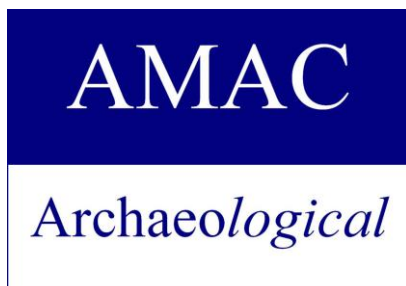


BASELINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

**Central Coast Quarter
26 Mann St,
Gosford, NSW**



Prue Newton
Archaeological Management & Consulting Group

for
SH Gosford Residential Pty Ltd.

August 2019

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Cover Image

The Police Paddock. 26 February 1870 Survey. Source G.47.1123, Crown Plan.

Reproduced from Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd (July 2014) p. 13.

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CONTENTS	PAGE
TABLE OF FIGURES	3
1.0 INTRODUCTION	9
1.1 BACKGROUND	9
1.2 STUDY AREA	9
1.3 SCOPE	9
1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION	9
1.5 STATUTORY CONTROLS AND HERITAGE STUDIES	10
1.5.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)	10
1.5.2 National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)	10
1.5.3 State Heritage Register and State Heritage Inventory	11
1.5.4 National Heritage List	11
1.5.5 Commonwealth Heritage List	12
1.5.6 Gosford City Council Local Environment Plan 2014	12
1.6 PREVIOUS HERITAGE STUDIES AND NEARBY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES	12
1.6.1 Douglas Partners, 'Report on Preliminary site investigation for contamination – Proposed waterfront development Gosford Public School. Mann Street, Gosford (March 2014).	12
1.6.2 Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd, SH Gosford Residential Pty Ltd (St Hillier's), Contamination Detailed Site Investigation, 32 Mann Street, Gosford (17 April 2018).	13
1.6.3 Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd, 'Archaeological Assessment of the site of the former Police Station and Sergeant's Quarters, Mann Street and Georgiana Terrace (July 2014)	13
1.6.4 NBRS + Partners Pty Ltd. State Significant Site Study Heritage Review. Gosford Waterfront Precinct Gosford NSW 2250 (February 2013)	14
1.6.5 AMAC Group. Permit Application S140 Heritage Act NSW 1977. Research Design, Excavation Methodology and Heritage Impact Statement: Corner of Mann Street and Georgiana Terrace, Gosford NSW (February 2016)	14
1.6.6 AMAC Group. Permit Application S140 Heritage Act NSW 1997. Research Design, Excavation Methodology and Heritage Impact Statement: 32 Mann Street, Gosford NSW (May 2017)	15
1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	15
2.0 SITE HISTORY	16
2.1 GOSFORD	16
2.2 NORTHERN PORTION OF STUDY SITE – HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	18
2.2.1 Police Paddocks and Associated Structures	19
2.3 SOUTHERN PORTION OF STUDY SITE (PART OF LOT 11, 2-7 & 469) – HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	19
2.3.1 Original Grants	20
2.3.2 Subsequent Owners and Occupants	20
2.3.4 Summary of Historical Development	22
2.5 CONCLUSIONS OF HISTORIC RESEARCH	23
3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	35
3.1 SITE INSPECTION	35
3.2 GEOLOGY AND SOILS	40

3.3	NEARBY SITES – PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS	41
3.3.1	38 Mann Street, Gosford	41
3.3.2	32 Mann Street, Gosford	42
3.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	45
3.3.1	Introduction	45
3.3.2	Discussion of Archaeological Potential	45
3.3.3	Statement of Archaeological Potential	45
3.4	CONCLUSIONS OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	46
4.0	ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	47
4.1	METHODOLOGY	47
4.2	IDENTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANCE	48
4.3	STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE	50
5.0	STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT	51
5.1	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	51
5.2	STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT	58
5.3	CONCLUSIONS OF SOHI	58
6.0	RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	59
6.1	RESULTS	59
6.1.1	Documentary Research	59
6.1.2	Physical Evidence	59
6.1.3	Significance	59
6.2	RECOMMENDATIONS	59
6.3	STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT	60
7.0	BIBLIOGRAPHY	61

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1	Site location outlined in red, showing current DP and Lot numbers.....	7
Figure 1.2	Aerial photograph showing the study site approximately outlined in red.	8
Figure 2.1	The Police Paddock. 26 February 1870 Survey. Source G.47.1123, Crown Plan.	24
Figure 2.2	1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 1, Section 81.	25
Figure 2.3	1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 2, Section 81.	25
Figure 2.4	1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 3, Section 81.	26
Figure 2.5	Survey - 11 March 1886. Police Sergeant's cottage plus the stables located on the School of Arts site (not the study site). No building shown on the study site (approximately outlined in red).	27
Figure 2.6	Part of a c.1887 aerial photograph showing the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters building (blue arrow, not part of the study site) and the vacant study site to the south. Facing southeast.	28
Figure 2.7	c.1887 (though likely post 1887) historical photograph showing the vacant study site (red arrows).	28
Figure 2.8	1891 Certificate of Title, Allotments 1 and 2, Section 81.	29
Figure 2.9	1901 Certificate of Title, Allotments 1 and 2, Section 81.	29
Figure 2.10	c.1901 photograph showing the study site (red arrows) at the rear of the known outbuilding and the original waterline. Facing east.	30
Figure 2.11	1919 Transfer of Title, Allotments 1, 2 and 3, Section 81.	30
Figure 2.12	1928 Certificate of Title and Subdivision	31
Figure 2.13	1939 Photograph showing the vacant study site (indicated by red arrows).....	31
Figure 2.14	1939 Photograph taken within the proposed school site; showing the vacant study site at the rear of the 1888-1891 stables.	32
Figure 2.15	1939 Photograph showing proposed new school site on the study site with location of Police Residence (Sergeant's Quarters) and stables.	32
Figure 2.16	1941 Subdivision - Notice of Resumption of Lots 1-3 DP 14761 for the school site.....	33
Figure 2.17	Part of a c.1953 aerial photograph, showing the study site (red arrow) and new school building. Facing northeast.	33
Figure 2.18	Gosford City Map showing the layout of school buildings on the study site in 1954.	34
Figure 3.1	Aerial photograph of study site.....	36
Figure 3.2	Northern end of study site. Facing north.	37
Figure 3.3	Northern end of study site. Facing north.	37
Figure 3.4	Eastern sloping edge of the study site, looking towards Mann Street. Facing southeast.	38
Figure 3.5	Southern end of the study site, facing south.	38
Figure 3.6	Manhole for services, facing north east.....	39
Figure 3.7	Foundations for Stables and Privy, facing south.	43
Figure 3.8	Sandstone feature [018], facing west.	43
Figure 3.9	Sandstock brick drain [005] (stables, privy and feature [018] in background), facing northeast.....	44
Figure 3.10	c.1887 (though likely post 1887) historical photograph showing stables and outbuilding on the study site (red arrows).....	44
Figure 5.1	Proposed Site Plan	52
Figure 5.2	Proposed Ground Floor	53
Figure 5.3	Proposed Level One	54
Figure 5.4	Proposed East Site Elevation.....	55
Figure 5.5	Proposed Site Section A	56

Figure 5.6 Proposed Site Section B 57

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Documentary Research

- The northern portion of the study site was part of land used as police paddocks from the 1840s.
- The southern portion of the study site was part of three original land grants that was used as privately-owned paddocks.
- No development occurred on the study site until the mid-20th when the Gosford Public School was established.

Physical Evidence

- The study site currently forms vacant land.
- The proposed development seeks to construct three multi-storey buildings on the site.
- No known relics have been identified on the study site.
- Unknown archaeological potential exists for ephemeral and undocumented features relating to the agricultural activity of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Significance

- Based on historical evidence, the study site remained undeveloped until the mid-20th century
- The potential ephemeral features (for example, evidence of fence lines) are unlikely to be considered relics under the NSW Heritage Act 1977.
- Therefore, the potential archaeological record of the study site is not considered of local or State significance.

Statement of Archaeological Heritage Impact

- The proposed development will utilise the entire footprint of the study site.
- As no known relics of local or State significance have been identified on the site, the proposed works will have nil heritage impact on the historical archaeological record of the study site.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that this Baseline Archaeological Assessment be submitted as accompanying documentation for SEARs Application SSD-10114 to the relevant Delegate, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.
- No further historic archaeological assessment or application for field works is considered necessary.
- Should any unexpected archaeological material be uncovered during excavation, works must cease while an archaeologist is contacted to inspect the finds and manage the appropriate course of action.

GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following definition of terms have mostly derived from the glossary provided in Heritage Office Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996) *Archaeological Assessments*.

Term	Definition
AMAC	Archaeological Management and Consulting Group
AMP	Archaeological Management Plan
AZP	Archaeological Zoning Plan
Archaeological feature	Any physical evidence of past human activity. Archaeological features include buildings, works, relics, structures, foundations, deposits, cultural landscapes and shipwrecks. On archaeological excavations the term 'feature' may be used in a specific sense to refer to any item that is not a structure, a layer or an artefact (for example, a post hole).
Artefacts	An object produced by human activity. In historical archaeology the term usually refers to small object contained within occupation deposits. The term may encompass food or plant remains and ecological features (for example, pollen).
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
Conservation	The processes of looking after a place so as to retain its heritage significance.
Contact sites	Sites which are associated with interaction between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
DCP	Development Control Plan
DP	Deposited Plan
Heritage Division (now Heritage DPC)	Formerly known as the Heritage Branch
Historical Archaeology	The study of the human past using both material evidence and documentary sources. In Australia 'historical archaeology' excludes Aboriginal archaeology prior to non-indigenous occupation but may include 'contact' sites.
LEP	Local Environment Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LTO	Land Titles Office
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (formerly known as the DECCW)
Post-contact	A term used to refer to study archaeological sites dating after European occupation in 1788.
Relic	Defined by the NSW Heritage Act (see Section 1.5.3) as: "any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that: (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance"
S57	Refers to definition of Section 57 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S60	Refers to definition of Section 60 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S139	Refers to definition of Section 139 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S140	Refers to definition of Section 140 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
SOHI	Statement of Heritage Impact
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Work	Archaeological material related to road and rail infrastructure which is not considered a relic in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977, though may retain archaeological significance independent of the statutory definitions. The interpretation of a 'work' has been defined in consultation with the Heritage Division (now Heritage DPC)

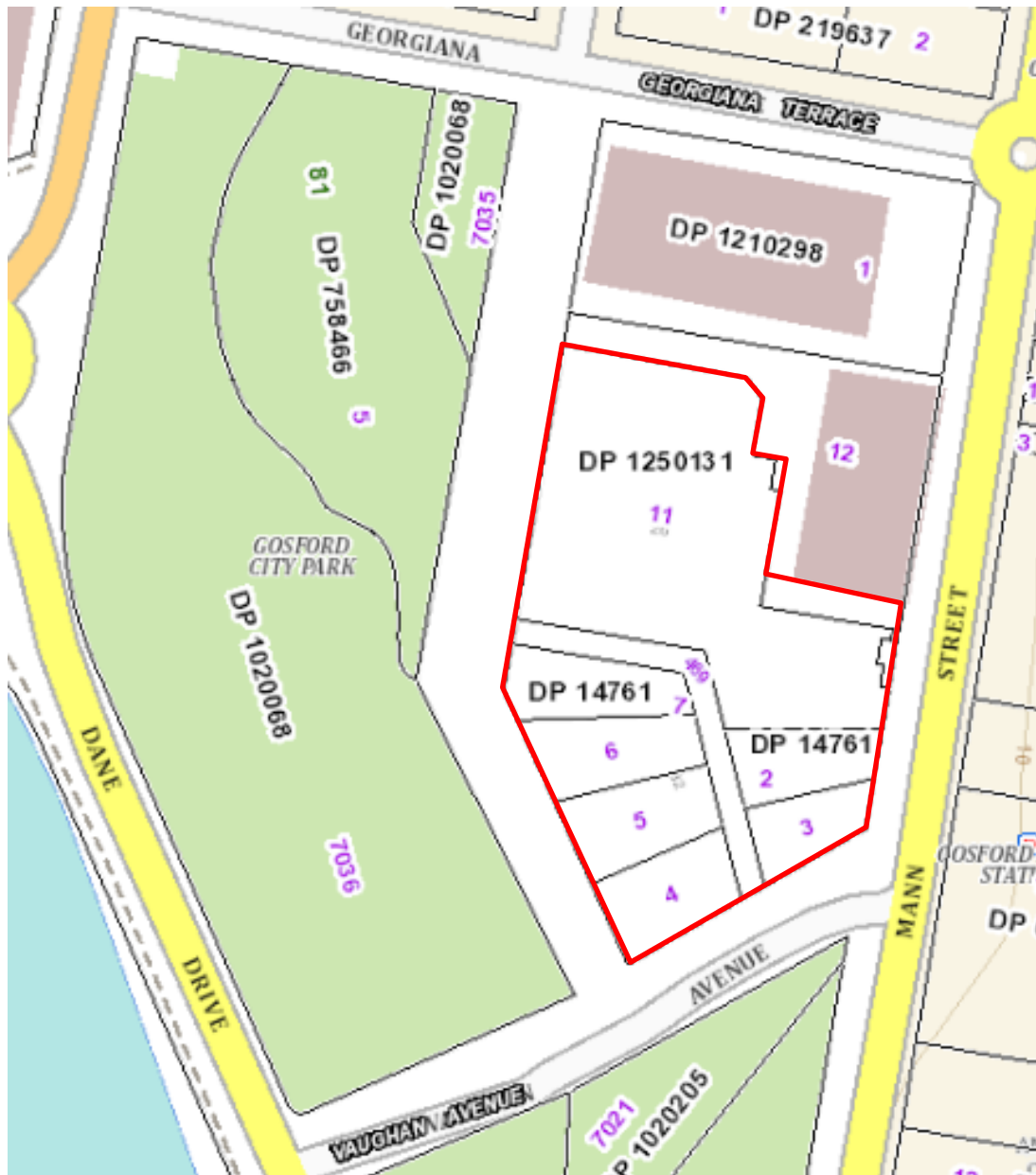


Figure 1.1 Site location outlined in red, showing current DP and Lot numbers.
NSW Land and Property information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 12th
August 2019, <https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>



Figure 1.2 Aerial photograph showing the study site approximately outlined in red.
NSW Land and Property information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 12th August 2019, <https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

SH Gosford Residential Pty Ltd has commissioned the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group to prepare a Baseline Archaeological Assessment for a proposed development at Central Coast Quarter - 26 Mann Street, Gosford. This document has been prepared as accompanying documentation for the SEARs request for Application number SSD-10114.

The report conforms to Heritage Office Guidelines for Archaeological Assessment.¹

1.2 STUDY AREA

The study site is those pieces of land described as Lots 2-7 (DP14761), Lot 11 (DP1250131) and Lot 469 (DP821073) in Land Titles Office Deposited Plan. The street address is currently known as 26 Mann Street, Gosford, in the Parish of Gosford, County of Northumberland.

It should be noted that the study site forms a recent subdivision of land following development at 32 Mann Street that AMAC Group assessed and completed (land directly fronting Mann Street). Current Lot 11 was part of former Lot 2 (DP1210298) that also contained current Lot 12 of the study site.

1.3 SCOPE

A Baseline Archaeological Assessment is a desktop study which outlines legislative requirements of the site, discusses the historical development of the site, assesses the archaeological potential, significance and determines if the proposed development will impact on any known archaeological relics, including overlays and mapping. The report also provides recommendations as to whether archaeological excavation (test excavation, monitoring or open area excavation) will be required at the study site and also provide information as to any relevant permits to be applied for in accordance with the NSW Heritage Act 1977 (if required).

This report does not consider the potential Aboriginal archaeology of the study site (subject to a separate assessment). However, any Aboriginal sites and objects are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act (see Section 1.5.2).

