

Honeman Close,
Huntingwood
SSD 79500208

Heritage Interpretation Strategy

Goodman Property Services
(Aust) Pty Limited

Prepared by Artefact Heritage and Environment

15 April 2025



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Artefact acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of our land, Australia.

We acknowledge the Gadigal people as the custodians of Pirrama (Pyrmont) where our Sydney office is located, the Awabakal, Worimi and Wonnarua peoples of the Hunter Region where our Mulubinba (Newcastle) office is located, and the Wiradjuri people of the Central West where our Bathurst office is located. We pay our respects to them, their culture and their Elders past and present. We extend our respect to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with whom we work.

When we travel to Country we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we walk. We acknowledge the Dharug people of Boongarrunbee (Huntingwood), traditional owners and custodians of the lands and waters where this project was undertaken. We thank them for sustaining and caring for Country for millennia.

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Cultural warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are advised that this report contains the names and images of people who are deceased.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Goodman Property Services (Aust) Pty Limited have engaged Artefact Heritage and Environment (Artefact) to prepare a Heritage Interpretation Strategy (HIS) for the proposed development at Honeman Close, Huntingwood (Lot 1 in DP 1098102, Lot 16 & 19 in DP1024111, and Lot 19 in DP819317).

The project will be seeking development consent as a State Significant Development (SSD) under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the project (SSD-79500208) were issued on 31 January 2025.

This report has been prepared due to the applicant's engagement throughout the DA process.

1.2 Scope of report

A HIS is a tool that outlines a broad strategy for transmitting messages about cultural heritage values of a place to users and other audiences. It is intended to inform and guide planning for heritage interpretation by identifying relevant historical themes and outlining strategies for presenting these through a variety of interpretive media.

This HIS addresses the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage of the site. It includes:

- A brief history of the surrounding area
- Assessment of interpretive themes and site stories
- Consultation with key stakeholders

- An overview of the Aboriginal cultural and historic heritage values associated with the site
- Recommendations for a set of interpretive elements and possible location
- Outline of content for interpretive elements

1.3 Reference documents

This HIS has been prepared with reference to the following documents specific to Honeman Close, Huntingwood (Lot 1 in DP 1098102, Lot 16 & 19 in DP1024111 and Lot 19 in DP819317) in addition to current best practice guidelines for heritage interpretation planning.

Documents relevant to Honeman Cl, Huntingwood:

- Goodman, Urban Design Report, 2025
- Goodman, DA Drawing List, 2025
- Artefact, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, 2024

Documents relevant to heritage interpretation planning

- NSW Heritage Office, Interpreting Heritage Places and Items Policy, 2005
- NSW Heritage Office, Interpreting Heritage Places and Items Guidelines, 2005
- Government Architect NSW, Connecting with Country, 2023
- Australian International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter), 2013
- ICOMOS, Ename Charter for the Interpretation of Cultural Heritage Site, 2006
- Australian ICOMOS, Interpretation Practice Note, 2013

1.4 Authorship and Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by Amanda Bie Wojcik (Graduate Heritage Consultant, Artefact), and Sabrina Roesner (Senior Heritage Consultant, Artefact) with input and review by Carolyn MacLulich (Principal, Artefact). The Aboriginal histories were written by Dr Stephen Gapps (Historian, Artefact).

Artefact has worked in collaboration with Aboriginal knowledge holders in preparation of this report and would like to thank all knowledge holders for their generosity in sharing cultural knowledge.

1.5 Cultural warning

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are advised that this report contains the names and images of people who are deceased.

1.6 Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property

Artefact have prepared this Connecting with Country report for the Honeman Close, Huntingwood project. This report, and the information and cultural knowledge gathered in its preparation, are to be used for the above project only.

This project aims to facilitate a meaningful, considered, and functional framework for understanding the relationships between Country, community and individuals and integrating this understanding into design principles for the site.

Please note that all cultural knowledge shared by Elders, knowledge holders, Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) and the Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) that is included in this document remains the intellectual property of those who have shared it. The rights of Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) must be protected at all times.

1.7 Terminology

Due to the huge disruption of colonisation and the challenges of translating Aboriginal language into written English, there are a variety of ways of referring to the Aboriginal peoples and languages of the Huntingwood area. As language is revitalised and more knowledge is shared, terminology may also change. This report therefore uses different terminology and spellings interchangeably depending on the source, for example: Darug and Dharug. As language is revitalised and more knowledge shared, terminology may also change.

The report may contain words and terms in quotations from works written by non-Indigenous people in the past that may be confronting and considered inappropriate today. Artefact does not endorse these views or the use of these terms. These historical sources have been included because they provide information on the lives of Aboriginal people in the region.

2. SITE CONTEXT

2.1 Introduction

This section provides an overview of the context of Honeman Close, Huntingwood, including the site setting and proposed development. These elements will be key in guiding the development of the interpretation for the site.

2.2 Site location and setting

The proposed development is located at Honeman Close, Huntingwood, within the Blacktown Local Government Area (LGA). The study area exists within the boundaries of the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

The site comprises the following:

- Lot 1 in DP 1098102 – to facilitate the proposed two warehouse and distribution centre buildings with ancillary offices zoned IN1 General Industrial
- Great Western Highway, Lot 16 & 19 in DP1024111, and Lot 19 in DP819317 – to facilitate intersection upgrade works and formal access, zoned both SP2 Classified Road and IN1 General Industrial

The study area is currently undeveloped and is located to the north of the M4 Motorway, West of Reservoir Road, and South of Great Western Highway. The site is bounded to the East by the state heritage listed Honeman Close Road.

The study area is currently a vacant lot, with thick vegetation throughout its southern side and a creek running through it on its northern side. There is a cleared section which used to be an archery school in the 1990s. Currently there are only remains of the target stands, as well as wooden and metal fences throughout the study area. and all associated previous structures were removed.

The location of the property is illustrated in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Location of study area, Honeman Close, Huntingwood.

2.3 Proposed works

The subject site is a 20ha greenfield development site located at Honeman Close, Huntingwood comprises the following:

- Lot 1 in DP 1098102 – to facilitate the proposed two warehouse and distribution centre buildings with ancillary offices zoned IN1 General Industrial
- Great Western Highway, Lot 16 & 19 in DP1024111, and Lot 19 in DP819317 – to facilitate intersection upgrade works and formal access, zoned both SP2 Classified Road and IN1 General Industrial

The broader site is located to the north of the M4 Motorway, West of Reservoir Road, and South of Great Western Highway.

