



Chesley Park Brick Making Plant (Site 2),
416 Berrima Road, New Berrima NSW:
Historical Heritage Assessment

FINAL REPORT

Prepared for Brickworks Ltd

1 April 2020

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Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Glossary | v |
| Summary | vi |
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Project background | 1 |
| 1.2 Location of the study area | 1 |
| 1.3 Scope of assessment | 1 |
| 1.4 Limitations | 1 |
| 2 Statutory framework | 5 |
| 2.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999..... | 5 |
| 2.2 NSW Heritage Act 1977..... | 5 |
| 2.2.1 State Heritage Register | 5 |
| 2.2.2 Archaeological relics | 6 |
| 2.2.3 Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers..... | 7 |
| 2.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 | 7 |
| 2.3.1 Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010..... | 7 |
| 2.3.2 Wingecarribee Development Control Plan 2010 | 7 |
| 2.4 Summary of heritage listings | 7 |
| 3 Historical context | 10 |
| 3.1 Topography and resources | 10 |
| 3.2 Aboriginal past..... | 10 |
| 3.3 Berrima and the Wingecarribee district – historical development..... | 10 |
| 3.3.1 Early exploration | 10 |
| 3.3.2 The first European settlement | 12 |
| 3.3.3 Establishment of Berrima Township | 12 |
| 3.3.4 Coal mining and Berrima | 16 |
| 3.3.5 History of the study area | 18 |
| 3.4 Chronology of the study area | 28 |
| 3.5 Research themes | 29 |
| 4 Physical inspection | 31 |
| 4.1 Site setting and built fabric | 31 |
| 4.2 Archaeological assessment | 34 |
| 4.2.1 Archaeological resource | 34 |
| 4.2.2 Research potential | 36 |
| 4.2.3 Summary of archaeological potential..... | 36 |
| 5 Significance assessment | 40 |
| 5.1 Levels of heritage significance | 41 |
| 5.2 Statement of significance..... | 41 |

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 6 | Conclusions and recommendations | 43 |
| 6.1 | Conclusions | 43 |
| 6.2 | Recommendations | 43 |
| | References..... | 45 |

Tables

| | | |
|---------|---|----|
| Table 1 | Summary of heritage listings within and adjacent to the study area | 8 |
| Table 2 | Chronological development of the study area | 28 |
| Table 3 | Identified historical themes for the study area | 30 |
| Table 4 | Potential archaeological resources | 35 |
| Table 5 | Archaeological potential | 37 |
| Table 6 | Evaluation and statement of significance for possible archaeological material within the study area | 42 |

Figures

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| Figure 1 | Location of the study area | 3 |
| Figure 2 | Study area detail | 4 |
| Figure 3 | Location of heritage items within the vicinity of the study area | 9 |
| Figure 4 | Assessment of archaeological potential | 39 |

Plates

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| Plate 1 | Detail of Berrima from the 1843 map of the County of Camden by Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor General of NSW (Source: Map RaA 8 Plate 6, National Library of Australia)..... | 13 |
| Plate 2 | 1881 town map of Berrima (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)..... | 14 |
| Plate 3 | c.1900 photograph of Berrima looking towards the Surveyor General Inn and gaol (Source: Berrima District Historical and Family History Society Inc.)..... | 15 |
| Plate 4 | The Cataract Mine (Source: Australian Town and Country Journal 1876)..... | 16 |
| Plate 5 | Rail lines associated with the coal industry in the Berrima area, with the approximate location of the study area marked with a red arrow (Source: The Australian Railway Historical Society)..... | 17 |
| Plate 6 | 1894 parish map showing the land grants to William Hutchinson, with the study area marked in red (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)..... | 19 |
| Plate 7 | The surrounding grants were combined in 1891 to form a single lot of 4146 acres, known as 'Austermere'. Red arrow indicates approximate location of Bong Bong Platform (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)..... | 20 |
| Plate 8 | 1949 aerial showing several structures in the study area (Source: NSW Spatial Services)..... | 21 |
| Plate 9 | Close up of the 1949 aerial with buildings labelled (Source: NSW Spatial Services) | 22 |
| Plate 10 | 1963 aerial showing a similar configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services)..... | 23 |

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| Plate 11 | Close up of 1963 aerial showing a similar configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services) | 23 |
| Plate 12 | 1974 aerial showing a slightly different configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services) | 24 |
| Plate 13 | Close up of 1974 aerial showing a slightly different configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services) | 25 |
| Plate 14 | 1991 aerial showing the study area which is mostly paddocks and a cluster of buildings (Source: NSW Spatial Services)..... | 26 |
| Plate 15 | Close up of the 1991 aerial showing the buildings configuration (Source: NSW Spatial Services) | 26 |
| Plate 16 | 2015 aerial showing the addition of one large shed/covered shelter and the removal of other structures (Source: NearMaps)..... | 27 |
| Plate 17 | Current aerial showing that the majority of structures present in 2015 have been demolished (Source: NearMaps) | 28 |
| Plate 18 | The study area consisted mostly of cleared agricultural land | 31 |
| Plate 19 | The northern portion of the study area near Stony Creek contained slightly more trees than the rest of the study area | 32 |
| Plate 20 | Shed/covered shelter [23]..... | 32 |
| Plate 21 | Shed/covered shelter [17]..... | 32 |
| Plate 22 | Shed/covered shelter [18]..... | 33 |
| Plate 23 | Concrete foundation remains of homestead [2] or associated outbuildings [8], [9], [13], [14], [22] | 33 |
| Plate 24 | Concrete foundation remains of homestead [2] or associated outbuildings [8], [9], [13], [14], [22] | 33 |
| Plate 25 | Location of previous homestead [2] | 34 |
| Plate 26 | Shed/covered shelter [15]..... | 34 |

Glossary

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Biosis | Biosis Pty Ltd |
| c. | Circa |
| CHL | Commonwealth Heritage List |
| DCP | Development Control Plan |
| DP | Deposited Plan |
| DPC | Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| EP&A Act | <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> |
| EPBC Act | <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> |
| Heritage Act | <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> |
| HHA | Historical Heritage Assessment |
| LEP | Local Environmental Plan |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| NHL | National Heritage List |
| NSW | New South Wales |
| SHR | State Heritage Register |
| SSD | State Significant Development |
| study area | 416 Berrima Road, New Berrima |

Summary

Biosis Pty Ltd (Biosis) was commissioned by Brickworks Ltd to undertake a Historical Heritage Assessment (HHA) of an area of land proposed for a brickmaking plant at Chesley Park, 416 Berrima Road, New Berrima New South Wales (NSW) (study area). The project will be assessed under Part 4 Division 4.7 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act* (EP&A Act) as a State Significant Development (SSD). The study area is located approximately 2 kilometres south of Berrima and approximately 11 kilometres south-west of the Mittagong central business district.

For this assessment historical research was undertaken into this study area and its surrounds. A field investigation was also undertaken to assess any physical remains on site, as well as noting any disturbances. A search of the State Heritage Register (SHR), Section 170 registers and the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) has uncovered no heritage listed items within the study area.

From the time of European settlement onwards, the study area appears to have been extensively cleared and used primarily for grazing purposes. Archaeological resources would be associated with the original property boundaries and roads and early farming practices. Any remains from the property boundaries and farming practices would be ephemeral structural evidence such as post holes, small outbuildings, animal sheds, fences and pens.

The historical research undertaken as part of this assessment did not indicate any historical structures or buildings in the study area until the construction of a house and the main homestead and associated outbuildings in the mid-20th century. The installation of a large water pipeline running parallel to Stony Creek and construction of access roads have most likely removed all traces of the house in the west of the study area, and the continual alteration, demolition and construction of the homestead and its associated outbuildings would have resulted in a great deal of disturbance of the original features. In terms of research potential, the archaeological material present is has been well documented elsewhere, and is unlikely to contribute to any further knowledge about the study area.

The lack of historical occupation combined with the disturbance within the study area suggests that the study area has low potential to contain archaeological resources.

Recommendation 1 No further historical archaeological assessment required

This assessment has identified no items of heritage significance or archaeological potential within the study area. As such, no further historical heritage assessment is required. Should unanticipated relics be discovered during ground disturbance, an unexpected finds procedure should be implemented as outlined in Recommendation 2.

Recommendation 2 Unexpected archaeological items

Should unanticipated relics be discovered during the course of the project, work in the vicinity must cease and an archaeologist contacted to make a preliminary assessment of the find. The Heritage Council will require notification if the find is assessed as a relic. Relics are historical archaeological resources of local or State significance and are protected in NSW under the *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act). Relics cannot be disturbed except with a permit (Section 140 application) or exception notification (Section 139).

1 Introduction

1.1 Project background

Biosis Pty Ltd was commissioned by Brickworks Ltd to undertake a HHA for the proposed brickmaking plant at Chesley Park, 416 Berrima Road, New Berrima NSW (Figure 1 and Figure 2), referred to as the study area herein. The project will be assessed under Part 4 Division 4.7 of the EP&A Act as a SSD.

1.2 Location of the study area

The study area is located within the suburb of New Berrima, Wingecarribee Local Government Area (LGA), Parish of Bong Bong and County of Camden. It encompasses Lot 1 DP 785111, which consists of approximately 57 hectares of private land. It is currently zoned IN1 (General Industrial) and is bounded by Berrima Road to the west, access roads to the north and south, and farmland to the east.

1.3 Scope of assessment

This report was prepared in accordance with current heritage guidelines including *Assessing Heritage Significance*, *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* and the *Burra Charter*^{1,2}. This report provides a heritage assessment to identify if any heritage items or relics exist within or in the vicinity of the study area. The heritage significance of these heritage items has been investigated and assessed in order to determine the most appropriate management strategy.

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

- Identify and assess the heritage values associated with the study area. The assessment aims to achieve this objective through providing a brief summary of the principle historical influences that have contributed to creating the present – day built environment of the study area using resources already available and some limited new research.
- Assess the impact of the proposed works on the cultural heritage significance of the study area.
- Identifying sites and features within the study area which are already recognised for their heritage value through statutory and non – statutory heritage listings.
- Recommend measures to avoid or mitigate any negative impacts on the heritage significance of the study area.

1.4 Limitations

This report is based on historical research and field inspections. It is possible that further historical research or the emergence of new historical sources may support different interpretations of the evidence in this report.