The heritage value of the structures currently standing on the study site is not assessed as part of this report. The discovery of unknown and unassessed remains will require additional assessment.

1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was researched by Prue Newton and reviewed by Martin Carney. Site inspection was undertaken by Benjamin Streat. A comprehensive historical account of this site has already been researched and written by Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd. Please refer to Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd.

¹ Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996).

(July 2014) for a full history of the site. This report further draws closely on material prepared by Kelly Strickland and Elizabeth Bollen for the neighbouring site at 32 Mann Street, Gosford (current Lot 12 DP1250131).

1.5 STATUTORY CONTROLS AND HERITAGE STUDIES

1.5.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 affords automatic statutory protection to relics that form archaeological deposits or part thereof. The Act defines relics as:

- Relic means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:
- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
 - (b) is of State or local heritage significance

Sections 139 to 145 of the Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except by a qualified archaeologist to whom an excavation permit has been issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.

1.5.2 National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (as amended) affords protection to all Aboriginal objects and is governed by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. These objects are defined as:

any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.²

It is an offence to destroy Aboriginal objects or places without the consent of the Director-General.³ Section 86 discusses 'Harming or desecration of Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places':

- (1) A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
 - (a) in the case of an individual-2,500 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 year, or both, or (in circumstances of aggravation) 5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
 - (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
- (2) A person must not harm an Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
 - (a) in the case of an individual-500 penalty units or (in circumstances of aggravation) 1,000 penalty units, or
 - (b) in the case of a corporation-2,000 penalty units.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, "circumstances of aggravation" are:
 - (a) that the offence was committed in the course of carrying out a commercial activity, or
 - (b) that the offence was the second or subsequent occasion on which the offender was convicted of an offence under this section.

This subsection does not apply unless the circumstances of aggravation were identified in the court attendance notice or summons for the offence.
- (4) A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place.

² Part 1 Section 5, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

³ Part 6 Section 90 (1) National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) in the case of an individual-5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
- (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
- (5) The offences under subsections (2) and (4) are offences of strict liability and the defence of honest and reasonable mistake of fact applies.
- (6) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply with respect to an Aboriginal object that is dealt with in accordance with section 85A.
- (7) A single prosecution for an offence under subsection (1) or (2) may relate to a single Aboriginal object or a group of Aboriginal objects.
- (8) If, in proceedings for an offence under subsection (1), the court is satisfied that, at the time the accused harmed the Aboriginal object concerned, the accused did not know that the object was an Aboriginal object, the court may find an offence proved under subsection (2).⁴

1.5.2.1 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW

In October 2010 DECCW (now the Office of Environment and Heritage) introduced the “Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW”.⁵ This code of conduct was released in response to changes in the NPW Act which now states “A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object” or that “A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place” (NPW Act, Amendment 2010). Individuals or organisations who are contemplating undertaking activities which could harm Aboriginal objects should consult this code or engage the services of an appropriately qualified archaeological consultant to carry out a Due Diligence study on any proposed development.

This code provides a process whereby a reasonable determination can be made as to whether or not Aboriginal objects will be harmed by an activity, whether further investigation is warranted, and whether the activity requires an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application.

If through this or any other process which meets the standards of this code, such as the commission of an Environmental Impact Assessment, one has already taken reasonable steps to identify Aboriginal objects in an area subject to a proposed activity. Subsequently if it is already known that Aboriginal objects will be harmed, or are likely to be harmed by an activity, then an application should be made for an AHIP.

1.5.3 State Heritage Register and State Heritage Inventory

The NSW State Heritage Register and State Heritage Inventory are lists which contains places, items and areas of heritage value to New South Wales. These places are protected under the New South Wales Heritage Act 1977.

The site is not listed on the NSW State Heritage Register or the NSW State Heritage Inventory.

1.5.4 National Heritage List

The National Heritage List is a list which contains places, items and areas of outstanding heritage value to Australia. This can include places and areas overseas

⁴ Part 6 Section 86, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

⁵ Office of Environment and Heritage,
<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/ddcop/10798ddcop.pdf>

as well as items of Aboriginal significance and origin. These places are protected under the Australian Government's EPBC Act.

The study site is not listed on the National Heritage List.

1.5.5 Commonwealth Heritage List

The Commonwealth Heritage List can include natural, Indigenous and historic places of value to the nation. Items on this list are under Commonwealth ownership or control and as such are identified, protected and managed by the federal government.

The study site is not listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List.

1.5.6 Gosford City Council Local Environment Plan 2014

Gosford City Council Local Environment Plan came into effect on the 11th February 2014.⁶ Heritage Conservation is discussed in Part 5; Section 5.10. The following section highlights the archaeological considerations of a site in relation to developments:

7) Archaeological sites

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development on an archaeological site (other than land listed on the State Heritage Register or to which an interim heritage order under the *Heritage Act 1977* applies):

- (a) notify the Heritage Council of its intention to grant consent, and
- (b) take into consideration any response received from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the notice is sent.

Schedule 5 of this plan lists Items of Environmental Heritage with heritage items listed in Part 1, Heritage Conservation areas listed in Part 2 and Archaeological Sites listed in Part 3. The study site is not listed as a heritage item.

1.6 PREVIOUS HERITAGE STUDIES AND NEARBY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

1.6.1 Douglas Partners, 'Report on Preliminary site investigation for contamination – Proposed waterfront development Gosford Public School. Mann Street, Gosford (March 2014).

Douglas Partners conducted a preliminary investigation for contamination of the site in early 2014.⁷ 26 bore holes were drilled across the wider original school site area in January 2014.⁸ Boreholes 3-8, 13, 16, 17 and 20-26 were sampled within the study site. However, only bore holes 16, 17, 20 and 21 are in the location of the proposed building and driveway. The whole site is defined as 'disturbed terrain' within the *Soil Landscapes of Gosford – Lake Macquarie 1:100 000 Sheet*.⁹ The report notes that site elevations range between 2-10m AHD; geological mapping indicates that the eastern portion of the site is underlain by the Terrigal Formation

⁶ Gosford City Council, Local Environment Plan 2014, online resource, accessed 14th October 2016.

⁷ Douglas and Partners (March 2014).

⁸ Bore hole sampling was conducted at Lot 1 DP12370, Lot 6 Section 81 DP758466, Lot 469 DP821073 and Lots 1-7 DP14761.

⁹ Douglas and Partners (March 2014), p. 7.

and the western portion of the site is underlain by the Quaternary alluvium.¹⁰ The report further notes that quantities of fill have been introduced to the site in the steeply sloping area to create level surfaces for structures and site facilities.¹¹

A wider study of the Gosford Waterfront area was conducted by Douglas Partners in 2011. The following summary of the geotechnical findings was provided in relation to the Gosford Public school site in 2011:

- Filling up to depths of up to 2m, particularly within the lower, western area of the site, underlain by alluvial, loose and very loose sand and silty sand to depths of up to 5-7m.
- The alluvial soils are anticipated to be underlain by stiff to very stiff, becoming hard residual silty clay and sandy clay, grading to sandstone bedrock at depths ranging from about 5m to 14m.
- The bedrock is anticipated to be initially extremely low to very low strength, becoming medium strength within the upper 2-3m of the rock profile, with possible high strength bedrock within 3m, to over 10m from the surface of the bedrock.
- Groundwater is anticipated to be within about 1-2m of the ground surface within the lower (western) sections of this area.¹²

1.6.2 Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd, SH Gosford Residential Pty Ltd (St Hillier's), Contamination Detailed Site Investigation, 32 Mann Street, Gosford (17 April 2018).

Coffey Services Australia on behalf of St Hillier's, conducted a detailed site investigation for contamination of the site in April 2018. The program consisted of soil sampling from nine geotechnical boreholes (BH1 to BH9), eight push tube holes (P1 to P8), three test pits (TP1 to TP3), five surface sampling points (SS1 to SS5) and two hand auger boreholes (HA1 to HA2). Three geotechnical boreholes were converted into monitoring wells for groundwater and hazardous ground gas.

Based on the results, Coffey considered the site as being suitable for the proposed mixed use residential/commercial development, conditional to the following.

- "Offsite disposal of basement excavation will be managed in accordance with waste classification guidelines and regulations. Following removal of the construction equipment and material stored during the DSI, an additional assessment should be carried out, comprising a visual assessment of the footprints of the construction equipment and material storages, as well as confirmation sampling and laboratory testing of the fill and surface soils to supplement the preliminary waste classification.
- Coffey also recommends implementation of an Unexpected Finds Protocol during excavation and construction, to address potential presence of asbestos (if any) and to mitigate risks associated with new finds of previously undetected contamination."¹³

1.6.3 Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd, 'Archaeological Assessment of the site of the former Police Station and

¹⁰ Douglas and Partners (March 2014), p.3.

¹¹ Douglas and Partners (March 2014), p. 4.

¹² Douglas and Partners (March 2014), p. 12.

¹³ Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd (17 April 2018), SH Gosford Residential Pty Ltd (St Hillier's), Contamination Detailed Site Investigation, 32 Mann Street, Gosford.

Sergeant's Quarters, Mann Street and Georgiana Terrace (July 2014)

Edward Higginbotham & Associates conducted an archaeological assessment of the study site which included the extant former School of Arts building and the site of the former Police Station and Sergeant's Quarters. The extant School of Arts building and archaeological remains of the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters are located on adjacent Lot 1 DP1210298 and do not form part of the study site. A portion of the building footprint of the former Police Station and Sergeant's Quarters at the time of Higginbotham's study were identified as within the study site as it still formed part of former Lot 6 Section 81 DP758466. The structural remains of the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters are now known to be entirely contained within adjacent Lot 1 DP1210298 (38 Mann Street, see Section 1.6.3 below).

Based on the archaeological assessment, Higginbotham provided the following archaeological recommendations concerning future development of the public-school site:

It is recommended that:

1. The site of the former Police Station and Police Sergeant's Quarters, together with the Police Stables and other outbuildings have been assessed as possessing local significance. These archaeological sites should therefore be conserved and listed on the Gosford LEP 2014 as an archaeological site or precinct.
2. The listing of the archaeological site should include both Lot 1, DP 123370 and (former) Lot 6, Section 81, DP758466.¹⁴
3. There are a number of trees or saplings around the sandstone ruins of the Police Station and Police Sergeant's Quarters. These will eventually cause damage to the surviving walls, particularly the trees and saplings on the Mann Street frontage adjacent to the sandstone walls. Subject to the advice of a qualified arborist these trees and saplings should be removed, but their stumps left in the ground, so that no disturbance is caused. The stumps should be positioned to stop regrowth.
4. The three timber framed classrooms adjacent to the site appear to have been reused at this site. Further analysis should be undertaken to assess their significance.
5. An excavation permit, or a permit exception under Sections 140 or 139(4) of the NSW Heritage Act, should be obtained prior to any works likely to disturb relics on Lot 1 DP 123370 or Lot 6, Section 81, DP 758466 (now known as Lots 1 and 2 DP1210298).¹⁵

1.6.4 NBRS + Partners Pty Ltd. State Significant Site Study Heritage Review. Gosford Waterfront Precinct Gosford NSW 2250 (February 2013)

32 Mann Street falls within the area highlighted for redevelopment and renewal in this report. However, there is no specific discussion or recommendations for the current study area as there were no identified buildings of historical significance on this site highlighted by the review.

1.6.5 AMAC Group. Permit Application S140 Heritage Act NSW 1977. Research Design, Excavation Methodology and

¹⁴ The site is now known as Lots 1 and 2 DP1210298. Exposed archaeological remains are contained within Lot 1 DP1210298.

¹⁵ Edward Higginbotham & Associated Pty Ltd (July 2014), pp. 43-44.

Heritage Impact Statement: Corner of Mann Street and Georgiana Terrace, Gosford NSW (February 2016)

AMAC Group submitted a Research Design and Excavation Methodology as part of a S140 Permit Application in February 2016. Archaeological test excavation in April 2016 as well as archaeological monitoring during the excavation and removal of contaminated soils (July 2016) uncovered the entire ground floor/ basement sandstone foundations of the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters.¹⁶ Archaeological monitoring also uncovered sandstone foundations for the rear wall of the original c.1888 School of Arts building, as well as the c.1900s rear extension. No archaeological evidence for the police stables were identified during archaeological monitoring, likely having been truncated and removed during the site's conversion into a public school.

The archaeological excavation of the foundations of the Sergeant's Quarters confirms that the entirety of the building is contained within current Lot 1 DP1210298 and does not overlap onto the current study site.

1.6.6 AMAC Group. Permit Application S140 Heritage Act NSW 1997. Research Design, Excavation Methodology and Heritage Impact Statement: 32 Mann Street, Gosford NSW (May 2017)

AMAC Group submitted a Research Design and Excavation Methodology as part of a S140 Permit Application in May 2017. A c. 1888-1891 stables and associated water closet was known to have been present on the site until at least the 1950s, still visible on a c. 1954 plan. The archaeological potential for remains to exist from these structures was moderate to high. As a result, a S140 Permit Application was submitted for archaeological monitoring in the targeted area. The results of the archaeological monitoring can be found in Section 3.0 of this document.

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Frank Katsanevas of St Hilliers Property for all his assistance during the reporting process.

¹⁶ Final Excavation Report forthcoming by AMAC Group.

2.0 SITE HISTORY

2.1 GOSFORD

The Brisbane Waters provided a rich dietary intake for the local inhabitants of the Darkinjung Peoples and the Wanangine a.k.a Guringai Peoples who occupied the small strip of the coastal land between Gosford and Wyong. The surrounding landscape formed natural borders between other nearby coastal groups including the Awabakal people and Wonnarua people of the north. With a population of approximately 5,000 at the time of settlement, historical and archaeological documentation suggests that these coastal tribes were semi-sedentary, where social arrangements allowed for a large number to cohabit within one camp.

These coastal tribes depended heavily on marine resources such as fish and shellfish but were not limited to such diets, as cabbage palms and bracken fern roots were also included.¹⁷ Farming practices were also utilised in the form of land clearing. This was conducted through the burning of grasslands in order to encourage new growth which attracted local game. Based on the predominance of rock shelters found within the Hawkesbury sandstone landscape, it is also evident that natural rock overhangs were utilised as an alternate place of temporary and/or repeated occupation. However, open camps were the preferred site due to spiritual beliefs surrounding the collapse of rock shelters if spirits were not appeased.

The events of colonisation later saw the decimation of the Darkinjung population between 1790, 1830 and 1850 due to the spread of the smallpox epidemic within the region. Those who survived, were found to regroup with neighbouring peoples in order to form mixed groups within the region of which the Darkinjung land now encompassing what would have been boundaries of neighbouring groups.

As early as 1788 Governor Arthur Phillip, along with a small contingent of officers and sailors, set out to explore the opportunities of the north-eastern tributary of Broken Bay; this later became known as Brisbane Water.¹⁸ Brisbane Water was largely neglected during the early years of the colony with the main traffic for convicts and trade going further north to Newcastle. It was not until 1823 that the land around Brisbane Water was finally settled with 300 acres being granted to James Webb, a former soldier come shipbuilder, for use as a cattle run.¹⁹ With the largely wooded area around Brisbane Water, many of the early settlers in the area were involved in the timber industry.²⁰

The opening up of Newcastle to free settlers in 1822,²¹ necessitated the construction of a road that would allow the settlers to travel north without the need to use the sea route. Construction of the Great North Road commenced in 1826, opening up the land along the route through to Newcastle; however, Brisbane Water would not benefit from this connection for some time.²²

¹⁷ Dyll (1971).

¹⁸ Gosford City Council,

www.gosford.nsw.gov.au/library/local_history/Suburbs/documents/history.html

¹⁹ Colonial Secretaries Index 1788-1825, Reel 6011; 4/3509 p.564; Fiche 3116; 4/1840A No.1036 pp.175-8

²⁰ Brennan (1970) p5.