The site is affected by the following constraints that have all been considered as part of the masterplan and assessment reports for the site;

- State and Local Heritage classification of Honeman Close
- Threatened Ecological Communities / Serious and Irreversible Impact (SAII) entities;
- First and Second Order watercourse's
- TfNSW Crash lab design consideration for access
- Sydney Water Potable Water Service
- Aboriginal Heritage artefacts
- Contamination (Compromising of Friable & Non-Friable Asbestos and Septic Tank contamination)

This application seeks approval for the construction, operation, use and fit-out approval of two warehouses spanning 52,935 sqm GLA and associated infrastructure and lead-in works.

Approval is sought for 24/7 operation of the proposed Warehouse and Distribution use.

The development is proposed to be constructed in one stage and will generally consist of the following scope:

- Infrastructure and Lead-in Works
 - Estate wide infrastructure and preparation works including vegetation clearing, bulk earthworks and remediation, watercourse realignment, retaining walls, internal services reticulation;
 - Lead in services including stormwater, sewer, potable water, electrical and communications
 - New Left in, Left out intersection at Great Western Highway / new proposed estate road including services relocation and eventual dedication;
- Warehouse with ancillary office development;
 - Construction, operation, fit-out and use of two warehouses, totalling 52,935 sqm GLA of warehouse, including ancillary office spaces, access and hardstand, guardhouses, loading bays, landscaping, car parking, electric vehicle charging, solar panels and signage;
 - Warehouse proposed height limit of 15m
 - 24/7 operation
 - Warehouse and distribution use with generic racking layout.



Figure 2: Proposed site and warehouse plan for Honeman Close Industrial Facility (Source: Goodman, January 2025)

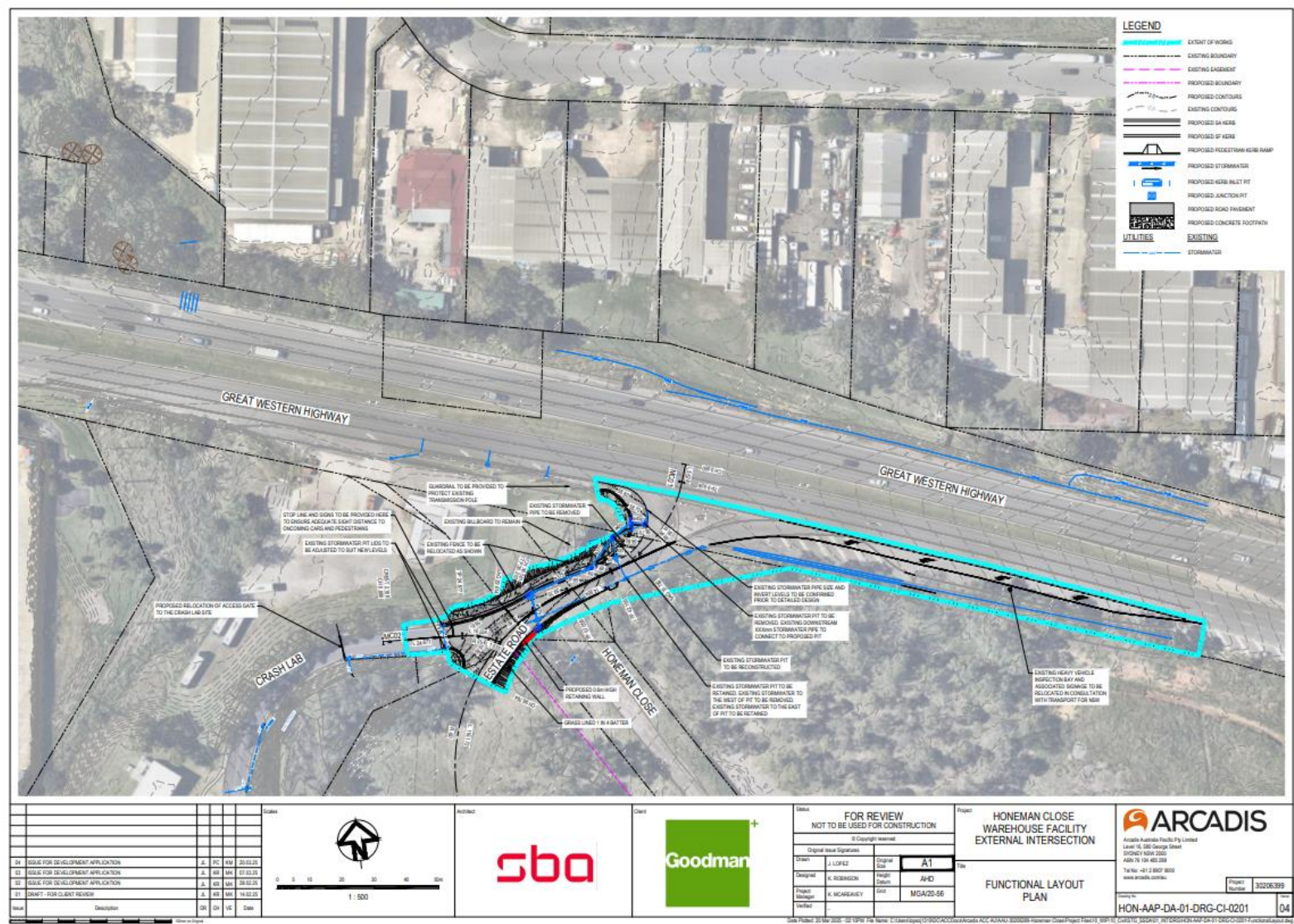


Figure 3: Proposed functional layout for Honeman Close Industrial Facility (Source: Goodman, January 2025)



Figure 4: Artist Impression Warehouse 1 - North West(Source: Goodman, SBA 2025)



Figure 5: Artist Impression Warehouse 2 – North East(Source: Goodman, SBA 2025)

2.4 Aboriginal histories of the area

2.4.1 Dharug Country

Many Aboriginal people, like other Indigenous or First Nations people around the world, have been living on Country for ‘time immemorial’ – that they have always been here, and their origins lie in the creation of the land and animals. As Sydney Elder and Wiradjuri activist Auntie Jenny Munro expresses:

‘...from time immemorial, we believe as Aboriginal people, Australia has been here from the first sunrise, our people have been here along with the continent, with the first sunrise. We know our land was given to us by Baiami, we have a sacred duty to protect that land’

Over the last few decades, archaeologists’ knowledge of deep human time in Australia has expanded from just a few thousand years in the 1950s, to 25,000 years in the 1960s, then 40,000 years, to now around 60,000 years or more.²

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal people living in the Sydney region from Shaw’s Creek west of the Dyarubbin (Nepean) River is dated around 14,000 years ago and numerous other sites in the area have been dated at around 15,000 ago. While Cranebrook Terrace, near Penrith in Western Sydney, has been dated to 41,700 years and a site near Parramatta at 30,000 years old, there is growing consensus among archaeologists and

historians that people have lived across the Sydney region from around 50,000 years ago.³

