



ARCHAEOLOGY – HERITAGE – MEDIATION – ARBITRATION

# New Liverpool Primary School

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Archaeological Assessment,  
Research Design and  
Excavation Methodology

30 APRIL **2021**

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Report to: Department of Education, School  
Infrastructure NSW

LGA: Liverpool

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| A   | 30/04/2021 | David Nutley | Dr Jillian Comber | Dr Jillian Comber |

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to acknowledge the assistance provide by the Department of Education's Heritage Advisor, Raphael Gracia.

## INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Liverpool Primary School (NLPS) is located within the grounds of the existing Liverpool Boys' and Girls' High Schools in the Liverpool Central Business District (CBD), at 18 Forbes Street, Liverpool. The proposed New Liverpool Primary School is located in the eastern portion of the existing school grounds.

The project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development (SSD) under Section 4.12(8) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Schedule 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

Comber Consultants have been engaged to provide this historical archaeological assessment, research design and excavation methodology to address the conditions in Section 9 of the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) - (SSD-10391 issued on 27 November 2019 and reissued on 9 January 2020), in respect of historical archaeology.

To mitigate the impact of the construction of the new Liverpool primary school this report makes the following recommendations:

1. The mitigation strategies outlined in section 6.1 of this report should be implemented. Those measures are:
  - Archaeological test/salvage excavations should be undertaken to establish the presence of evidence of the former occupation sites.
  - Monitoring of areas of archaeological potential which may be impacted upon by the proposed redevelopment should be undertaken when ground clearance is occurring.
2. A s140 permit under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* will be required prior to any ground disturbance, if such works occur as part of the early works, prior to the SSDA approval. The test/salvage excavations should be undertaken in accordance with the Research Design attached at Appendix A. This report will need to be submitted to Heritage NSW with the application for a s140 permit.
3. A s140 permit will not be required if the archaeological testing/salvage is undertaken once the SSDA approvals have been received. The test/salvage excavations should be undertaken in accordance with the Research Design attached at Appendix A.
4. If, during the development of the New Liverpool Primary School any relics are unexpectedly uncovered, all work should cease in the vicinity of those relics and the consultant contacted to provide advice.
5. All employees/contractors/sub-contractors etc., working on the site should be inducted into the provisions of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* with particular reference to the protection of relics.



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

The New Liverpool Primary School (NLPs) is located within the grounds of the existing Liverpool Boys' and Girls' High Schools in the Liverpool Central Business District (CBD), at 18 Forbes Street, Liverpool. The proposed New Liverpool Primary School is located in the eastern portion of the existing school grounds (Figure 1).

The site is legally described as Lot 1 in DP 1137425. This project will be assessed as a State Significant Development. The application seeks consent for the construction and operation of a New Liverpool Primary School. This will include construction of a new school building for core school facilities, teaching spaces, support units, preschools as well as associated landscaping and open space improvements. A detailed description of development is provided by Ethos Urban within the EIS.

The project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development (SSD) under Section 4.12(8) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Schedule 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

Comber Consultants have been engaged to provide this historical archaeological assessment, research design and excavation methodology to address the conditions in Section 9 of the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) - (SSD-10391 issued on 27 November 2019 and reissued on 9 January 2020), in respect of historical archaeology, as follows:

*If the SOHI identifies impact on potential historical archaeology, an historical archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with the heritage guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential archaeological resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. If harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations or salvage programme.*

This report has been written in accordance with the Heritage Division's *Heritage Manual, Archaeological Assessment (1996)*, *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics (2009)* and *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice*.



**Figure 1:** New Liverpool Primary School Site Plan



## **1.2 Heritage Listings**

The Liverpool Boys' & Girls' High Schools are not listed on the State Heritage Register or on the Liverpool Local Environmental Plan 2008. The Department of Education has a draft s170 Register and neither of the schools are listed on the draft s170 Register.

## **1.3 Limitations**

Although the land in the study area has been converted to Torrens Title only some of the Primary Applications include a detailed schedule of transactions. Where this has occurred, research has relied on searching indexes and maps and plans to document the chain of title. The chain of titles for some parts of the study area remains incomplete. A number of Official Searches undertaken for Section 29 were not able to be viewed at the Land Titles Office (OS No. 426, 469, 450, 1671, 5538 LPI). A number of land grants in the study area are linked to Court of Claims cases that have not been viewed. Should further research be required, it is suggested that both Court of Claims records and Primary Application Packets and related documents be searched at State Archives and Records NSW.

Due to the complexity of the Old Systems land title search and time constraints for this research, records linked to school files at State Archives and Records New South Wales have not been viewed. These records should be investigated if further information is required. It is also possible that the Department of Education holds some records, maps and plans.

## **1.4 Authors**

Caroline Plim B.A., Assoc Dip Local and Applied History, Historian, researched and wrote section 2 "History" and Section 3 "Significance Assessment." The remainder of the report was written by David Nutley, Archaeologist and was reviewed and approved by Dr Jillian Comber.



## 2.0 LEGISLATION

### 2.1 Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)

#### State Heritage Register

s31 of the NSW *Heritage Act 1977* provides for the establishment and maintenance of the State Heritage Register by the Heritage Council. s32 allows the Minister to direct the listing of an item which is of State heritage significance and sets out the procedure for listing an item.

Under s57 of the Heritage Act a person must not “demolish, despoil, excavate, alter, move, damage or destroy” an item listed on the State Heritage Register without a permit under s60 of the Act.

The study area is not listed on the State Heritage Register.

#### Protection of relics

As defined in the NSW Heritage Act 1977 a “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 significance”*

Under s139 of the *Heritage Act* it is an offence to disturb a relic, as follows:

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

To excavate or disturb a relic a permit under s140 of the *Heritage Act* is required.

However, as this project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development approval is not required under the *Heritage Act* (See 2.2 below).

### 2.2 State Significant Development

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development (SSD-10391) under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act). Section 89J of the EPA Act (see below) does not require that a State significant development seek approval under the Heritage Act as follows:

s4.41 details the authorisations that are not required for State significant development, as detailed below. s4.41(c) states that an excavation permit is not required.

4.41 Approvals etc legislation that does not apply  
(cf previous s 89J)

- (1) The following authorisations are not required for State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division (and accordingly the provisions of any Act that prohibit an activity without such as authority do not apply):

(c) an approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

- (2) Division 8 of Part 6 of the Heritage Act 1977 does not apply to prevent or interfere with the carrying out of State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division.

- (3) A reference in this section to State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division includes a reference to any investigative or other activities that are required to be carried out for the purpose of complying with any environmental assessment requirements under this Part in connection with a development application for any such development.



The EPA Act is administered by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) who will provide the consent for this project and for any impact on relics.