²¹ Turner (1997) p18

²² Convict Trail Project. <http://www.convicttrail.org/history.php?id=a5b2>

By 1828 there were 100 people living in Brisbane Water, half of which appear to have been convicts. With one of the earliest buildings being constructed in Gosford in 1827, a watch-house on Donnison Street, the area continued to grow with a courthouse being constructed in 1833 followed by a post office in 1835.²³

On 13th April 1839, Gosford was opened as an official township by Governor Gibbs, selling the land there for a minimum of £2 per acre.²⁴

Dalgety was employed to survey the township having to adapt his plan to incorporate a number of already standing buildings such as Holden's residence (corner of Georgiana Terrace and Holden Street), Constable's house and Garden (south of Georgiana Terrace), the Court House (Mann Street) and proposed Church, parsonage and school site (facing Mann Street and Gertrude Place).²⁵ Dalgety originally named the township "Point Frederick" however Governor Gipps changed the name to 'Gosford'. It has been suggested that the town was named 'Gosford' after the 2nd Earl of Gosford, Archibald Acheson, who Governor Gipps had served with in Canada.²⁶

The location chosen for the township was ideal due to its accessibility to the entire region of what is now called the Central Coast; the deep anchorage was also desirable for a town that would use the water network to transport goods such as the timber produced by the local logging industry.²⁷

There were some delays in the establishing of Gosford Township and while the government organised a surveyor, Samuel Peel, a settler, bought land to the east of the area gazetted for Gosford and set up what became East Gosford. During the early 1840s, East Gosford was a more successful town than the government's 'Gosford' with a rapidly growing population. To stem the growth of East Gosford, Governor Gipps prevented the establishment of administrative buildings there and only allowing such construction to occur in Gosford proper; the plan worked and soon more people moved into the government town.²⁸

Following this release of land in the area the population of Brisbane Water grew to 1090 in 1841 with 199 people living in Gosford, the majority of which were men, living amongst 26 houses.²⁹ Development over the next ten years appears to have been slow with the district population only growing to 1451 people while the population of Gosford township was around 221 with 42 houses being built across east and west Gosford.³⁰

In 1849 there were still no road linking Gosford to Newcastle and Sydney which appeared to have slowed growth in the area.

²³ Gosford City Council,
www.gosford.nsw.gov.au/library/local_history/Suburbs/documents/history.html

²⁴ Government Gazette, 24 April 1839, Issue 410, pg 480

²⁵ Swancott (1953) p.35.

²⁶ Gosford City Council,
www.gosford.nsw.gov.au/library/local_history/Suburbs/documents/history.html

²⁷ Brennan (1970) p.6.

²⁸ Brennan (1970) p.7

²⁹ 1841 Census, State Records of NSW

³⁰ 1851 Census, Historical Census and Colonial Data Archives,
http://hccda.anu.edu.au/pages/NSW-1851-census-01_51

By 1858, a Church of England had been built in East Gosford (relocated to Mann Street in 1906) with the Gosford Public School opening in 1865. A formal sandstone building was constructed at the top of Georgiana Terrace and the school was moved to that location in 1877.³¹ The new Court House and Police Station were constructed in 1866.³²

The town saw significant growth during the 1880s. By 1882 a new Post Office was constructed on Mann Street and by 1885 Gosford had been named a municipality. Several new shops also opened along Mann Street making it a thriving commercial centre for the district.

By 1900, agriculture had become a major industry utilising the cleared land that had resulted from the extensive logging that occurred in the late 19th century; citrus trees became one of the major crops.³³ The early 20th century also saw a major growth in tourism in the area with people coming from Sydney and Newcastle to holiday in the region.

2.2 NORTHERN PORTION OF STUDY SITE – HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

From the 1840s, the northern portion of the study site was government land and formed part of the wider police paddocks, the place where the police horses were accommodated (Figure 2.1).

On the 3rd January 1881, the government made a statement that H. Wilson was given a contract to build a Police station at Gosford which was accompanied by a Sergeant Quarters.³⁴

Senior Constable Aggett ran the police station since it was built and was reportedly ready for retirement on the 26 October 1897.³⁵ Sergeant Ogden of Taree was to take over Aggetts role however it is unknown if they occupied the residential part of the building, but it is highly likely.

The Sergeant's Quarters which were constructed in the 1880s and located at 38 Mann Street, Gosford (previously referred to as 20 Mann Street), adjacent to the study site.³⁶ In 1888-1891 two structures, identified as stables and a WC were constructed in the police paddock west of the study site (see Section 2.3 for discussion).

In 1939, the Police Paddock, the Police Sergeant's House, the School of Arts and land owned by W.R. White was resumed as the site for the new Gosford Public School (Figure 2.3).³⁷

³¹ Gosford City Council, www.gosford.nsw.gov.au/library/local_history/Suburbs/documents/history.html

³² Brennan (1970) p.18

³³ Brennan (1970) p.24; Rappoport (February 2010), p.7.

³⁴ *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 8 Jan 1881, p. 61.

³⁵ SMH, 26 Oct 1897, p. 3. cited in Lewis and Williams, Notes Police Barracks, 1.

³⁶ AMAC Group (February 2016).

³⁷ *Gosford Times*, 6 April 1939, p. 4 cited in Lewis and Williams, Notes Police Barracks 1.

Table 2.1 Historical Summary of Northern Portion

Date	Title Information
1840s	Police Paddocks
1887-1891	Police Paddocks (Sergeant's Quarters phase): Construction of Stables and WC
17 November 1939	Police Paddocks incorporated into the public-school site

2.2.1 Police Paddocks and Associated Structures

The northern portion of the site forms part of the current Allotment 11 that's eastern portion fronting Mann Street (not part of the current study site). During the wider use of the site as a Police Paddock (Sergeant's Quarters phase) a rectangular building and water closet (WC) were constructed. Upon excavation, sandstone foundations were found for both building and outbuilding. It was likely that these structures were used for stables and a privy. Historical photographs indicate that during the Sergeant's Quarters phase the study site which sloped westerly was used as a paddock. Thus, from this point onwards, though the late 19th century outbuilding and stables are not located on the study site, they will be broadly discussed in relation to their association with the paddock.

From historic photographs, it can be ascertained that the construction of the nearby stables and WC occurred between c. 1888-1891. A slightly later photograph, Figure 2.7, postdating the construction of the nearby School of Arts building (corner of Mann St and Georgiana Terrace) and another photograph dated to approximately 1901 all show the undeveloped nature of the northern portion of the study site and its continued association with the paddock (Figure 2.10).

Photographs dated to 1939, taken for a site inspection when the land was being resumed for the Gosford Public School, include photographs of the wider buildings surrounding the study site (Figure 2.13-Figure 2.15). These photographs continue to demonstrate the undeveloped nature of the land.

A c.1953 aerial photograph (Figure 2.17), shows that the buildings outside of the study site were still standing at this date even after its conversion into Gosford Public School. It is possible the school kept some of the study site as paddocks though the majority of the space was developed into school buildings. Several post 1950s brick school buildings are visible on the study site from the c. 1953 aerial photograph (Figure 2.17).

2.3 SOUTHERN PORTION OF STUDY SITE (PART OF LOT 11, 2-7 & 469) – HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

The southern portion of the study site forms original Allotments 1-3 that formed original government grants of land for private use rather than part of the police paddocks. Thus, this part of the study site will be discussed separate from the northern portion.

2.3.1 Original Grants

The southern portion of the study site forms part of three original land grants; Allotment 1, 2 and 3, Section 81 in the town of Gosford. Two separate original grants were given to Peter Fagan on the 28th July 1871 for Allotment 1 and 2. An original grant for Allotment 3 was granted to Thomas Donlon on that same date (Figure 2.2-Figure 2.4).

Born in Ireland, Peter Fagan arrived in Sydney in 1821 and was an early settler of the Central Coast area in the 1830s. Peter acquired land in Point Clare and West Gosford and built a reputable name across several business opportunities including farming, citrus orchards, breeding cattle and racehorses, mail contracts and timber business.³⁸ The Fagan family was also associated with Australian colonial poet, Henry Kendall who they housed and nursed back to health in the Henry Kendall Cottage situated at West Gosford.³⁹ Peter died in 1876 at the age of 80 years old leaving behind several children and grandchildren, some of which inherited portions of the study site (see Table 2.2-Table 2.4 below).⁴⁰

Thomas Donlon, the other grantee owned a shop in Gosford, though very little information is recorded about his life. Newspaper articles report that Thomas was well received by the public and was part of the committee who organised and performed at a concert at the new school at Gosford in 1877.⁴¹ Thomas was a shopkeeper his whole life prior to his death in 1881 (Table 2.3).⁴²

2.3.2 Subsequent Owners and Occupants

The following tables provide a summary of subsequent owners of original Lots 1-3 and illustrated with plans.

Table 2.2 Original Lot 1-2 Section 81.

Date	Title Information	Reference
28/07/1871	<u>Crown Land for Lots 1 and Lot 2</u> To: Peter Fagan (farmer) 10 pounds	Lot 1 - Vol 124 Fol 76 Lot 2 - Vol 124 Fol 77
06/07/1891	<u>Transfer</u> From: Peter Francis Fagan Lot 1 and 2 To: Augustus Morris (legal assignee)	No.5788 Vol 124 Folio 76
10/06/1891	<u>Transfer</u> From: Augustus Morris (legal assignee) Lot 1 and 2	No. 182828 Vol 124 Folio 76

³⁸ Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum;
<http://henrykendallcottage.org.au/cottage-history/>

³⁹ NSW Office of Environment & Heritage: Henry Kendal Cottage (Fagans Cottage), Database Number 1620046.

⁴⁰ Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriage, 1554/1876.

⁴¹ BRISBANE WATER. (1877, July 7). *The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (NSW : 1843 - 1893)*, p. 10. Retrieved August 15, 2019, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18829934>

⁴² Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriage, 993/1881.

Date	Title Information	Reference
	To: Michael Fagan (timber merchant)	
08/08/1891	<u>Certificate of Title</u> To: Michael Fagan Lot 1 and 2	Vol 1024 Fol 210
20/10/1893	<u>Transfer</u> From: Michael Fagan (timber merchant) Lot 1-2 To: Mary Fagan (spinster)	No. 217587 Vol 1024 Fol 210
24/12/1900	<u>Transfer and Mortgage</u> From: Mary Fagan and Joseph Fagan To: Jane Garlisle (widow)	No. 316459 Vol 1024 Fol 210 No. B18673 Vol 1344 Fol 117
13/02/1901	<u>Certificate of Title</u> To: Joseph Fagan	Vol 1344 Fol 117
06/07/1909	<u>Transfer</u> From: Joseph Fagan Lot 1-2 To: Michael Fagan (farmer)	No. 532564 Vol 1344 Fol 117
08/08/1913	<u>Application by Transmission</u> To: Charles Cains Fagan (orchardist)	Vol 1344 Fol 117
02/11/1915	<u>Application by Transmission</u> To: Joseph John Fagan (orchardist)	Vol 1344 Fol 117

Table 2.3 Original Lot 3.

Date	Title Information	Reference
28/07/1871	<u>Crown</u> To: Thomas Donlon – storekeeper	Vol 124 Folio 75
04/02/1882	<u>Transfer</u> From: Thomas Donlon (deceased 1881) To: William Henderson (merchant) and John Fountain	No. 1753 Vol 124 Folio 75
20/05/1882	<u>Transfer</u> From: William Henderson (merchant) and John Fountain To: Frederick Gannon (solicitor)	No. 58072 Vol 124 Folio 75
08/09/1913	<u>Transfer</u>	No. A50420

	From: Frederick Gannon (solicitor)	Vol 124 Folio 75
	To: Joseph John Fagen (grazier)	
21/07/1919	<u>Transfer</u>	No. A482744 Vol 124 Folio 75
	From: Joseph John Fagen (grazier)	
	To: Edward Francis Downey (importer)	

Table 2.4 Original Lots 1-3 – showing all Lots after combined purchase.

Date	Title Information	Reference
21/07/1919	<u>Transfer</u> From: Joseph John Fagan To: Edward Francis Downey (importer)	Vol 2969 Fol 56
29/07/1924	<u>Mortgage</u> From: Edward Francis Downey (importer) To: English Scottish and Australian Bank Limited.	Vol 2969 Folio 56
17/06/1927	<u>Resumption of land for public road</u>	No. B539369 Vol 2969 Folio 56
06/05/1928	<u>Transfer</u> From: The English Scottish and Australian Bank Limited. To: James Ruttley Lots 4-7 DP 14761	No. B678524 Vol 2969 Folio 56
03/07/1928	<u>Certificate of Title</u> To: James Ruttley	Vol 4163 Folio 7
03/01/1941	Notice of Resumption of Lots 1-3 DP 14761 of the land.	Vol 5362 Fol 174
04/07/1944	Discharge of Mortgage	No. D293806

2.3.4 Summary of Historical Development

In 1871 the original crown land was granted to Thomas Donlon for Lot 3 and Peter Fagan for Lots 1 and 2, Section 81. An earlier plan dating to 1870 show vacant land (Figure 2.1). In 1871 the original crown grant for Lot 1 Section 81 was a triangular portion of land at the most southern part of the study site (Figure 2.2). It was bounded by Mann Street to the east, the broad water to the west and Lot 2 to the north. Lot 2 was an irregular shaped allotment between Lot 1 and Lot 3 (Figure 2.3). To the south of the Police Paddocks was Lot 3 which formed a rectangular strip (Figure 2.4). An 1886 plan and photographs dating to the 1880s, show the construction of the Sergeant Quarters further north on the adjacent site though no structures are present on the study site (Figure 2.5-Figure 2.7). The photographs reveal that the vacant land was covered in grass, a few trees and some fencing

between allotments and enclosing the site which was likely utilised as grazing paddocks.

On the 17th June 1927 part of the study site was resumed for a public road. An 1928 plan shows the previous road on the west side fronting the Broadwater that appears to have been widened and the said public road labelled as 'lane' that is a L shaped running through the centre of the study site and turning west onto the road (Figure 2.12). To the west of the 'lane' the original Allotments 1-3 had been re-subdivided into four allotments (Lots 4-7).

A c.1953 aerial photograph showing the study site with the new school building encroaching over part of the study site, yet no evidence of the planned L shaped lane (Figure 2.17). A Gosford City Map dating to 1954 shows the layout of the development and also does not demonstrate a lane (Figure 2.18). The road to the west is now named Baker Street. Prior to the Gosford Public School, no other structures appear to have been built on the study site. The school structures were demolished sometime after 2010.

2.5 CONCLUSIONS OF HISTORIC RESEARCH

- The study site was divided into northern and southern portions based on land grants. The northern portion formed government land used as police paddocks, the southern portion forming three original grants known as Lots 1 to 3.
- The wider police paddocks contained a Sergeants Quarters, stables and a privy (not on the study site).
- In 1871 Peter Fagan purchased Lots 1 and 2 and Thomas Donlon bought Lot 3 of the southern portion of the study site.
- In 1919 Allotments 1-3 were sold together to Edward Francis Downey.
- In 1927 there was a resumption of land for a public road on the southern portion of the study site.
- In 1928 the roads on the west of the study site were widened and a L shaped lane was formed in the centre of the site.
- From historical plans and photographs, no building development appears to have occurred on the study site prior to Gosford Public School, the area was likely used as private paddocks prior to the mid-20th century school development.