More ancient sites lie off the coast and in river valleys, now deep under water. Before the major sea level rise event at the end of the last ice age around 17,000 years ago, Aboriginal people living along the Parramatta River could have walked downstream along the riverbanks to the sea about 30 kms beyond the current day coastline. Over generations they would have watched and told stories about the gradual change as the sea rose to fill the ‘drowned river valley’ of what is now Sydney Harbour until it reached present levels around 6,000 years ago.⁴

Given the devastating impact of violent dispossession and disease upon Aboriginal people in the Sydney region during colonisation, the precise identification of language groups and historical traditional lands or Country for a given area is often difficult today. Early colonial observer Watkin Tench believed there were at least coastal and inland dialects of the same language and, while this is challenged by some, there seems to have been an alignment with inland economies of the rivers, creeks and open forests of the Cumberland Plain, and coastal ‘saltwater’ focused groups.⁵

¹ Munro in Currie, 2008, p. 4.

² Belshaw, Nickel and Horton, 2020; Griffith, 2018, p.112; Karskens, 2009, p.25.

³ Attenbrow 2010:18-20; Nanson, Young & Stockton 1987: 77; Williams, et al., 2017: 100-109; McDonald 2005: 4, 87-94; Attenbrow, 2012; Williams et al., 2012; Karskens, Burnett & Ross 2017: 4

⁴ Nunn and Reid 2016: 11; Attenbrow 2010: 154-155; Birch 2007: 217-219

⁵ Tench 1793: 122; AHO 2015; Stanner 1965: 1-26

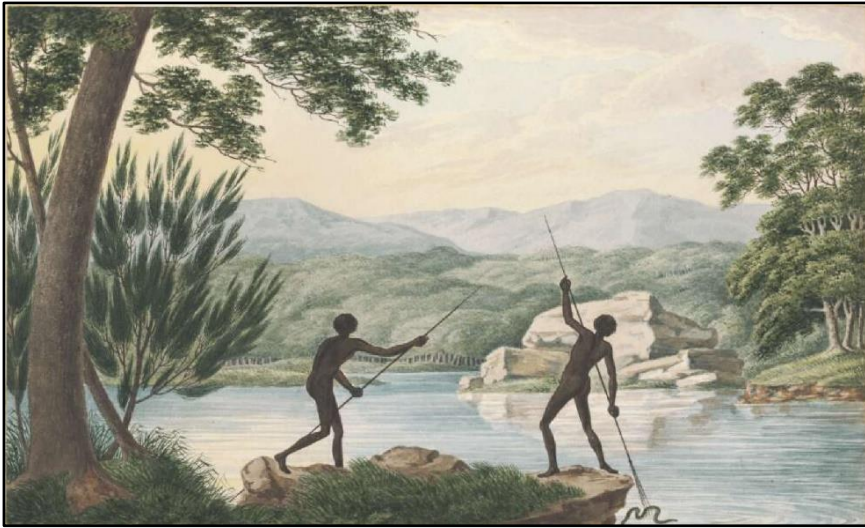


Figure 6: Sketch by Joseph Lycett of two Aboriginal men spearing eels, c. 1817. (Source: National Library of Australia)

Prior to colonisation, Aboriginal people in the relatively resource rich Sydney region lived in extended family groups estimated at around 30 to 50 people. These groups were associated with certain territories or places that gave clan members particular social and economic rights and obligations. Each of the estimated 30 clans in the Sydney region had a name often associated with a place or resource such as the Cabro (Gabra) gal (people) at modern day Cabramatta. Clan groups moved around a defined area in response to changing seasons and the availability of food and other resources. European observers mistakenly took this as a nomadic lifestyle, when in fact they moved around a 'limited and deeply known' area. There were also forms of more sedentary agriculture and aquaculture, and villages such as those described by early colonial diarists at Kamay-Botany

Bay and later accounts of '70 huts' at Bent's Basin on the Nepean River west of Sydney.⁶

Some areas, particularly resource rich ones, had shared boundaries or reciprocal rights with bordering and neighbouring groups. With appropriate permission and protocols, people could travel through and hunt on other groups' lands. On special occasions such as feasts associated with the beaching of a whale; a kangaroo hunt on the open forests of southwestern Sydney; trading or exchanging stones, tools and other items, as well as ceremonial occasions, people would often travel long distances around and from outside the Sydney region.⁷

People living inland across the Cumberland Plain focused on hunting small animals, gathering plants and catching freshwater fish and eels. Banksia flowers, wild honey, varieties of yam and burrawang nuts (macrozamia - a cycad palm with poisonous seeds that require processing to remove toxins) were recorded as important food sources. Xanthorrhoea, also known as the grass tree, had many uses - the nectar was eaten, the stalk used as a spear and the resin as glue. Small animals such as bandicoots and wallabies were hunted with traps and snares. Watkin Tench noted the skill in cutting toeholds in trees to swiftly climb to hunt possums.⁸

The first encounters between the British colonists and the Sydney people were initially based in curiosity, with both sides attempting to comprehend each other. However, misunderstandings or transgressions of Aboriginal law and protocol soon escalated into violence and retribution. Unarmed convicts outside the encampment at Sydney Cove were increasingly targeted during 1788. However, in April 1789, what Sydney Aboriginal people called *galgala* or smallpox broke out and more than half - possibly even 80 percent - of the population around Sydney Harbour were dead

⁶ Gapps 2010: 26-60; Attenbrow 2010: 78; Karskens 2009: 36; Gammage 2012: 281-304

⁷ Gammage 2012; Irish 2017: 22-27

⁸ Tench 1793: 82, 230; Kohen 1985: 9; Attenbrow, 2010: 41

within a month. Captain John Hunter wrote that 'it was truly shocking to go round the coves of this harbour [seeing] men, women and children, lying dead'. David Collins wrote that those who witnessed the Sydney man Arabanoo's grief and agony could never forget either – on being taken on a boat around the harbour Arabanoo 'lifted up his hands and eyes in silent agony [and exclaimed] 'All dead! All dead!'.⁹

Despite such massive death and disruption to Aboriginal lives across Sydney, in 1794 resistance warfare against the colonisers began in earnest along the new settlements on the Dyarubbin (Hawkesbury) River and was to carry on through the 1790s, largely under the leadership of the famous warrior Pemulwuy. This 'constant sort of war' as one colonist described it, continued until Governor Macquarie ordered the now infamous military campaign across the Sydney region that ended in the Appin Massacre of April 17th, 1816.¹⁰