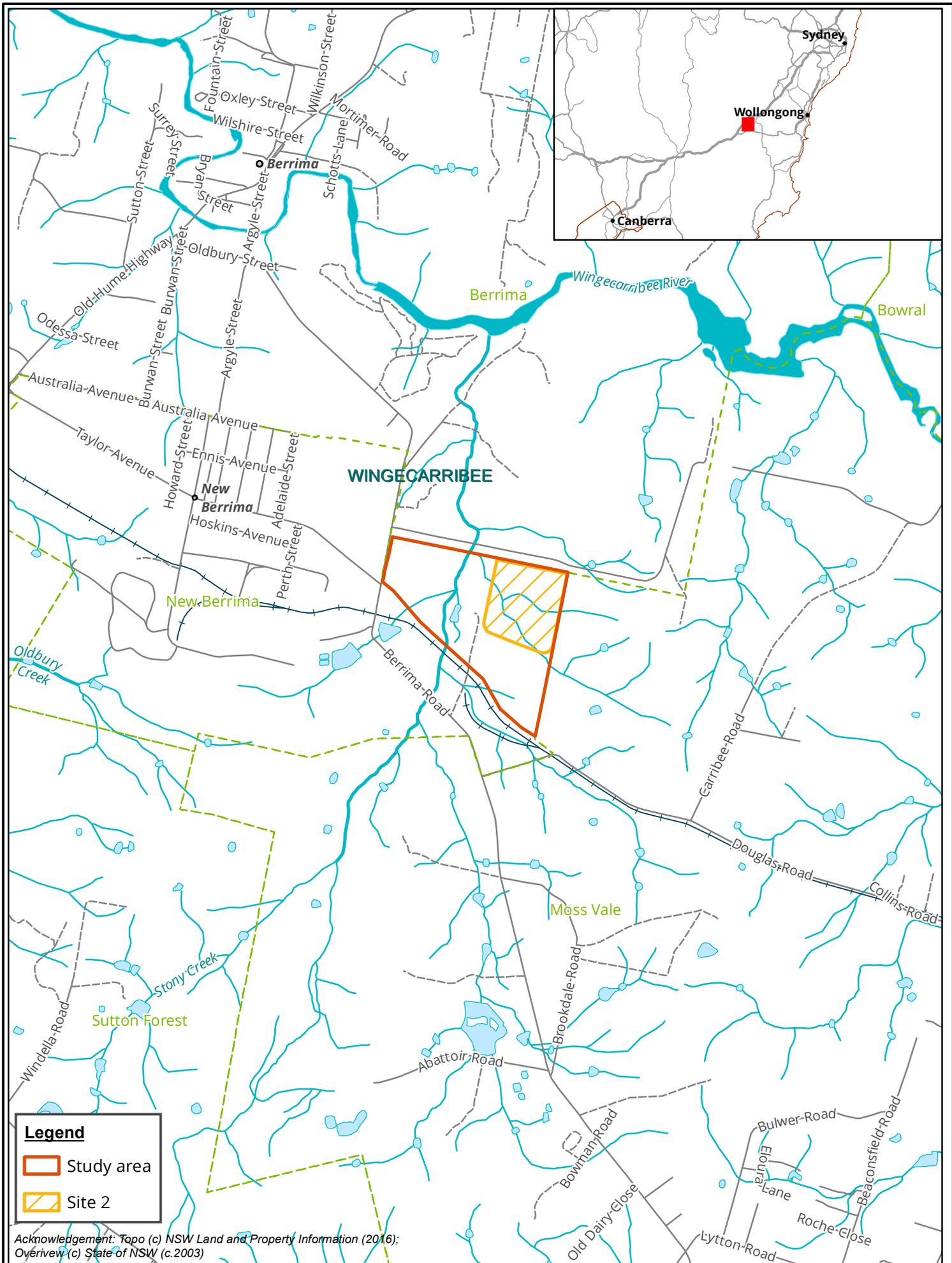
The historical research undertaken for this report is based on primary documents including Crown and deposited plans, Certificates of Title and historical parish maps. This information was supplemented by

¹ Heritage Office 2001

² Australia ICOMOS 2013

existing assessments and reports. Together this information was utilised to present a history of the study area. The archaeological survey was constrained by the presence of built fabric and modified ground surface areas in some locations, limiting the observations of ground surface and identification of potential archaeological resources. Although this report was undertaken to best archaeological practice and its conclusions are based on professional opinion, it does not warrant that there is no possibility that additional archaeological material will be located in subsequent works on the site. This is because limitations in historical documentation and archaeological methods make it difficult to accurately predict what is under the ground.

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



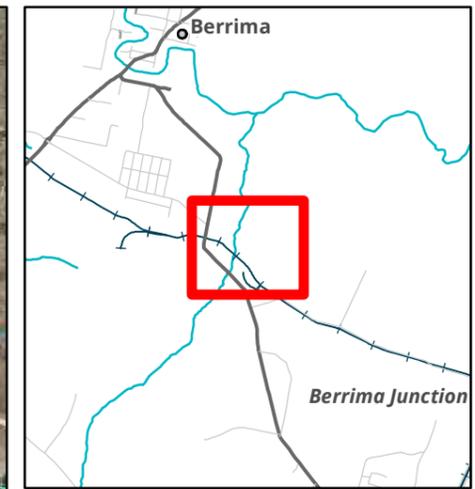
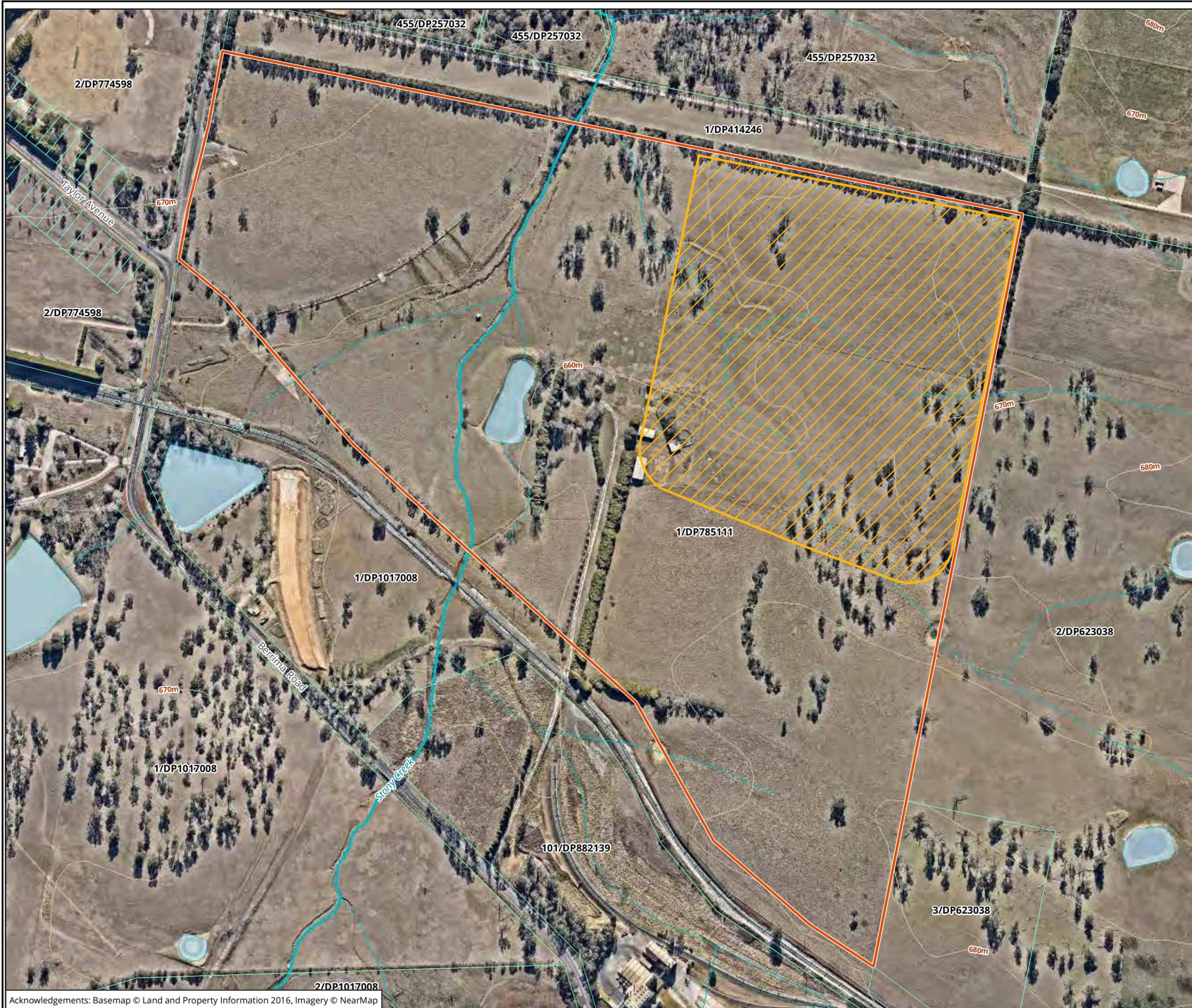
Legend

- Study area
- Site 2

Acknowledgement: Topo (c) NSW Land and Property Information (2016);
 Overview (c) State of NSW (c.2003)

Figure 1 Location of the study area in a regional context

0 250 500 750 1,000
 Metres
 Scale 1:25,000@A4, GDA 1994 NSW Lambert



Legend

- Study area
- Site 2
- Lot

Figure 2 Study area detail



Metres
 Scale: 1:4,000 @ A3
 Coordinate System: GDA 1994 NSW Lambert



Albury, Ballarat, Melbourne,
 Newcastle, Sydney, Wangaratta & Wollongong

Matter: 30434
 Date: 13 January 2020
 Checked by: SJK, Drawn by: AEDM, Last edited by: amurray
 Location: P:\30400s\30434\mapping\30434_F2_StudyArea

2 Statutory framework

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

2.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

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

- The National Heritage List (NHL) contains items which have been assessed to be of outstanding significance and define 'critical moments in our development as a nation'.³
- The Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) contains natural and cultural heritage places that are on Commonwealth land, in Commonwealth waters or are owned or managed by the Commonwealth. A place or item on the CHL has been assessed as possessing 'significant' heritage value.⁴

A search of the NHL and CHL did not yield any results associated with the study area.

2.2 NSW Heritage Act 1977

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

2.2.1 State Heritage Register

Protection of items of State significance is by nomination and listing on the SHR created under Part 3A of the Heritage Act. The register came into effect on 2 April 1999. The register was established under the *Heritage Amendment Act 1998*. It replaces the earlier system of Permanent Conservation Orders as a means for protecting items with State significance.

A permit under Section 60 of the Heritage Act is required for works on a site listed on the SHR, except for that work which complies with the conditions for exemptions to the requirement for obtaining a permit. Details of which minor works are exempted from the requirements to submit a Section 60 Application can be found in

³ 'About National Heritage' <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/national/index.html>

⁴ 'Commonwealth Heritage List Criteria'

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/commonwealth/criteria.html>

the guideline 'Standard Exemptions for Works requiring Heritage Council Approval'. These exemptions came into force on 5 September 2008 and replace all previous exemptions.

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

2.2.2 Archaeological relics

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

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

Any deposit, object or material evidence:

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

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

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

'In practice, an important historical archaeological site will be likely to contain a range of different elements as vestiges and remnants of the past. Such sites will include 'relics' of significance in the form of deposits, artefacts, objects and usually also other material evidence from demolished buildings, works or former structures which provide evidence of prior occupations but may not be "relics".'⁵

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

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

Exceptions under Section 139(4) to the standard Section 140 process exist for applications that meet the appropriate criterion. An application is still required to be made. The Section 139(4) permit is an exception from the requirement to obtain a Section 140 permit and reflects the nature of the impact and the significance of the relics or potential relics being impacted upon.

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

⁵ NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009, p.7

2.2.3 Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers

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

Statutory obligations for archaeological sites that are listed on a Section 170 Register include notification to the Heritage Council in addition to relic's provision obligations.

There are no items within or adjacent to the study area that are entered on a State government instrumentality Section 170 Register.

2.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

2.3.1 Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010

The Wingecarribee LEP 2010 contains schedules of heritage items that are managed by the controls in the instrument. As the project is being undertaken under Part 4 of the EP&A Act, council is responsible for approving controlled work via the development application system. Heritage items in the vicinity of the study area are identified in Figure 3.

The study area is not listed as an item on the Wingecarribee LEP 2010 Schedule 5. However, the study area is also situated within the vicinity of heritage items and conservation areas of local significance:

- Berrima Conservation Landscape Area (Item no. C1843) located 600 metres north of the study area.
- Berrima Cemetery (Item no. I122), Berrima Road, Lot 312 DP 751252 and Lot 311 DP 99988. Locally listed and located 600 metres north of the study area.

