

Hi Megan,

Thank you for the extended time in allowing Council to provide comments regarding the SEARs for Wattle Creek BESS and Wattle Creek Solar Farm. Please see below comments;

### 1. Heritage

A Heritage Study and Assessment of Significance shall be provided given that Arthursleigh is;

- recommended to be included on Council's list of heritage items. I have provided some evidence below for justification of the request. See **Appendix A**
- Referenced in the *Upper Lachlan Shire Community Heritage Study, 2007-8 under Taralga* See **Appendix B**
- *Included in the Register of the National Trust* See **Appendix C**
- *Subject to a book "Arthursleigh" written by Chrissy Fletcher* See **Appendix D**
- Painted from 1839 and held in the State Library See **Appendix E**
- Linked to Wingello Park TALLONG – which was recently placed on the State Heritage Register – Example not provided
- The property is included as 114 in NSWs Oldest Houses list SR8a "Southern Tablelands, east of Taralga, *Arthursleigh*, c1824+ (JT)" See **Appendix F**

### 2. Roads

From the report provided there will generally be little impact to Upper Lachlan Shire Councils roads, as all the access roads and heavy vehicle routes are outside of the LGA. It is stated that further investigation will take place during the preparation for the EIS, which may require Council to review again when further details have been provided of the routes. This will determine if any of Council's assets require upgrading.

### 3. Developer Contributions/ Community Benefit

Upper Lachlan Shire Council would like the opportunity to discuss Developer Contributions, any community benefits proposed or planning agreements that may arise as part of the proposal.

## Evidence of Heritage Significance;

### Appendix A

The following extract included below is from the *Upper Lachlan Shire Community Heritage Study, 2007-8*, briefly includes a the link to the history and development of the area

#### TARALGA

The first European to pass through the Taralga district was the explorer Charles Throsby, who, in 1819 journeyed from Cowpastures to Bathurst in search of new grazing lands. His explorations were followed in 1820 by Surveyor John Oxley and Commissioner John Thomas Bigge. At this time Hannibal Macarthur had already established the large pastoral holding, *Arthursleigh*, across the Cookbundoon River east of Taralga. James Macarthur, accompanied by Lachlan McAlister and John Hillas came from *Arthursleigh* c.1824 in search of further pastoral land.

### Appendix B

Council's review of local heritage undertaken by Dr Jennifer Tracey 2019-2022 (reported to NSW Heritage) recommended listing Arthursleigh as a Heritage Item. A presentation to the Upper Lachlan Councillors was provided earlier this year and within the presentation a photo was used regarding the shearing shed;

Extract of presentation provided below:

#### **BIG HILL, NSW:**

Big Hill Methodist Chapel c.1878 and Cemetery, Arthursleigh Road, Big Hill. Lot 3, DP 1120270. 'Arthursleigh' Woolshed c.1830, Arthursleigh Road, Big Hill. Lot ~~1, DP 819778.~~

*N.B. 'Arthursleigh' Woolshed should be amended and listed as Lot 3, DP 1120270*

### **Appendix C**

*Appendix 12 Non-Indigenous Assessment for the proposed Lynwood Quarry identified Arthursleigh homestead, woolshed, shearer's quarters and former staff quarters and an extract provided from the Australian Heritage Places Inventory search results below;*

LGA	STATUS	LOCALITY	ADDRESS	BUILDING/SITE/AREA
WDIN	CL	MARSDEN	NEWELL HIGHWAY	LONE GRAVE ON 'MINORU' (LLOYD)
SHBR	CL	MARSHALL MOUNT	CALDERWOOD RD	MARSHALL MOUNT METHODIST CEMETERY
MSBK	CL	MARTINDALE	<b>MUSWELLBROOK-JERRYS PLAINS LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA:</b> see locality: Muswellbrook below	
LMAC	CL	MARTINSVILLE	<b>UPPER DORA CREEK VALLEYS LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA:</b> see locality: Dora Creek above	
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	BIG HILL RD OFF	BIG HILL UNITING CHURCH
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	-BIG HILL RD OFF	ARTHURSLEIGH GROUP
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	-BIG HILL RD OFF	ARTHURSLEIGH HOMESTEAD
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	-BIG HILL RD OFF	ARTHURSLEIGH WOOLSHED
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	-BIG HILL RD OFF	ARTHURSLEIGH SHEARER'S QUARTERS
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	-BIG HILL RD OFF	FORMER ARTHURSLEIGH STAFF QUARTERS
MLWR	REC	MARULAN	HUME HWY 67	FORMER ROYAL HOTEL
MLWR	REC	MARULAN	HUME HWY	WANDI FORMERLY PLUMM'S INN
MLWR	REC	MARULAN		ST STEPHEN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MLWR	-	MARULAN	<b>RURAL:</b>	
MLWR	CL	MARULAN	BUNDANOON RD	GLENROCK ETC*