Many of Sydney's roads and streets today follow the original tracks and pathways that had been used for millennia by Aboriginal people. Indeed, the shape of the city's road networks and the city itself owes a great deal to the early colonists simply taking the easiest and most practical solution in building roads along pre-existing trackways. When the colonists arrived in 1788 and began journeying out from Sydney Cove, they often followed pathways, or as Surgeon John White wrote in May 1788, 'we fell in with an Indian path'. As Sydney language expert Jakelin Troy notes, it often made sense the colonists would use established pathways particularly in avoiding dense forest areas and rugged terrain. Troy has noted how these pathways were used for 'visiting family, collecting food or conducting ceremonies. According to Paul Irish, the Europeans pronounced the local Sydney

Aboriginal word for a pathway or track as 'maroo'. Many of these *maroo* underpin the structure of Sydney to this day.¹¹

As the Cumberland Plain became more closely settled during the 1800s, Aboriginal people continued to live near their traditional Country where they could. Some managed to live in the centre of the growing city of Sydney such as a groups of families who caught and sold fish at Circular Quay and others at Rose Bay, while other families continued to live on the outskirts of populated areas such as at La Perouse and at Salt Pan Creek on the Georges River. From the 1880s, others moved to or were forced on to reserves such as Sackville in the northwest.¹²

2.5 Early European settlement

2.5.1 Sydney Region – a British Colony

The establishment of the British colony of New South Wales in 1788 marked the start of a penal settlement. Following the American War of Independence, Britain, grappling with social turmoil amid profound agricultural, industrial, and societal transformations, confronted the predicament of overcrowded prisons and prison ships. In the absence of a suitable destination for transporting convicts, the discovery and annexation of the east coast of Australia by Lieutenant James Cook in 1770 gained renewed significance. Sir Joseph Banks, a prominent botanist who had accompanied Cook on the voyage, ardently advocated for "Botany Bay" as an ideal location for a new British settlement and convict colony. Motivated by strategic and commercial considerations, the British government resolved to undertake this new settlement initiative.¹³

⁹ Hunter, Collins in Gapps 2019

¹⁰ Gapps 2018: 125-155, 226-255).

¹¹ White 1790; Troy 1992; Irish in Daniel 2018

¹² Irish in Daniel 2018

¹³ Parliament of New South Wales, '1788 to 1810' - Early European Settlement, accessed <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/about/Pages/1788-to-1810-Early-European-Settlement.aspx#:~:text=The%20first%20settlement%2C%20at%20Sydney,warships%2C%20in%20January%2C%201788> (17 January 2025).

The inaugural settlement, established in Sydney, comprised approximately 850 convicts, along with their Marine guards and officers, under the leadership of Governor Arthur Phillip. Arriving at Botany Bay in the "First Fleet" of nine transport ships accompanied by two small warships in January 1788, the settlers found the area unsuitable for habitation. For this reason, the British chose to establish the settlement at Sydney Cove (known as Port Jackson) where the first Governor's House was constructed.

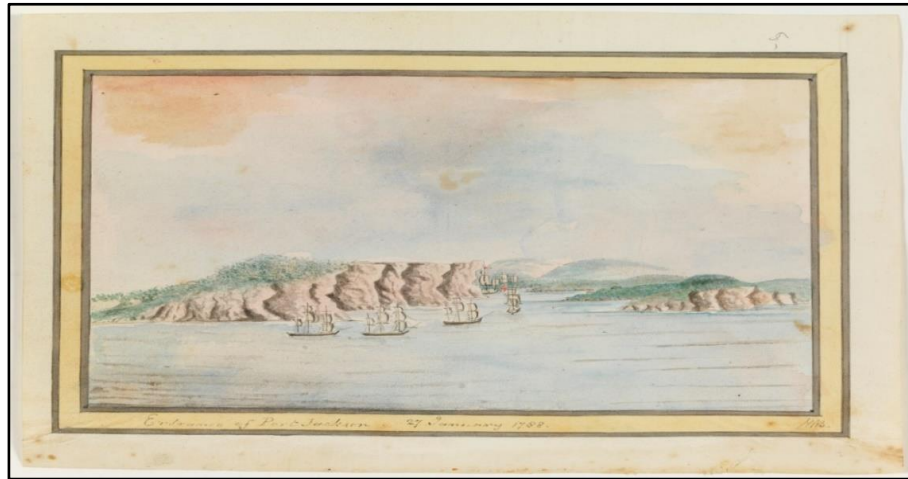


Figure 7: *The British colony at the entrance of Port Jackson, 1788.* (Source: State Library of New South Wales)

Soon after the British penal colony arrived at Sydney Cove, Governor Arthur Phillip led an expedition west towards the Blue Mountains with the expectation of finding a large river.¹⁴ His prediction was confirmed by Captain Watkin Tench whose expedition reached the banks of the Nepean River the following year.¹⁵ The Sydney Basin area traversed by these hoodlums was quickly recognised as an important agricultural and pastoral

resource and large estates were soon being developed despite the local presence of the local Aboriginal people.

2.5.2 Aboriginal land within a British colony

The local Aboriginal people were increasingly displaced from Country following this European settlement and devastated by violent clashes and new diseases including what Aboriginal people called smallpox or *galgala*. Despite the massive death and disruption to Aboriginal lives across Sydney from the smallpox disease, in 1794 resistance warfare against the colonizers began, firstly along the new settlements on the Dyarubbin (Hawkesbury) River and was to carry on through the 1790s, largely under the leadership of the famous warrior Pemulwuy. At one-point settlers gathered 'what arms they could' and 'seven or eight' Darug people were 'killed on the spot' in what was the first recorded massacre of Aboriginal people in the British colony. This 'constant sort of war' as one colonist described it, continued until Governor Macquarie ordered the now infamous military campaign across the Sydney region that ended in the Appin Massacre of April 17th, 1816.¹⁶

Sydney Aboriginal society was not static and did not cease after contact with Europeans. Both material and cultural traditions of Aboriginal Sydney continued after the devastation to Aboriginal society, sometimes for example, by incorporating non-Aboriginal materials in traditional elements such as using glass and ceramics to make spear points and other tools. Twenty-nine engraved and pigment art sites have been dated to the period after European arrival. Some creation and other stories told to R. H. Mathews by Gandangarra people in 1901 were carried on for generations and survive today.¹⁷

¹⁴ Murray and White, 1988. *Dharug & dungaree: the history of Penrith and St Marys to 1860*.

¹⁵ Power, 1983. *A history of Penrith*.

¹⁶ Gapps, 2018, *The Sydney Wars*, pp 125-155, 226-255.