2.3.2 Wingecarribee Development Control Plan 2010

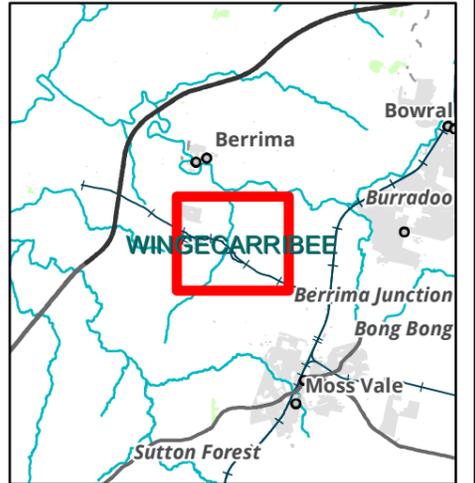
The Wingecarribee Development Control Plan 2010 (DCP) outlines built form controls to guide development. The Wingecarribee DCP supplements the provisions of the Wingecarribee LEP 2010. As the land is zoned IN1 (General Industrial), the applicable DCP is 'Rural Lands', which does not have a designated heritage section. The Berrima Village DCP outlines controls for the Berrima Conservation Landscape Area, located to the north of the study area, but only restricts development within the conservation area itself.

2.4 Summary of heritage listings

A summary of heritage listings within and in the vicinity of the study area is presented in Table 1 and Figure 3.

Table 1 Summary of heritage listings within and adjacent to the study area

| Site number | Site name | Address / property description | Listings | | Significance |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | | | Individual item | As a Conservation Area | |
| C1843 | Berrima Conservation Landscape Area | Located 600 metres north of the study area | No | Yes | Local |
| I122 | Berrima Cemetery | Berrima Road, Lot 312 DP 751252 and Lot 311 DP 99988. | Yes | No | Local |



- Legend**
- Study area
 - Site 2
- Local heritage items**
- Conservation Area - Landscape
 - Item - General

Figure 3 Location of heritage items within the vicinity of the study area

0 100 200 300 400 500
 Metres
 Scale: 1:10,000 @ A3
 Coordinate System: GDA 1994 NSW Lambert



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 Location: P:\30400s\30434\mapping\30434_HHA_F5_HistItems

3 Historical context

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

3.1 Topography and resources

The underlying geology that dictates the existing landscape is the Wianamatta Group, which is comprised of the Bringelly Shales consisting of mid grey and dark grey mudstones with interbedded lithic sandstones as well as finer grained siltstones and claystone. The subdued relief of the Moss Vale Tablelands is the result of the long periods during which sediments laid down in the late Palaeozoic and early Mesozoic were slowly weathered, eroded and transported away. This landscape is geologically old.

3.2 Aboriginal past

The Bowral area is recognised as being within the traditional lands of the Gundangarra people. Tindale recorded the location of the Gundangarra peoples as at Goulburn and Berrima, down the Hawkesbury River (Wollondilly) to about Camden.⁶ The Gundangarra people were also part of the Gundangarra language group, their neighbours were Dharug, Darkinung, Wiradjuri, Ngunawa and Thurrawal language groups.⁷ These 'defined' language areas are considered to be indicative only, and would have changed through time, and possibly also changed depending on circumstances. It is more likely that language groups shared enough common dialect that definitive boundaries varied, and are not set along a single defined geological boundary. Many early sources identify the Nepean River as the boundary between the Tharawal (east) and the Gundangarra (west).⁸

The massive disruption to traditional lifestyles caused by European settlement in the Berrima – Mittagong – Moss Vale – Sutton Forest rectangle had a number of results by the later 19th century. Aboriginal population were reduced by European diseases. The surviving people continued something of their old lives in the west and north-west of the Wingecarribee region. In 1838, Surveyor General Mitchell called the Nattai wilderness the 'haunt and secure' retreat for his Aboriginal friends. An increasing number of Aboriginal people worked at herding, fencing and domestic chores of the white settlers.⁹

3.3 Berrima and the Wingecarribee district – historical development

3.3.1 Early exploration

Initial European occupation of NSW began in 1788 with the arrival of the first feet and the establishment of NSW as the first British colony of Australia. Early settlements in this colony mainly resided on rivers and coastal areas, to facilitate the transport of goods and services easily across river systems accessible by boat.

⁶ Tindale 1974

⁷ Koch & Hercus 2009

⁸ Attenbrow 2010

⁹ JRC Planning Services 1993

Further settlements inland, such as those located in Sutton Forrest or Moss Vale, were founded due to a need for land expansion and resource procurement.

Little is known of the district between 1798 and 1814, although there were some minor explorations into the region throughout that time. The first expedition set out in 1798, consisting of John Wilson, the chief guide, John Price, a servant of the Governor, a man named Roe, four guards and four convicts. The aim of this exploration was to convince the convict community that China could not indeed be reached by a 150 mile journey overland, as there were multiple desertions with some convicts returning in starved condition while others were killed by the local Aboriginal tribes. The Irish convicts however quickly grew tired when faced with the prospect of climbing through rugged bush land near Picton. They returned to Sydney, along with the guards, while John Price, John Wilson and Roe continued on. They headed in a south westerly direction travelling from Cow Pastures at Mount Hunter to a spot about a mile above the junction of the Bargo and Nepean rivers. Wilson and Roe continued onwards through the Bargo district to Forest or Catherine Hill, Aylmerton, Mittagong, Bowral and to the head of Joadja Creek. From there they explored through to Bulli and finally reached a point near the junction of the Wingecarribee and Wollondilly rivers. Prices' journal reports the first sightings of a Lyre bird, wombat (on the mainland) and a koala, all observed on 26 January 1798.¹⁰

In 1826 Hamilton Hume recorded in a letter that he and his brother passed through the Wingecarribee district in the company of his uncle, John Kennedy in 1814, travelling as far as the Bungonia district.¹¹ Hume, an explorer, grazier and magistrate, was one of the first explorers in the Wingecarribee region, and in 1817 Governor Macquarie requested that Hume accompany Charles Throsby on an expedition to the area now known as Sutton Forest. In 1818, both Hume and Throsby returned to accompany Surveyor James Meehan, Joseph Wild and a number of other men on a secondary expedition, with the intention to discover if communications could be established from Sydney to Jervis Bay over land.¹²

Part way through the journey, Hume and Meehan separated from Throsby, heading to Lake Bathurst and the Goulburn plains.¹³ Whilst at Lake Bathurst, Meehan traced the course of the Mulwaree River for some distance while Hume made an excursion to the Gourcock range.¹⁴ Throsby continued on the original course, passing through what would eventually be known as Moss Vale, reaching Shoalhaven River and Jervis Bay in the same year.¹⁵

Throsby also discovered a pass between the Illawarra and Robertson districts, successfully driving a herd of cattle through it and was pivotal in the construction of the first road from Picton (Stone quarry) to the Goulburn plains between 1819 and 1821, also known as the Old South Road.¹⁶ In 1820, for Throsby's services in exploration of the 'New Country', Governor Macquarie rewarded him with a grant of 1,000 acres (405 hectares) in any part of the new country he wished. Throsby, accompanied by nine other men also granted lands of up to 40 hectares each, chose to settle in an area that is now included in the Moss Vale district. Macquarie also gave him superintendence over the building of the road, which was placed under the direction of Throsby's servant Joseph Wild.¹⁷ In 1820, Macquarie visited the work party, which had reached the Cookbundoon Range, and gave Throsby's estate in the new country the name of Throsby Park as another reward for his services to the state.¹⁸

¹⁰ Jervis 1986

¹¹ Hume 1966

¹² Parsons 1967

¹³ Hume 1966

¹⁴ Hume 1966

¹⁵ Parsons 1967

¹⁶ Parsons 1967

¹⁷ Parsons 1967

¹⁸ Parsons 1967

3.3.2 The first European settlement

Settlement in the region was dominated by free born settlers of some standing, holding the more important grants of freehold and leasehold lands¹⁹. The pioneers of these free settlers were John Oxley and William Moore, the first to run stock at Bargo.

The Sutton Forest area was settled by Throsby Smith and named by Governor Macquarie himself as Throsby Park during a visit in 1820. Throsby Park was described by Dr. Reid (who accompanied the Governor on his journey) as containing "*a richness of soil and beautiful scenery combining their charms to increase its interest" where the appearance of his herd "would have done credit to a first rate English farm"*.²⁰ The Sydney Gazette reported in March 1820 that:

"12 head of cattle from Throsby's' herd had been turned into store and weighed in at 750lbs a head with one weighing 900lbs.....the recent discovery of this extensive track of land will be considered of the highest importance to our general benefits".²¹

In 1820 Surveyor General Meehan was instructed to proceed to the district to make observations with the view to the country being settled. In March 1821, instructions were given to Surveyor General Oxley to commence the measurement of farms in the district of Bargo and onwards as far as Cookbundoon River. From Bargo the marking of grants went south to Mittagong. Land began to be cleared around homesteads initially but by the 1830's more and more land was taken up not just for grazing but townships, small farms for army veterans, small entrepreneurs and innkeepers. The areas around Mittagong, Moss Vale, Bowral and Berrima were lightly timbered and natural grazing ground for cattle, sheep, horses and later pigs encouraging the growth of these service centers.

In 1849 Surveyor Mann was instructed to mark a road from Mittagong to Bong Bong following an old track through a gap at the western end of Gibraltar Hill. The first recorded commercial venture in the Bong Bong – Bowral district was when George Riley opened a store on his 'Bloomfield' property in 1837. He advertised that he added a large variety of articles to his stock.²²

3.3.3 Establishment of Berrima Township

The township of Berrima was founded in 1829 on land surveyed by Surveyor-General Sir Thomas Mitchell, after he noted its abundance of good water and building stone while carrying his road through to the district of Goulburn. He advised governor Bourke that this was an ideal town site, and surveyor Robert Hoddle submitted a plan for the village which was approved by Governor Bourke in 1831 (Plate 1). The town plan was based along the lines of a traditional English village with a central market place and as many blocks as possible facing onto the Wingicarrabee River.