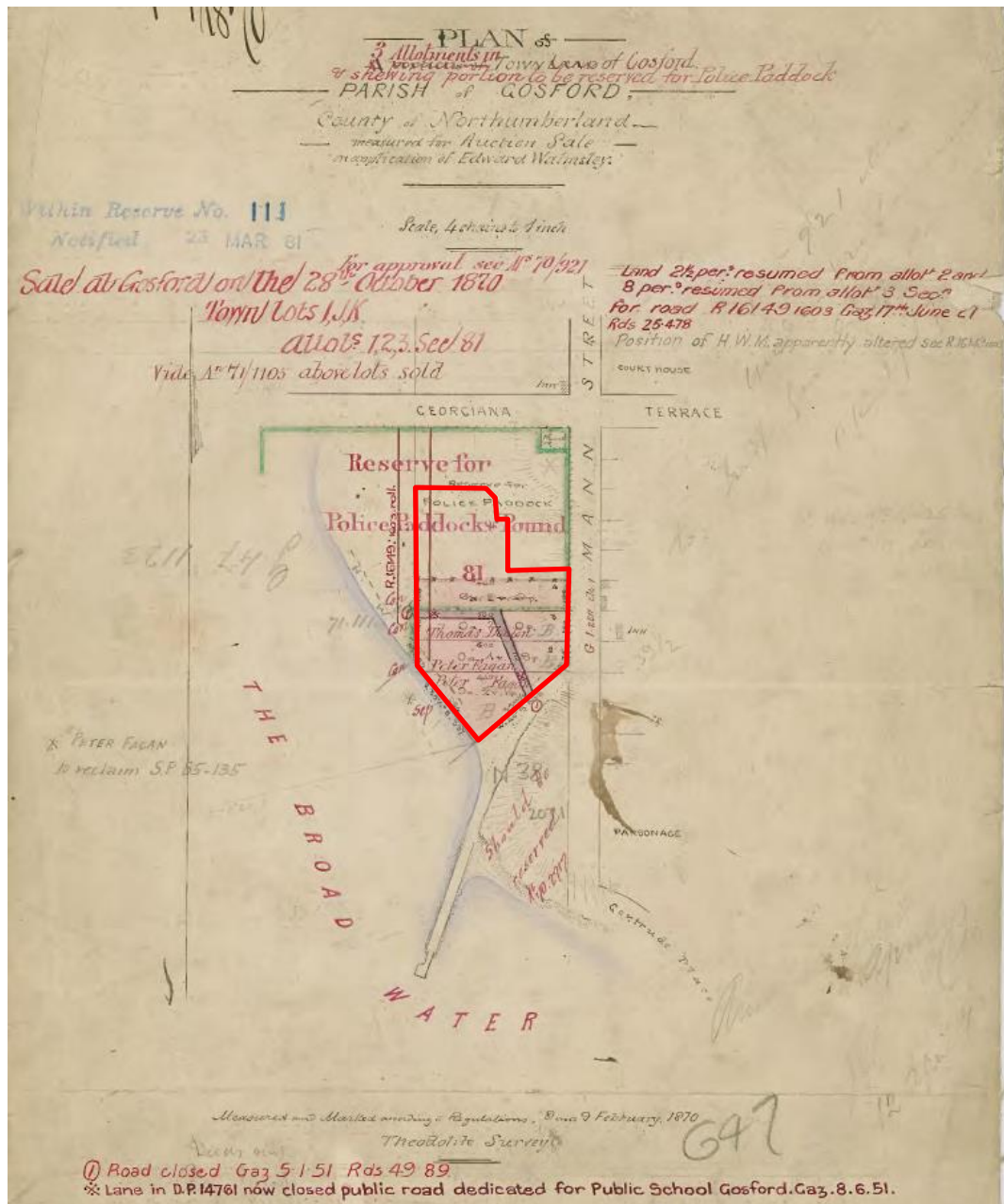


Figure 2.1 The Police Paddock. 26 February 1870 Survey. Source G.47.1123, Crown Plan.

Note that this plan was edited during 1951 with modifications for the public-school phase. Study site approximately outlined in red.
Reproduced from Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd (July 2014) p. 13.

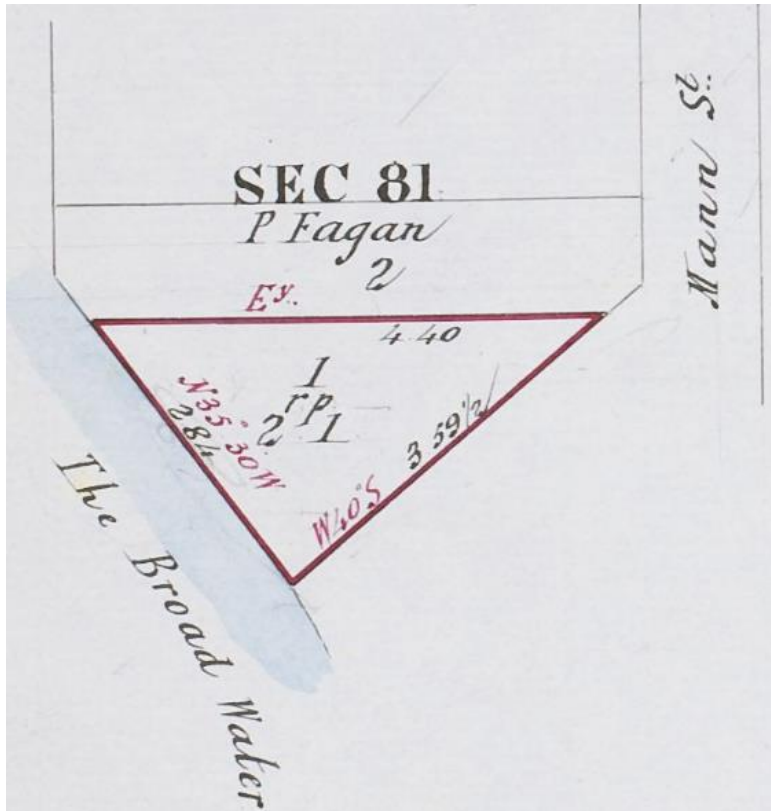


Figure 2.2 1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 1, Section 81.
Peter Fagan (owner).
Vol 124 Fol 76.

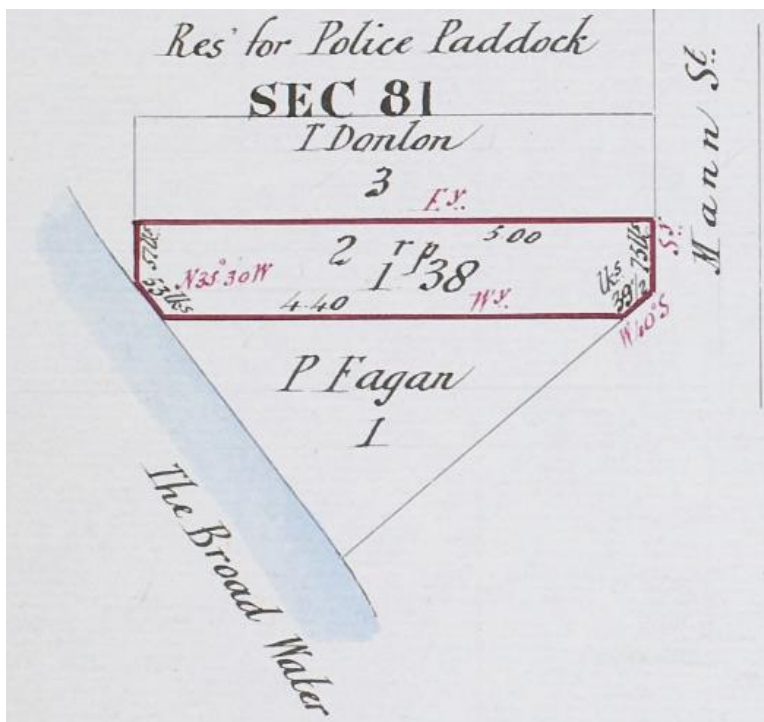


Figure 2.3 1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 2, Section 81.
Peter Fagan (owner).
Vol 124 Fol 77.

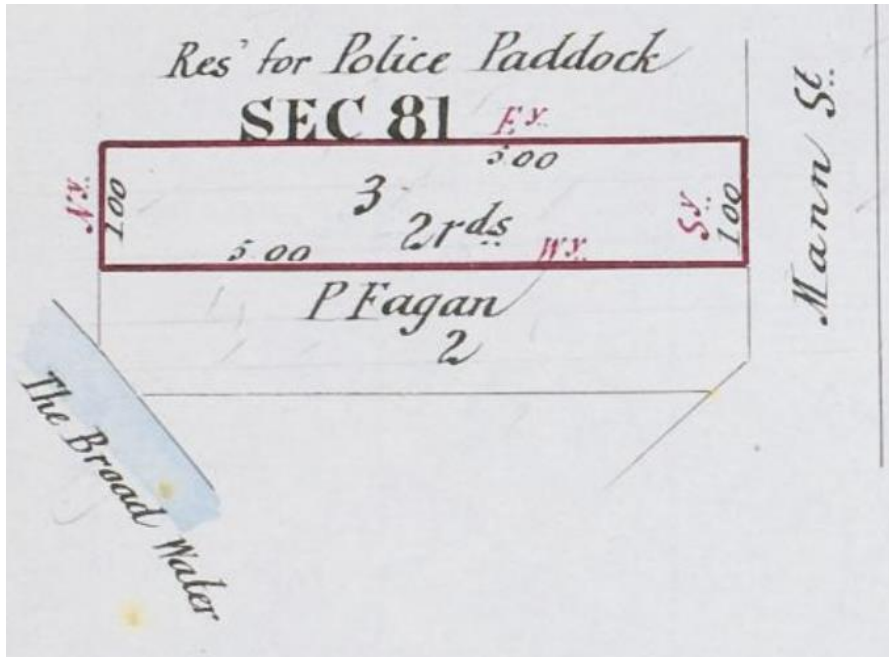


Figure 2.4 1871 Crown Plan, Allotment 3, Section 81.
Thomas Donlon (owner).
Vol 124 Fol 75.

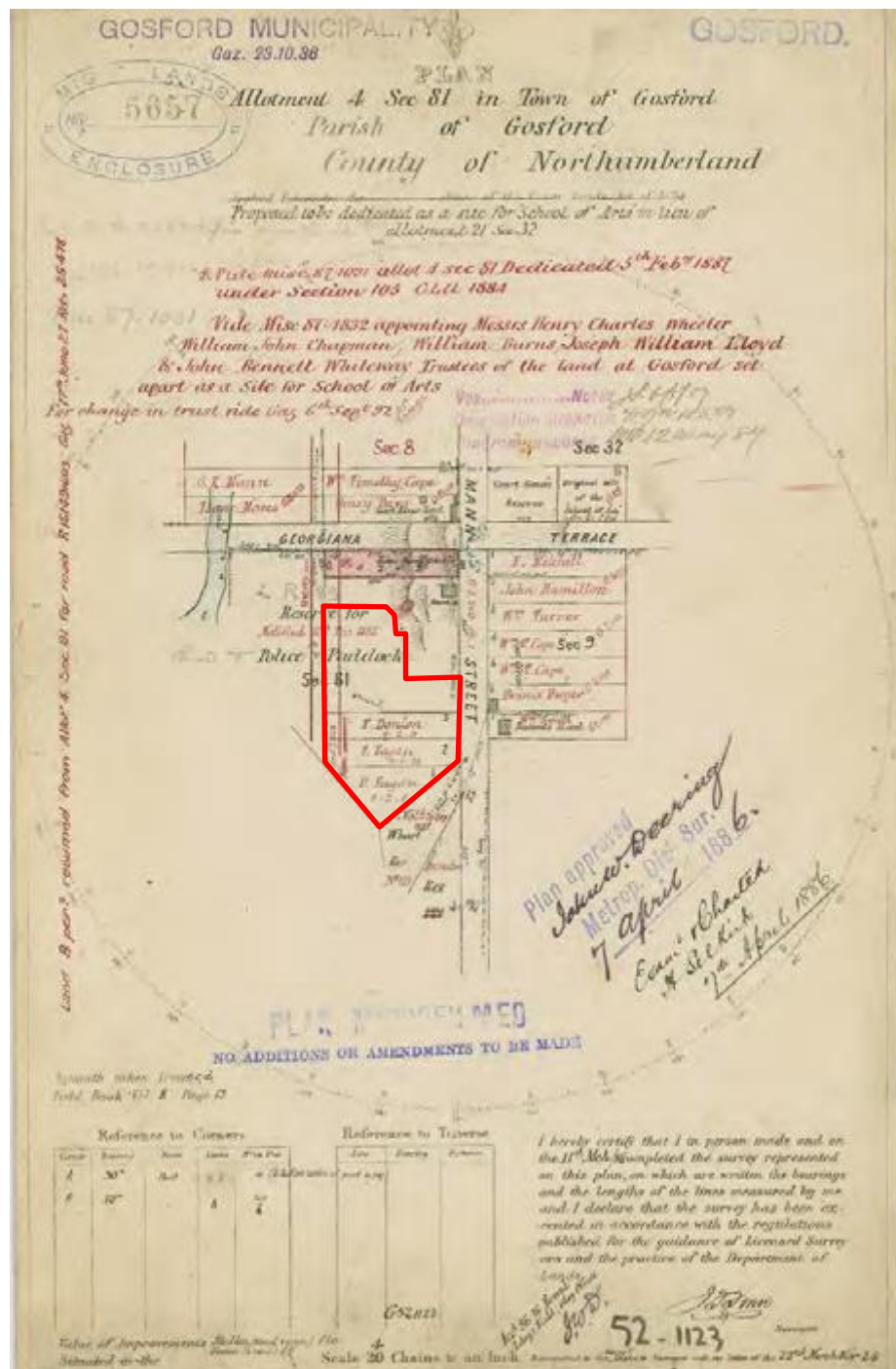


Figure 2.5 Survey - 11 March 1886. Police Sergeant's cottage plus the stables located on the School of Arts site (not the study site). No building shown on the study site (approximately outlined in red). Source: G.52.1123, Crown Plan. Reproduced from Higginbotham and Associates (July 2014), p. 15.



Figure 2.6 Part of a c.1887 aerial photograph showing the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters building (blue arrow, not part of the study site) and the vacant study site to the south. Facing southeast.
Historical photograph sourced from 'Gostalgia. Local History from Gosford', Flickr, accessed 15th August 2019, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gostalgia>

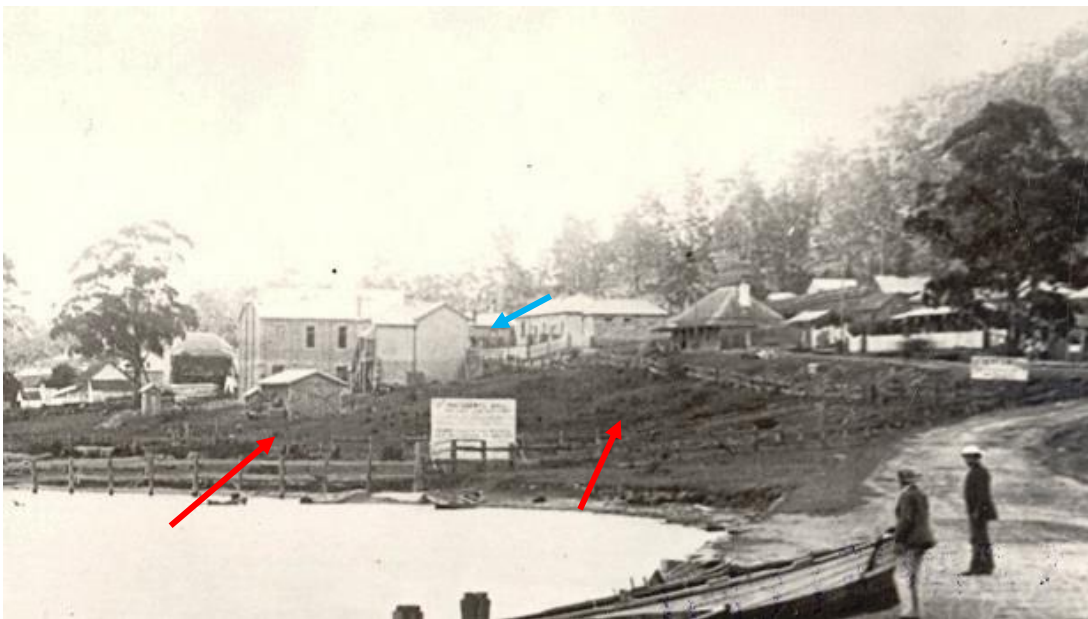


Figure 2.7 c.1887 (though likely post 1887) historical photograph showing the vacant study site (red arrows).
The location of the adjacent Sergeant's Quarters is indicated by the blue arrow. Note that the School of Arts was constructed in 1888 and is present in this photograph, therefore, the photograph is c.1888 or later. Historical photograph sourced from 'Gostalgia. Local History from Gosford', Flickr, accessed 25th October 2016, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gostalgia>.