¹⁷ Irish & Gowan, 2013, 'Where's the evidence? The archaeology of Sydney's Aboriginal history', p. 61. There are several sites in Western Sydney where flaked glass has been recorded, for example at Prospect and Oran Park (Artefact Heritage, 2022, 'Aspect Industrial Estate', p. 18).

2.5.3 Blacktown

Maria Lock (c.1805-1878), Aboriginal landowner, was born at Richmond Bottoms, on the eastern floodplain of the Hawkesbury River, daughter of Yarramundi, 'Chief of the Richmond Tribes'. The family belonged to the Boorooberongal clan of the D(h)arug people. On 28 December 1814 Yarramundi's clan attended the inaugural annual conference hosted for the Aborigines by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. On the same date Maria was admitted to the Native Institution, for tuition by William and Elizabeth Shelley. In 1819 the Sydney Gazette reported that an Aboriginal girl of 14 had won first prize in the anniversary school examination, ahead of twenty children from the Native Institution and almost 100 European students. That girl was probably Maria, who was reported by teachers to be well in advance of other students. At the end of 1822 Maria was being 'maternally treated' by Anne, the wife of Rev. Thomas Hassall, and living in their household at Parramatta, when she married Dicky, a son of Bennelong and a member of the Richmond clan through his mother. He too had been in the Native Institution, but had moved to the household of the Wesleyan missionary William Walker, and was baptized Thomas Walker Coke. Within weeks of his marriage he became ill and died. He was buried on 1 February 1823 at St John's Church of England, Parramatta, where on 26 January 1824 Maria married Robert Lock (1800-1854), an illiterate, convict carpenter who had been assigned to work on the construction of the new Native Institution buildings at Black Town (Blacktown) in 1823.

The marriage was the first officially sanctioned union between a convict and an Aboriginal woman, and Robert was assigned to her. The Locks settled on a small farm at the Native Institution, but later moved to the employ of Rev. Robert Cartwright at Liverpool. The legacy of Maria's education became evident in March 1831, when she petitioned Governor

Darling for her deceased brother Coley's (Colebee) grant at Blacktown, opposite the Native Institution. She asserted that she and her husband were entitled to earn 'an honest livelihood, and provide a comfortable home for themselves, and their increasing family'. In 1831 forty acres (16.2 ha) 'as near to your present residence as suitable vacant land can be found' were granted to Robert on Maria's behalf, but Cartwright frustrated this claim, as he felt it was injurious to the established buildings on his adjoining allotment. Maria persisted, and in 1833 another forty acres was granted to her at Liverpool in Robert's name. She received Colebee's thirty-acre (12.1 ha) grant in 1843. The Locks returned to Blacktown in 1844, acquiring a further thirty acres there. Of their ten children born between 1827 and 1844, nine survived to adulthood. Robert died in 1854. Maria died on 6 June 1878 at Windsor and was buried beside Robert at St Bartholomew's Church of England, Prospect. Her burial registration, which read 'Last of the Aborigines from Blacktown', wrongly gave her birth date as 1794. Her lands at Liverpool and Blacktown were divided equally among her surviving children, and were occupied by her descendants until about 1920, by which time the freehold land was considered to be an Aboriginal reserve (Plumpton), and was revoked by the Aborigines Protection Board. Dozens of families in 2005 trace their descent through Maria to Yarramundi and to his father Gomebeeree, an unbroken link stretching back to the 1740s.

2.5.4 Dharug People today

Families such as the Locks, descendants of Maria Lock, continue to live near Blacktown and descendants of Lucy Leane at Liverpool. All carry knowledge of their ancestors and their Country down to this day. During the 1800s many Aboriginal women married European men. Some families knew

See also Goward, 2011, 'Aboriginal glass artefacts of the Sydney region'; Smith & Jennings, 2011, 'The petroglyphs of Gundungurra Country', P. 241.

of their heritage but often kept it hidden. Others only found out much later through family history work from the 1980s.¹⁸

Today Darug and other Aboriginal people are reclaiming and asserting their heritage. People such as Auntie Edna Watson are creating sculptures and other artwork that responds to the histories of the river. Darug knowledge-holders, artists and educators such as Leanne Watson, Erin Wilkins, Jasmine Symour and Rhiannon Wright have worked with historian Grace Karskens and others to generate the 'Dyarubbin: Mapping Aboriginal history, culture and stories of the Hawkesbury River, New South Wales' project as Aboriginal cultural revival and language revitalisation gather momentum.

2.6 Non-Aboriginal History of the area

2.6.1 The suburb of Huntingwood

Governor Arthur Phillip explored the Prospect area in 1788 and named the wide low hill 'Bellevue Hill', meaning 'Fine Prospect'.

The suburb of Huntingwood is located within the City of Blacktown in Western Sydney in New South Wales. Its name came from early landowners in the area, the Woods family, as well as it being a prominent hunting area. Hunting was popular in the area during the mid-1800s, with Sir Charles Fitzroy, who was the governor-general of New South Wales from 1846 to 1855, keeping his hunting dogs housed in kennels in the vicinity at the 'Dog Kennel Reserve'. The 'Woods Estate' was a staple in the area for over a century.¹⁹

Today, the suburb is zoned for industrial land use, with companies such as Sharp, Arnott's, Pepsi Seven-Up Bottlers and United Distillers establishing commercial and industrial development in it.

¹⁸ See for example Johnson, 2003, *Auntie Joan Cooper*. For family history work see Kohen, 2009, *Daruganora: Darug Country*. As Goodall & Cadzow 2009, *Rivers and resilience*, P. 41.

2.6.2 Former Great Western Road, Prospect & Former Great Western Highway Alignment

The Great Western Highway is a 202km-long state highway in New South Wales, linking Sydney to Bathurst. It consists of two of Australia's most historic roads: Parramatta Road and the former Great Western Road. The Former Great Western Road, Prospect it is the only surviving alignment of the 1818 Great Western Road that was likely an earlier Aboriginal track for a route over Prospect Hill.

It was constructed by convict labour during 1815-1818 as one of three major roads constructed in the colonial period, between 1815 and 1840.

By 1817, this road was well established as the Great Western Road, which connected to the road to Parramatta. It is one of the oldest and most important road routes in the State, providing the first important line of communication and travel for the area.⁵⁶ As the decades rolled on, it formed the main access to the lands of the interior and spurred the development in the western part of the County of Cumberland. It also led to the establishment of a guard house and military depot and later courthouse at Penrith.⁵⁷ The gold rushes commencing in the early 1850s led to a significant increase in traffic on the Great Western Road between Sydney and Bathurst. The constant impact on the roads by horses and wagons caused substantial deterioration. In 1865 the Great Western Road between Parramatta to Penrith was surfaced with 'metal', or stone flakes.²⁰

The following statement of significance was extracted from the State Heritage Inventory entry for Former Great Western Highway Alignment:

The Former Great Western Road, Prospect has exceptional state significance as the only surviving original alignment of the 1818 Great Western Road that itself most likely followed an earlier Aboriginal track for a route over Prospect Hill. The

¹⁹ Alan Sharpe, 2000, *Pictorial History, Blacktown and District*.

