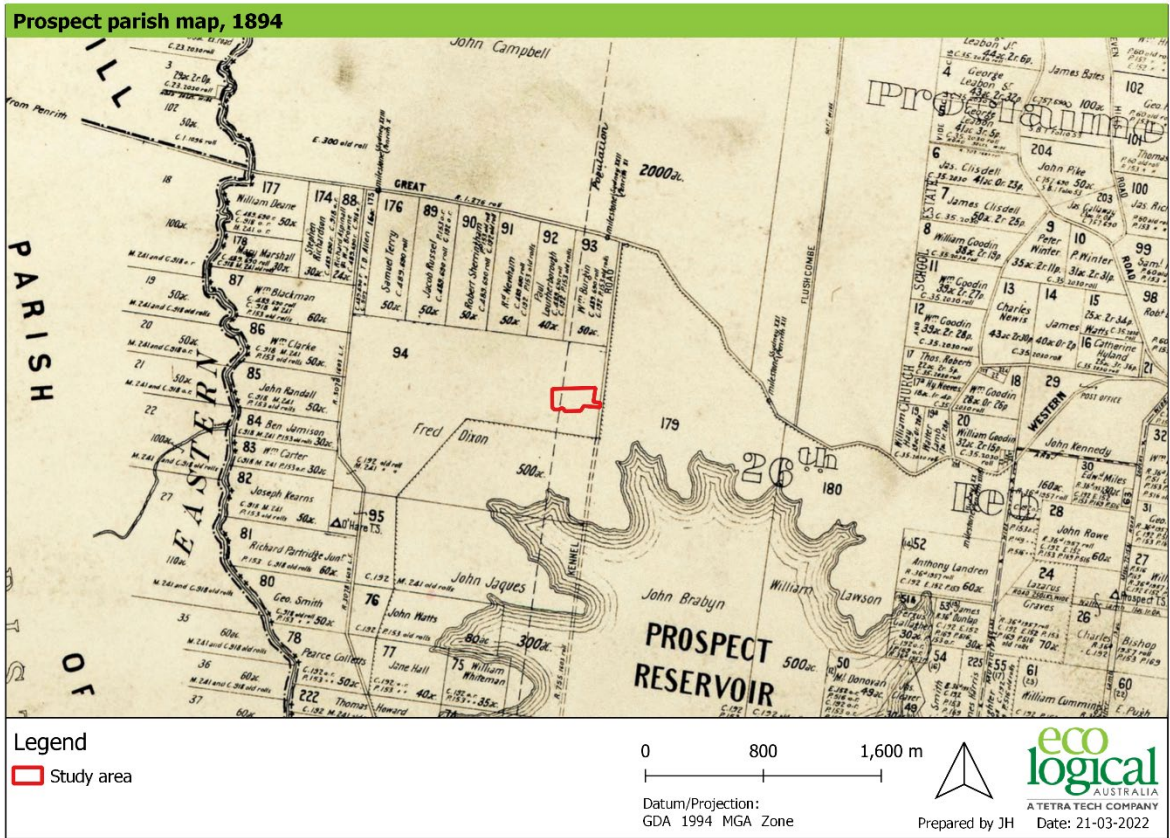


Figure 7: Prospect parish map, 1894 showing the study area within Frederick Dixon's original land grant, with Prospect Reservoir to the south (Source: HLRV)

1.2.4. 90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek

The study area falls within an original 500-acre land grant made to Frederick Dixon, likely provided in the c1820s. Dixon had arrived in NSW as a free settler aboard the *Larkins* in 1817 (Australian Royalty). Prospect was utilised for agricultural purposes since point of European settlement, as such it is likely that Dixon's grant was similarly utilised. A portion of the grant was resumed during the c1880s for the development of Prospect Reservoir (Figure 7).