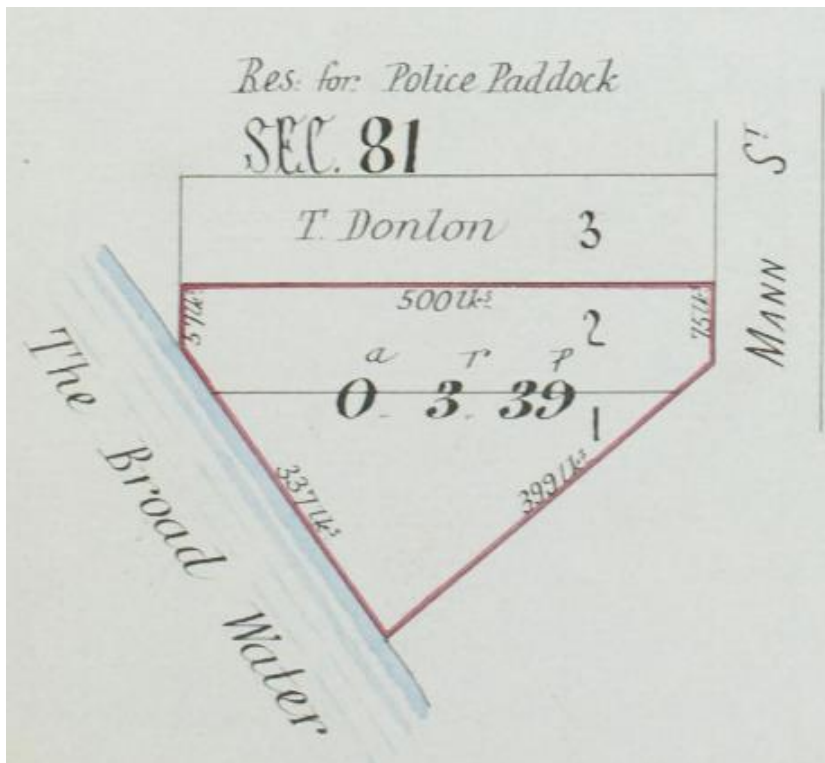


Figure 2.8 1891 Certificate of Title, Allotments 1 and 2, Section 81.
Michael Fagan (owner).
Vol 1024 Fol 210.

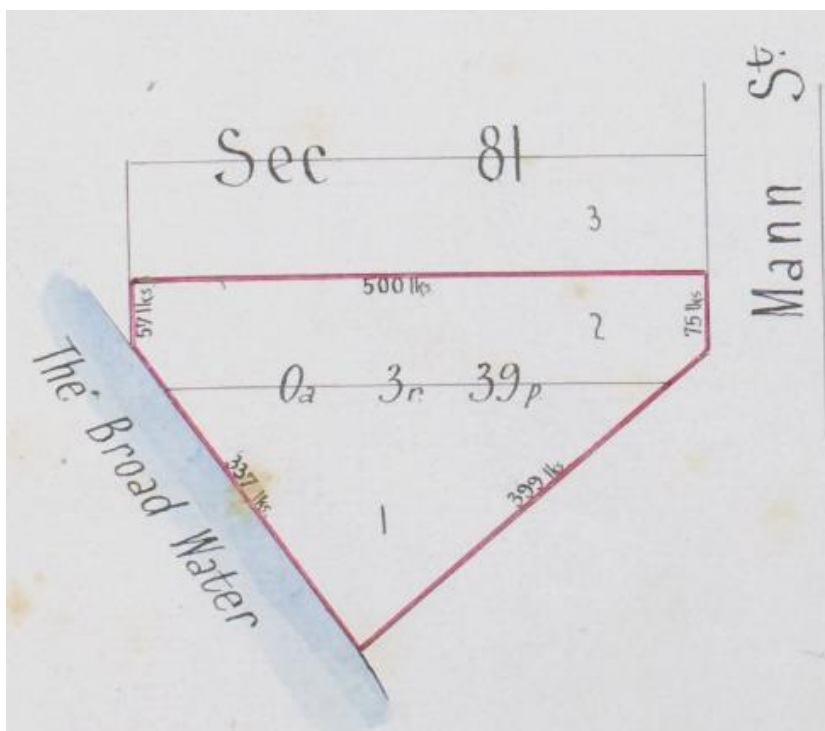


Figure 2.9 1901 Certificate of Title, Allotments 1 and 2, Section 81.
Joseph Fagan (owner).
Vol 1344 Fol 117.

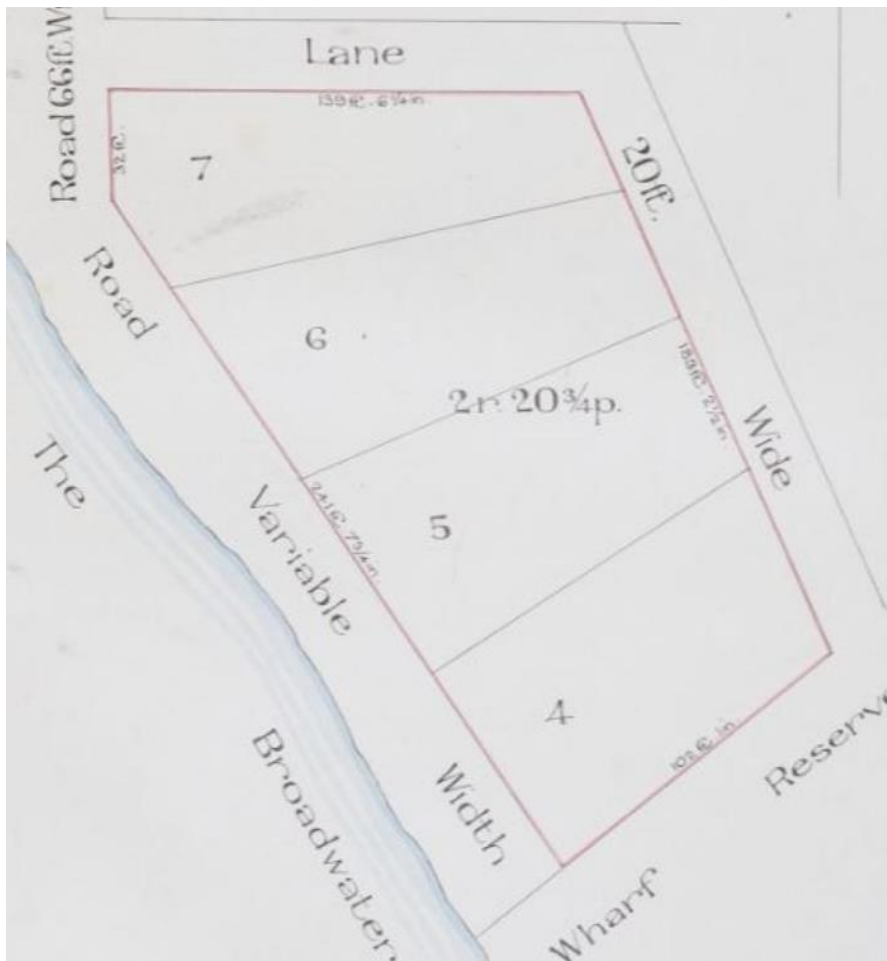


Figure 2.12 1928 Certificate of Title and Subdivision
Allotments 4 to 7 and a resumption of public road labelled as 'lane'



Figure 2.13 1939 Photograph showing the vacant study site (indicated by red arrows).
State Records 15051_a047_005899



Figure 2.14 1939 Photograph taken within the proposed school site; showing the vacant study site at the rear of the 1888-1891 stables.
State Records 15051_a047_005898

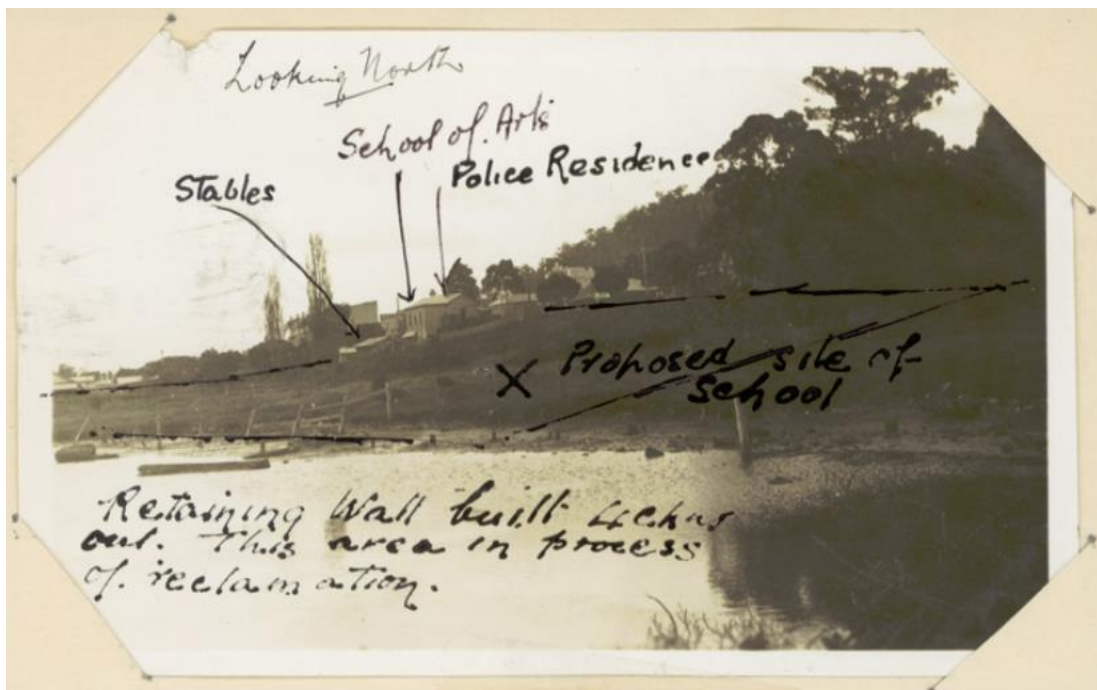


Figure 2.15 1939 Photograph showing proposed new school site on the study site with location of Police Residence (Sergeant's Quarters) and stables.
State Records 15051_a047_005895

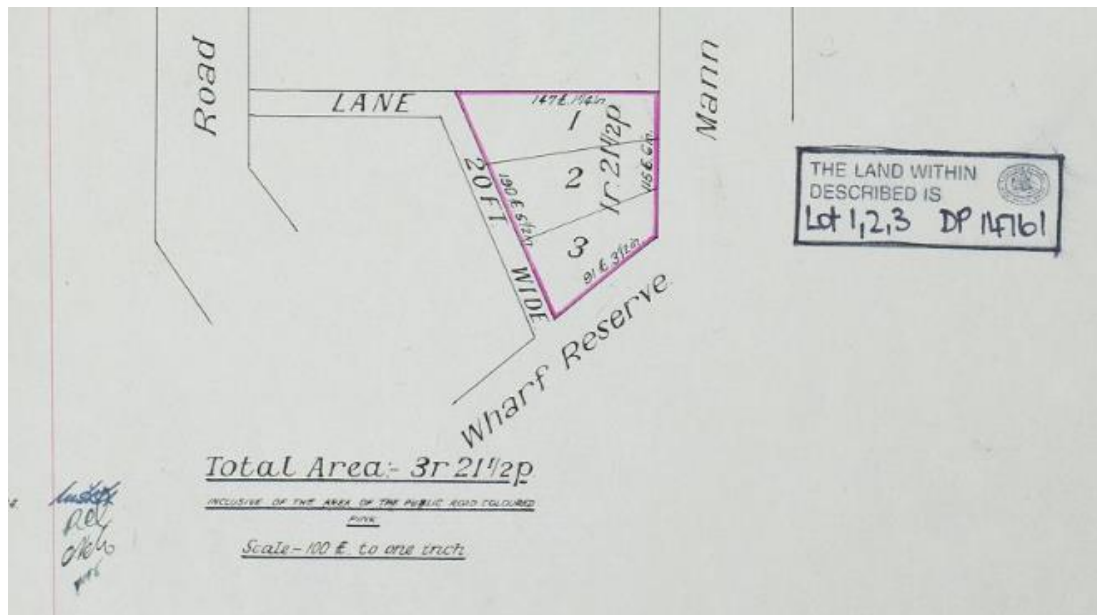


Figure 2.16 1941 Subdivision - Notice of Resumption of Lots 1-3 DP 14761 for the school site.
Vol 5362 Fol 174.

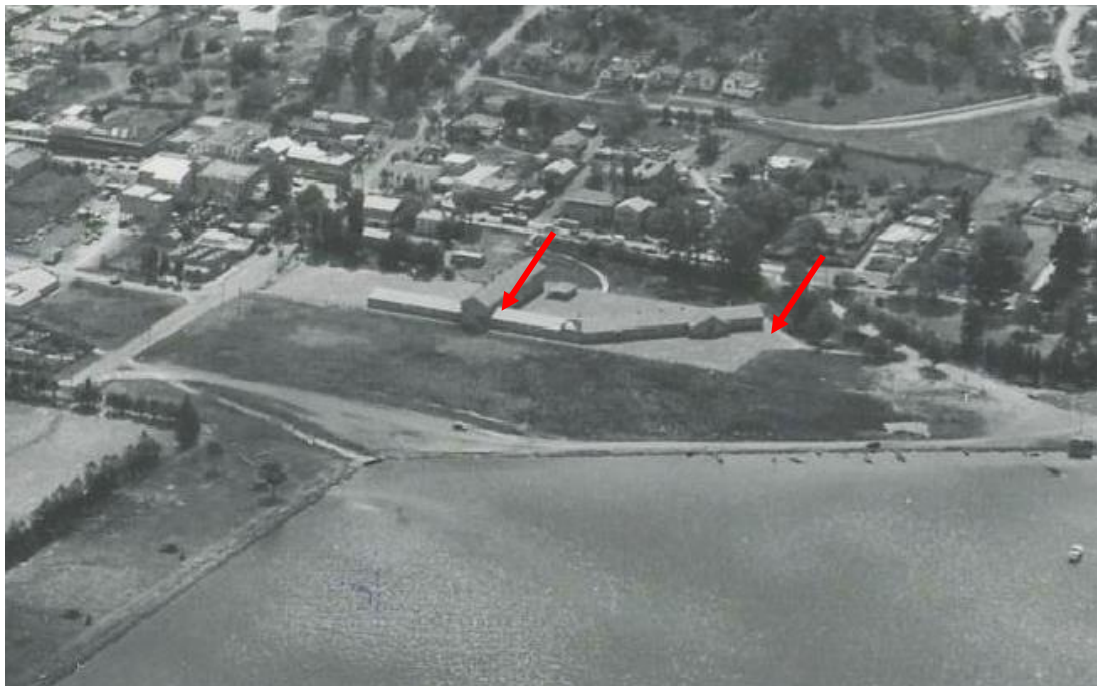


Figure 2.17 Part of a c.1953 aerial photograph, showing the study site (red arrow) and new school building. Facing northeast.
Historical photograph sourced from 'Gostalgia. Local History From Gosford', Flickr, accessed 25th October 2016, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gostalgia>