¹⁹ J R C Planning Services, 1993

²⁰ Jervis, 1986

²¹ 'Sydney' 1820

²² Jervis, 1986

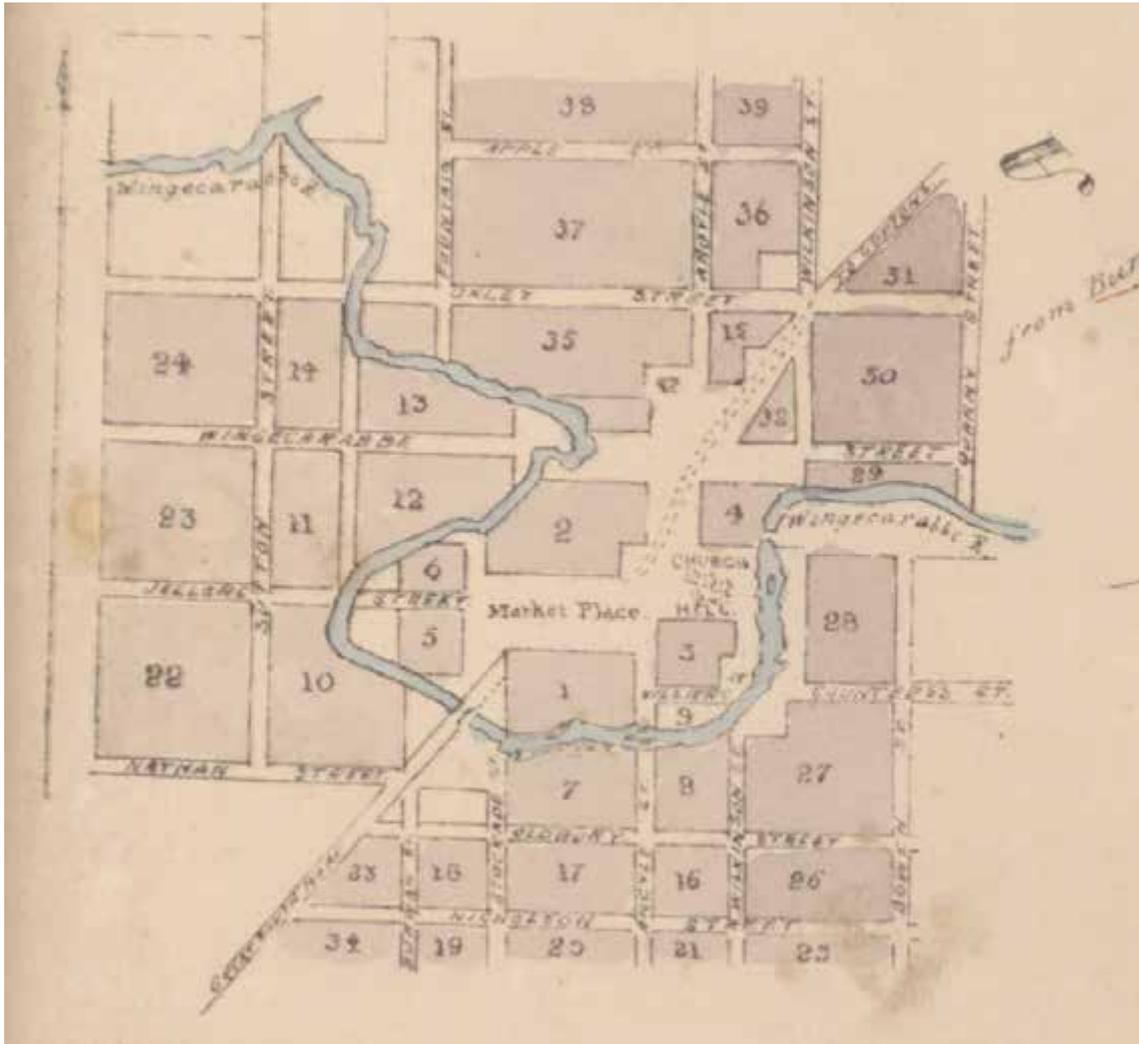


Plate 1 Detail of Berrima from the 1843 map of the County of Camden by Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor General of NSW (Source: Map RaA 8 Plate 6, National Library of Australia)

Due to its location near the Wingecarribee River, Berrima had land suitable for grazing and agriculture. Berrima was almost the geographical centre of the County of Camden as drawn by Mitchell's map of 1829, and was intended to be not only the capital, but the centre for manufacturing and administration.²³

Following the approval of Governor Bourke in 1831, the period 1824 to 1841 saw significant flourishing development as mail coaches changed their route to this new line of road. Early town lots were sold in 1833, predominantly to inn keepers and around Market Square, including the first town Lot sales to Bryan McMahon (Plate 2).²⁴

²³ NSW Roads and Maritime Services 2013, p.42

²⁴ Chris and Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd 2008, p.9

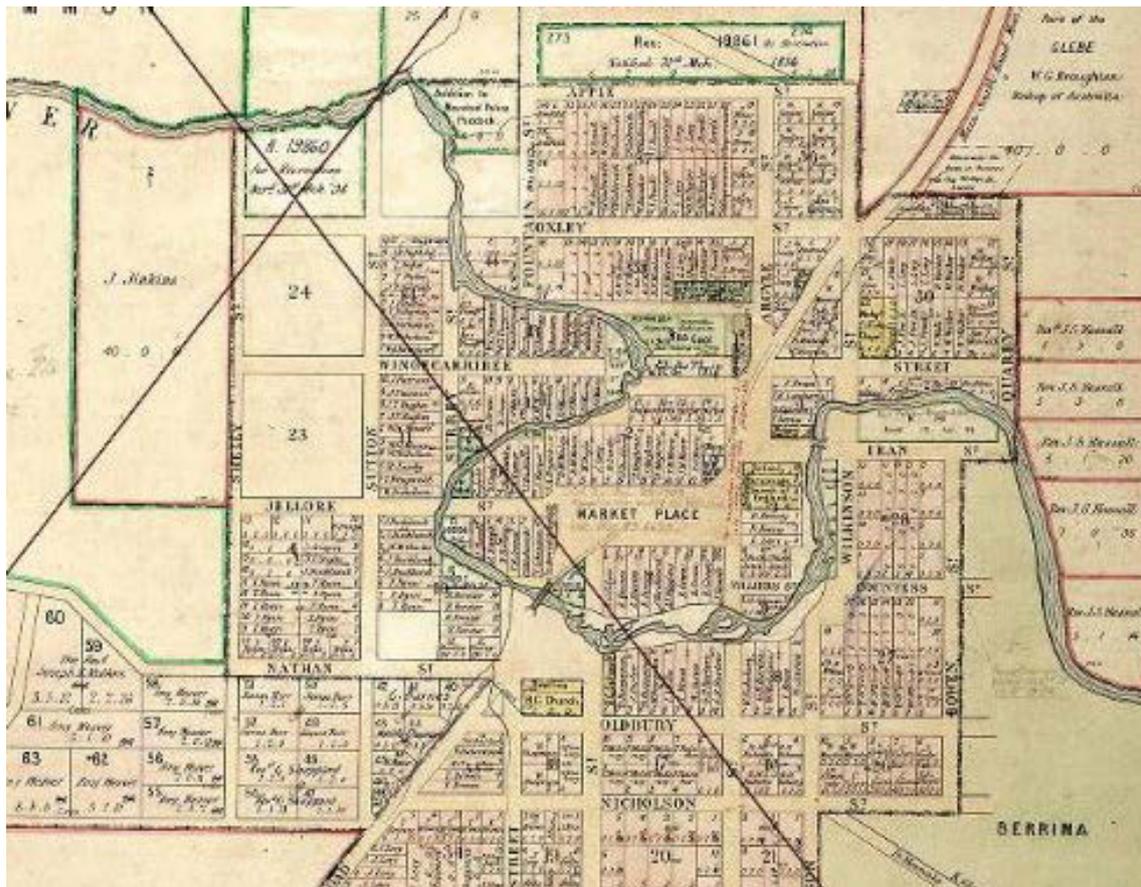


Plate 2 1881 town map of Berrima (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)

Following the opening of the Great South Road, Berrima became an important stop for travellers from Sydney and a number of inns were established, the first being in 1827.²⁵ By 1835, there were 13 inns built to accommodate the coaches and travellers passing through Berrima (Plate 3).²⁶ A large goal was built at Berrima in 1839 and a courthouse in 1841 with the major source of labour coming from convicts. The 1841 census showed 36 families residing in Berrima, made up of 249 people, of which 39 were in goal and 87 were ex-convicts.²⁷ By 1851, the population had decreased to 192; however, the discovery of gold enlivened the town.

²⁵ Artefact 2018, p.7

²⁶ NSW Roads and Maritime Services 2013, p.42

²⁷ Artefact 2018, p.7



Plate 3 c.1900 photograph of Berrima looking towards the Surveyor General Inn and gaol (Source: Berrima District Historical and Family History Society Inc.)

Hopes for Berrima's prosperous future were raised by the planned construction of the southern railway. Locals believed that when the line reached Berrima, it would become one of the important centres of the colony.²⁸ Surveys for the railway were made between 1845 and 1848 by Thomas Woore. The construction of the rail line began in 1850 from Sydney, five years later the line to Parramatta Junction (now Granville) was completed.

Over the next eight years the rail line made its way to Picton, where this station became the rail head. The section between Picton and Mittagong was a difficult stretch of country and the works were divided into five sections where contracts were let. On the 1 March 1867, the line was opened with much fanfare. The section from Mittagong to Moss Vale came into use in December 1867 and, by 1868, Marulan became the rail head. The coming of the rail changed the district immeasurably. Where previously the only occupants of the land were the stockmen, now camps of rail workers started to appear every few miles along the rail line with larger camps in Mittagong, Bowral and Moss Vale. Stores and hotels opened up on the back of this influx of people. When the rail workers moved onto the next section of rail line small village centres had been established and continued to thrive.²⁹

For Berrima though, the railway was located 5 kilometres to the east nearer the towns of Bowral and Moss Vale both of which surpassed Berrima in population and work opportunities. All new settlement occurred along the planned route of the railway line, then down through the southern villages in the district.³⁰ One by one, Berrima's inns closed and, by 1909, only the Surveyor General Inn survived to cater for travellers.³¹ The population began to shrink and by 1914, there were less than 80 people living in Berrima.

The gaol had closed in 1909, but it was re-opened in 1914 during World War I as an internment camp and during World War II as a depot and store.³² From 1944 to 1949, the whole gaol was rebuilt by prison labour at

²⁸ JRC Planning Services 1993

²⁹ Jervis, 1986

³⁰ Berrima Historical Society 2013

³¹ NSW Roads and Maritime Services 2013, p.42

³² (Chris and Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd 2008, p.22)

a cost of £18,000 with only the entrance and outer walls of old gaol were left standing. In 1948, the Berrima Training Centre, a minimum security correctional centre opened at the Berrima Gaol.

During the 1960s, the National Trust of Australia started to classify and seek to protect heritage properties.³³ Since the classification of a number of buildings in Berrima by the National Trust, the popularity of Berrima has increased, particularly as a tourist destination. Recent developments in the town have seen the emergence of bed and breakfast accommodation facilities, reflecting the early years of the town's development that provided accommodation for travellers through the construction and operation of various inns.³⁴

3.3.4 Coal mining and Berrima

From the mid-19th century, various attempts have been made to mine coal in the Southern Highlands. John Atkinson reportedly discovered coal in 1845 near Berrima in 'a peninsula formed by the tortuous river and a tributary named the Medway Rivulet, and is exposed to view and touch in a gorge varying from 200 to 450 feet in depth'.³⁵ In 1867, the Cataract mine was opened along the banks of Medway Rivulet by A.R. Huntley and J.R. Brereton, which supplied coal to the Fitzroy Iron Works until its closure in the late 1860s (Plate 4).



Plate 4 The Cataract Mine (Source: Australian Town and Country Journal 1876)

³³ Chris and Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd 2008, p.22

³⁴ Chris and Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd 2008, p.10

³⁵ 'THE BERRIMA COAL MINE' 1882

In 1880, a mine was opened at Medway by James John Atkinson to supply the NSW Railways with coal for their steam locomotives.³⁶ The company became official on the 31 March 1881, when an act named “The Berrima Coal-mining and Railway Company (Limited)” was created that would allow a railway line to be constructed from the Berrima Coal mine to Moss Vale, where it would be connected with the Great Southern Railway line.³⁷ The line officially opened on 18 March 1882,³⁸ however, it was forced to close less than a decade later due to the high cost of transport and low profits. The rail line fell into disrepair and during the early 20th century, the rails were lifted.³⁹

Three new mines opened in the Berrima area during the 1920s and included the Loch Catherine Colliery, the Flying Fox Mine and the Medway Colliery. Arnold Taylor opened the Medway Colliery in 1924 and rebuilt the line to Berrima Junction on the original 1881 rail spur built for the Berrima Coal mine.⁴⁰ The coal from this mine was primarily used for Taylor’s cement works. Taylor’s first company was the Australian Blue Metal Quarries Pty Ltd that operated at the base of Mount Gingenbullen, which was serviced by a short rail line that joined the Berrima rail line and then the Southern Railway at Berrima Junction (Plate 5). The line only operated for a few years and largely dismantled in 1942; however, it is still visible on the 1949 aerial photograph.