Historical aerial imagery indicates that the study area remained undeveloped, with moderate levels of bushland present into the 1960s (Figure 8 - Figure 9). Land clearances took place, with a small rural residence constructed by 1975. Further land clearances occurred during the 1980s, whilst informal roads were developed into the 1990s (Figure 10 - Figure 12). Transmission lines and fire trails were established just outside the southern boundary of the study area in the 1960s.

The 2007 aerial imagery shows extensive earthworks taking place to the north and partially within the study area (Figure 13). By 2009 77 Peter Brock Drive had been established to the north of the study area (Figure 14). The 2012 aerial imagery would indicate the structures at 90 Peter Brock Drive had been established, with the site maintaining its industrial use since this time (Figure 15).



Figure 8: 1943 aerial imagery showing moderate bushland within the study area



Figure 9: 1965 aerial imagery showing the study area partially cleared and a transmission line is present



Figure 10: 1975 aerial imagery showing the study area partially cleared, a residence has been constructed within the south-eastern corner



Figure 11: 1986 aerial imagery showing further land clearances within the study area, the residence to the south-eastern corner remains



Figure 12: 1998 aerial imagery showing the development of an informal roadway within the study area, further land clearances have been made outside the study area with additional transmission lines installed



Figure 13: 2007 aerial imagery showing extensive earthworks to the north and partially within the study area and additional informal roads have been developed



Figure 14: 2009 aerial imagery showing further earthworks within the study area



Figure 15: 2012 aerial imagery showing the study area largely in its present-day configuration

1.3. Physical analysis

A visual inspection of the study area was undertaken by ELA Archaeologists Kate Storan and Charlotte Bradshaw on 24 November 2021.

The existing Eastern Creek Data Centre has a total area of approximately 3.5 hectares. The expansion site comprises three separate lots; Lots 32 and 33 are located immediately to the west of the existing data centre site fronting Raceway Place and comprise an area of approximately 0.45 hectares. Lot 25 is located immediately to the south-east of the existing data centre site and has an area of approximately 0.15 hectares. The combined site has a total area of approximately 4.1 hectares.

Land use currently comprises existing light industrial uses, which have all been developed since around 2010. The existing Data Centre comprises several industrial structures, carparking facilities and internal roads, with landscaped areas and vegetation. The site is bounded by Peter Brock Drive to the north and east, Raceway Place to the west and south, with the 'Workhorse Collision Repairs' site, a transmission line and the Prospect Reservoir reserve to the south (Figure 20 – Figure 21).

The State Heritage listing for Prospect Reservoir includes the reservoir, recreational areas, landscape elements and all associated structures, including pumping stations and water management infrastructure.

The study area has been previously disturbed by the construction of the existing buildings, service installation and widespread land clearances. Prior to the industrial development, the site was primarily used for agricultural and pastoral activities and has no historical archaeological potential.



Figure 16: The existing Data Centre on Peter Brock Drive



Figure 17: The study area, Lot 25 on Peter Brock Drive



Figure 18: Buildings on the corner of Raceway Place proposed to be demolished on western boundary

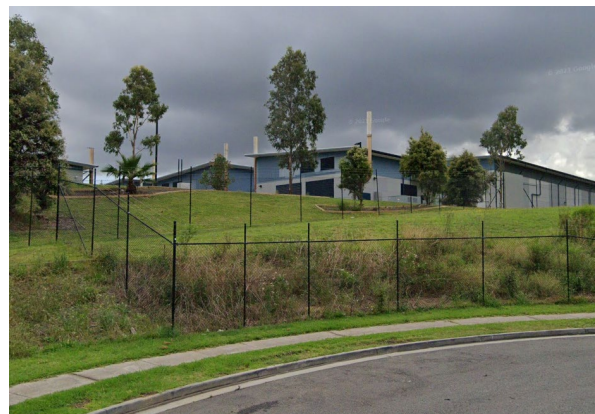


Figure 19: Data centre and terraced landscaping Raceway Place



Figure 20: View towards the Reserve, south-eastern boundary of study area showing transmission line and dense vegetation



Figure 21: View towards the Reserve, south-eastern boundary of study area showing transmission line and dense vegetation

2. Significance Assessment

The Heritage Council of NSW has developed a set of seven criteria for assessing heritage significance, which can be used to make decisions about the heritage value of a place or item. These include historical, associative, social, aesthetic, research potential, rarity, and representative.