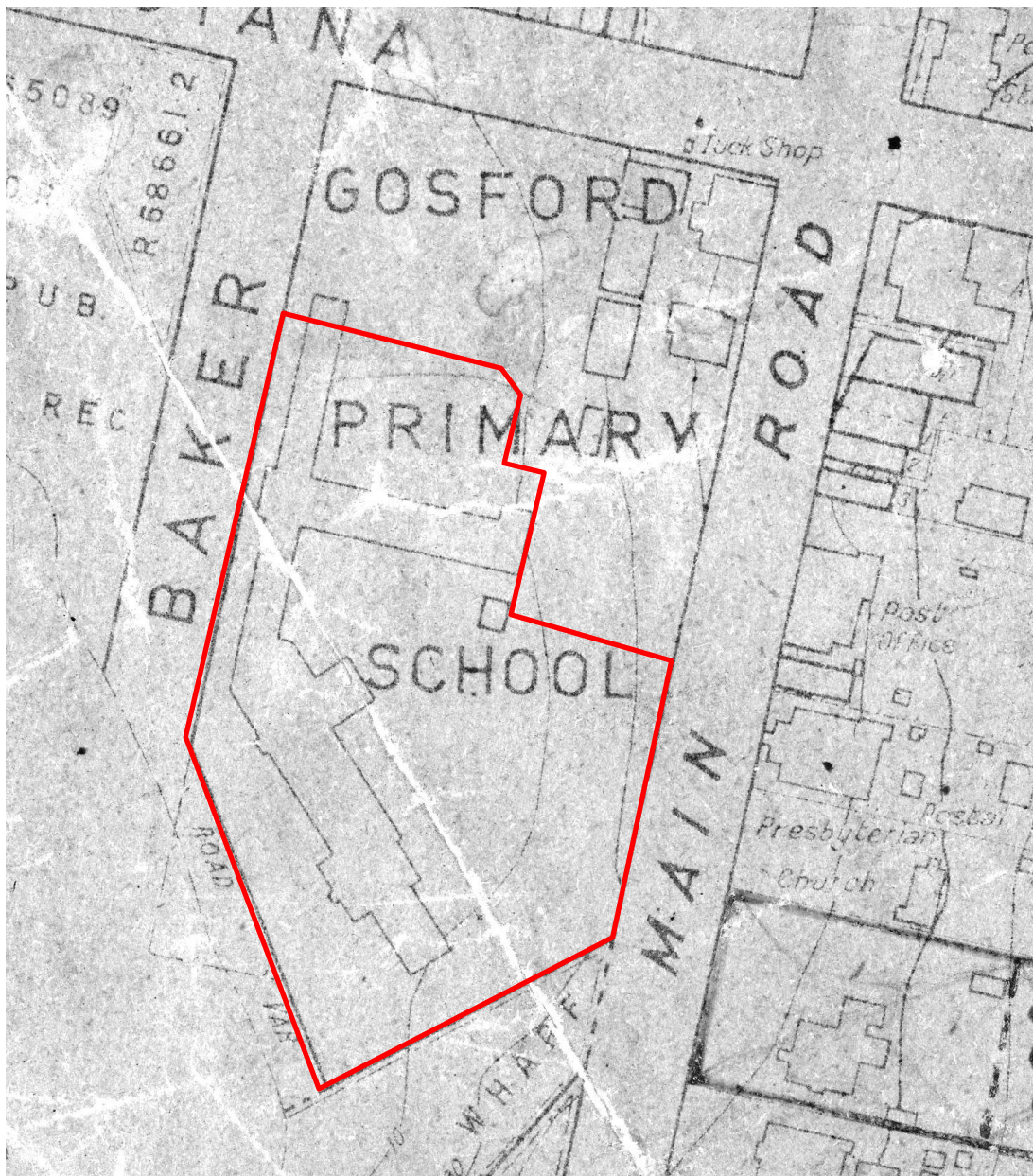


Figure 2.18 Gosford City Map showing the layout of school buildings on the study site in 1954.

Approximate study site is outlined in red.

Source: Gosford CC Library.

3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 SITE INSPECTION

Ben Streat of AMAC Group Pty Ltd inspected the study site on the 22nd August 2019. The study site is vacant land but contained within a larger construction zone for development occurring at the adjacent sites (Figure 3.1, Figure 3.2).

The entrance to the study site is via Vaughan Avenue at the south end of the site (Figure 3.5). The topography of the site is sloping east to west down from Mann Street to a level flat plain (Figure 3.4). The highest level of the site is along the eastern boundary (fronting Mann Street). Thick vegetation and trees were encountered on the slope and the base of the slope is covered by bitumen.

To the north of the site there is a large office building and a large rectangular multi storey building is currently being constructed along Mann Street (Figure 3.2, Figure 3.3). Demountable site offices are situated along the western fence as well as trees.

A manhole for services is located to the south of the site and is covered over with a metal cover (Figure 3.6).



Figure 3.1 **Aerial photograph of study site.**
SixMaps Viewer, accessed 19th August 2019,
<https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>



Figure 3.2 Northern end of study site. Facing north.
AMAC, 22nd August 2019, digital image DSCN3114.



Figure 3.3 Northern end of study site. Facing north.
AMAC, 22nd August 2019, digital image DSCN3123



Figure 3.4 Eastern sloping edge of the study site, looking towards Mann Street. Facing southeast.
AMAC, 22nd August 2019, digital image DSCN3117.



Figure 3.5 Southern end of the study site, facing south.
AMAC, 22nd August 2019, digital image DSCN3119.



Figure 3.6 **Manhole for services, facing north east.**
Note photograph taken prior to any excavation works.
AMAC Group - DSCN0430 (06/02/2017)

3.2 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The soil landscape as identified in the Gosford – Lake Macquarie 1:100 000 map sheet, shows the study area lies on disturbed terrain (xx) (Murphy, 1993). The soils have been identified as being disturbed to a certain extent of which the original soil has either been removed, buried or greatly disturbed. This classification is due to the reclamation work of the Gosford foreshore in the late 1930s. This is evident in the spread of this (xx) terrain along the foreshore, however it does not indicate that the study area, specifically the northern end, has had much impact as the soil profile within the area is expected to be considerably deep.

The local geology of the study area consists of Quaternary alluvium of sand, silt and clay at considerable depths towards the western side of the site and Triassic -aged Terrigal Formation in the eastern side of the site which typically comprises of fine grained, lithic quartz sandstone and siltstone with shale interbeds.⁴³

Surrounding this disturbed terrain is the Erina (er) soil landscape, which consists of a similar geology and the following soil profile;

Er1 (A1 horizon) - Fine brownish-black fine sandy loam with a weak structure and course texture. It also contains inclusions such as sandstone and charcoal fragments as well as roots.

Er2 (A1 horizon/ A2 horizon) - Brown ranging to darkish red sandy clay loam to clay loam with an earthy fabric and light sandy clay loam texture. Sandstone and shale rock fragments are common as well as charcoal and roots.

Er3 (B horizon) - Yellowish brown sandy clay loam to sandy clay with a rough fabric. Colours also range from orange, red and grey mottles. Small sandstone rock fragments are present with few roots.

Er4 (B horizon) – Yellowish brown to dull orange strongly pedal clay with red or grey mottles. Shale rock fragments and roots are rare.

⁴³ Douglas Partners (2014).

3.3 NEARBY SITES – PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

3.3.1 38 Mann Street, Gosford

AMAC Group were engaged in archaeological works in 2016 at 38 Mann Street, partly adjacent to the study site on its northern side. Historical archaeological test excavation (NSW Heritage Act 1977), in conjunction with Aboriginal archaeological test excavation (National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974), was undertaken in April 2016. Full archaeological excavation was undertaken over several days in July, August and September 2016.

Archaeological Test Excavation

Works under the Heritage Act involved the detailed planning and photography of the sandstone retaining wall along Mann Street, as well as six historical test trenches (Sondages A-F) were excavated. Three of these trenches, Sondages B, E and F, were located to test for foundations and deposition associated with the former c.1880s Police Sergeant's Quarters. Evidence for the c.1880s structure was identified within all three sondages. These sandstone foundations were buried under a significant amount of topsoil and demolition material in the eastern portion of this area (more than 1m deep in sondage F), however as the ground dropped away to the west, only a thin layer of topsoil, 10-15cm deep, overlaid the foundations.

Sondages C and D were located on the northern boundary of the site, in closer vicinity to Georgiana Terrace. Both sondages failed to find any evidence of the police stables, however, did indicate that this area was heavily disturbed with multiple phases of filling, possibly from the later development of the primary school. The corner of a well/tank was uncovered at the southern end of Sondage D and appears to be contemporary with the police stables, dating to the late 19th century.

Full Excavation

Full archaeological excavation, in association with contaminated soil removal works, uncovered the structural remains of the original sandstone rear foundations of the c.1888 School of Arts, as well as an early 20th century dry-press brick extension. The early 20th century extension has been constructed on a considerable amount of fill, which demonstrates the quantity of fill introduced to the site in between the original c.1888 construction phase and the early 20th century extension (more than 1m in some areas). No evidence for occupation deposition was identified among any of the areas relating to the School of Arts. Full excavation of the well/tank determined that the feature was a late 19th century dry-press brick tank, approximately 1.3m in depth and constructed on a single course of dry-press bricks. The tank had been filled in with a relatively clean, loamy-clay fill following its disuse. Only a small number of artefacts were present at the base of the tank, including a late 19th century beer bottle and a small quantity of ceramic saucer fragments with blue transfer print in a cable pattern.

In line with the required removal of contaminated fills, this excavation phase also included the complete exposure and archaeological recording of the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters. No evidence for occupation deposition was identified within the footprint of the c.1880s Sergeant's Quarters. No archaeological evidence for the late 19th century police stables were found during full excavation of the site.

3.3.2 32 Mann Street, Gosford

The archaeological investigation of 32 Mann St, Gosford, was carried out between June-July 2017 in a targeted archaeological monitoring zone, where two outbuildings were known to have existed. A series of fills, 30-40cm in depth, were excavated across the monitoring zone uncovering a series of heavily disturbed structural features including the foundations of a sandstone feature [018], sandstone foundations of the stables [019], [020], [021], [022], privy [025] and sandstock brick dish drain [005].

Sandstone feature [018], consisted of a curved line of flat sandstone blocks, single course in height. This feature was laid roughly northeast to southwest curving towards the north at the eastern end. This feature was robbed away at both ends making interpretation of the feature's function difficult to assess. No mortar was found on the surface to suggest upper courses and although the feature had the appearance of a path, it was only 45-50cm wide (Figure 3.8). To the west of this feature, the foundations of the former stables were uncovered. These foundations, [019], [020], [021], [022], were constructed of cut sandstone blocks bonded with mineral lime mortar, 1-2 courses in depth, forming two rooms. These have been interpreted as the foundations of the late 1880s stables which are known to have been located here from historic photographs and appear to have been standing up until the 1950s. The rear of this building was heavily disturbed with the southern part of the building pushed out of alignment and the back wall entirely absent. The sandstone foundations of a privy [025], were located just west of the building and also correspond to historic photographs. No deposition was found within either structure and no cesspit was found within the privy.

A small section of a sandstock brick dish drain [005] was found just south of the foundations of the stables. This was initially discovered during Aboriginal Test Excavation at the site, as it was just below the disturbed topsoil. Although this appeared to run towards the stables, no connection was found between the two structures.

The sandstone foundations uncovered on the site are consistent with the documentary record for this area which indicated that a stables and privy were located on this particular allotment from the late 19th century until the mid-20th century (Figure 3.10). These features were assessed as being locally significant and were fully archaeological recorded and removed.



Figure 3.7 Foundations for Stables and Privy, facing south.
AMAC Group, July 2017.



Figure 3.8 Sandstone feature [018], facing west.
AMAC Group, July 2017.



Figure 3.9 Sandstock brick drain [005] (stables, privy and feature [018] in background), facing northeast.
AMAC Group, July 2017.

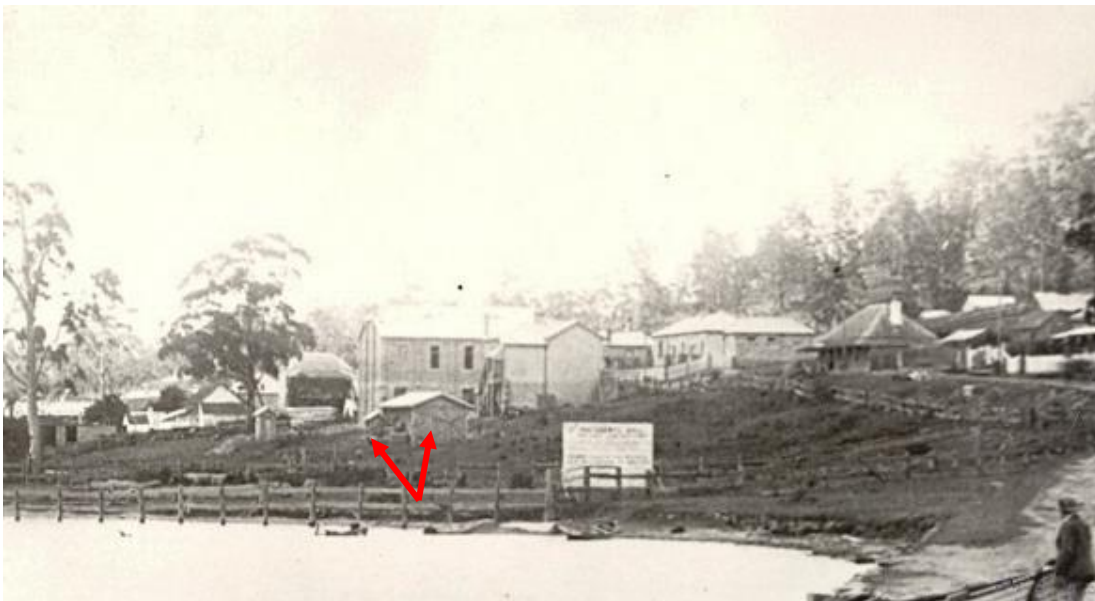


Figure 3.10 c.1887 (though likely post 1887) historical photograph showing stables and outbuilding on the study site (red arrows).

Note that the School of Arts was constructed in 1888 and is present in this photograph, therefore, the photograph is c.1888 or later. Historical photograph sourced from 'Gostalgia. Local History From Gosford', Flickr, accessed 25th October 2016, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gostalgia>

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

3.3.1 Introduction

The key role in assessing the archaeological potential of a site is to determine the probability for archaeological remains on the study site as well as the likelihood of their survival.⁴⁴ The discussion of archaeological potential synthesises the results of historic development of the site and evaluating impacts of existing structures to earlier archaeological remains.

3.3.2 Discussion of Archaeological Potential

The northern portion of the study site forms part of a wider portion of the early settlement of the Gosford government village and police paddocks since the 1840s. The southern portion of the study site was originally subdivided into three allotments that were publicly for sale and appear to have formed undeveloped land fenced off as private paddocks. No development is known to have ever occurred on the study site until the construction of Gosford Public School during the mid-20th century. Known structures including the c.1880 Police Sergeant's Quarters and c.1888-1891 stables and privy that related to the police paddocks have all been archaeologically excavated in adjacent sites (32 and 38 Mann Street).

Based on historic photographs there was earlier wooden boundary fencing on the study site to divide the paddocks. This was not recorded on any plan and considering the level of disturbance from the school construction phase, compounded with the fact that these form ephemeral remains, it is unlikely that evidence of boundary fences would be seen in an intact and legible state. Unknown archaeological potential exists for undocumented material associated with the wider police paddocks occupation phase and general agricultural activity on the study site. Common types of undocumented features include evidence of cultivation (hoe marks), agricultural drains or culverts and postholes for boundary fences or animal enclosures.

There is moderate potential for evidence of the site's most recent use as Gosford Public School. Evidence of this late 20th century occupation phase may include brick footings from school buildings, rubbish scatters or decommissioned services.