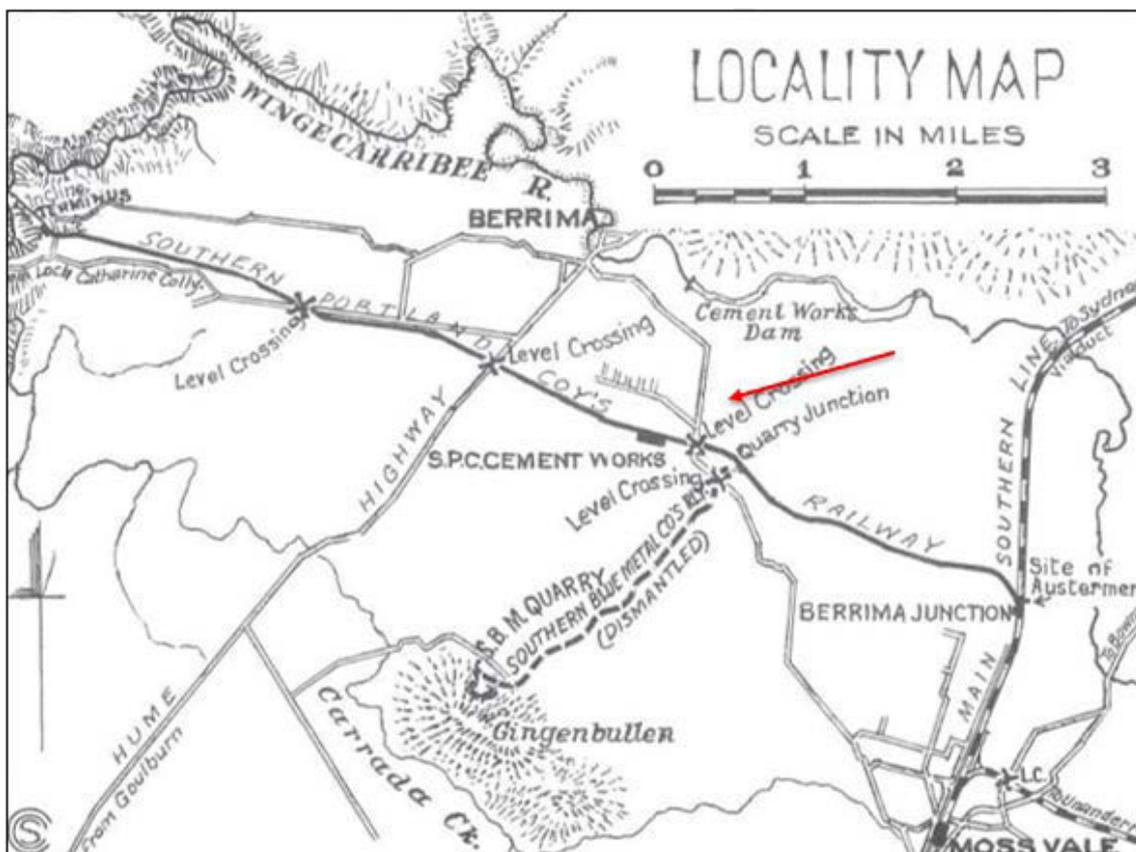


Plate 5 Rail lines associated with the coal industry in the Berrima area, with the approximate location of the study area marked with a red arrow (Source: The Australian Railway Historical Society)

³⁶ EMM 2017, p.39

³⁷ *Berrima Coal-mine Railway Act 1881*

³⁸ 'THE BERRIMA COAL MINE' 1882

³⁹ EMM 2017, p.39

⁴⁰ Oberg 1980

With the onset of the Great Depression during the 1930s, Taylor was forced to sell his company, Southern Portland Company Limited, to Cecil Hoskins, who also purchased the Medway Colliery and Railroad Company. With the mechanisation of coal extraction and production in 1968, transportation changed from rail to road. The closure of Berrima colliery was announced in 2014 thus ending production of coal in one of the oldest and smallest collieries in NSW.⁴¹

3.3.5 History of the study area

The study area was originally part of a large land grant of 2,850 acres to William Hutchinson in the 1820s. Hutchinson was convicted at the Old Bailey in London in June 1796 of stealing goods to the value of over £168 and, after being sentenced to death, he was transported to Sydney in 1799.⁴² He was then convicted again in Sydney for stealing from the King's stores and sent to Norfolk Island, where he was soon appointed overseer of government stock followed by the acting superintendent of convicts in June 1803 and superintendent in 1809. Hutchinson had married twice. Firstly, to Mary Cooper in 1801 who bore him eight children and secondly to Jane Roberts in 1825.

He had acquired considerable property upon his return to Sydney in 1814, Hutchinson was appointed as principal superintendent of convicts and public works by Macquarie. During his appointment, Hutchinson received the convicts' money and property when they arrived which, with other deposits, he invested to his own benefit. He owned properties near Moss Vale, Bargo, Mittagong, Sutton Forest, Bringelly and Bong Bong, along with real estate in the centre of Sydney, Chippendale, Liverpool, Parramatta and Melbourne. He also supplied convicts for the public works and in 1817, Macquarie made Hutchinson principal wharfinger in place of George Dowling.⁴³ However, despite prolonged correspondence, the British government never confirmed this appointment and was appointed landing-waiter in 1827. Due to ill health, Hutchinson retired in 1829. Hutchinson died on 26 July 1846, leaving goods worth £20,000 in addition to his extensive real estate.⁴⁴

The 1894 parish map shows the study area as part of Hutchinson's 2,850 acres with the Berrima Coal Company tramway line situated along the southern boundary (Plate 6).

⁴¹ EMM 2017

⁴² Le Roy 2019

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

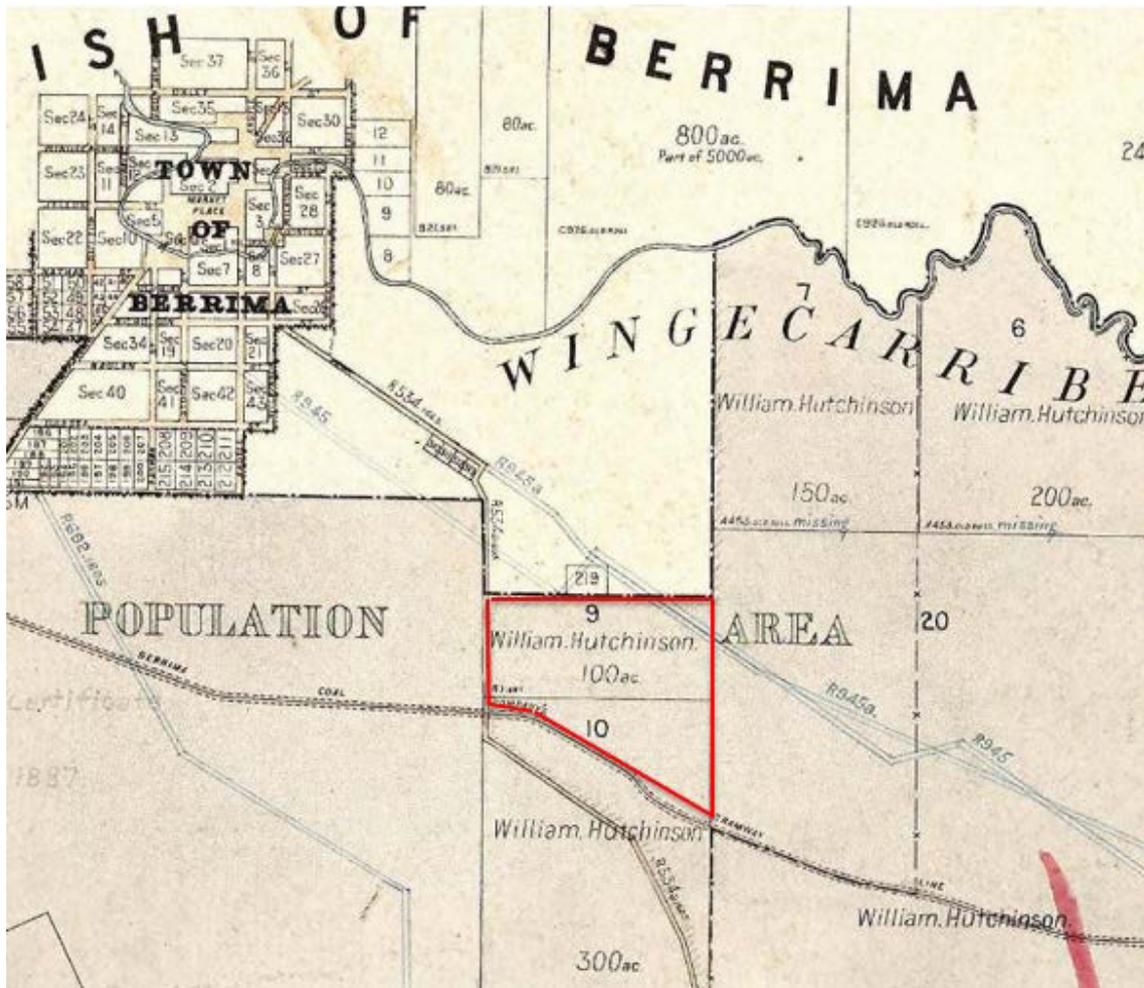


Plate 6 1894 parish map showing the land grants to William Hutchinson, with the study area marked in red (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)

After Hutchinson death it is unclear how his landholdings were split up amongst the children as they had predominantly moved out of the area after they were married. However one of Hutchinson daughters, Martha Ann married John Lackey who combined Hutchinson original land grant with other grants to the east and south including G. Johnstone, J. Hately, C. Langham, C. Sommers, J. Roberts and W. Chippendale (Plate 7). They were originally small holdings but the outbreak of the goldfields and the power of money combined to make it one large estate.⁴⁵This 4,000 acre combined property was brought under the provisions of the Real Property Act by John Lackey in March 1891⁴⁶ and was named 'Austermere'.

⁴⁵ 'The Austermere Estate' 1904

⁴⁶ PA8377

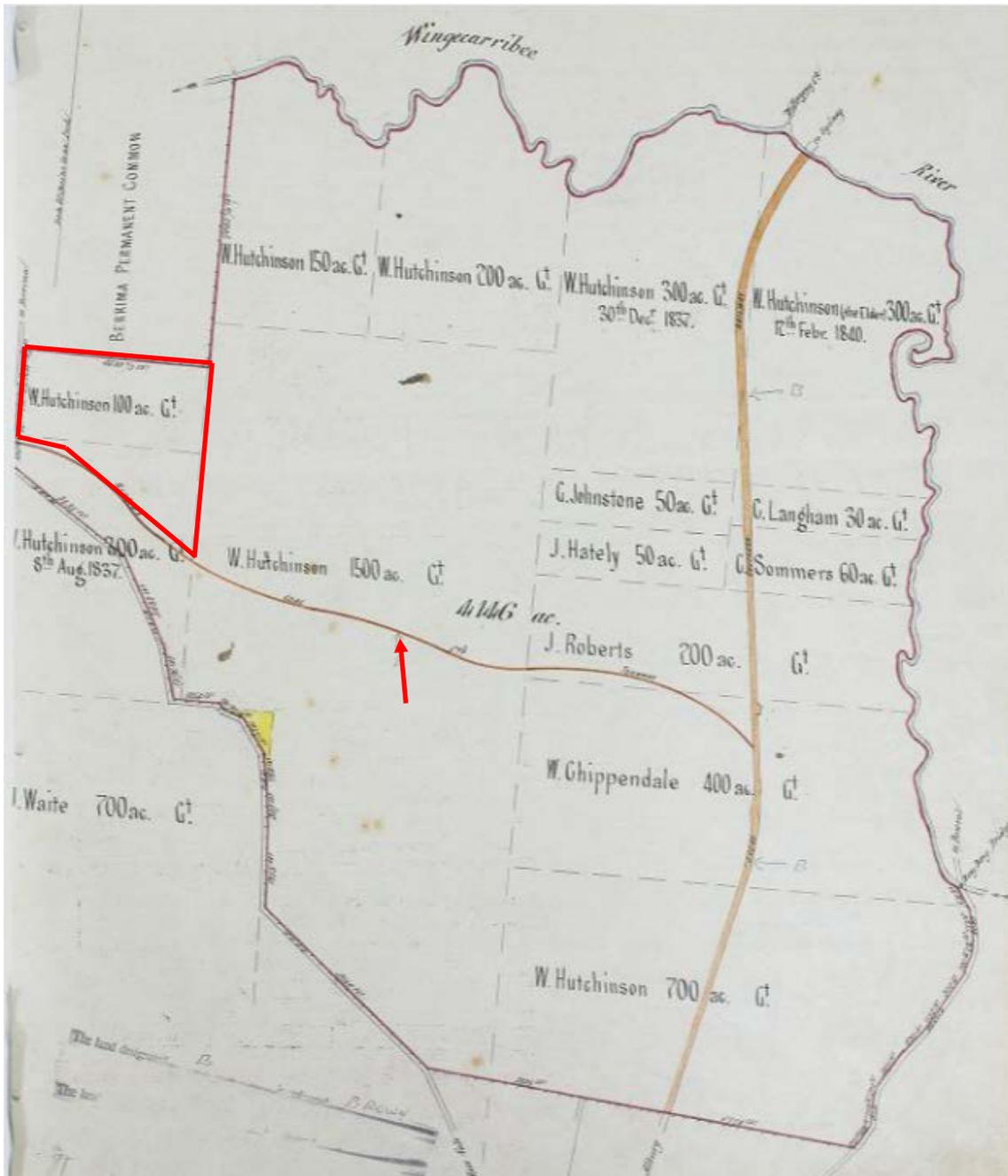


Plate 7 The surrounding grants were combined in 1891 to form a single lot of 4,146 acres, known as 'Austermere'. Red arrow indicates approximate location of Bong Bong Platform (Source: NSW Land Registry Services)