The study area is not a heritage item and contains none of the heritage values that would fulfill the criteria for heritage listing. It contains no structures, objects, features or deposits related to early land use or occupation. The study area is listed not listed on any statutory heritage registers, however, the State Heritage listed Prospect Reservoir directly abuts the study area to the south (Figure 20). Ancillary works associated with the substation and retaining wall will be undertaken within the Reserve, and within the curtilage of the Prospect Reservoir.

2.1. Statement of Significance

The Prospect Reservoir SHI listing includes the following statement of significance:

'Prospect Reservoir is historically significant at the State level as it is a central element of the Sydney water supply system. As a part of the Upper Nepean Scheme, the Reservoir has continued to supply water to Sydney for over 120 years, and generally still operates in the same way as it was originally constructed. That it has continued to be used since its construction reflects the inventive and progressive way in which the reservoir was designed and built, and this contributes to its significance greatly.

The Reservoir reflects three significant changes in municipal life during the late 19th century; the development of water and general public utility services; the importance of ensuring an adequate and dependable centralised water supply; and the collective bureaucratic response to the delivery of capital works of this nature.

Built between 1882 and 1888, it was an outstanding achievement in civil engineering technology at the time, using innovative design and construction methods. It has a high level of historical engineering significance.

Prospect Reservoir is strongly associated with the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the NSW Public Works Department, particularly Edward Orpen Moriarty, Head of the branch at the time of the Reservoir's construction, and later with the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage (later the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board) and most recently, with the Sydney Catchment Authority.

The Reservoir area is aesthetically significant, as a picturesque site with a large expanse of water, parklands, landscaping, and bush. The place is valuable for its recreational amenity for passive recreation, punctuating the monotony of the surrounding urban landscape. It has been used for recreation by the community for generations. It continues to regulate the release of water from Prospect Reservoir to the Lower Canal and the Sydney Distribution system. The place also contains examples of functional colonial architecture.

The listing includes Prospect Reservoir, landscape elements and all associated structures, including pumping stations, to the property boundary. The environs of the reservoir and hence this listing also include a wide range of items, which relate to later amplification of water supply. These include examples of 1920s and 30s pumping stations, a residence, and the 72" (1,800 mm) main, constructed between the Upper Canal and Pipe Head in 1937. Later items associated with the Warragamba Supply Scheme and more modern developments include several more recent

pumping stations, screening and boosting plants on the eastern and southern sides of the Reservoir, and the 84 inch (2,100 mm) water main from Prospect, to Pipe Head, completed in 1958' (State Heritage Inventory 2001).



Figure 22: Heritage listings in relation to the study area

3. Proposed works

3.1. The proposal

The proposed modification works would involve the construction, fit out and operation of a multi-story, 63MW Data Centre building (SYD02) comprising:

- Two low levels of plants, office, storage areas and three levels of Data Halls
 - Lvl 1 – 4 off 4.5 MW Air Cooled
 - Lvl 2 – 4 off 9 MW Liquid Cooled
 - Lvl 3 – 2 off 4.5 MW Air Cooled + plant
- Ancillary office spaces and amenities
- Carparking, loading docks, access roadways and landscaping
- Zone Substation Support Works.

Additional works associated with the increased size of the onsite substation would involve ancillary works along the south-eastern boundary of the study area, including excavation alongside the Reserve, the removal and replacement of the existing batter with a high retaining wall, shoring and the installation of temporary anchors and soil nails. The following works would directly affect the Reserve:

- Access in the Reserve to facilitate construction of a shoring wall up against the common boundary, which would be limited to temporary fencing installation, survey and investigation works (including potentially further geotechnical investigations), tree protection works and minor earth battering. Plant and equipment to actually construct the shoring wall would be contained to DCI's land
- Temporary ground anchors in the Reserve to support the existing batter during construction which will be left in place as a permanent piece of infrastructure at the conclusion of works although they will be redundant and have no structural capacity once the wall is completed.