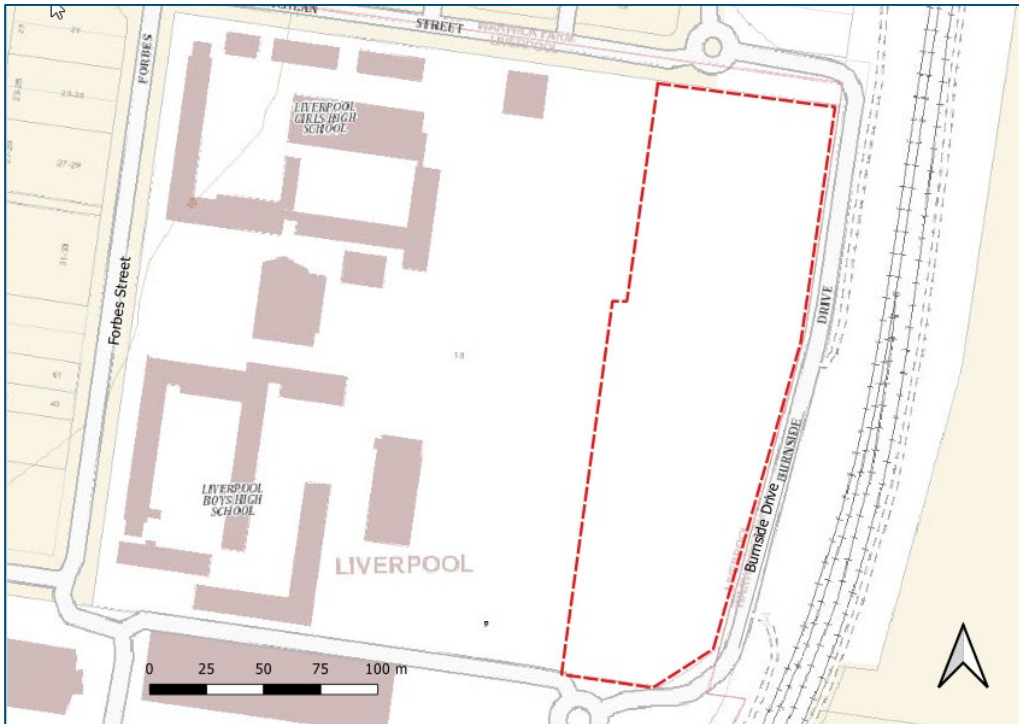
Condition 9, Heritage, of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD-10391) issued on 9/02/2021 requires that a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) is prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual. If the SOHI identifies impact on potential historical archaeology, the SEARS requires that

*.. an historical archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with the heritage guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential archaeological resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. If harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations or salvage programme.*

This report has been written to address the above requirement and is an assessment of the archaeological potential of the site.

### 3.0 PROPOSAL

The proposed New Liverpool Primary School is to be built on the eastern portion of the current Boys' and Girls' High Schools (Figure 1). The study area extends along the length of Burnside Drive to the east and is bound by Lachlan Street to the north. (Figures 2 & 3).



**Figure 2:** The proposed New Liverpool Primary School site outlined in red. (NSW Government Land and Property Information with overlays by Comber Consultants)



**Figure 3:** The proposed site of the new primary school and relationship to the Boys and Girls Schools (Nearmap with overlay by Comber Consultants)



The proposed works include:

- A. Removal of some existing trees and cricket practice nets (Figure 3), and
- B. Construction of a primary school and a pre-school including:
  - 3-storied structures to accommodate student and staff facilities
  - An unencumbered area which will include a shared playing field.

Figure 1 shows the proposed site layout.



## 4.0 HISTORY

### 3.1 Establishment of the Town of Liverpool

Liverpool was the first of several towns founded by Lachlan Macquarie during his Governorship of New South Wales. Although settlers had already established farms in the district, the site for a township was not selected until November 1810. Macquarie's aim was to avoid the haphazard development of settlements by implementing town planning schemes, imposing standards, and building the necessary infrastructure to support the development of the surrounding district. Liverpool was one of a number of locations in the County of Cumberland selected for a settlement and described at the time as a 'thick forest.' Its proximity to the junction of Georges River and Cabramatta Creek, as well as to existing land grants being farmed, appeared an ideal location (Jack 2010: 15, *HRA Ser 1 Vol 10*, 592). Liverpool was considered,

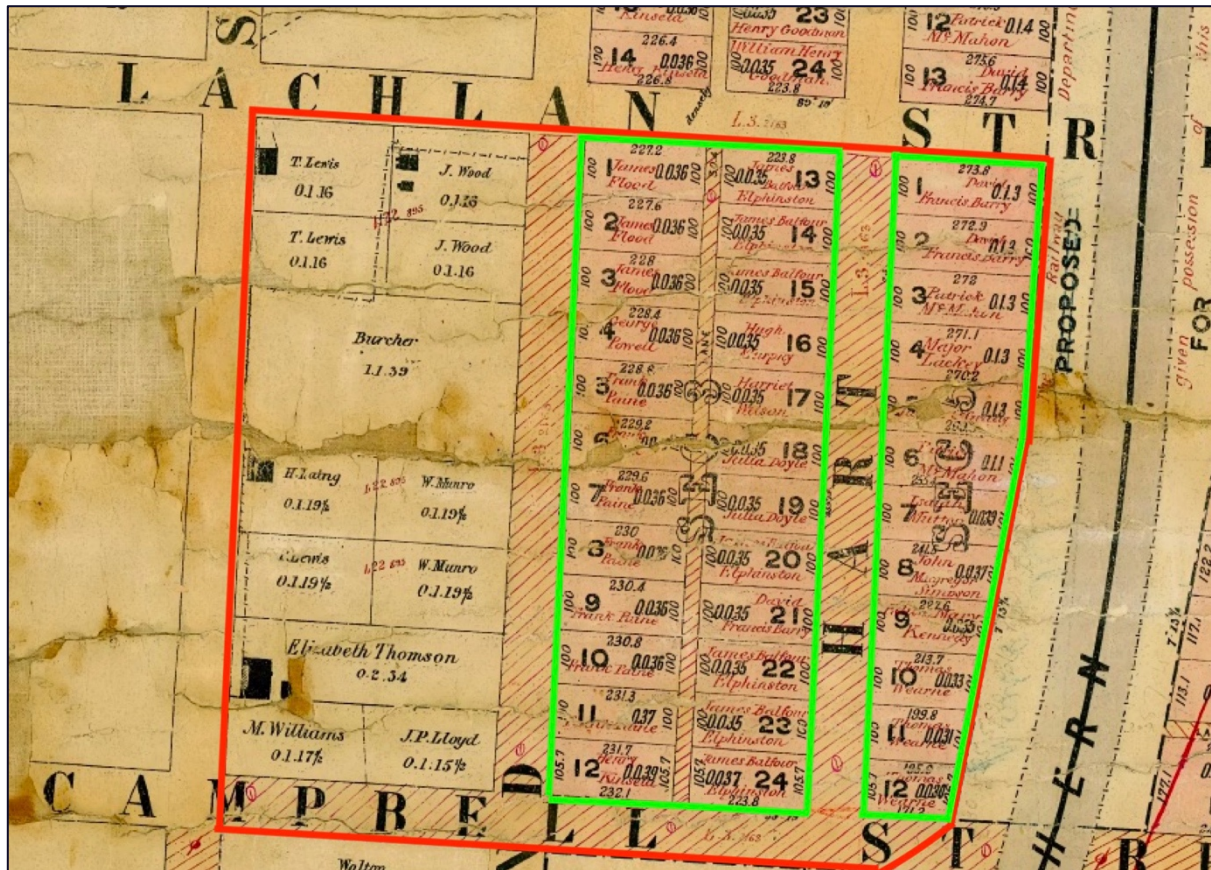
*... admirably calculated for Trade and Navigation, being immediately on the Bank of the River where the Depth of Water is sufficient to float Vessels of very considerable burthen (HRA Ser 1 Vol 7, 400).*