Sir John Lackey was a pastoralist and politician born 6 October 1830 in Sydney and died in Bong Bong in 1903. He was educated at John Eyre's school and John Mills's Aldine House in Parramatta, and William Timothy Cape's college in Sydney. He has a distinguished career in politics and in 1852 he was appointed a magistrate. In the late 1870s after his marriage to Martha Ann Hutchinson he moved to Austermere.⁴⁷ Austermere might have been said to have been one of the notable Bong Bong residences, the house was a fairly substantial cottage near the railway platform (eventually referred to as Bong Bong platform) which was situated in about the centre of the property (Plate 7). The estate comprised about 4,100 acres and had frontage of 5 miles to

⁴⁷ Rutledge 1974

the Wingecarribee River. It was securely fenced, had permanent water, excellent grass and could be rented with or without the residence, wool shed, yards, men's quarters etc.⁴⁸

Throughout the 1890s to 1915 Austermere was slowly subdivided and sold off.⁴⁹ The study area was sold in a parcel of land to Norman Leslie Clough of Moss Vale, grazier, in February 1907.⁵⁰ He also grew fruit on the land and exhibited it at the Berrima district show.⁵¹ There are very few maps or plans of Berrima and its surrounds in this time period, however this is not unexpected as by 1914 the population of the town had been reduced to 80, due to the railway bypassing the main centre of Berrima.

Throughout 1907 to June 1960, Clough owned this block of land but mortgaged it to numerous graziers, a surgeon, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd, a master butcher, company directors of Collary Company and the Alley Pastoral Co Pty Ltd. The 1949 aerial (Plate 8, Plate 9) shows that by this point several structures have appeared. These seem to be two houses [1] [2], outbuildings [8] [9] and sheds or covered shelters [3] [4] [5] [6] [7]. The larger sheds or covered shelters [5] [7] are likely to be where the feed for the animals was kept.



Plate 8 1949 aerial showing several structures in the study area (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

⁴⁸ Parry 1948

⁴⁹ Vol 1442 fol 169

⁵⁰ Vol 1760 fol 85

⁵¹ The Scrutineer and Berrima District Press 1930



Plate 9 Close up of the 1949 aerial with buildings labelled (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

The study area, along with additional land to the east and south was then sold to Alley Pastoral Co. Pty on 6 June 1960 who mortgaged it to Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd and Gordon Byrne Alley of Gunning, grazier.⁵² The 1963 aerial (Plate 10, Plate 11) shows a similar configuration of buildings within the study area, with the house [1] now gone. The structures to the south east of the main cluster of buildings [3] [4] have also been demolished. A small new structure [10] has also appeared between the house [2] and the cluster of sheds [5] [6] [7].

⁵² Vol 7920 fol 230, Vol 8354 fol 183



Plate 10 1963 aerial showing a similar configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

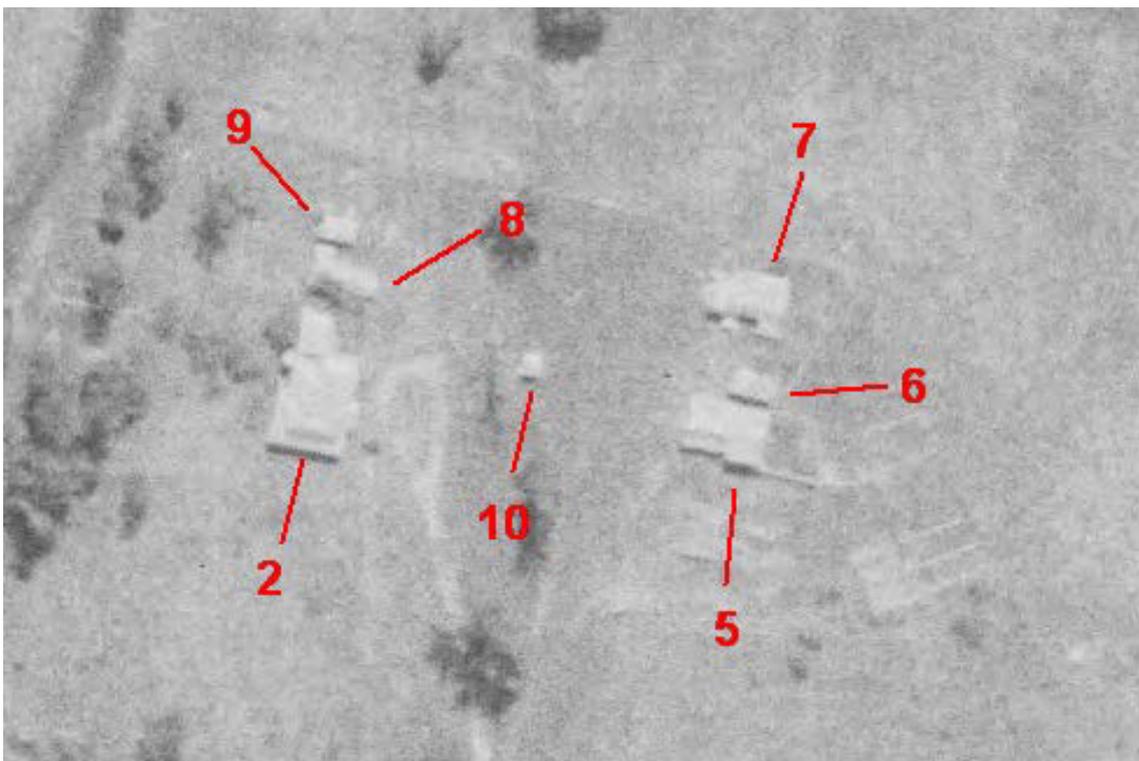


Plate 11 Close up of 1963 aerial showing a similar configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

11 July 1964 the study area was transferred to Ada Wheeler of Dover Heights, Nadine and Lesley Dawn Wheeler of Dover Heights, spinster as joint grants then to William Jonathan Pedley Smith of Moss Vale, grazier

in 1966.⁵³ The 1974 aerial (Plate 12, Plate 13) shows another slightly different configuration of structures with some being replaced or altered. The large shed/covered shelter [5] has been replaced with one that is slightly bigger [11]. The two outbuildings near the main homestead [8] and [9] have also been demolished and replaced with two new outbuildings [13] and [14]. The shed/covered shelter in the centre of the site was demolished and not replaced [10]. Several new sheds/covered shelters have been erected, one in between the homestead and the main cluster of buildings [12] and one to the north-west [15]. There have also been alteration of the landscape to the east of the main cluster of sheds, a more formalised and terraced paddocks have been created for the cattle.

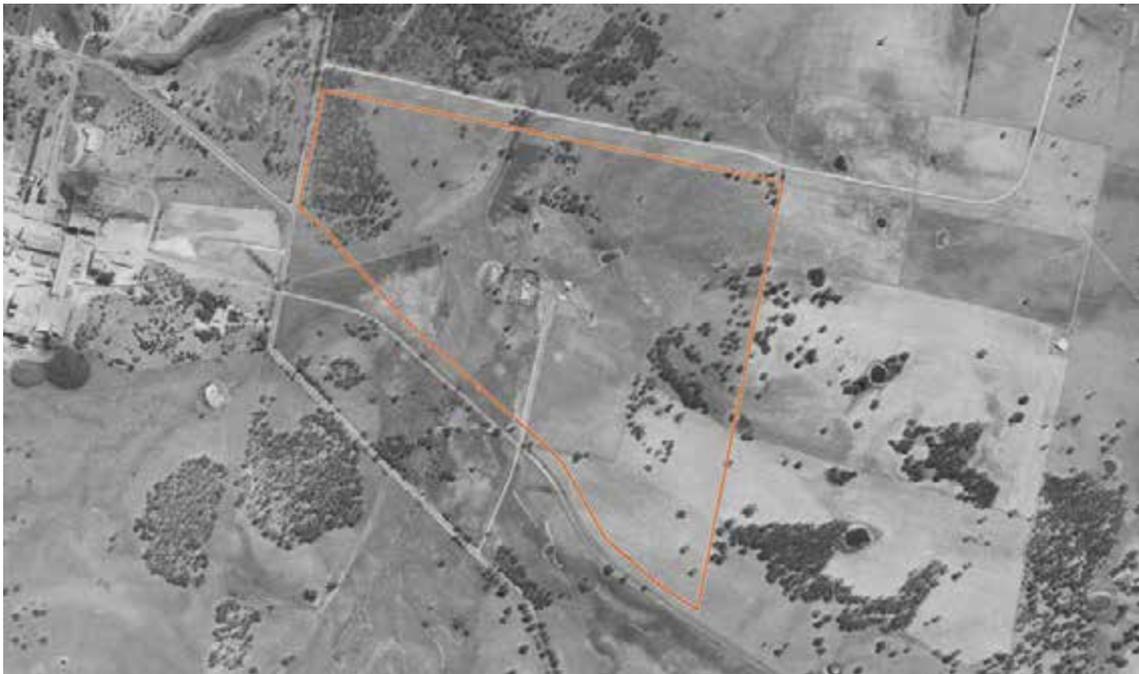
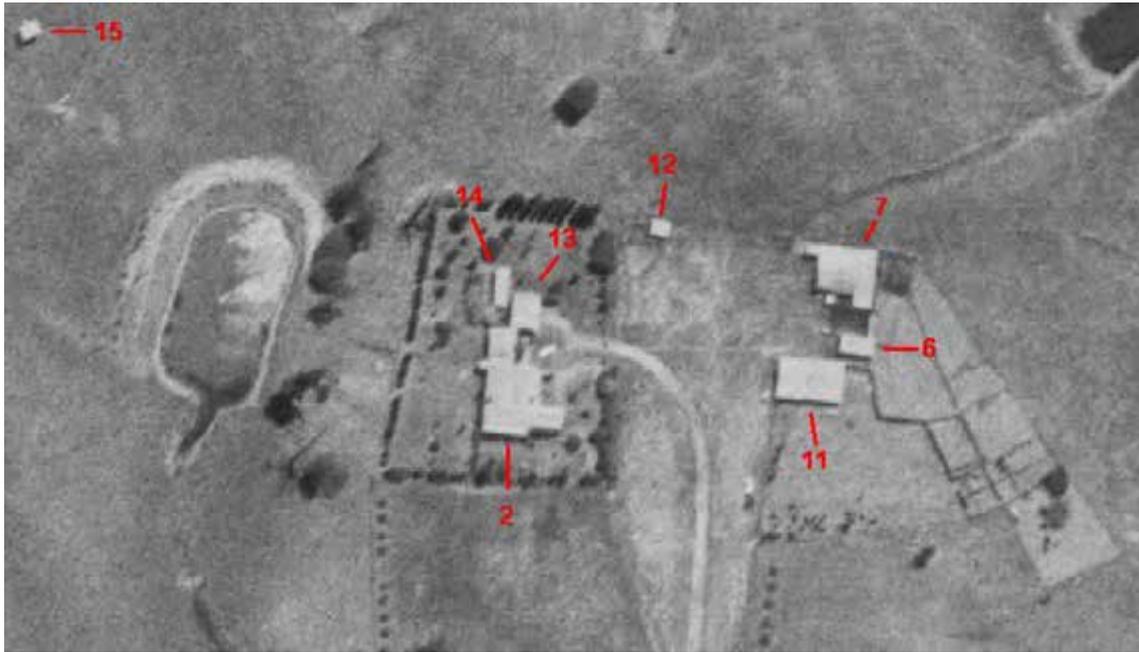