Ancillary works, to facilitate the construction of the retaining wall, are proposed within the curtilage of 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area', as well as additional precautionary fencing set up behind the easement fence to maintain security to easement if the current fencing becomes undermined.

3.2. Background

3.2.1. Pre-lodgement consultation

The subdivision, demolition works and expansion of the existing data centre have been approved (SSD-21342738; dated 1 September 2023). This updated assessment will support the modification application (SSD-21342738-Mod-2) for the proposed installation of new data centre building and associated works which would support an increase in the existing data centres power capacity. The modification is proposed to be located in an area previously approved for the State Significant Development.

Advice received from the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), dated 13 February 2026 regarding the modification application (SSD-21342738-Mod-2) noted that:

'These additional works in the Reserve are not acknowledged in the Modification Report. *Appendix M – Statement of Heritage Impact* is misleading in stating that no works associated

with the Modification will occur in any area listed on the State Heritage Register. (The boundary of *SHR #01370 Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area* coincides with the Reserve's boundary in the vicinity of the development site)'.

It was therefore recommended by NPWS that:

'A revised Statement of Heritage Impact outlining and considering any ancillary works in the Reserve to facilitate construction of the retaining wall on the property boundary, for referral to Heritage NSW'.

3.2.2. Considerations of alternatives

No options have been provided. The alternative consideration is to 'do nothing' which would hinder the capacity of the data centre. The proposed works are in an area that has been previously disturbed by the construction of the existing buildings, service installation and widespread land clearances.

The proposed modification works would take place outside of the curtilage of the State Heritage listed 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'.

Minor ancillary works will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'; however, these works are required to facilitate the construction of the retaining wall associated with the increased size of the onsite substation and will be undertaken within a previously disturbed transmission corridor.

No significant values would be impacted by these works.

4. Heritage Impact Assessment

4.1. Matters for consideration

Before making decisions to change a heritage item it is important to fully consider all parts. This leads to decisions that will retain heritage values in the future. Each of the following aspects have been considered in relation to Assessing heritage significance (Heritage NSW 2025) and following the approach in Guidelines for preparing a statement of heritage impact (Heritage NSW 2023).

The proposal includes construction of a temporary fence inside the Reserve heritage curtilage, 1.5 m from the existing boundary fence as a precautionary measure. In addition, below ground soil nails between 1.5-3 m in length and a rock anchor approximately 6 m in length will be located within the heritage curtilage. These will support the retaining wall to be constructed inside the study area on the southern boundary.

4.1.1. Fabric and spatial arrangement

The proposed modification works would take place outside the curtilage of the State Heritage listed Prospect Reservoir.

Minor ancillary works will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'. Temporary and permanent anchors will be placed within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation and are necessary to facilitate the construction of the retaining wall associated with the substation. No structural or landscape elements will be impacted, the transmission easement and Reserve will remain unchanged, and the proposed works will not impact on the fabric or spatial arrangement of the heritage item.

4.1.2. Setting, views and vistas

The proposed works would be located in an area previously approved for use as the Data Centre development. Potential impacts to the views and vistas of the heritage item have been considered during the site inspection. The Reservoir is listed for its aesthetic values, associated with its expanse of water, parklands, landscaping and bush and is utilised for recreation.

The study area cannot be seen from recreational areas within Prospect Reservoir, due to the dense vegetation, and the Reserve is separated from the Industrial Estate by a transmission line and a road. Temporary and permanent below ground anchors will be placed within the previously disturbed transmission corridor to facilitate the construction of the retaining wall. These elements will not be visible from the transmission line, recreational areas, water, parklands or any associated structures due to their position below ground. The proposed retaining wall adjacent to the southern boundary will also be below ground.