Surveyor Meehan was directed to mark out the Liverpool township. Meehan's plan for Liverpool plan was ambitious with allotments arranged on a grid plan extending over a considerable area allowing for what was anticipated to be a rapid expansion (Proudfoot 1995, 110). Despatches of October 1811 reported that it was intended 'very soon to erect a Church, a School-House, a Gaol, a Guard-House, &c.' at Liverpool, and free colonists were invited to acquire leases of town allotments with rights to use the adjacent Town Common (*HRA Ser 1 Vol 7, 400*). Similar to other settlements, Macquarie outlined minimum building standards and development controls for town allotments. Macquarie nominated magistrate Thomas Moore of Moorebank to provide planning advice to prospective settlers and minimum times within which they were to be built on. A cow from the Government herd was offered to settlers as an incentive (*HRA Ser 1 Vol 7, 400*; Jack 2010: 17-18). The Colonial Secretary's papers record developments in the township from 1810 (Col Sec SRNSW). Interest in the lease of allotments was slow however public building went ahead.

### 3.2 Crown Land Subdivision, 1884 - Sections 3 and 5 - Hart and Drummond Streets, Liverpool

A boom period in the Australian economy culminated during the 1880s during which time there was significant expansion in manufacturing, development of transport infrastructure, and urbanisation to support the growing population. Speculation in land and housing was widespread in and around Sydney. Many allotments in this part of the town of Liverpool had never been developed, were abandoned or were underutilised. Despite a lack of demand for residential or business allotments at this location, in the 1880s Crown Land at Liverpool was released for sale (Keating 1996, 99; CP L. 35.895 LPI).

In July 1882 Section 5 (Lots 1 to 12) of the subdivision are part of the study area and located east of Section 29 where the boys and girls high school buildings are now located. These lots were bounded by Drummond Street in the west and a proposed railway reserve adjacent to the railway line in the east. Hart Street provided a second cross-street connecting Lachlan Street in the north and Campbell Street in the south. Allotments in Section 3 ranged in size from 35 perches to 39 perches while those in the irregular shaped Section 5 ranged from 30 perches to 1 rood 3 perches (Figure 4) (CP L. 35.895 LPI).



**Figure 4:** Part of an 1882 survey illustrating the extent of Sections 3 and 5 of Crown Land auctioned on 19 January 1884 (outlined in green) and the names of the first title holders. The study area is outlined in red (CP L. 35.895 LPI).

The Lands Department requested the Council to supervise the clearing of the streets on the government land to be sold (*Cumberland Mercury* 5 Jan 1884, 3). The land considered 'rather low' was described in the *Evening News* as 'about three-quarters of a mile from the station, at the rear of the main road, and near where that road crosses the railway' (*Evening News* 23 Jan 1884, 6). The advertised 'upset price' for each allotment ranged from £5 to £11 (*NSW Govt Gazette* 15 Dec 1883, 6880).

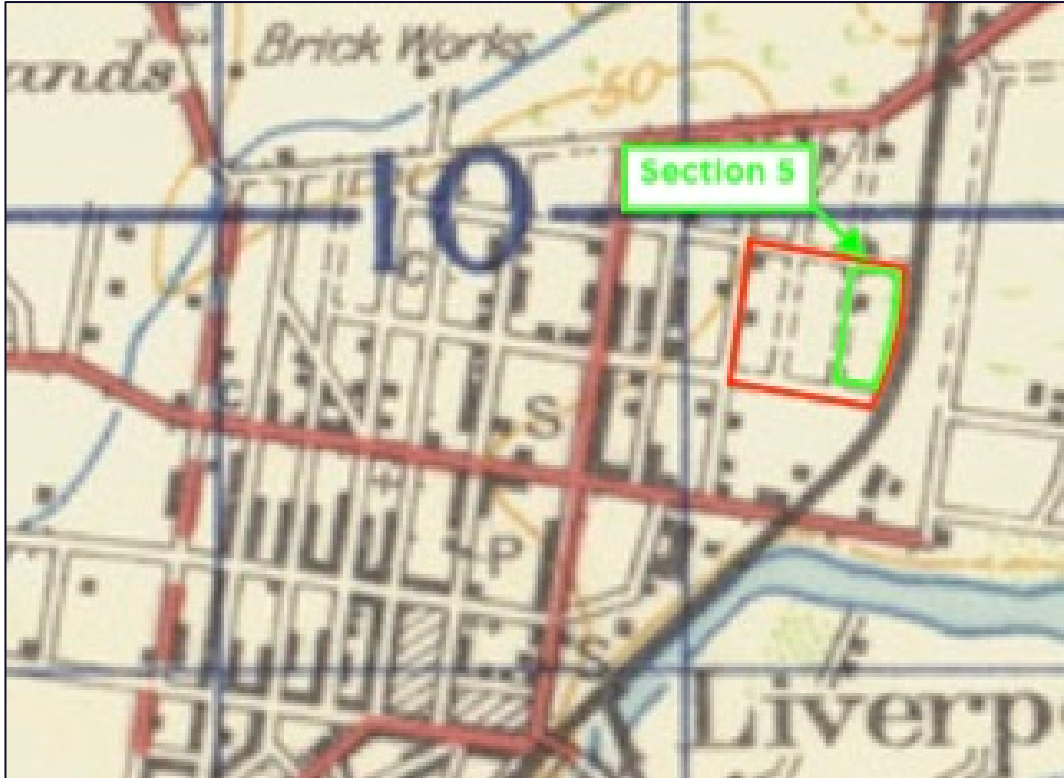
The land was auctioned at Liverpool on 19 January 1884 and the interest among local and Sydney bidders was high. All of the allotments in Sections 3 and 5 were sold with some buyers purchasing multiple allotments (CP L. 35.895 LPI). Purchasers included farmers, investors, merchants, tradespeople, clergy, labourers and professionals of Liverpool and Sydney. The 28 acres and 20 perches realised a sum of £1482/5/- (*Cumberland Mercury* 16 Feb 1884, 3; *Evening News* 23 Jan 1884, 6).