Plate 12 1974 aerial showing a slightly different configuration of structures (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

⁵³ Vol 9243 fol 42



**Plate 13 Close up of 1974 aerial showing a slightly different configuration of structures
(Source: NSW Spatial Services)**

In 1982 the study area was transferred to South Creek Dairy and in 1988 to Southern Portland Cement Pty Ltd.⁵⁴ The study area is still undeveloped at this point and the majority of it remains as empty fields with various fencelines denoting the different paddocks. The 1991 aerial (Plate 14, Plate 15) shows the configuration of buildings near the homestead continued to evolve as ownership passed from one company to another. The immediate area around the homestead remained a similar configuration, although one outbuilding [14] was demolished and a smaller one [22] erected in a different location. Only one of the shed/covered shelters [11] was demolished during this period and one was expanded [7]. Several other shed/covered shelters were constructed [16], [17], [18], [19], [20] and [21].

⁵⁴ Vol 13830 fol 88



Plate 14 1991 aerial showing the study area which is mostly paddocks and a cluster of buildings (Source: NSW Spatial Services)



Plate 15 Close up of the 1991 aerial showing the buildings configuration (Source: NSW Spatial Services)

The configuration of the buildings did not change a great deal between the 1991 aerial and 2015. It can however be seen that another shed/covered shelter was added at some point before 2015 [23] with two other structures [19] and [20] demolished. The 2015 aerial (Plate 16) is the last recorded photograph which the homestead and the majority of these buildings are present.



Plate 16 2015 aerial showing the addition of one large shed/covered shelter and the removal of other structures (Source: NearMaps)

The major change in these buildings occurred between 2015 and 2016 when the house [2], its outbuildings [13], [22] and a number of shed/covered buildings were demolished including [6], [7], [12], [15], [16], [19], [20] and [21]. This can be seen on the current aerial imagery (Plate 17. Figure 2).



Plate 17 Current aerial showing that the majority of structures present in 2015 have been demolished (Source: NearMaps)

The study area does not presently contain any other structures apart from those shown in Plate 17. As can be seen throughout the history, the site was cleared and the majority used for animal grazing in the form of fields and paddocks.

3.4 Chronology of the study area

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

Table 2 Chronological development of the study area

| No. | Building | Date |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | House | c.1949 – 1963 |
| 2 | Main homestead | c.1949 – 2016 |
| 3 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 c.1963 |
| 4 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1963 |
| 5 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1974 |
| 6 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 |
| 7 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 |

| No. | Building | Date |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|
| 8 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 |
| 9 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 |
| 10 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1963 – c.1974 |
| 11 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – c.1991 |
| 12 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – .2016 |
| 13 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – 2016 |
| 14 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – c.1991 |
| 15 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – 2016 |
| 16 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 |
| 17 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present |
| 18 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present |
| 19 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 |
| 20 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 |
| 21 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 |
| 22 | Outbuilding | c.1991 – c.2015 |
| 23 | Shed/covered shelter | c.2015 – present |

3.5 Research themes

An analysis has been undertaken to place the history of the study area in the context of the local area, NSW and more broadly Australia, in order to gauge how the study area relates to historical themes identified in the area. This is ascertained by gaining an understanding of the history of the site in relation to the broad historical themes characterising Australia at the time. Such themes have been established by the Australian Heritage Commission and the Heritage Office and are outlined in synoptic form in 'Historical Themes'⁵⁵.

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

A review of the contextual history in conjunction with the Wingecarribee historical thematic history has identified two historical themes which relates to the occupational history of the study area. This is summarised in Table 3.

⁵⁵ NSW Heritage Council 2001

Table 3 Identified historical themes for the study area

| Australian theme | NSW theme | Local theme |
|--|-------------|---|
| Developing local, regional and national economies | Agriculture | Clearing land for farming, dairy farming, farming by convict emancipists, farming wheat and other grains. |
| | Pastoralism | Grazing sheep and cattle |

4 Physical inspection

A physical inspection of the study area was undertaken on 29 November 2019 attended by Samantha Keats and Maggie Butcher. The principal aims of the survey were to identify heritage values associated with the study area; this included any heritage items and archaeological potential of historical remains. Heritage items can be buildings, structures, places, relics or other works of historical, aesthetic, social, technical/research or natural heritage significance. 'Places' include conservation areas, sites, precincts, gardens, landscapes and areas of archaeological potential.

4.1 Site setting and built fabric

The study area is located in the Southern Highlands region of NSW in a semi-rural setting. It is surrounded by grazing properties, small-scale farm businesses, scattered rural properties and large and small industrial industries. The study area contains predominantly cleared agricultural land (Plate 18, Plate 19) and is dissected by Stony Creek that traverses from north to south. The land slopes from a high point in the north of the study area, which allows commanding views across the landscape towards the Hume Highway. The remaining buildings within the study area were examined. The shed/covered shelters [23] (Plate 20), [17] (Plate 21) and [18] (Plate 22) were all in good condition with the exception of [15] (Plate 26). They are all open on at least one side made of corrugated iron and wood with concrete floors. The area in which the homestead was situated was also examined (Plate 25). While the main building had been demolished, several surface remains were found (Plate 23, Plate 24) with indications of sub-surface services running through the area.



Plate 18 The study area consisted mostly of cleared agricultural land



Plate 19 The northern portion of the study area near Stony Creek contained slightly more trees than the rest of the study area



Plate 20 Shed/covered shelter [23]



Plate 21 Shed/covered shelter [17]



Plate 22 Shed/covered shelter
[18]



Plate 23 Concrete foundation
remains of homestead
[2] or associated
outbuildings [8], [9],
[13], [14], [22]



Plate 24 Concrete foundation
remains of homestead
[2] or associated
outbuildings [8], [9],
[13], [14], [22]



Plate 25 Location of previous homestead [2]



Plate 26 Shed/covered shelter [15]

4.2 Archaeological assessment

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

4.2.1 Archaeological resource

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

From the time of European settlement onwards, the study area appears to have been extensively cleared and used primarily for grazing purposes. Archaeological resources likely to be present within the study area would

be associated with the original property boundaries and roads, and evidence of early farming practices. Any remains from the property boundaries would be ephemeral structural evidence such as post holes, while evidence of farming practices are likely to be associated with small outbuildings, animal sheds, fences and pens.

Having said that, the historical research undertaken as part of this assessment did not indicate any historical structures or buildings within the vicinity of the study area until the construction of one house in the western portion of the site [1] and the main homestead [2] in the mid-20th century. The installation of a large water pipeline running parallel to Stony Creek and construction of access roads have most likely removed all traces of the house [1]. The aerial photographs show mid-20th century homestead [2] had undergone several structural changes throughout the late 20th century. These alterations would have disturbed any potential occupation deposits in those areas, and may have also impacted on the original footings of the house. The continued demolition and rebuilding of the outbuildings and sheds around the homestead [2] would have disturbed any archaeological remains of the previous buildings in the area. The potential archaeological resources are outlined in Table 4.

Table 4 Potential archaeological resources

| No. | Building | Date | Potential resource |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|---|
| 1 | House | c.1949 – 1963 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 2 | Main homestead | c.1949 – 2016 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 3 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1963 | Post holes, footings |
| 4 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1963 | Post holes, footings |
| 5 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1974 | Post holes, footings |
| 6 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 7 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 8 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 9 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 10 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1963 – c.1974 | Post holes, footings |
| 11 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – c.1991 | Post holes, footings |
| 12 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – .2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 13 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – 2016 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 14 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – c.1991 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits |
| 15 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 16 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 17 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present | - |
| 18 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present | - |
| 19 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 20 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |
| 21 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings |

| No. | Building | Date | Potential resource |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 22 | Outbuilding | c.1991 – c.2015 | Footings, post holes, occupation deposits |
| 23 | Shed/covered shelter | c.2015 – present | - |
| - | Fencelines from property boundaries | c.1800s | Post holes |
| - | Undocumented farm outbuildings/sheds | c.1800s | Post holes, footings, rubbish deposits, |

4.2.2 Research potential

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

The research potential of a site is also affected by the integrity of the archaeological resource within a study area. If a site is disturbed, then vital contextual information that links material evidence to a stratigraphic sequence may be missing and it may be impossible to relate material evidence to activities on a site. This is generally held to reduce the ability of an archaeological site to answer research questions. Assessment of the research potential of a site also relates to the level of existing documentation of a site and of the nature of the research done so far (the research framework), to produce a 'knowledge' pool to which research into archaeological remains can add.

In terms of research potential, the study area's history suggests that archaeological material present is most likely to be associated with original property boundaries, evidence of early farming practices dating from the early 19th century and the homestead [2] and associated buildings, dating the to the mid-20th century.

The archaeological resources associated with the original property boundaries and early farming practices has been well documented elsewhere, the remains, such as post holes are ephemeral and are unlikely to contribute to any further knowledge about the study area.

The homestead which was demolished in 2016 is likely to still have sub-surface remains present, however as the homestead had been continually altered throughout its lifetime, and there is evidence of multiple different services running throughout the area, it is unlikely intact archaeological deposits or features with research potential have not been disturbed.

The remains of the sheds/covered shelters and outbuildings are also unlikely to hold research potential. Documentary evidence has shown their location and size, and when they were built or demolished. It is likely they were made from similar materials to the sheds still standing in the study area. The archaeological evidence is unlikely to answer any research questions about agriculture or pastoralism that cannot be answered by other sources.

4.2.3 Summary of archaeological potential

Through an analysis of the above factors a number of assumptions have been made relating to the archaeological potential of the study area, these are presented in Table 5 and Figure 4.