The proposal will not cause a visual impact to the item.

4.1.3. Landscape

The proposed modification works would take place outside the curtilage of the State Heritage listed Prospect Reservoir. Minor ancillary works will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area', including temporary and permanent anchors, temporary fencing and temporary vehicle access. The heritage item is aesthetically significant for its landscaping, bush, parklands and recreational values, however there are no significant landscape features in the study area, and the study area has previously been highly disturbed by the construction of the existing buildings,

service installation and widespread land clearances and addition of the transmission. In addition, ancillary works within the curtilage of the heritage item are minor, below ground and will be undertaken within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation.

No landscaping or revegetation works are proposed within the curtilage of the heritage item. No bulk excavation is proposed inside the heritage curtilage of the Reserve.

4.1.4. Use

The proposed works will have no impact on the current use of the heritage item. The existing heritage curtilage maintains a bushland setting separated from the Data Centre by a cleared and grassed transmission line which is not an area frequented by visitors. Users of the recreation areas within the reservoir site will still be able to view and appreciate the Reserve's significance. The study area cannot be seen from the recreation area.

4.1.5. Demolition

No demolition is proposed within the curtilage of the heritage item or within the study area as part of the proposed modification or ancillary works.

4.1.6. Curtilage

No modification works are proposed within the curtilage of the heritage item. Minor ancillary works, including temporary fencing and vehicle access and the installation of temporary and permanent anchors and soil nails will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'. These works will be below ground and undertaken within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation.

The curtilage of the heritage item will not be changed.

4.1.7. Moveable heritage

No moveable heritage has been identified within the study area.

4.1.8. Aboriginal cultural heritage

An Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment has been undertaken for the study area. The findings of the assessment are provided in a separate report (*ELA 2026. 90 Peter Brock Drive, Eastern Creek – Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment. Prepared for Lehr Consultants (International) Australia Pty Ltd*).

4.1.9. Historical archaeology

The study area is within the Raceway Precinct of the Western Sydney Employment Area, is zoned for industrial purposes, and is fully developed for existing industrial purposes. Land use currently comprises existing light industrial uses, which have all been developed since around 2010. The existing Data Centre comprises several industrial structures, carparking facilities and internal roads, with landscaped areas and vegetation.

The study area has been previously disturbed by the construction of the existing buildings, service installation and widespread land clearances. Prior to the industrial development, the site was primarily used for agricultural and pastoral activities. The historical development of the study area does not indicate occupation or land use that would result in archaeological features or deposits.

No historical objects, features, or structures related to early land use or occupation were observed within the study area during the site inspection. The study area is assessed as having no potential for historical archaeological resources.

4.1.10. Natural heritage

The heritage listing identifies the immediate catchment area of the Prospect Reservoir as a place of natural heritage value as the vegetation, cleared during settlement, has recovered to be one of the finest examples of the native bushland left in the western suburbs of Sydney. This does not apply to the study area which is a transmission line that has previously been completely cleared of native vegetation and highly disturbed.

Minor ancillary works, including the installation of temporary fencing and permanent anchors and soil nails, will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'. These works will be undertaken below ground within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation.

The proposed works would not impact on any natural heritage.

4.1.11. Conservation areas

The proposed works are not located within a conservation area.

4.1.12. Cumulative impacts

The significance of Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area is tied to its historical significance as a central element of the Sydney water supply system and as an example of outstanding achievement in civil engineering technology in the 1880s. The area surrounding the Reservoir is aesthetically significant and valued for its use as a recreational area for the community.

The proposed modification works do not propose any impacts within the curtilage of the heritage item. Minor ancillary works, including the installation of temporary fencing and permanent anchors and soil nails, will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'. These works will be undertaken below ground within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation.