Although the land sold, it 'did little to fill in the spaces' or expand the population of the town of Liverpool. Despite the growth of the population in the surrounding district, it was not reflected in that of the town. Residential development in the parts of the town remained sparse (Keating 1996, 99; 109). As far as can be determined land in Section 3 remained undeveloped. A 1943 aerial photograph shows evidence of structures in Lots 1, 4 and 8 Section 5 of the study area. Title searches and investigation of other sources have been restricted to Section 5 to provide an overview of this part of the study area.

Most allotments changed hands at least once between 1884 and 1946, while some like Lot 5 Section 5 remained in the ownership of the original purchaser, James O'Grady, a labourer of Liverpool and never built on. A few were mortgaged and Lot 8 was sold by mortgagee sale in 1914. Some were sold by the Public Trustee for non-payment of Council rates. From 1911 the Sands Directory lists a few occupants of allotments on the east side of Hart Street from Campbell Street. As a second cross-street is not shown it is thought that some or possibly all of the listings relate to allotments north of Campbell Street and not Section 5.

Evidence of development on Section 5 in the late nineteenth century and first two decades of the twentieth century has not been located, however a 1935 survey and a 1943 aerial photograph illustrate that a few allotments were built upon

although detailed evidence of the use of the buildings, possibly commercial has not been found. The 1935 survey for the War Office shows one structure in the vicinity of Lot 4 Section 5 owned by Henry Edgar Wearne of Liverpool, contractor while Section 3 is not built on (Figure 5).



**Figure 5:** Part of a survey of Liverpool NSW dated 1935 indicating a structure in the vicinity of Section 5 (War Office, Melbourne, 1935, M2 811.1345/1935/1 ML SLNSW)

### 3.3 Liverpool Boys' & Girls' High Schools

The 1943 aerial photograph shows that the land contained a few cottages with outbuildings (Figure 6). The structures shown on the aerial photograph were on land auctioned at Liverpool on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1884 and the structures built some time after that (Comber 2019:18)

Land was resumed by the Minister for Education for Liverpool High School on 15 February 1946. Parts of Hart, Drummond and Campbell Streets were resumed for school in January 1947. The Liverpool community supported by the Municipal Council had been lobbying for a high school since at least 1916, however the Department of Education refused the request citing insufficient enrolments to warrant the expense and that there was ample accommodation for students at Parramatta Girls' and Boys' High Schools (Dept of Education 1963, 10). Agitation continued in 1931 with the Department making certain concessions by adding new senior course to the overcrowded Liverpool Public School but refusing to build a high school on a separate site (*The Biz Fairfield* 19 Jun 1931, 6). Finally, in 1945 Minister for Education Robert Heffron announced that premises would be built for two new high schools at Liverpool – a Girls' Domestic Science School and a Boys' Technical School – to be built on a site in Forbes Street at the estimated cost of £120,000 (Dept of Education 1963, 14; PWD Annual Report 1945-46, 64 & 1946-47, 26).

The school site bounded by Forbes Street, Lachlan Street, Campbell Street and a railway reserve was pegged-out by the Public Works Department in 1945-46 and a contour survey made of the site (PWD Annual Report 1945-46, 91). The resumption of the site was greeted by the community with great relief as Liverpool Public School was so overcrowded that lessons had to be staggered to accommodate the 1,700 children attending, many being taught in portable classrooms (*The Biz* 14 Mar 1946, 2).



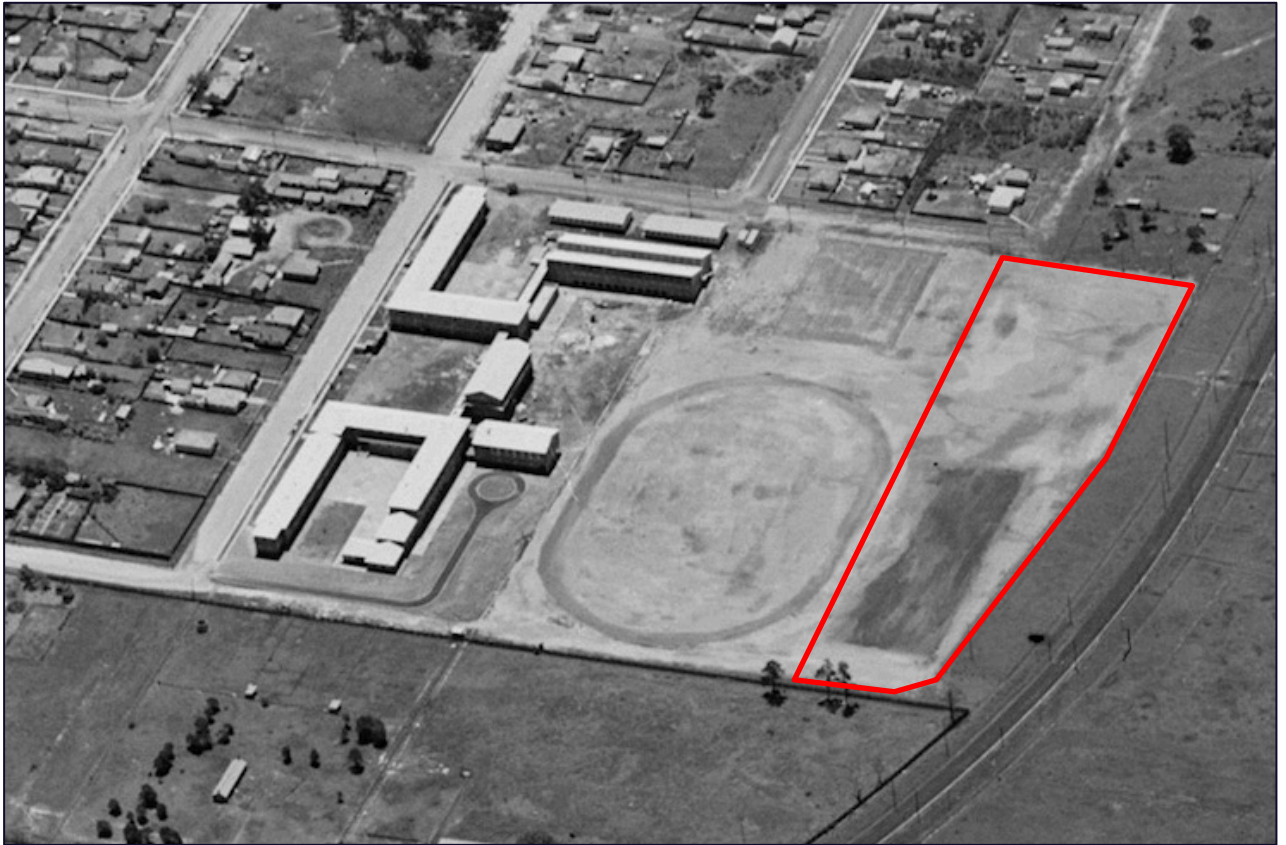
**Figure 6:** 1943 aerial photograph showing structures on the high school site and the area proposed for the new primary school (Aerial 1943, SKM, SixMaps, LPI. Overlay by Comber Consultants).