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

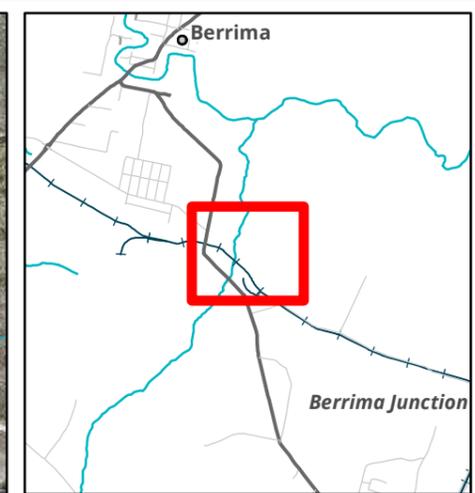
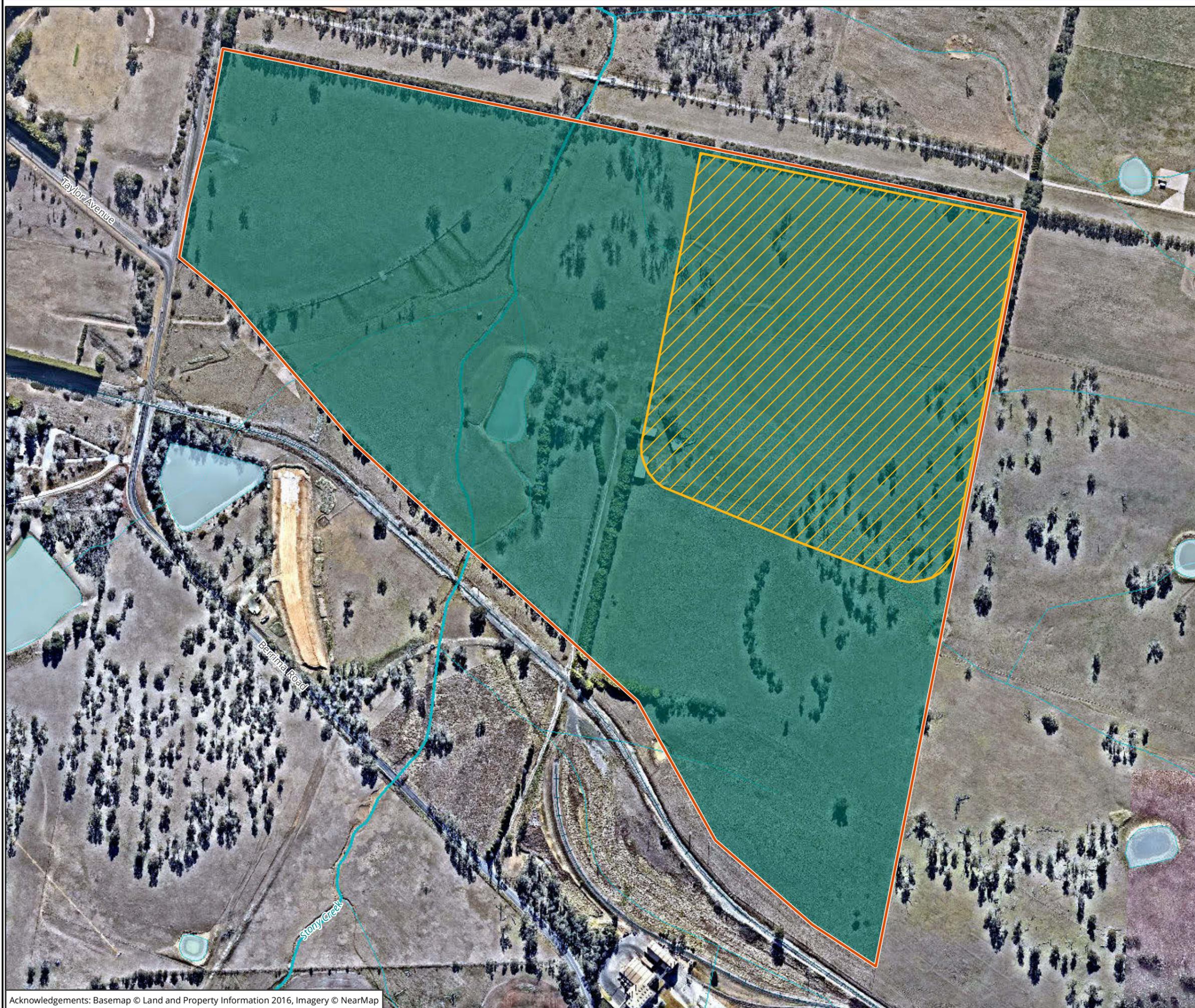
- **High archaeological potential** – based upon the historical context and documentary evidence presented within this report there is a high degree of certainty that archaeologically significant remains relating to this period, theme or event will occur within the study area.
- **Moderate archaeological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

The study area has been utilized for agricultural purposes since European settlement. It was leased and mortgaged to various people and organizations throughout the 19th and 20th century. Scarce development has occurred in the study area, however one house, a homestead and various associated outbuildings and farm infrastructure (sheds and covered/shelters) were built in the mid-20th century. Remains may be present associated with this occupation of the study area are ephemeral and have most likely been disturbed. These factors indicate that the potential for substantial archaeological remains from this occupation is low. It is unlikely that these remains would answer research questions which would provide further information regarding agricultural industry in the area. The archaeological potential in Table 5 takes into account both the potential archaeological resources and the research potential of this resource.

Table 5 Archaeological potential

| No. | Building | Date | Potential resource | Archaeological potential |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | House | c.1949 – 1963 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits | Low |
| 2 | Main homestead | c.1949 – 2016 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits | Low |
| 3 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1963 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 4 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1963 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 5 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – c.1974 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 6 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 7 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1949 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 8 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits, | Low |
| 9 | Outbuilding | c.1949 – c.1974 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits | Low |
| 10 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1963 – c.1974 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 11 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – c.1991 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 12 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – .2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 13 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – 2016 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation deposits | Low |
| 14 | Outbuilding | c.1974 – c.1991 | Footings, post holes, rubbish deposits, occupation | Low |

| No. | Building | Date | Potential resource | Archaeological potential |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | | | deposits | |
| 15 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1974 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 16 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 17 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present | - | - |
| 18 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – present | - | - |
| 19 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 20 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 21 | Shed/covered shelter | c.1991 – 2016 | Post holes, footings | Low |
| 22 | Outbuilding | c.1991 – c.2015 | Footings, post holes, occupation deposits | Low |
| 23 | Shed/covered shelter | c.2015 – present | - | - |
| - | Fencelines from property boundaries | c.1800s | Post holes | Low |
| - | Undocumented farm outbuildings/sheds | c.1800s | Post holes, footings, rubbish deposits, | Low |



Legend

- Study area
- Site 2

Archaeological potential

- Low

Figure 4 Archaeological potential

0 50 100 150 200
Metres

Scale: 1:4,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 NSW Lambert

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5 Significance assessment

An assessment of heritage significance encompasses a range of heritage criteria and values. The heritage values of a site or place are broadly defined as the 'aesthetic, historic, scientific or social values for past, present or future generations'⁵⁶. This means a place can have different levels of heritage value and significance to different groups of people.

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

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

Heritage assessment criteria in NSW fall broadly within the four significance values outlined in the Burra Charter. The Burra Charter has been adopted by state and Commonwealth heritage agencies as the recognised document for guiding best practice for heritage practitioners in Australia. The four significance values are:

- Historical significance (evolution and association).
- Aesthetic significance (scenic/architectural qualities and creative accomplishment).
- Scientific significance (archaeological, industrial, educational, research potential and scientific significance values).
- Social significance (contemporary community esteem).

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

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

⁵⁶ (Heritage Office 2001)

- 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.

5.1 Levels of heritage significance

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

Local heritage items

Local heritage items are those of significance to the local government area. In other words, they contribute to the individuality and streetscape, townscape, landscape or natural character of an area and are irreplaceable parts of its environmental heritage. They may have greater value to members of the local community, who regularly engage with these places and/or consider them to be an important part of their day-to-day life and their identity. Collectively, such items reflect the socio-economic and natural history of a local area. Items of local heritage significance form an integral part of the State's environmental heritage.

State heritage items

State heritage items, places, buildings, works, relics, movable objects or precincts of state heritage significance include those items of special interest in the state context. They form an irreplaceable part of the environmental heritage of NSW and must have some connection or association with the state in its widest sense.

The following evaluation attempts to identify the cultural significance of the study area. This significance is based on the assumption that the site contains intact or partially intact archaeological deposits.

5.2 Statement of significance

The following evaluation attempts to identify the cultural significance of the study area (Table 6).

Table 6 Evaluation and statement of significance for possible archaeological material within the study area

| Item | Significance assessment criteria | | | | | | | Level of significance | Statement of significance |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|--|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | | |
| Features associated with early land ownership and early farming practices | | | | | | | | Nil | <p>The possible archaeological material associated with the early land ownership of the study area and farming practices, such as post holes and fence lines are not considered an important component of the cultural history of NSW or New Berrima and they are not associated with the life or works of a person(s) of importance in local or state cultural history. These possible materials will not yield information that will contribute to a greater understanding of the cultural history of NSW or the New Berrima, and they are unlikely to demonstrate aesthetic characteristics or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the state or local area, They do not hold a strong or special association with a community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons in NSW or New Berrima. The possible archaeological materials are not considered to possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW or New Berrima's cultural history, nor do they demonstrate the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or environments within the state or local area.</p> <p>The archaeological materials associated with the early land ownership and farming practices within the study area do not hold heritage significance.</p> |
| Features associated with the mid-20th century house [1] and homestead [2-23] | | | | | | | | Nil | <p>The possible archaeological material associated with the mid-20th century house and homestead, such as building footings, post holes, rubbish deposits and occupation deposits are not considered an important component of the cultural history of NSW or New Berrima and they are not associated with the life or works of a person(s) of importance in local or state cultural history. These possible materials will not yield information that will contribute to a greater understanding of the cultural history of NSW or the New Berrima, and they are unlikely to demonstrate aesthetic characteristics or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the state or local area, They do not hold a strong or special association with a community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons in NSW or New Berrima. The possible archaeological materials are not considered to possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW or New Berrima's cultural history, nor do they demonstrate the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or environments within the state or local area.</p> <p>The archaeological materials associated with the mid-20th century house and homestead or associated outbuildings.</p> |

6 Conclusions and recommendations

6.1 Conclusions

The study area is located with New Berrima, an area which is largely farmland and industry. The history of the study area reflects the general history of the region. The study area was originally within a land grant to William Hutchinson, an important land owner and pastoralist both in Sydney and in the New Berrima region. The study area continued to be within larger parcels of land sold and mortgaged to individuals and companies who utilized it for agricultural practices. The first recorded appearance of structures within the study area was in the mid-20th century where a house, homestead and associated outbuildings were constructed, the remainder of the site remained as cleared fields.

Several structures remain in the study area, these include sheds/covered shelters made of wood and corrugated iron with a concrete floor. The homestead and outbuildings were demolished in 2016. The area in which the homestead was situated had been cleared, however several surface remains were found, with indications of sub-surface services running through the area.

The archaeological resource from the occupation of the study area includes: post holes from property boundaries; post holes, footings and rubbish deposits from undocumented farm outbuildings/sheds; footings, post holes, rubbish deposits and occupation deposits from the mid-20th century house and homestead; and post holes and footings from the outbuildings and sheds/covered shelters associated with the mid-20th century house and homestead. These types of remains have limited capacity to provide information on early farming practices and land ownership, and the subsequent mid-20th century occupation in the study area and therefore have no research potential.

There are no listed heritage items within the study area. The closest listings are the Berrima Conservation Landscape Area (Item no. C1843) and Berrima Cemetery (Item no. I122) each located 600 metres north of the study area. These items have protections under the LEP for development, however it is only restricted for developments within their curtilages therefore development on this lot is not expected to affect their heritage values.

6.2 Recommendations

These recommendations have been formulated to respond to client requirements and the significance of the site. They are guided by the ICOMOS *Burra Charter* with the aim of doing as much as necessary to care for the place and make it useable and as little as possible to retain its cultural significance.⁵⁷

Recommendation 1 No further historical heritage assessment required

This assessment has identified no items of heritage significance or archaeological potential within the study area. As such, no further historical heritage assessment is required. Should unanticipated relics be discovered during ground disturbance, an unexpected finds procedure should be implemented as outlined in Recommendation 2.

⁵⁷ Australia ICOMOS 2013

Recommendation 2 Unexpected archaeological items

Should unanticipated relics be discovered during the course of the project, work in the vicinity must cease and an archaeologist contacted to make a preliminary assessment of the find. The Heritage Council will require notification if the find is assessed as a relic. Relics are historical archaeological resources of local or State significance and are protected in NSW under the *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act). Relics cannot be disturbed except with a permit (Section 140 application) or exception notification (Section 139).

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