3.3.3 Statement of Archaeological Potential

No historic evidence exists to indicate the presence of known archaeological remains or direct development of the study site in association with the wider government use of the police paddocks and agricultural activities on the private paddocks during the 19th to mid-20th centuries. The study site is assessed as having unknown archaeological potential for undocumented ephemeral remains relating to agricultural use or cultivation activities.

⁴⁴ Heritage Office, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996), p. 15.

3.4 CONCLUSIONS OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

- The study site is set within a wider precinct of land undergoing larger construction zone for several developments occurring along Mann Street and Georgiana Terrace.
- The study site is presently vacant.
- The topography of the site slopes east to west with west (Mann Street) being the highest point.
- No development is known to have occurred on the study site until the mid-20th century school phase.
- There are no known historic structures on the study site.
- There is unknown archaeological potential for ephemeral features relating to the 19th century police paddocks phase and agricultural activities on the private paddocks from the 1870s to mid-20th century.
- There is moderate archaeological potential for structural remains including brick footings or rubbish scatters relating to the mid-20th century school phase.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 METHODOLOGY

The current standard for assessment of significance of heritage items in NSW is the publication ‘Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and ‘Relics’ produced by the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning (December 2009). This production is an update to the NSW Heritage Manual (1996), and the criteria detailed therein are a revised version of those of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, formulated in 1979, which was based largely on the Venice Charter (for International Heritage) of 1966.

Archaeological heritage significance can also be viewed in light of the framework set out by Bickford and Sullivan in 1984.⁴⁵ Bickford and Sullivan, taking into consideration the “archaeological, scientific or research significance” of a site posed three questions in order to identify significance:

1. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other resource can?
2. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other site can?
3. Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive problems relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?⁴⁶

These questions have been broadly used to shape the response to the heritage significance criteria as described in Section 4.2 and 4.3.

The criteria and the definitions provided by ‘Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and ‘Relics’ have been adhered to in assessing the cultural significance of the potential archaeological site at 26 Mann Street, Gosford NSW. An assessment of significance, under each of the criteria, is made possible by an analysis of the broad body of archaeological sites previously excavated both locally and elsewhere, in conjunction with the historical overview of the study site in particular.

The Criteria used to assess Heritage Significance in NSW are the following:

Table 4.1 Criteria for Assessing Heritage in NSW

Criterion	Description	Significance
Criterion A	An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
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 or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion C	An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or the local area	State significant or locally significant

⁴⁵ Bickford and Sullivan (1984)

⁴⁶ Bickford and Sullivan (1984), p.23-4

Criterion D	An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW or a local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons	State significant or locally significant
Criterion E	An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion F	An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion G	An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's or a local area's - cultural or natural places; or - cultural or natural environments	State significant or locally significant

The following assessment deals only with sub-surface archaeological features and deposits. The built environment is not considered in this study.

4.2 IDENTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeological Research Potential (NSW Heritage Criterion E)

The study site forms part of a wider portion of the early settlement of the Gosford government village and wider police paddocks since the 1840s. Nearby excavations have provided archaeological data contributing to the 19th century cultural development of Gosford. However, the study site remained undeveloped until the construction of the public school in the mid-20th century. No known relics have been identified at the study site and all known structures related to the occupation of the police paddocks in the northern portion of the site have already been archaeologically excavated (see Section 3.3).

The southern portion of the study site was originally divided into three allotments that were privately owned from the 1870s onwards. The allotments were undeveloped paddocks and several fence lines are visible on historic photographs. Ephemeral features such as these hold limited research potential and if found, would only confirm what is already known about the function of the site and is unlikely to be considered of local or State significance.

There is moderate potential for evidence of the sites most recent use as Gosford Public School, which could include brick footings or rubbish scatters, though features related to this occupation phase are not considered to be of either local or State archaeological significance.

Associations with individuals, events or groups of historical importance (NSW Heritage Criteria A, B and D)

There is no particular event or individual that provides additional historical importance through association with the northern portion of the site (Criterion B and D). In fact, very little is known about the occupants of the adjacent Sergeant's Quarters, whereby any occupation or use of the study site was likely in relation to these quarters, or the police precinct in general. The site was clearly associated with the Police force from the 1840s and for approximately 100 years thereafter. While

the site may hold some cultural importance in the development of the police force in Gosford (Criterion A), evidence of these relationships is not expected among the archaeological record at the site.

Early settler Peter Fagan and his reputable family owned the southern portion of the study site for nearly five decades. They contributed largely to the economic development of Gosford and surrounding community through farming, citrus orchards, breeding cattle and racehorses, mail contracts and a timber business. The family was associated with Australian colonial poet, Henry Kendall however there is no way this association is demonstrated in the archaeological record. The Fagan's long-term contribution to the community could be seen as locally significant to the Gosford area and agricultural industry (Criterion A, B and D). Though the significance will not be present in the archaeological record of the site.

Aesthetic or technical significance (NSW Heritage Criterion C)

The site is not considered to be of potential local or State significance according to this criterion.

Ability to demonstrate the past through archaeological remains (NSW Heritage Criteria A, C, F & G)

The northern portion of the study site was used as Police paddocks relating to the continual and long-term occupation and wider development of the site by the Gosford Police, which spanned from the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries (Criterion A and G). Stables and a privy dating between c.1888-1891 have already been excavated northeast of the study site (see Section 3.3). Based on historic plans and photographs, no relics of local or State significance exist on the study site.

Based on historical plans and photographs, the southern portion of the study site was undeveloped and used as private paddocks during the 19th to mid-20th centuries. Evidence of earlier boundary fences in the form of postholes may survive. However, this type of material is ephemeral in nature and instances of later ground surface disturbance from the mid-20th century school construction phase would have further truncated these remains.

There is potential for unknown features relating to the agricultural use of the study site which could include animal enclosures, hoe marks, agricultural drains or culverts. The nature of the material is not anticipated to be considered rare or uncommon to the local history of the Gosford area (Criterion F). Isolated instances of these ephemeral features, if they exist, are unlikely to be considered a relic under the NSW Heritage Act. Therefore, the study site is not expected to yield material of either local or State significance according to these criterion (Criterion A and G).

4.3 STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The study site forms part of the early settlement of Gosford, located within an area that initially housed buildings specifically related to government presence in Gosford. The study site formed part of a wider area occupied by the Police, with the Sergeant's Quarters, c.1888-1891 stables and privy and other associated buildings located on adjacent lots north and east of the study site. The southern portion of the study site is also part of the wider Gosford area that was available for public ownership and used as private paddocks. In the 1950s, the study site, alongside the wider area, became part of the Gosford Public School grounds.

Based on historical photographs and plans the study site remained undeveloped up until the mid-20th century school phase. The study site does not have any known relics, nor would potential undocumented ephemeral features such as cultivation marks or disturbed postholes from earlier boundary fencing be considered a relic under the NSW Heritage Act 1977. Thus, the potential archaeological record of the study site is not considered of local or State significance.

5.0 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT

Heritage impact statements are intended to convey the impact to the archaeological or heritage resource of a site proposed by a particular development. As with a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI), this section synthesises the significance of the resource, what impact the proposed works will have on that significance, what measures could mitigate negative impacts and why more sympathetic solutions are not viable.⁴⁷ Unlike a SoHI, this section focuses only on the archaeological significance of the study site.

5.1 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development seeks to construct three multi-storey buildings, a dedicated public space and landscaping works. Buildings 1 and 3 will consist of mixed residential, commercial and retail use and Building 2 will contain a hotel with a conference centre. The proposed development requires subterranean excavation for:

- Excavation for levelling of the site including filling and cutting of the current ground surface.
- Excavation for pavement and public space surrounding the three buildings.
- Excavation across the site for the foundations of the three building (pilings, footings, foundation slab).
- Excavation below the current ground surface for the ground, first and second level carparks.
- Excavation for a loading zone on the ground floor.
- Excavation for several lift shafts on the ground floor.
- Landscaping works that include excavation for planting of large trees.

A sample of the development application proposed plans are provided as Figure 5.1 - Figure 5.6 below.

⁴⁷ Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996) NSW Heritage Manual: Statements of Heritage Impact.

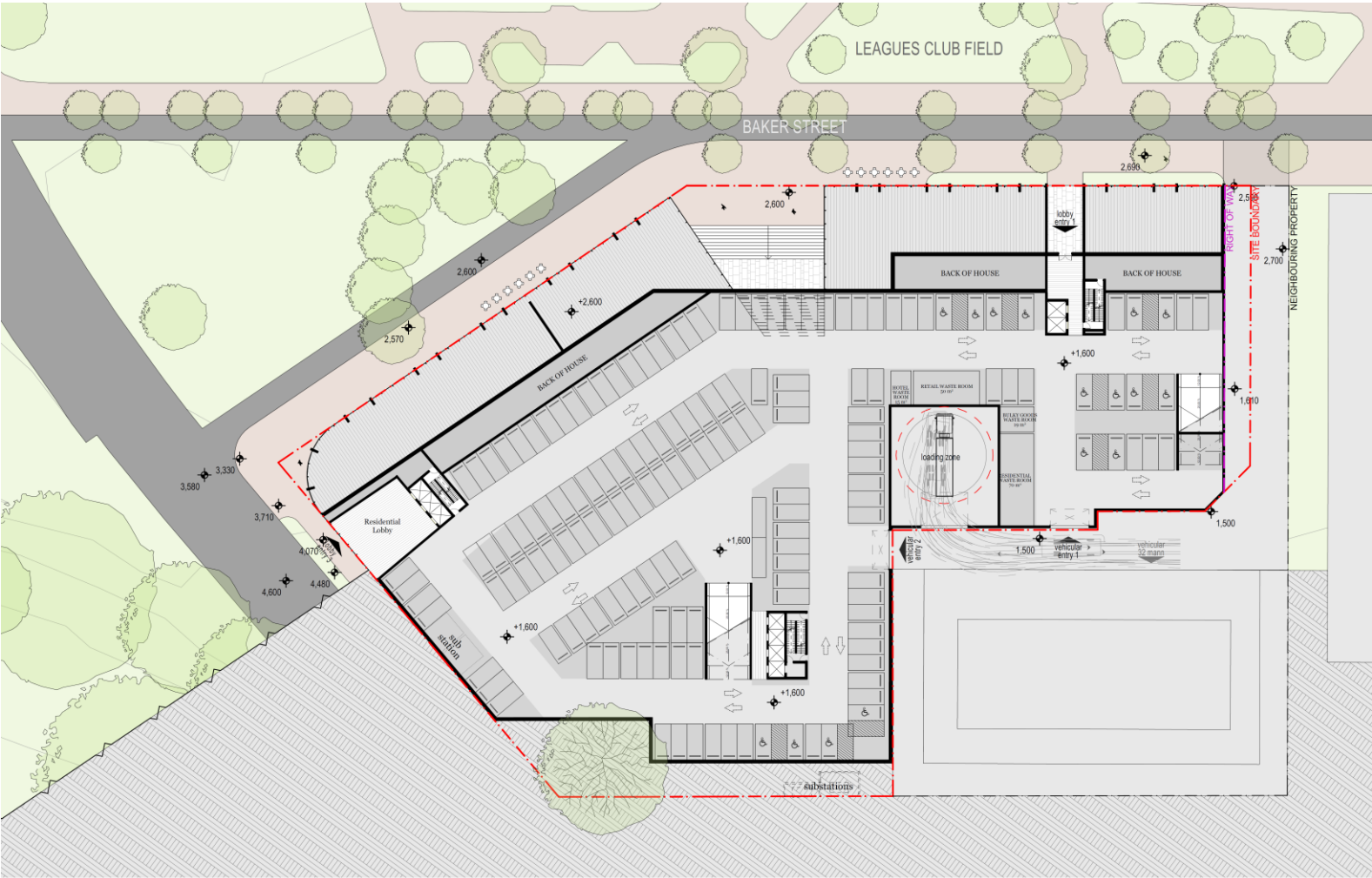


DKO
Figure 5.1

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

26-32 Mann Street
Site plan
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:1000
Revision: P3

Proposed Site Plan
DKO – Revision: P3 (13/08/2019).



DKO

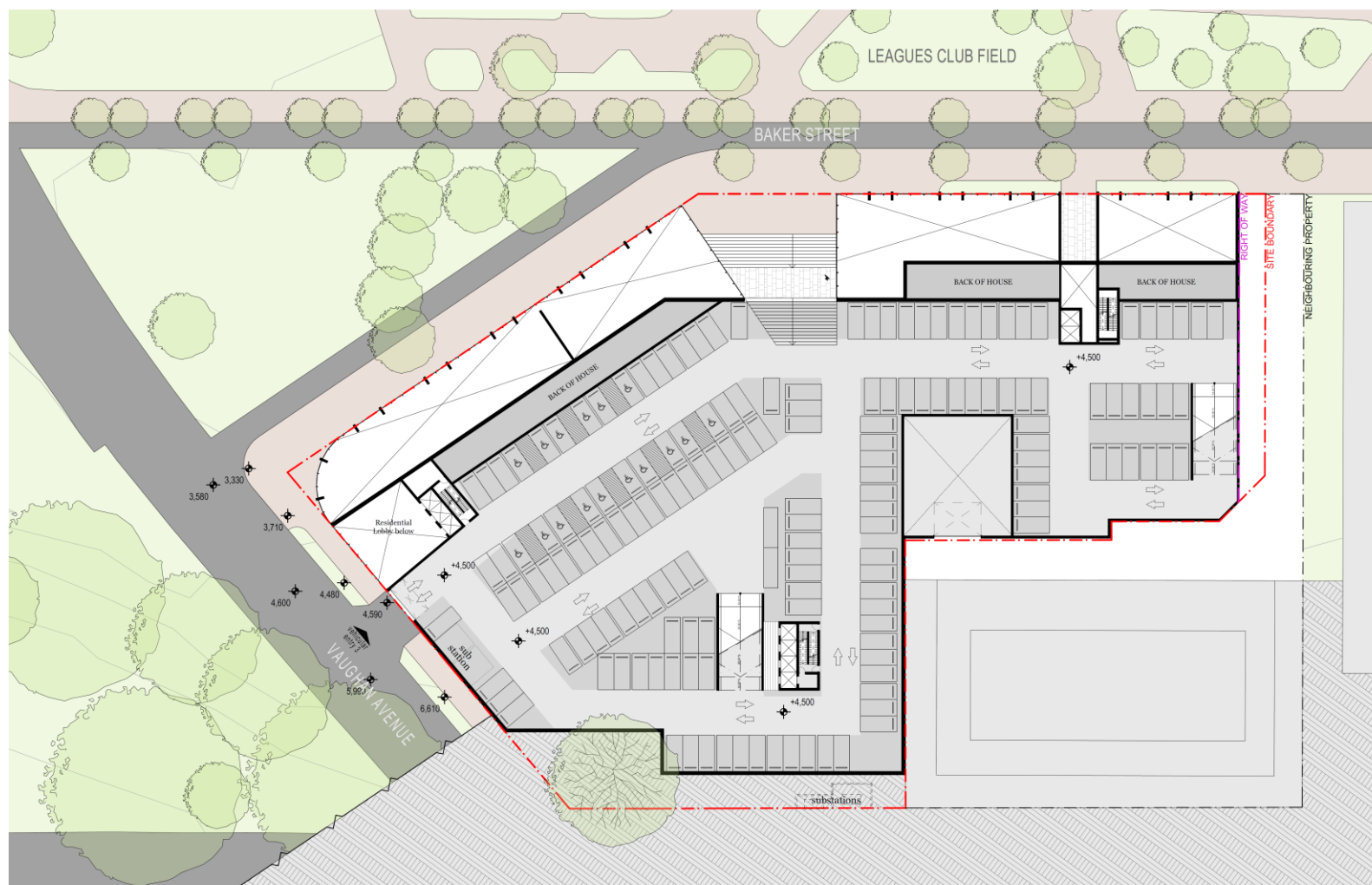
Figure 5.2

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

26-32 Mann Street
Ground Floor (Baker St)
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:500

Revision: P4

Proposed Ground Floor
DKO – Revision: P4 (13/08/2019).



