

## Memo –Management of verge works at Mamre Road, Kemps Creek

<b>Project:</b> AIE	<b>Date:</b> Wednesday, 24 August 2022
<b>Client:</b> Mirvac	<b>Authors:</b> Jonny Love (Heritage Consultant) and Dr Sandra Wallace (Director)

### Introduction

In January 2019, Mirvac (the proponent) commissioned Artefact Heritage Services Pty Ltd (Artefact Heritage) to prepare an Aboriginal heritage assessment and non-Aboriginal heritage assessment for a development proposal for an industrial estate at Lots 54-58 DP 259135, Mamre Road Kemps Creek (the study area), known as the Aspect Industrial Estate (AIE). The proposal included warehouses, roads, utilities and infrastructure related to the AIE.

This memo addresses additional work resulting from a change in design which will take place on the western side of Mamre Road including the carriageway. The eastern side of Mamre Road has been previously assessed.

### Project Background

The Aboriginal heritage assessment for AIE identified one previously unregistered Aboriginal site, Mamre Road Artefact Scatter 1901 [MAM AS 1901] (AHIMS ID 45-5-5186), and an area of archaeological potential. The assessment recommended that further investigations occur to assess the nature and extent of the area of Aboriginal archaeological potential and impacts to MAM AS 1901 (AHIMS ID 45-5-5186) and the identified area of archaeological potential.

Archaeological survey of the study area was completed over two days (2 – 3 October 2019) and resulted in the identification of additional Aboriginal objects associated with MAM AS 1901 (AHIMS ID 45-5-5186) and an area of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD), which incorporated and revised the area of archaeological potential identified in the initial assessment (Artefact Heritage 2019b). The newly identified site features included five artefact concentrations, ranging in size from 15 artefacts in concentration 1 to three artefacts in concentration 5, and six isolated artefacts. The Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) recommended that archaeological test excavation should be conducted within MAM AS 1901 (AHIMS ID 45-5-5186) to investigate the nature and extent of potential subsurface archaeological deposits and inform an assessment of archaeological significance.

In accordance with the recommendations provided in the ASR a test excavation program was carried out from the 15 June to 24 June 2020. A total of 47 Aboriginal archaeological test pits were excavated as part of the test excavation program. The test excavation program recovered 25 additional Aboriginal objects and identified one area of subsurface artefact concentration, A3. The findings of the test excavation program were documented in an Archaeological Test Excavation Report (ATER) (Artefact Heritage 2020a).

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) was prepared and provided for exhibition with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project, which was placed on public display from 18 November to 15 December 2020. Following the period of exhibition Mirvac proposed to include two additional scopes of work as part of the AIE project. A revised ACHAR was prepared and issued in March 2022.

In accordance with the Conditions of Approval of SSD-10448 archaeological surface collection and salvage excavation was undertaken within the extent of MAM AS 1901. As of July 2022 all archaeological clearance has been undertaken apart from surface collection within the vicinity of a dam which is in the process of being dewatered.