²⁰ Extent Heritage, M12 Motorway Non-Aboriginal Heritage Thematic Study

road has the potential to retain highly significant archaeology of the convict and colonial eras. The Great Western Road was one of the three Great Roads built in the colony between 1815 and the 1840s. The others were the Great North Road (1826-36) and the Great South Road (1819-mid 1840s).²¹

2.6.3 The Prospect Reservoir

The Prospect Reservoir was built between 1882 and 1888, using innovative designs and construction methods, which gives it a high level of historical engineering significance. It is part of the Upper Nepean Scheme, and the Reservoir has been supplying water to Sydney for over 120 years, operating the same way as it was originally constructed.²²

It continues to regulate the release of water from Prospect Reservoir to the Lower Canal and the Sydney Distribution system. The place also contains examples of functional colonial architecture.

2.6.4 Honeman Close, Huntingwood

The study area is located within the parish of Prospect and belong to the 1200-acre land grant given to John Brabyn in 1819 by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. It was next to John Campbell's 2000-acre land and William Burgin's 50-acre land. This land grant had a condition that Brabyn had to cultivate at least seventy-five acres of land and provide the government and the navy with timber as requested. His grant was then resumed for the construction of the Prospect Reservoir c.1880s.

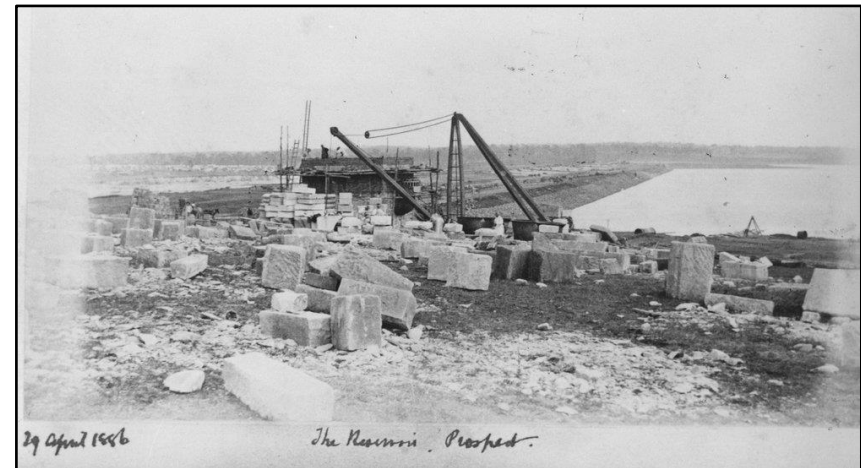


Figure 8: Construction happening at Prospect Reservoir. Photograph taken on 29th April 1886. (Source: Blacktown City Library)



Figure 9: Prospect Reservoir showing lower valve house c.1888²³

²¹ Heritage NSW, 2025. "Former Great Western Highway Alignment". Accessed on: <https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=1140283> (17 January 2025)

²² Heritage NSW, 2025. "Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area": Accessed on: <https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=5045336> (17 January 2025)

²³ Blacktown City Library., reference no.012257

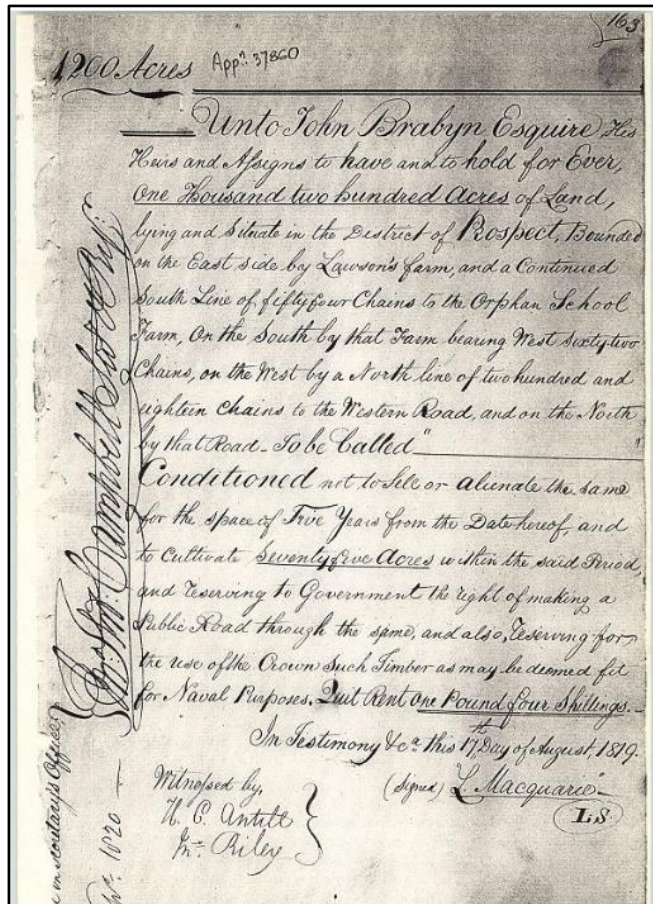


Figure 10: John Brabyn Land Grant (Source: Historical Land Records Viewer)

In the 1940s, the study area had been cleared, featuring unpaved paths and scattered trees. By the mid-1960s, industrial warehouses were present along Boiler Close, but the study area itself remained unchanged. Further road development around the site occurred by the 1970s, though the area itself continued to show little alteration.

During the 1980s, the northern portion of the study area was intentionally cleared, with small structures appearing near Honeman Close. An archery range was also reported in this cleared section, with remnants of target stands noted on the site. By 1991, additional unpaved paths were visible within the study area, alongside significant industrial and residential development in the surrounding areas.

Throughout the 2000s, minimal changes occurred within the study area, aside from a notable increase in tree coverage. The small structure associated with the archery range was eventually removed.

The suburb has many different warehouses of companies such as Sharp, Arnott's, Pepsi Seven-Up Bottlers and United Distillers, established throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s.



Figure 11: Construction of Arnott's Warehouse, 1990, from Eastern Creek Raceway looking northward, close to the study area. (Source: Blacktown City Library)

3. VALUES AND SIGNIFICANCE

This section outlines the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage values of Honeman Close, Huntingwood and the surrounding area to inform the planning for interpretive media around the site.

3.1 Aboriginal heritage significance

The locations and details of Aboriginal sites are considered culturally sensitive information. It is recommended that this information, including the AHIMS data and GIS imagery, is removed from this report if it is to enter the public domain.