At a ceremony on 12 April 1947 Premier James McGirr, member for Liverpool, and Mr Heffron laid two engraved foundation stones on the north and south sides of the Forbes Street site (*The Biz* 17 Apr 1947, 4). Plans for the High Schools were prepared in 1947-48 with buildings to include an assembly hall and a gymnasium at an increased estimated cost of £281,300 (PWD Annual Report 1947-48, 21).

Delays in the completion of the long awaited Liverpool High School were reported in newspapers in 1952. The Education Department was reported to have cut by 'two-thirds' the building budget of one its biggest contractors, A. W. Edwards Pty Ltd of Glebe. The firm was one of the biggest firms in the State and contracted to build the high school among other Sydney schools. Edwards reported that the Department requested Edwards to restrict building to £175,000 for the 1952-53 financial year. Despite funding shortages, the Department didn't want to see any job stopped and instructed Edwards to carry on with as much building as possible. As a result of the budget reduction the company had to dismiss 22 of its 310 employees, (*SMH* 28 Jun 1952, 1). The construction of the Girls' School continued while the Boy's School was delayed in order to reduce the costs (*The Biz* 3 Sep 1953, 12).

Work on Liverpool High School continued in 1953-54 and, due to the extent of works including sewerage works and the installation of a pump house, the estimated total cost had risen to £360,000 (PWD Annual Report 1953-54, 35, 27). In September 1953 it was estimated that the Girls' High School would be complete by October, except for the furnishing of classrooms.

A 1954 aerial photograph of the site (below) shows that the girls' campus was complete and that, externally, the boys' campus was close to completion. The area proposed for the new primary school shows the area of the New Liverpool Primary School entirely cleared of vegetation being used as playing fields and with the cottages shown on the 1943 aerial now demolished (Figure 7).



**Figure 7:** Aerial view of Liverpool Girls' and Boys' High Schools dated 1954 showing study area edged in red (Kent Image 15 Item 21 ON447/Box 152 ML SLNSW. Overlay by Comber Consultants).

Liverpool Boys' Technical High School officially opened on 12 August 1955 (*Liverpool Boys' High School: A Brief History* 2015, 1).

A c.2012 aerial photograph (Figure 8 below) shows the current configuration of the High School and the playing fields to the east of the high school buildings where the new primary school will be constructed. Photographs 4 and 5 show the proposed location for the new primary school.



**Figure 8:** Aerial photograph showing Liverpool Girls' and Boys' High Schools c.2012. Area proposed for the new Liverpool primary school shown to the east of the high school buildings (Aerial c2012 SKM LPI. Overlay by Comber Consultant).

## 5.0 DESCRIPTION

### 4.1 Extant Buildings

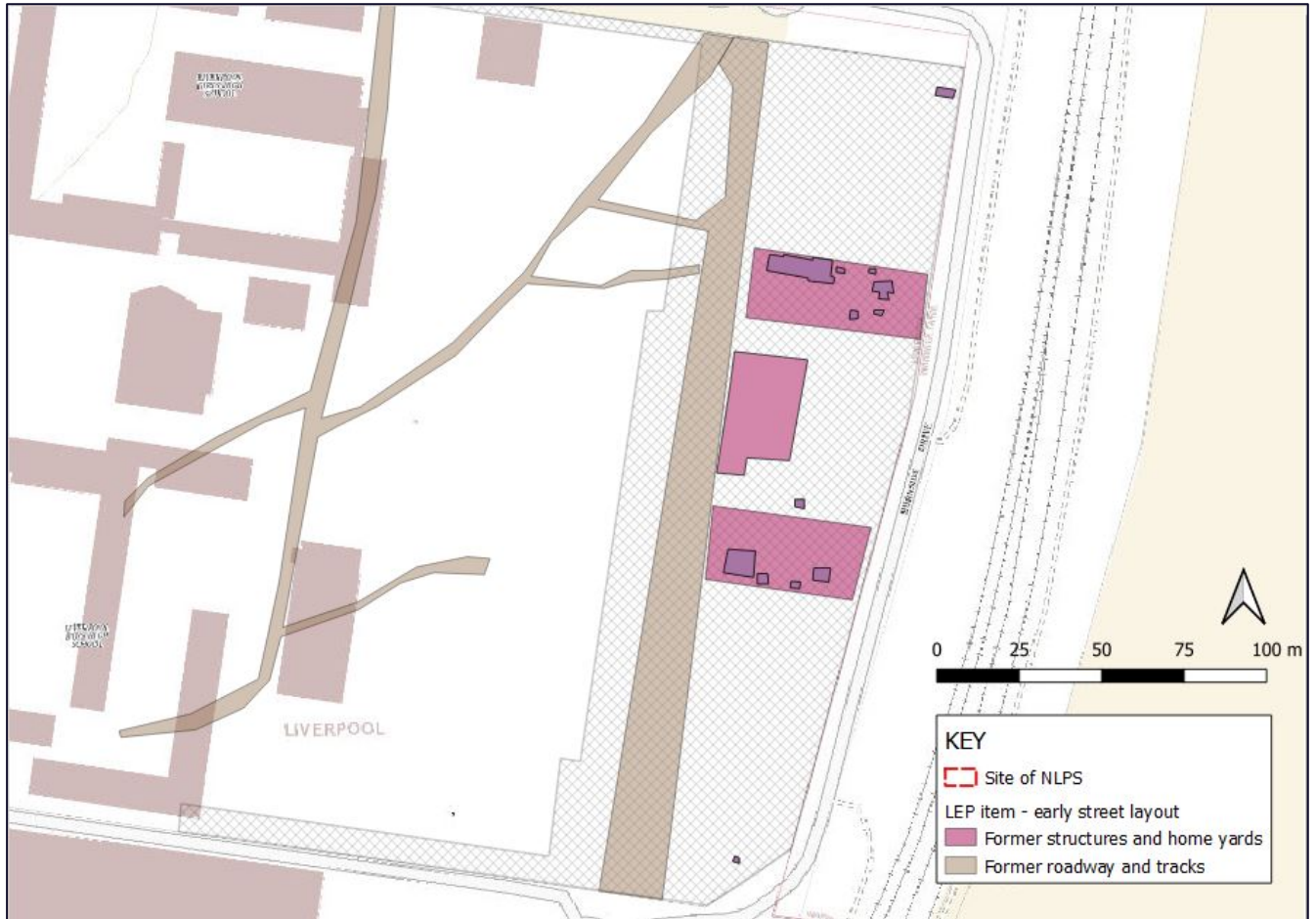
The only built structures on the proposed site of the New Liverpool Primary School are small sheds along the southern border and practice wickets. (Figure 18).



Figure 9: Site boundary of new Liverpool Primary school (hatched) with extant structures circled.

### 4.2 Demolished structures

Previous structures that have since been demolished appear in Figure 13 (1935), Figure 14 (1943) and Figure 16 (1951). An overlay of these is shown in Figure 21. The 1935 building (shown in brown) is from a greatly enlarged image from Figure 13. The form, nature and location of this building is approximate only as it cannot be accurately mapped. Outside of the structures and home yards the remaining portions of the study area were used as paddocks.