#### **2.2.1.3 Register of the National Trust (NSW)**

The Register of the National Trust of Australia is a non-government organisation which aims to protect and preserve items of natural, historical, scientific, architectural or cultural interest. The Register of the National Trust (NSW) maintains a register of places of heritage significance within NSW. A search of the Register in the former local government area of Mulwaree returned ten listed items. This list included the *Arthursleigh* homestead, woolshed and shearer's quarters (approximately 20 kilometres north-northeast of the project area). A copy of the search results is included in **Appendix A**.

### **Appendix D**

There is even a book written on the property. Extracts below from <https://www.chrissyfletcher.com/arthursleigh/>

*This book tells the story of a 1000 acre land grant in 1819 to Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur, nephew of John Macarthur. Hannibal Macarthur, in partnership with his brother Charles (who died in 1827), increased the holding to 20,000 acres over the next thirty years before Macarthur succumbed to*

liquidation in 1848. In about 1834 Hannibal Macarthur's assigned convicts built the granite woolshed and homestead, both of which stand today; the homestead still in use.

Wealthy Sydney wool merchant, Hon Thomas Holt MLA, purchased Arthursleigh from the trustees and there he trained his sons in farm management. His grandson Eric Holt lived and worked on part of the property known as "Mount Pleasant", the major portion of Arthursleigh being leased to Alec Creswick's Tupra Pastoral Company. Under the terms of Eric Holt's Will, Arthursleigh was bequeathed to the University of Sydney who took control after his death in 1979 and who still own the property today.

The book explores the growth of Arthursleigh over 160 years, the establishment of the Big Hill School and Primitive Methodist Church (which still stands on the property) and the alpacas that were depastured there in 1860 by Charles Ledger, the first for the colony. The incredible journey of Ledger and his South American shepherds as they smuggled the alpacas out of Peru, travelling hundreds of exhausting miles over the Andes Mountains to Chile and then by sea to Sydney, is a fabulous but little-known story of Australian colonial history.

Intimate details of the lives of the local residents, their triumphs and tragedies are well documented. A comprehensive index of over 500 names connected with Arthursleigh are appended in the book, including cemetery records and assigned convicts.

When I first began my research I found little information on Arthursleigh in any library. I believe the reason for this was that Arthursleigh was always owned by absentee landlords and didn't have a family of its own to nurture its history and build an archive.