An extensive search of the AHIMS was undertaken on 10 January 2024 (Client Service ID: 964780) to determine the location of Aboriginal sites in relation to the current study area. The search area measured approximately 4 kilometres by 4 kilometres centred around the study area to inform the characterisation of the local archaeological context. The AHIMS search parameters were as follows:

GDA, Zone 56 302969.23 – 306969.23 6256031.98 – 6260031.98

Buffer 0 metres (m)

Number of sites 33

There were 33 registered sites within the search area. Of the 33 sites, four were within the study area. The AHIMS coordinates for AHIMS ID 45-5-3310 (Modified tree (carved or scarred) located the site 130m south of the study area boundary. However, the site card description indicated that AHIMS 45-5-3310 is within the study area. Therefore, there are five AHIMS sites located within the study area. The types of sites found were classified as ‘Artefact’, ‘Modified tree (carved or scarred)’, and ‘Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)’.



Figure 12: AHIMS search results showing sites within the study area (Source: Artefact)

3.2 Non-Aboriginal (historic) heritage significance

A comprehensive search of national, state and local heritage registers indicated that Honeman Close, Huntingwood is not listed on any statutory or non-statutory registers. The study area is located within 250m of the State Heritage listed Former Great Western Road (SHR #01911) and Prospect Reservoir and Surrounding Areas (SHR #01370) heritage items.

There are two heritage items in the vicinity of Honeman Close, Huntingwood, as described in the table below.

Table 1: Heritage items in the vicinity of the project area

Item	Significance	Listing
Former Great Western Road, Prospect	State	#01911
Prospect Reservoir and Surrounding Areas	State	#01370

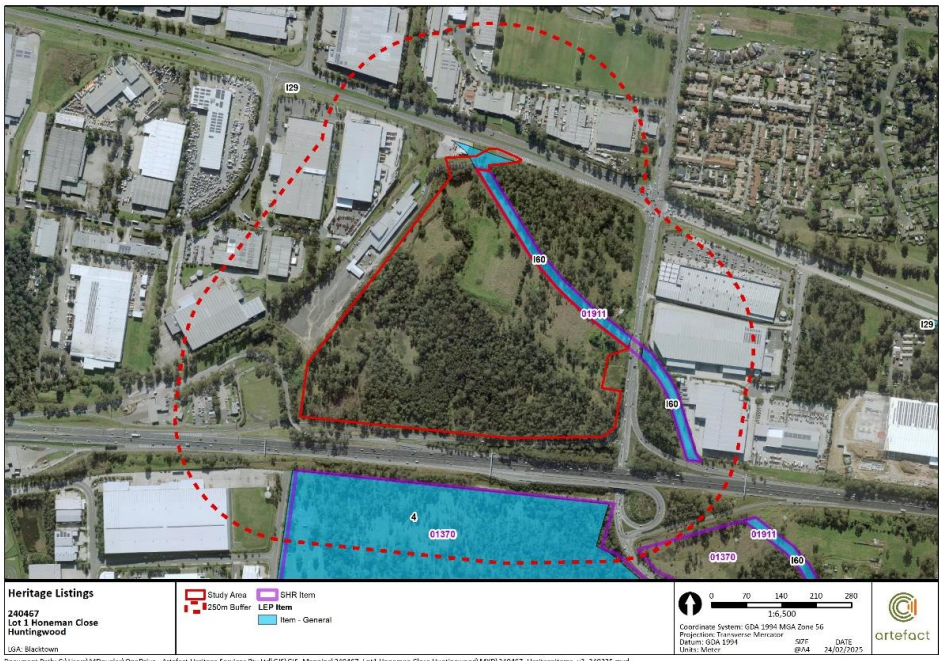


Figure 13: Heritage items in the vicinity of the study area

4. INTERPRETIVE APPROACH

4.1 Introduction

This section outlines the approach that is recommended for the interpretation at Honeman Close incorporating the Aboriginal Cultural Values, themes and key stories of the site into a comprehensive suite of interpretive media.

4.2 Interpretive principles

The key interpretative principles for heritage interpretation of at Honeman Close are to:

- Present the site as a place with distinct tangible and intangible heritage values and identify how these values contribute to the heritage significance of the wider area.
- Incorporate documentary research, oral histories and graphic materials to illustrate the significance of the deep and recent history of the site of the site in a clear and engaging manner.
- Collaborate with Aboriginal stakeholders to ensure interpretation strategies adhere to the cultural heritage significance of the area
- Ensure that interpretive media are physically and conceptually accessible and designed to engage and stimulate interest.
- Ensure that interpretive media are designed in a way that complements the facility of the site and the historical characteristics of the setting.

4.3 Audience identification

Heritage interpretation is most effective when potential audiences are identified and specifically targeted. It is important to define audience categories to ensure that interpretive media - their location, orientation, content and design - are designed to provide engaging and informative experiences relevant to those audiences.

The primary audiences for the proposed warehouses and offices include:

- Warehouse tenants and operators
- Office workers
- Delivery personnel

Demographic and Economic Context

Huntingwood is situated within the Blacktown City Council area, which has experienced significant population growth. Between the 2001 and 2006 censuses, the population increased by 6.47%, with a further growth of 10.82% between 2006 and 2011. The 2021 census recorded an 11.91% increase, highlighting the area's ongoing development and urbanisation.

This population growth is accompanied by a dynamic economic landscape, with a diverse range of industries contributing to the local economy. The influx of businesses and residents enhances the demand for warehousing, office spaces, and efficient delivery services, making Honeman Close an attractive location for businesses aiming to capitalize on these demographic trends.

4.4 Consultation

An understanding of the relevance and importance of a site to key stakeholders is fundamental to creating interpretive media which accurately and sensitively conveys the significance of the site. Under the Burra Charter:²⁴

Article 12. Conservation, interpretation and management of a place should provide for the participation of people for whom the place has significant associations and meanings, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the place.

4.4.1 Project consultation

4.4.1.1 Walk on Country with Justine Coplin, Dharug Custodians Aboriginal Corporation, 13 March 2025

Artefact met with Justine Coplin from Dharug Custodians Aboriginal Corporation and the Goodman team for a Walk on Country at the project site on 13 March 2025. The aim of the meeting was to brief Justine on the project development and to discuss possible interpretation and public art opportunities.

Attendees

- Justine Coplin, Dharug Custodians Aboriginal Corporation
- Lachlan O'Reilly, Planning & Infrastructure Manager, Goodman
- Candice Bell, Head of First Nations Engagement, Goodman
- Sabrina Roesner, Artefact

²⁴ Australia ICOMOS, 2013. Burra Charter – The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance. 3.