**Figure 10:** Overlay from archival maps and 1943 aerial photograph showing previous structures in the study area from 1935 to the 1940s.



## 5.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

### 5.1 Preamble

Significance Assessment is the process whereby buildings, items or landscapes are assessed to determine their value or importance to the community.

The following criteria have been developed by the NSW Heritage Office and embody the values contained in the Burra Charter. The Burra Charter provides principles and guidelines for the conservation and management of cultural heritage places within Australia.

The following significance assessment only relates to the study area, i.e., the site for the New Liverpool Primary School. It does not refer to the Boys' & Girls' High Schools.

### 5.2 Significance Assessment

#### Historical

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

The site of the proposed New Liverpool Primary School is of local significance. It is the location of town allotments in Sections 3 and 5 on the outskirts of Liverpool and subsequent residential occupation within Section 3 from c1935 and Section 5 including the footprints of buildings on Lots 1, 4 and 8 in the early 1940s. These allotments and the roads and tracks within the study area provide information on the development of Liverpool.

#### Association

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

Historical research has not identified attributes that meet this criterion.

#### Aesthetic/Technical

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)

Research has not identified attributes that meet this criterion.

#### Social

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

Research has not identified attributes that meet this criterion.

#### Research

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

The residential occupation within Sections 3 and 5 have the potential, through archaeological research, to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the development and use of early nineteenth century town allotments on the outskirts of Liverpool when little documentary evidence survives.

#### Rarity

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

Historical research has not identified attributes that meet this criterion, although historical archaeological excavation may reveal further information that could meet this criterion.



### **Representative**

Criterion (g) – an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's

- cultural or natural places; or
  - cultural or natural environments.
- or a class of the local area's
- cultural or natural places; or
  - cultural or natural environments

Historical research has not identified attributes that meet this criterion, although historical archaeological excavation may reveal further information that could meet this criterion.

### **5.3 Statement of significance**

The location of town allotments in portions of Sections 3 and 5 have the potential to yield further information, through archaeological research, that contributes to an understanding of the development and use of early nineteenth town allotments on the outskirts of Liverpool in the early nineteenth century.

The proposed site of the New Liverpool Primary School is of local significance.



## 6.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 Archaeological potential

To undertake an archaeological assessment, it is necessary to assess whether an area contains archaeological potential. For the purposes of this report “archaeological potential” is the likelihood of a site to contain archaeological deposits that are protected by the relics provisions of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.

Such an assessment is guided by an understanding of the site as revealed through historical research and a site inspection. This report contains detailed historical research and the results of the site inspection.

It is useful to identify the level of archaeological potential as low, medium or high. This indicates the level of impact on the potential archaeological resource and hence the likelihood of intact archaeological deposits remaining. The degree of archaeological potential does not necessarily equate with the identified level of significance. An area may be mostly intact but it may be assessed as having minimal heritage significance.

The following definitions of high, medium and low archaeological potential will be used to assess the archaeological potential of individual items identified through the historical research.

A **high level** of archaeological potential indicates that there is a high probability that the archaeological remains of a structure or structures are reasonably intact as there have been little or no impact following the demolition of the known structures.

A **medium level** of archaeological potential indicates that there is a medium probability that the archaeological remains of a structure are partially or mostly intact but there has been some impact on its integrity through later development.

A **low level** of archaeological potential indicates that there is a low probability that the archaeological remains survive as there have been extensive impacts by known later development or works.

### 6.2 Phases of occupation

To assist in determining the archaeological potential the site has been divided into three phases of occupation or use as detailed below. This provides a framework which assists in determining archaeological potential, as quite often each successive phase of use has impacted on the previous phase or phases:

**Phase 1: c1818 to 1930s: First European occupation and subdivision on western side of study area**

Occupation commences along Forbes Street and three structures erected. Sparse occupation continues but no structures indicated on the proposed site of the new primary school.

**Phase 2: 1930s to 1947: Subdivision along eastern side of site**

Subdivision on the eastern side of the site commences and the alignment of Hart Street is created. Although all allotments sold, only two cottages and associated outbuildings constructed. Dates of demolition of the various structures is not known.

**Phase 3: 1947 to present: Beginning of resumption of land for school purposes and ongoing school uses**

The land is gradually resumed for school purposes and current buildings constructed on both the Boys' and Girls high school's land. No further buildings constructed on the study area.

### 6.3 Assessment of archaeological potential

Detailed below is an assessment of the archaeological potential of each of the phases of occupation detailed above:

**Phase 1: c1818 to 1930s: First European occupation and subdivision on western side of study area**

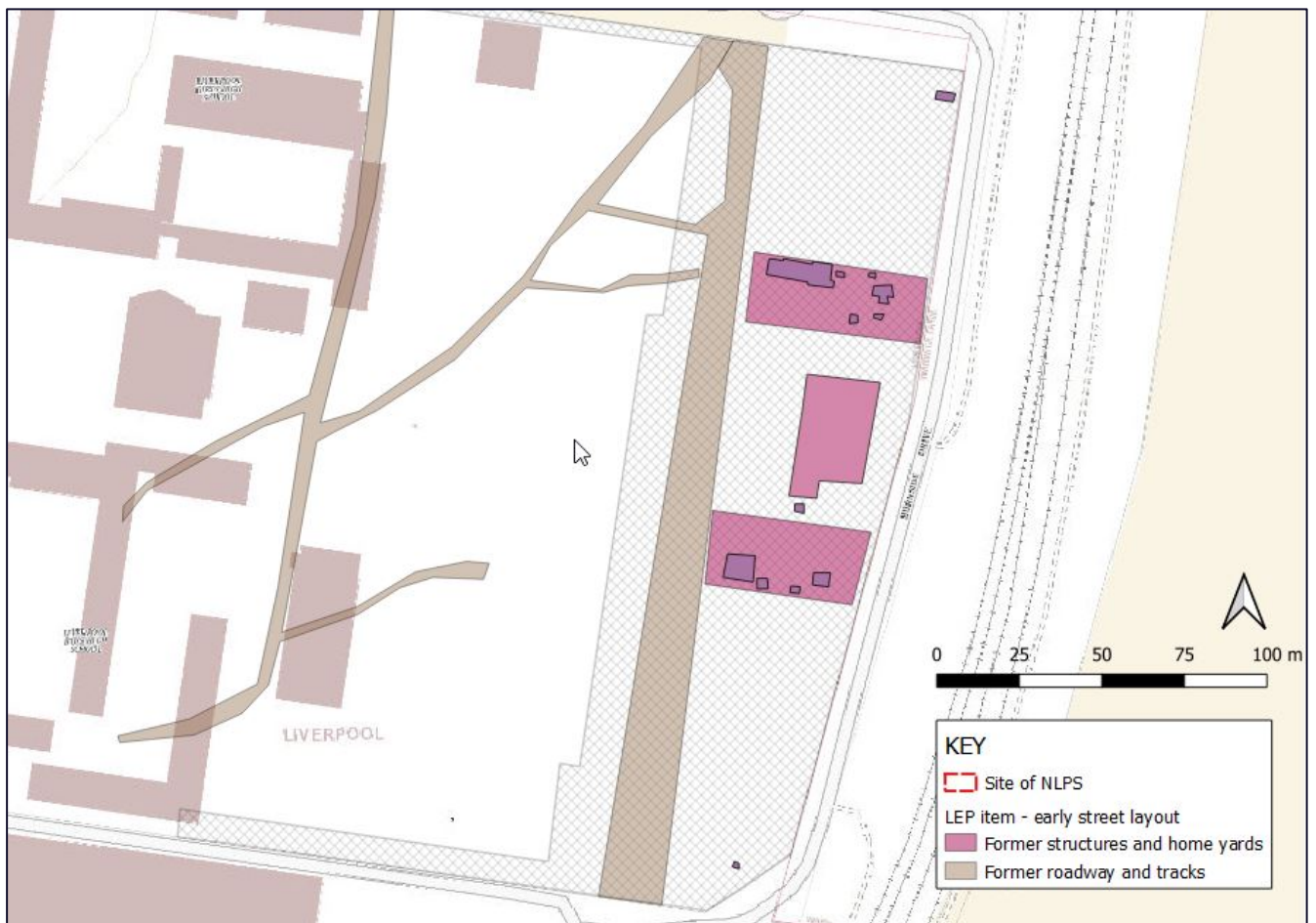
This phase of occupation has low archaeological potential. No evidence has been found of earlier use or structures in the study area.