No significant views would be impacted by the modification or ancillary works, and the study area cannot be seen from recreational areas within Prospect Reservoir, due to the dense vegetation between the Industrial Estate and Reserve, and the Reserve is separated from the Industrial Estate by a transmission line and a road. The proposed works would not have a cumulative impact on the aesthetic, technical or historic significance of the heritage item.

4.1.13. Local Environment Plan

Prospect Reservoir is not listed on the Blacktown LEP. Regardless, the objectives of the Blacktown LEP 2015 Part 5.10 'Heritage Conservation' are as follows:

- to conserve the environmental heritage of the Local Government Area
- to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and heritage conservation areas, including associated fabric, settings and views
- to conserve archaeological sites, and
- to conserve Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal Places of heritage significance.

The proposal meets these objectives.

4.1.14. Development Control Plan

The study area is subject to controls under the Blacktown DCP 2015 – *Raceway Precinct Plan Prepared under SEPP 59*. There are no specific controls that apply to the proposed development.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

Prospect Reservoir is historically significant at the State level as a central element within Sydney's water supply system. The Reservoir has continued to supply water to Sydney for over 120 years, and generally still operates in the same way as it was originally constructed. It is an outstanding achievement in civil engineering technology for its time.

The proposed modification works are located outside the curtilage of the State Heritage item and will have no direct or indirect heritage impact. Minor ancillary works, including temporary fencing and vehicle access and the installation of temporary and permanent anchors and soil nails will be undertaken within the curtilage of the 'Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area'. These works are necessary to facilitate the construction of the retaining wall associated with the increased size of the onsite substation and will be undertaken within a previously disturbed transmission corridor that has been cleared of vegetation.

The proposed modification and ancillary works do not affect views to and from the Reservoir, nor can the study area be seen from the recreation areas around the Reservoir due to the dense vegetation that separates the Industrial Estate from the Reserve, and therefore there would be no visual impact. The function of the Reservoir would not be altered by the proposal, and no water supply assets or structural elements will be removed, obscured, or altered as a result of the proposal. The study area has no archaeological potential. The *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) provides protection of the environmental heritage of the State which includes places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects or precincts that are of State or local heritage significance. The proposed modification works are located outside the heritage curtilage of Prospect Reservoir and are not expected to cause an impact to the site's heritage significance. Minor impacts will occur within the curtilage of the State Heritage listed 'Prospect Reservoir' as a result of the ancillary works, however, these works will be undertaken in areas that have previously been disturbed and will not have any adverse impacts on the technical, historic or aesthetic significance of the Reservoir and associated nature reserve.

As such, approval from the Heritage Council is not required.

5.1. Recommendations

Should the scope of works change, this SOHI should be amended to reflect these changes, to assess any potential impacts to heritage values within the vicinity of the study area.

Recommendation 1 - Unexpected finds procedure

A standard unexpected finds process should be adopted during works associated with the proposal as a mitigation measure as follows:

- An 'unexpected heritage find' can be defined as any unanticipated archaeological discovery, that has not been previously assessed or is not covered by an existing approval under the *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) or *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). These discoveries are categorised as either:
 - Aboriginal objects (archaeological remains ie: stone tools)
 - Historic (non-Aboriginal) heritage items (archaeological remains (ie: artefacts) or movable objects)
 - Human skeletal remains.

- Should any unexpected historical archaeology be uncovered during any future excavation works, the following procedure must be adhered to:
 - Stop all work in the immediate area of the item and notify the Project Manager
 - Establish a 'no-go zone' around the item. Use high visibility fencing, where practical. Inform all site personnel about the no-go zone
 - No work is to be undertaken within this zone until further investigations are completed.
 - Engage a suitably qualified and experienced Archaeologist to assess the finds
 - The Heritage Council must be notified if the finds are of local or state significance. Additional approvals will be required before works can recommence on site
 - If the item is assessed as not a 'relic', a 'heritage item' or an 'Aboriginal object' by the Archaeologist, work can proceed with advice provided in writing.

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