DKO

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

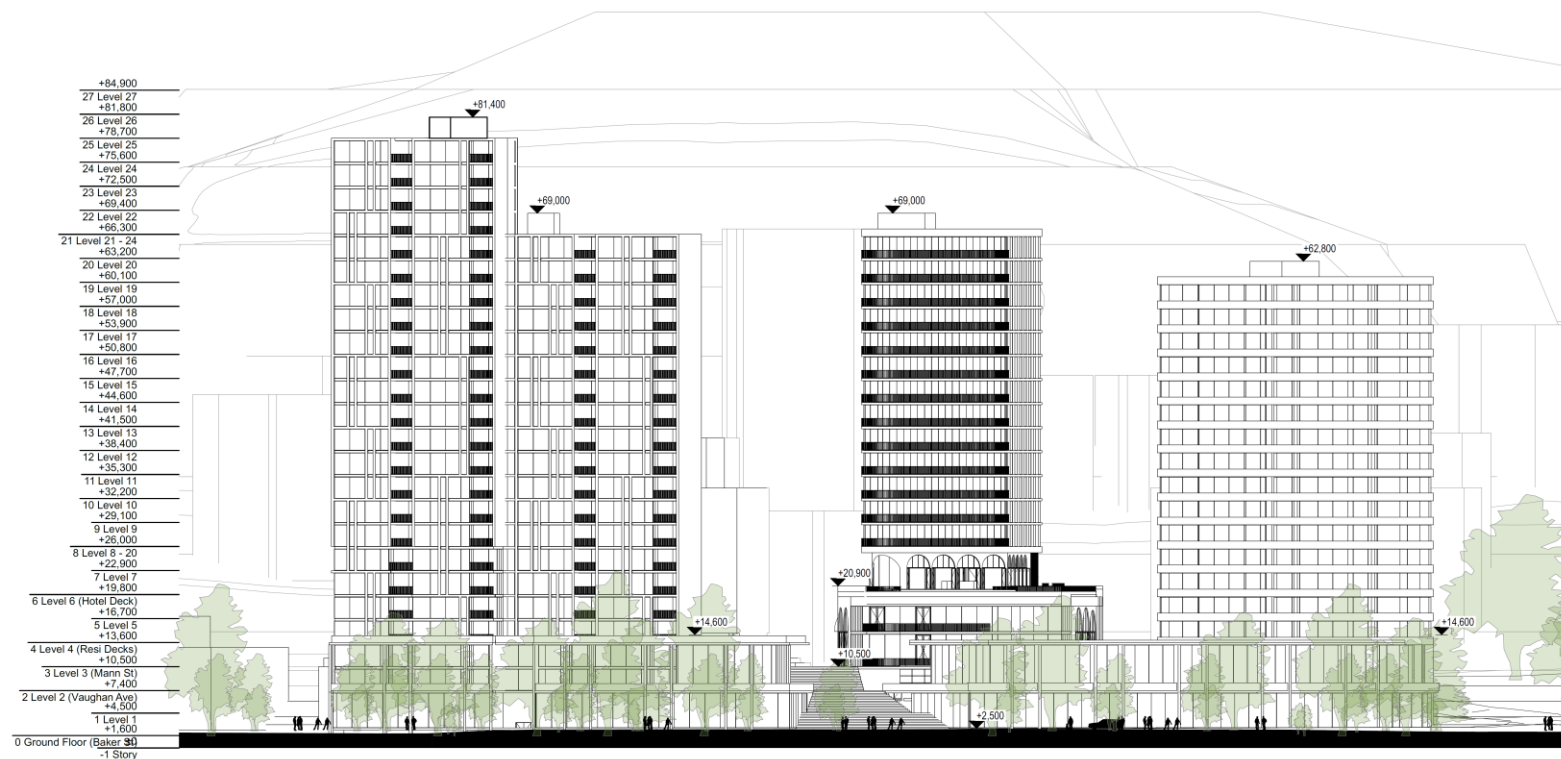
26-32 Mann Street
Level One
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:500

Revision: P4

Figure 5.3

Proposed Level One

DKO – Revision: P4 (13/08/2019).



DKO

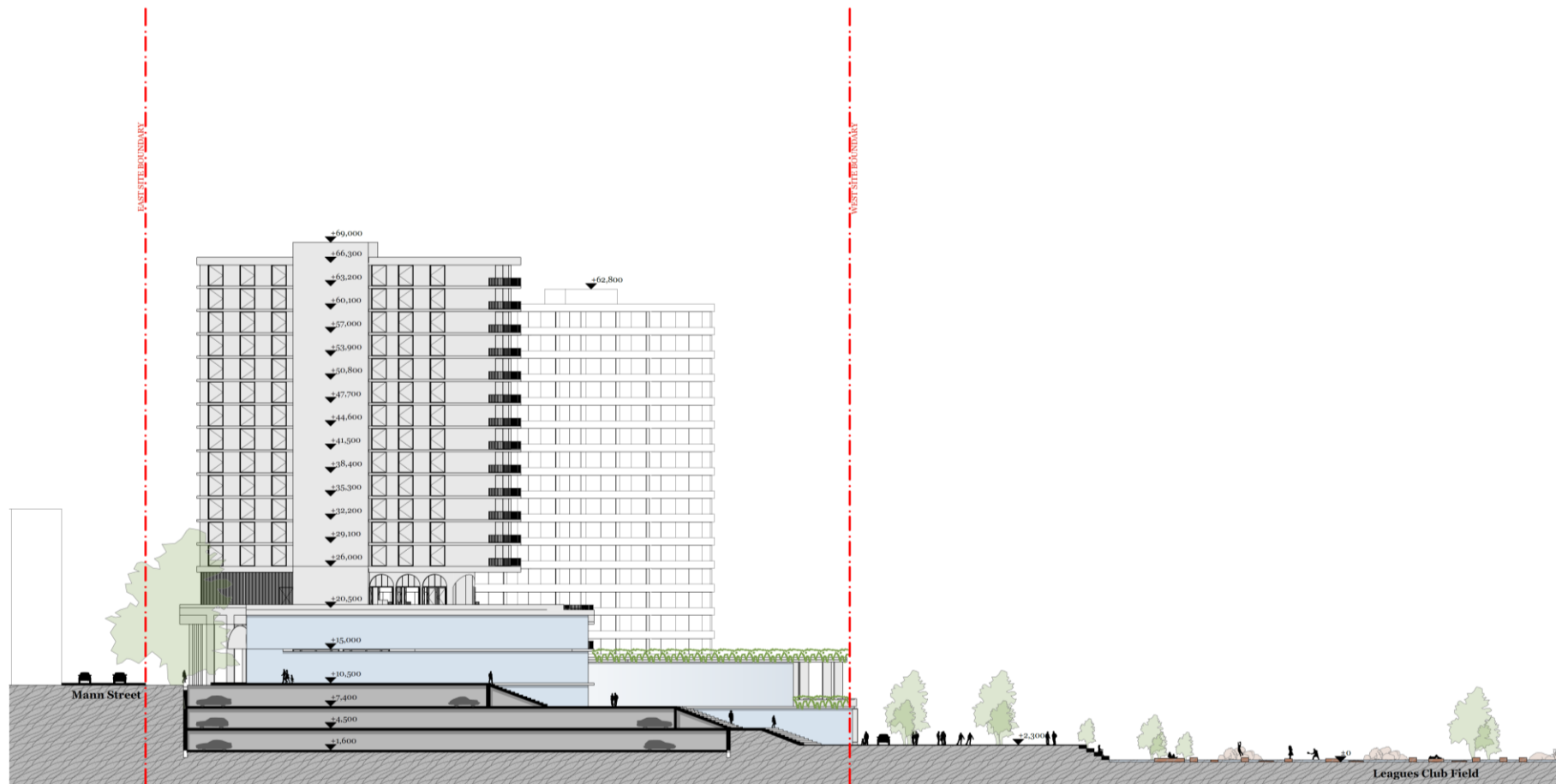
Figure 5.4

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

26-32 Mann Street
East Site Elevation
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:500

Revision: P3

Proposed East Site Elevation
DKO – Revision: P3 (13/08/2019).



DKO

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

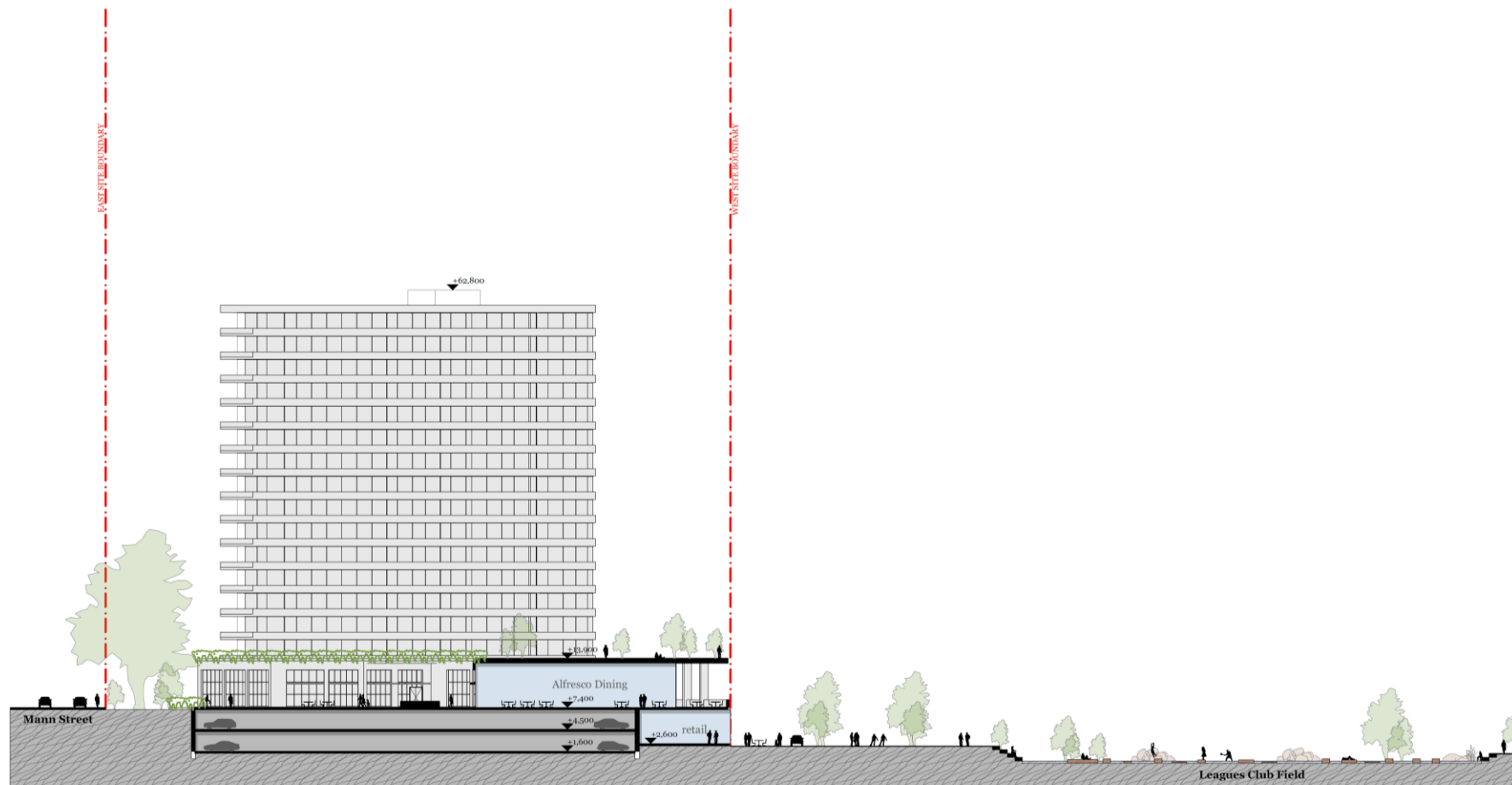
26-32 Mann Street
Site Section A
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:500

Revision: P2

Figure 5.5

Proposed Site Section A

DKO – Revision: P2 (13/08/2019).



DKO

26 Mann Street
Gosford
NSW 2250

26-32 Mann Street
Site Section B
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Scale: 1:500
Revision: P2

Figure 5.6

Proposed Site Section B

DKO – Revision: P2 (13/08/2019).

5.2 STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

The proposed development will utilise the entire study site footprint and as no known relics of potential local or State significance have been identified at the study site, the proposed development will have nil heritage impact on the historical archaeological record of the site.

Based on this information, it is recommended that this Baseline Archaeological Assessment be submitted as supporting documentation for SEARs Application SSD-10114 and submitted to the relevant Delegate, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. As no evidence of known relics or historic development has been identified at the study site, further historic archaeological assessment or permit application for field works is considered unnecessary.

It is recommended that prior to the commencement of excavation works at the study site, a qualified archaeologist briefs all on site contractors as to the types of undocumented archaeological material which may occur at the study site and the relevant stop works procedures to deal with such finds.

5.3 CONCLUSIONS OF SOHI

- The proposed development looks to construct three multi-storey buildings, public space and landscaping works.
- The proposed development requires subterranean excavation across the majority of the study sites footprint.
- No known relics of potential local or State significance have been identified on the study site.
- As a result, the proposed development will have nil impact to the archaeological record of the site.
- It is recommended that this Baseline Archaeological Assessment be submitted with Application number SSD-10114.
- No further historic archaeological assessment or permit application for field works is considered necessary.

6.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 RESULTS

6.1.1 Documentary Research

The northern portion of the study site forms part of a wider portion of land that was used as Police paddocks from the 1840s, in association with the Sergeant's Quarters, stables and privy that was located east but in close proximity to the study site. The southern portion of the site was part of three original grants that were purchased by Thomas Donlon and Peter Fagan in 1871. The land was not developed and purposed for private paddocks. Both the Police paddocks and the privately-owned paddocks continued to function this way until the mid-20th century when Gosford Public School was established on the site.⁴⁸

6.1.2 Physical Evidence

The study site presently forms vacant land that is part of an overall wider upcoming development zone. The site slopes east to west down from Mann Street. The proposed development seeks to construct three multi storey buildings, a public space and landscaping works across the entire footprint of the study site.

No known relics have been identified on the study site. Unknown archaeological potential exists for undocumented ephemeral material relating to agricultural activities during the 19th and 20th centuries. Moderate archaeological potential for remains such as brick footings or rubbish scatters from the mid-20th century school construction.

6.1.3 Significance

Based on historical photographs and plans the study site remained undeveloped up until the mid-20th century school phase. The study site does not have any known relics, nor would potential undocumented ephemeral features such as cultivation marks or disturbed postholes from earlier boundary fencing be considered a relic under the NSW Heritage Act 1977. Thus, the potential archaeological record of the study site is not considered of local or State significance.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this Baseline Archaeological Assessment be submitted as accompanying documentation for SEARs Application SSD-10114 and submitted to the relevant Delegate, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. As no evidence of known relics or historic development has been identified at the study site, no further historic archaeological assessment or application for field works is considered necessary.

Should any unexpected archaeological material be uncovered during excavation, works must cease while an archaeologist is contacted to inspect the finds and manage the appropriate course of action. Though considered unlikely for this site, further assessment and liaison with the Heritage, DPC, or relevant delegate may be required for such finds.

⁴⁸ Edward Higginbotham and Associates (July 2014), pp. 5-21.

6.3 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT

The proposed development will utilise the entire study site footprint and as no known relics of potential local or State significance have been identified at the study site, the proposed development will have nil heritage impact on the historic archaeological record of the site.

As no relics have been identified on the study site, further historic archaeological assessment or permit application for field works is considered unnecessary. It is recommended that prior to the commencement of excavation works at the study site, a qualified archaeologist briefs all site contractors as to the types of undocumented archaeological material which may occur at the study site and the relevant stop works procedures to deal with such finds.

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