**Phase 2: 1830s to 1947: Subdivision along eastern side of site**

This phase of occupation has medium archaeological potential. One cottage was present in 1935 and two cottages with outbuildings and possibly wells were present in the 1940s. These have since been demolished and no evidence could be seen in the landscape during the site inspection. The archaeological potential is medium.

**Phase 3: 1947 to present: Beginning of resumption of land for school purposes and ongoing school uses**

The study area has been used as an open area for a variety of sports, including practice wickets for cricket. The archaeological potential is low.



**Figure 11:** Overlay showing potential archaeological features within in the study area from 1935 to the 1940s. The areas of archaeological potential are the 1930s and 1940s structures.



## 7.0 IMPACT AND MITIGATION

### 7.1 Impacts

There is potential for the proposed works to impact on evidence of early 20<sup>th</sup> century occupation within the study area, particularly in those areas where previous dwellings existed prior to the establishment of the current education facilities.

### 7.2 Mitigation Strategies

To mitigate against adverse impact the following strategies have been developed:

- Archaeological test excavations and salvage should be conducted to establish the presence of evidence of the former occupation sites highlighted in Figure 20 above.
- Monitoring of areas of archaeological potential which may be impacted upon by the proposed redevelopment should also be undertaken when ground clearance is occurring.

If the archaeological excavations are to be undertaken as part of the early works, prior to SSDA approval, a permit under s140 of the *Heritage Act 1977* will be required.

If the archaeological excavations are to be undertaken once SSDA approval has been received it will not be necessary to apply for a s140 permit.

The archaeological excavations should be undertaken in accordance with the Research Design attached at Appendix A.



## 8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made on the basis of:

- The requirements of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* as outlined in Section 7 of this report; and
- The archaeological assessment contained in this report

There is no objection to the development of the New Liverpool Primary School providing the following is undertaken:

6. The mitigation strategies outlined in section 6.1 of this report should be implemented. Those measures are:
  - Archaeological test/salvage excavations should be conducted to establish the presence of evidence of the former occupation sites.
  - Monitoring of areas of archaeological potential which may be impacted upon by the proposed redevelopment should be undertaken when ground clearance is occurring.
7. A s140 permit under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* will be required prior to any ground disturbance, if such works occur as part of the early works, prior to the SSDA approval. The test/salvage excavations should be undertaken in accordance with the Research Design attached at Appendix A. This report will need to be submitted to Heritage NSW with the application for a s140 permit.
8. A s140 permit will not be required if the archaeological testing/salvage is undertaken once the SSDA approvals have been received. The test/salvage excavations should be undertaken in accordance with the Research Design attached at Appendix A.
9. If, during the development of the New Liverpool Primary School any relics are unexpectedly uncovered, all work should cease in the vicinity of those relics and the consultant contacted to provide advice.
10. All employees/contractors/sub-contractors etc., working on the site should be inducted into the provisions of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* with particular reference to the protection of relics.



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Item 19: Milton Kent Aerial Views of Arncliffe, Balmain, Blacktown, Fairfield, Liverpool, St Leonards, 1961, Image 16 of views taken for Paynter and Dixon, ON447/Box 151, Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. See other images in this series for views of Liverpool Girls' and Boys' High Schools.

Item 21: Milton Kent Aerial Views of Bathurst, Cowra, Liverpool, 1954, Image 12 of views taken for Cable Makers Australia, ON447/Box 152, Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. See other images in this series for views of Liverpool Girls' and Boys' High Schools.

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### ABBREVIATIONS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| CP      | Crown Plan   |
| DP      | Deposited Plan                                       |
| HRA     | Historical Records of Australia                      |
| LCL     | Liverpool City Library                               |
| LPI     | NSW Land and Property Management Authority           |
| ML      | Mitchell Library                                     |
| NSW DET | New South Wales Department of Education and Training |
| NSW PWD | New South Wales Public Works Department              |
| SLNSW   | State Library of New South Wales                     |
| SRNSW   | State Archives & Records NSW                         |



## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photograph 1:** Site of proposed new primary school. View to south along Burnside Drive border



**Photograph 2:** View of the study area between the playing fields (left) and blue fence beside Burnside Drive to the right. View to north.



**Photograph 3:** View to south-west from former housing sites along Burnside Drive.



**Photograph 4:** View to south-south-east along Burnside Drive.



## **APPENDIX A: RESEARCH DESIGN & EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY**



## RESEARCH DESIGN

### Background

This research design outlines the aims and methodology of the proposed archaeological monitoring, testing and salvage of the site of the New Liverpool Primary School (NLPS).

The history contained in this report indicates that houses with outbuildings and possibly wells were constructed in the early 1930s-1940s. Figure 1 below shows the mapped location of these structures. The archaeological potential is medium and the archaeology is of local significance. The proposed construction of the NLPS including landscaping has the potential to disturb this evidence of previous occupation.

### Aims

The aims of the archaeological excavation will be to determine:

- If evidence of the former structures still remain on the site, and if so, their nature and extent. If such evidence remains, the location of these structures will be mapped.
- Whether any relics remain on site, which could answer the research questions detailed below.

### Research Questions

To ensure that the archaeological testing is focused and enables the maximum information to be gained from the site, it is necessary to pose a series of questions that direct the research process. The questions to be asked in respect of this site are:

- What evidence remains on site from the Phase 2 occupation of the site.
- If there is any evidence, what is the nature and extent of such evidence?