## Description of works

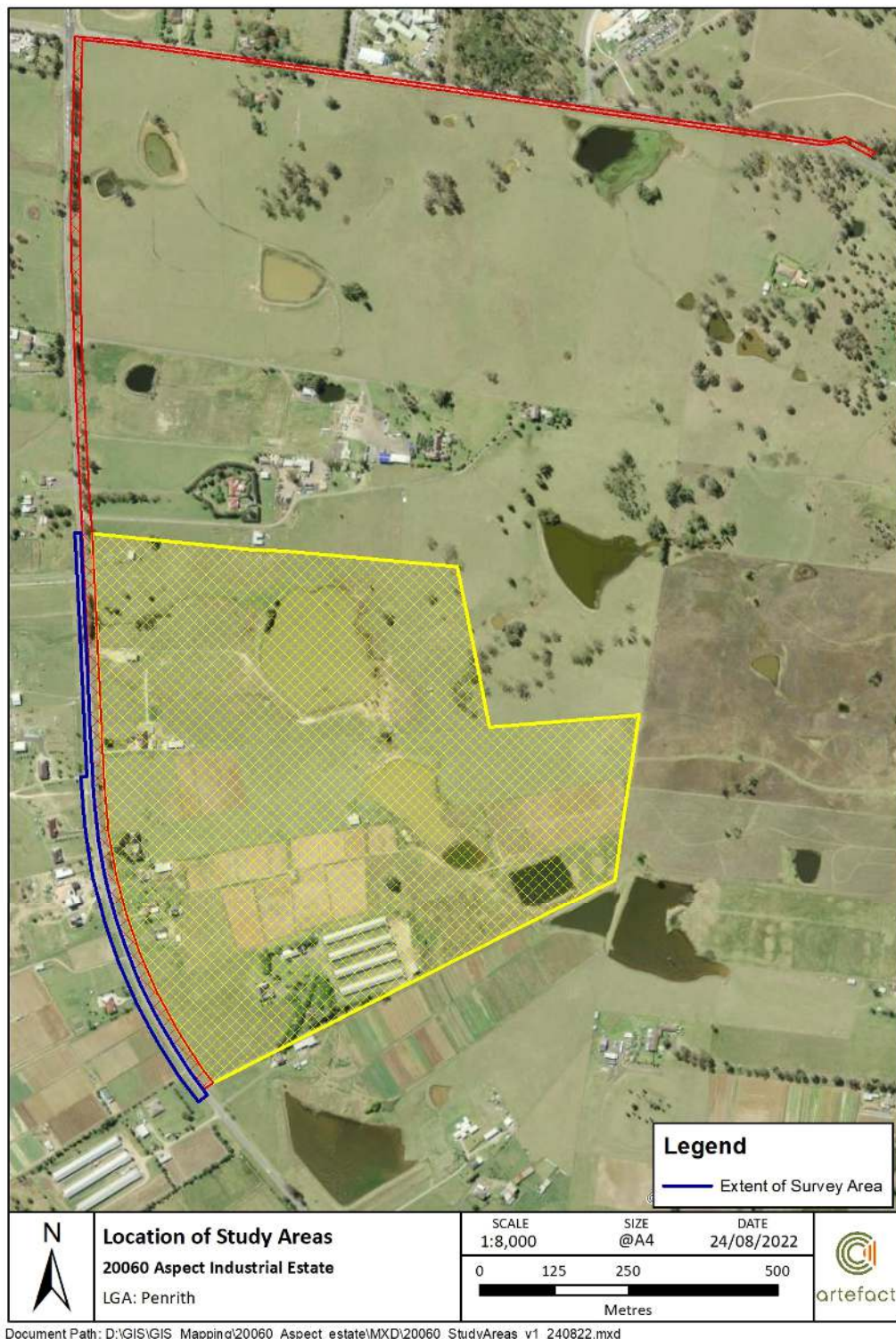
The current study area is situated along the western side of the road verge of Mamre Road, Kemps Creek. The extent of the study area location is shown in Figure 1. The study area is located within the Parish of Melville and County of Cumberland. Furthermore, it falls within the Penrith Local Government Area (LGA) and the boundaries of Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council (Deerubbin LALC).

## Site visit results

A site inspection of the study area was conducted on 12 August 2022 in accordance with the Code of Practice. In attendance were Brye Marshall (Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage) and Kelly Barton (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer, Artefact Heritage). The inspection was undertaken on foot and a photographic record was made, using a scale when appropriate to record aspects of the landform, vegetation, levels of disturbance and any areas of sensitivity within the study area. A handheld non-differential GPS was used to record any points of interest or areas of potential sensitivity. Approximately 5 metres was surveyed along the eastern and western edges of Mamre Road for a length of approximately 1km (Figs. 2-3).

The site visit found that the study area has been subject to extensive earthwork due to road construction activities and service installation. In addition, several ground exposures were present but were found to constitute a variety of imported fill and gravel materials and no artefactual material was identified. The area has largely been cut though the slope to provide a level surface for Mamre Road (Fig. 4).

Visibility was limited due to extensive grass coverage and introduced gravels as well as cement driveways (Fig. 5). Vegetation was limited to grasses in the verge and several regrowth native trees. Of note, no evidence of cultural modification (scarring or carving) was observed on these trees. All in all, due to the high disturbance across the study area and the lack of stone artefacts or areas of sensitivity, there is low potential for archaeological deposits to be present.



**Figure 1: Map marking location of current study area. It is important to note that the current study area is marked on the map by blue an area located adjacent to the previous study area marked by red and yellow.**





Figure 2: View of western side of Mamre Road (study area) facing south



Figure 3 View of western side of Mamre Road (study area) facing north



**Figure 4. View of western side of Mamre Road (study area) facing north-east. This photo provides an example for the ground works and ground exposures that were typical to the study area.**



**Figure 5. View of western side of Mamre Road (study area) facing south. This photo provides an example of cement driveways that were typical to the study area.**



## Assessment of archaeological potential

As noted above, no previously recorded Aboriginal sites are located within the additional study area and no newly recorded sites or areas of archaeological potential were identified, therefore, the additional site area has a low potential for Aboriginal objects to be present.

## Impact assessment

As the additional study area does not contain known Aboriginal objects or areas of archaeological potential works will have no Aboriginal heritage impacts.

## Findings and recommendations

An Unexpected Finds Procedure should be implemented during construction. This procedure would outline stop work protocol if any unexpected finds are located during the works. If any unexpected finds are identified during works, all activities must stop and a suitably qualified NSW based archaeologist contacted immediately to assess the find.

Sincerely,



Dr Sandra Wallace

Managing Director

Artefact

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