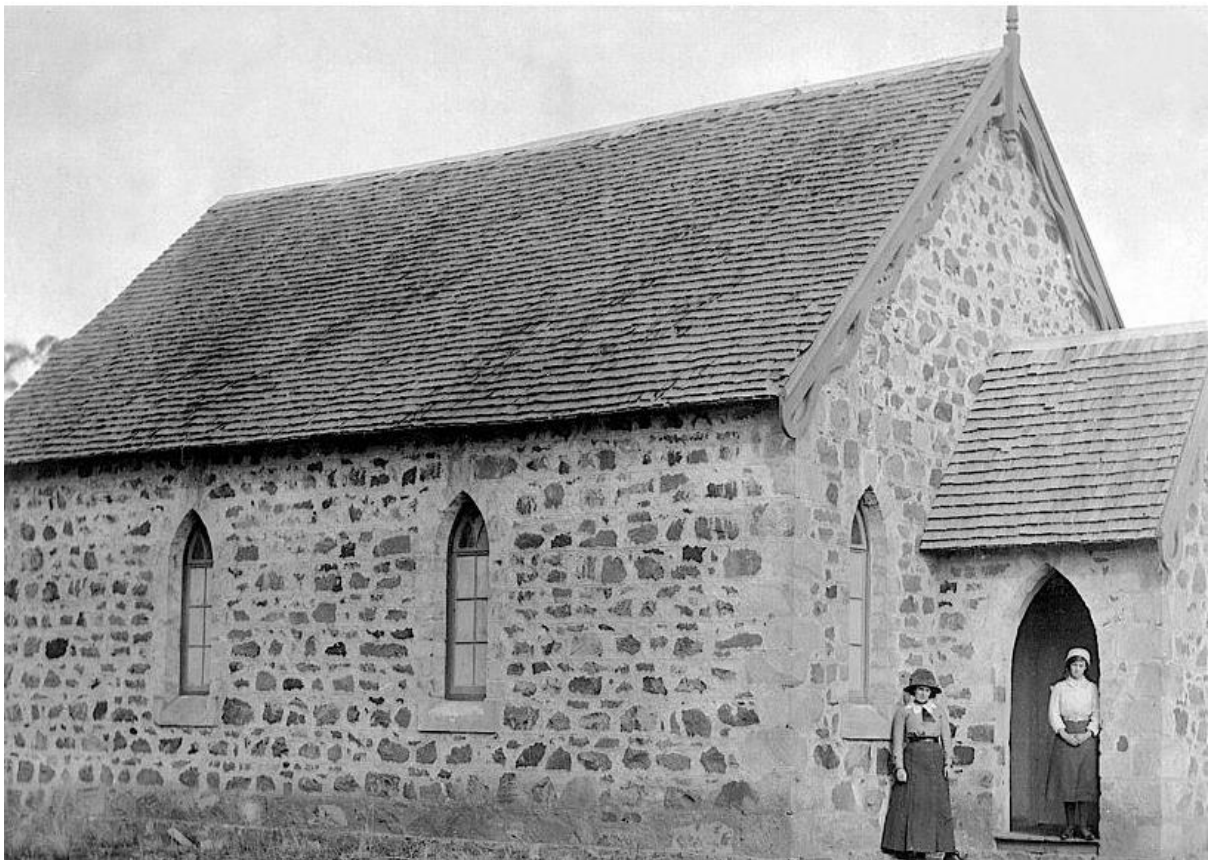
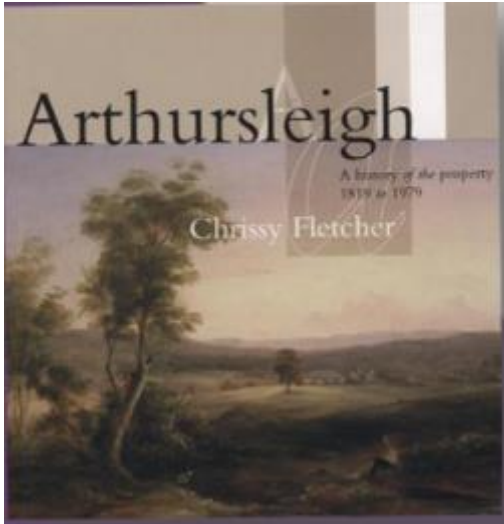
Aside from the inheritance trail through the Holt family, the closest Arthursleigh has to a family of its own is the Burgun family from George's first managership in 1948, then to each of his three sons, and now carried on by George's grandson Stephen Burgun into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. My own personal link with Arthursleigh is also now cemented as my husband and I are godparents to two of Stephen and Michelle Burgun's children. I can now claim a small kinship link with this historic part of Australia.