Questions related to who built, owned and lived in the houses can be addressed in the historical research. However, questions as to how they lived will be asked, such as:

- Is there evidence of the nature of life in the households?
- Is there evidence of childhood?
- Is there evidence of how gender identities and activities were constructed?
- The nature of the material culture and consumption patterns of the residents.

### Methodology

#### *Monitoring*

- Removal of grass and fill will be undertaken by an excavator under the supervision of an archaeologist.
- Once the program of archaeological excavation has been completed and construction of the school begins it may be necessary to monitor areas where archaeological investigations were not occurred. It will be necessary to monitor such excavation works, as it is possible that archaeological deposits of former structures, not revealed in the historic research, could exist across the site.
- Such monitoring will be undertaken to determine the presence or otherwise of archaeological deposits, not uncovered during the program of excavation. If any archaeological evidence is located it will be photographically recorded and scale drawings undertaken. An assessment will then be made as to the significance of the evidence and whether the recording is sufficient or whether the item should be carefully excavated for display at a museum or other suitable repository. Any archaeological deposits will be recorded and artefacts carefully removed for later analyses.

#### *Test & Salvage Excavation*

- A surveyor will mark on the ground the possible location of the former structures shown in Figure 1.
- The aim will be to locate the foundations of the above buildings and then test for sub-floor deposits. The approach to be taken will include:
  - Use of machinery to open up the foundations and to undertake testing.
  - Once the foundations have been exposed and the remnant layout determined, one test trench 2m x 5m will be excavated within the kitchen area of the houses to test for sub-floor deposits. Depending on the layout of the remains two other test trenches will be excavated in appropriate locations.
  - Testing of possible locations for the outbuildings and possible wells and cesspits will be undertaken. Machinery will be used to open up the foundations of the outbuildings.
  - Depending on the results of the testing where remains are found open area stratigraphic excavation and recording may be undertaken and the following recording methods used:
    - Context recording forms and context numbers will be used to record all archaeological information.

- Harris Matrix will be used as part of the recording program.
- Underfloor deposits will be recorded within a 50cm grid, 5cm spits and 100% sieved.
- Wells and cesspits will be excavated in 20cm spits or tip lines (if identifiable), with changes of context numbers were relevant. These deposits will be sieved.
- All structural remains, post holes and features will be planned to scale.
- Detailed photographic recording.
- Collection labelling, safe storage, washing, sorting and boxing of artefacts.

#### Post Excavation Analyses

- All artefacts will be catalogued by specialist cataloguers.
- An important component of the cataloguing is the use of a minimum item or minimum vessel count. The faunal material will be entered into the database.
- The specialists' cataloguers will produce a report on the artefacts.

#### Excavation Report

A detailed excavation report will be produced describing the results of the archaeological program according to each structure. The report will include an artefact analyses and response to research questions.

#### Induction

Once the excavation has been completed construction of the new school can commence. Prior to the commencement of works all personnel participating in works at the site will be briefed by an archaeologist on the significance of the site and the requirements of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* in relation to heritage listed items and archaeological relics.

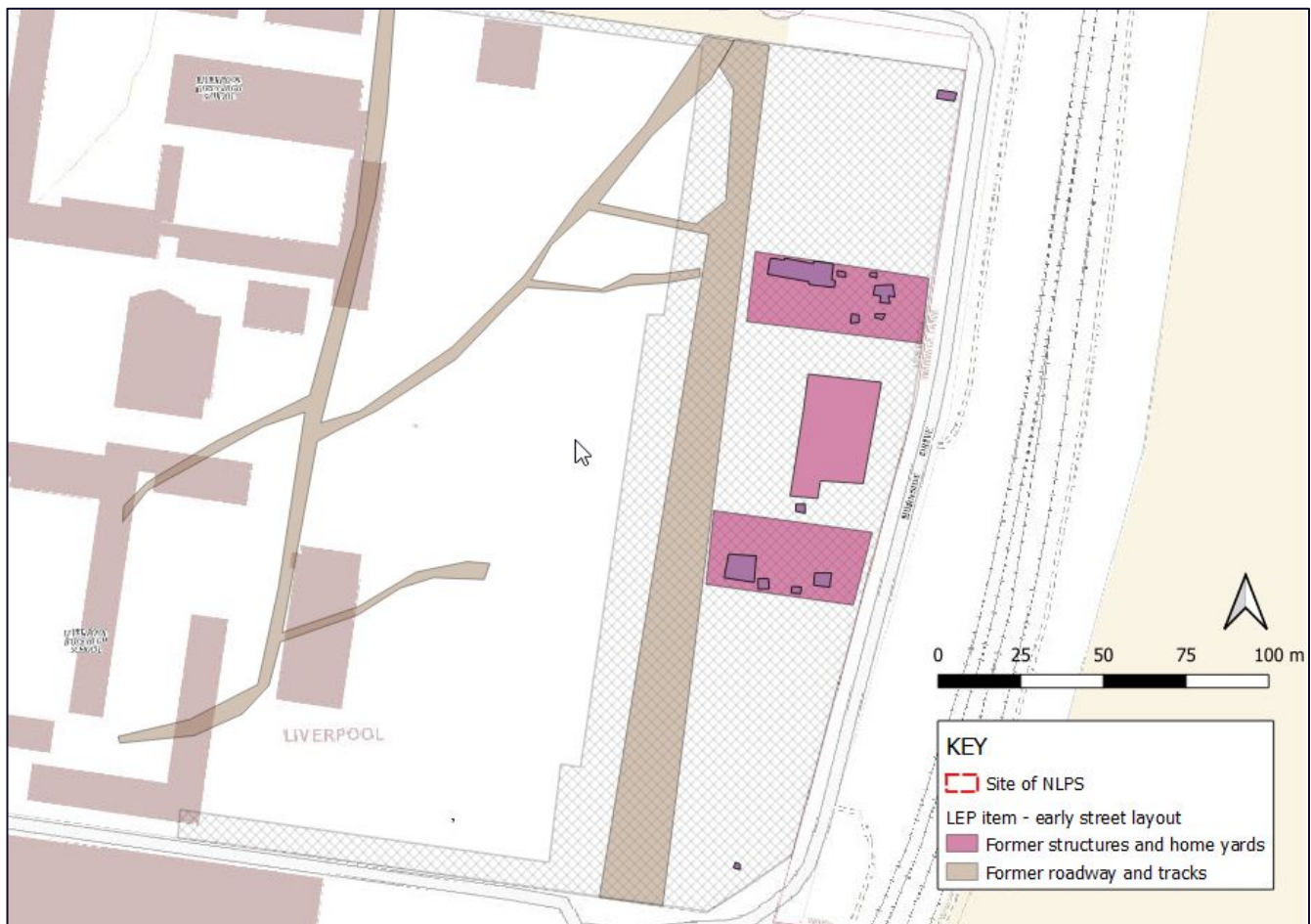


Figure 1: Showing the location of former structures