*The historic stone woolshed on Arthursleigh built by convicts in the early 1830s.*



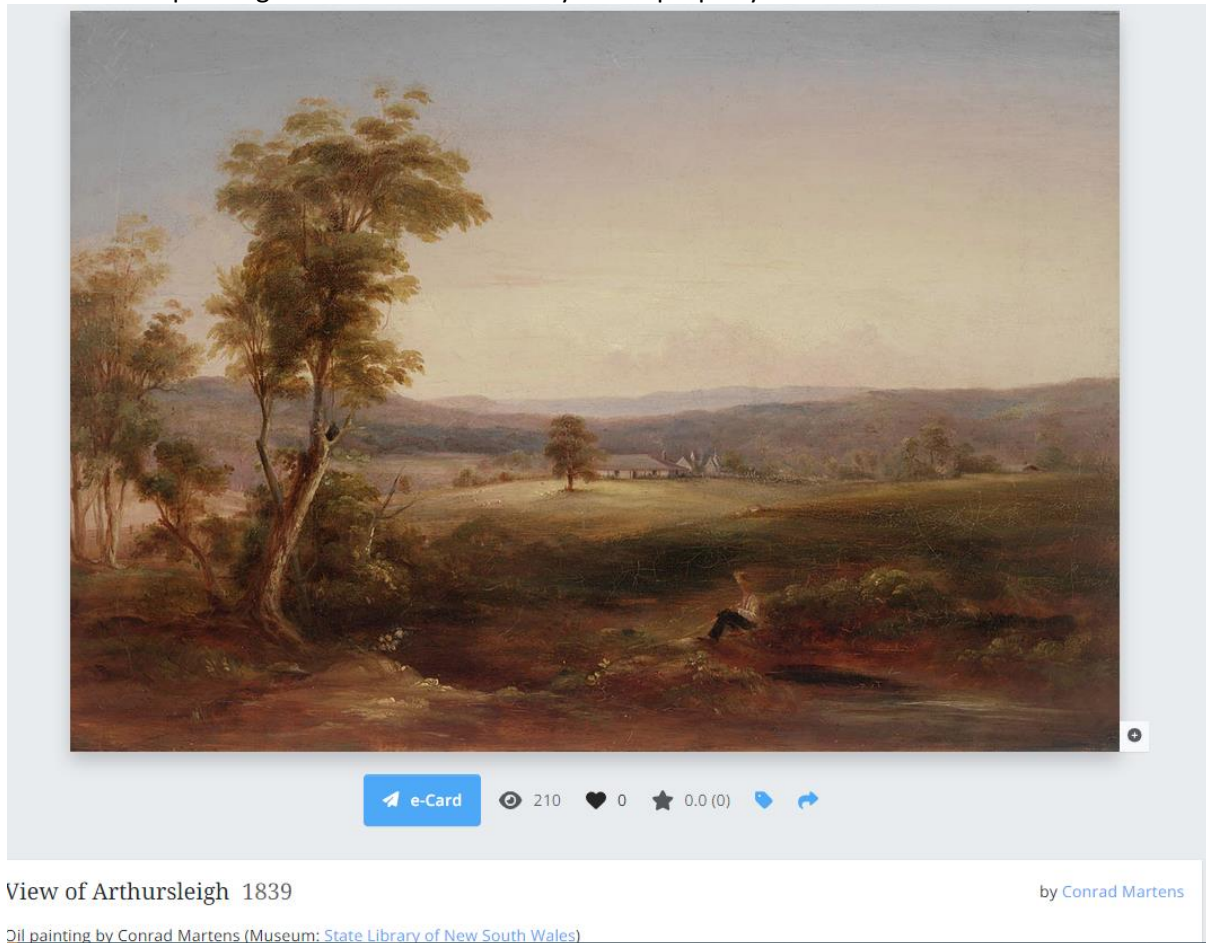
*Published by Chrissy Fletcher 2004, ISBN 0-9580497-0-X.*



Big Hill Church

## Appendix E

There is even paintings held in the State Library of the property from 1839



## Appendix F

The property is included as 114 in NSWs Oldest Houses list SR8a “Southern Tablelands, east of Taralga, *Arthursleigh*, c1824+ (JT)”

If you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Council’s Environment and Planning Department on 4830 1000 or email [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)

Regards

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*Council's Building Surveyors and Planners will be available between 2pm – 4pm Monday to Friday for all general enquiries and pre-lodgement meetings. Please call between these hours to speak directly to an officer or alternately e-mail [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au) . If you choose to leave a message Council staff will make every effort to respond within 2 working days.*

*Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.*

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