Discussion Points

Lachlan O'Reilly provided an update on the proposed development of the project area, including future opportunities for the heritage-listed Honeman Close Road. The group reviewed design drawings and discussed key aspects of the warehouse complex, entry and access points, and the ecological zone, including the riparian corridor.

Caring for Country

- Tree Retention and Habitat Creation – Preserve existing trees where possible. If removal is necessary, repurpose materials within the ecological zone for wildlife habitat. Bark could also be used for artefact reburial, allowing artefacts to naturally reintegrate into the soil.
- Community Resource Sharing – Natural materials from the site, including trees, could be donated to Aboriginal-led community groups for cultural uses, such as carving projects.
- Wildlife Corridors – Maintain and enhance connections between ecological zones across different lots to support wildlife movement. Consider wildlife rope bridges to allow tree-dwelling animals to travel safely and avoid ground predators.
- Habitat Enhancements – Integrate nesting boxes for birds and bats to promote biodiversity

Interpretation Opportunities

- Justine recommended that if trees had to be removed as part of the development, they could be retained on site and be used in landscaping and as seating opportunities. Thinner trees could be used

in the outdoor gathering spaces of warehouses 1 and 2 within a screen or panelling. They should be placed horizontally and not reference burial poles.

- Interpretive signage and wayfinding could be developed along Honeman Close and pathways throughout the site featuring information about the historic and Aboriginal heritage values of the road and surrounding area. A timeline could be featured as part of interpretive signage.
- Artefact Interpretation – Explore the possible roles and uses of artefacts found on-site. Suggested approaches include: 3D scanning artefacts, reburying the originals, and displaying the scans, featuring photographs of artefacts on interpretive panels.

Public Art Opportunities

Several locations for public and integrated artworks were identified:

- Warehouse 1 & 2 Carpark Walls – Potential feature area for large-scale artwork.
- Mesh Screening on Offices 1 & 2 (North-East & North) – Opportunity to integrate designs, possibly featuring the swift parrot, a species known to inhabit the site.
- Interior Office & Common Areas – Suitable for integrated or sculptural artworks.

Potential Artwork Themes & Motifs:

- Artefacts & Geology – Reference site-specific artefacts, their materiality, and natural colour schemes.
- Strata Layers – Artwork could visually represent the geology of the site in a dissected strata view.

- Eucalyptus Colour Palette – Use tones inspired by eucalyptus trunks and canopies.
- Industrial References – Internal columns or beams could reference GI piping samples.

Potential Artists:

- Jamie Eastwood & Leanne Watson – Both artists have extensive experience in public art responding to Country and have successfully collaborated before.
- Jamie Eastwood – As both an artist and archaeologist, he could develop artwork that references the geology and artefacts of the site.

4.4.1.2 Online consultation Jamie Eastwood, 18 March 2025

Artefact met with Jamie Eastwood, a Dharug knowledge holder and artist, online on 18 March 2025, to brief Jamie on the project development and to discuss possible interpretation and public art opportunities.

Attendees

- Jamie Eastwood, Dharug knowledge holder and artist
- Sabrina Roesner, Artefact

Jamie discussed number of possible interpretation and public art opportunities with a focus on highlighting and celebrating Dharug Country.

Interpretation Opportunities

- Dharug Language: Jamie suggested featuring Dharug language in interpretive devices such as interpretation panels, to educate audiences about the traditional Country that the development is located on.

- He suggested providing interpretive information about the Great Western Highway being an ancient travelling route for Aboriginal People
- He suggested providing information about the local plant and animal life that used to thrive in this area. The endangered Swift Parrot was an example he provided.

Public Art Opportunities

- Jamie was excited by the opportunity to introduce public art into the development and indicated his interest in being considered as an artist.
- He highlighted opportunities to reference local creeks and eco-systems in artwork motifs. The endangered Swift Parrot would also lend itself as an artwork motif.
- The geology and archeology of the site could be explored through artwork, for example representing the strata bands.
- Local flora could, also be explored in artwork motifs.

4.5 Historical themes

To successfully interpret a site, the contextual background should be presented in a way that is clear, concise, easily accessible, informative and engaging. Successful interpretation is best achieved by structuring the interpretive approach around key themes or stories directly associated with the site in order to provide a clear context for understanding the heritage values of the site.

The Heritage Council of NSW (2001) has established thirty-two NSW Historical Themes to connect local issues with the broader history of NSW and the nation. Historical themes provide a context within which the heritage significance of an item can be understood, assessed and compared. Themes help to explain why an item exists, how it was changed

and how it relates to other items linked to the theme. The historical themes which relate to the study area at Honeman Close and the Great Western Highway are listed below.

Table 2: National and State historic themes and local context for Honeman Close.

Australian Historic Theme	NSW Theme	Local context
Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures Activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practises, past and present; with demonstrating distinctive ways of life; and with interactions demonstrating race relations.	The study area is located within the traditional Country of the Darug people. The Darug people have cared for this Country for tens of thousands of years. The Great Western Highway was originally an ancient travelling route for Aboriginal People, likely providing resources such as food and raw materials. Despite 200 years of displacement and oppression, the Darug people still retain a deep connection to Country.
Peopling Australia	Convict Activities relating to incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working during the convict period in NSW (1788-1850).	The construction of The Great Western Highway was an important mark on the early days of the colony. Built exclusively by convicts in 1815-1818, it became one of the three Great Roads built in the colony between 1815-1840s.
Developing local, regional and national economies	Forestry Activities associated with identifying and managing	The land grant to John Brabyn by Governor Lachlan in 1819 had the condition that he had to provide

Australian Historic Theme	NSW Theme	Local context
	land covered in trees for commercial purposes.	the navy with timber as the Crown saw fit. It is likely Brabyn went on to log his land periodically before it was resumed for the construction of the Prospect Reservoir.
Developing local, regional and national economy	Transport Activities associated with the moving of people and goods from one place to another, and systems for the provisions of such movements.	The Great Western Highway has been a major form of transportation since its construction linking Sydney to Bathurst, and consisting of two of Australia's most historic roads: Parramatta Road and the former Great Western Road. It was a major road for transportation inland, aiding movement throughout the colony. There is great archaeological potential within the curtilage of the road as well as historical significance.
Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.	The study area has evidence of both fencing and post holes from varying time periods. The original land grant for the land encompassing the study area has also been identified (Figure 10).

4.6 Key stories for interpretation

Key themes are a vehicle for structuring information to convey the layered history of a site and its cultural landscape. They are informed by an analysis of the historic themes outlined above, historical research and by feedback from any community consultations undertaken. The below four key stories have been identified for the Honeman Close, Huntingwood site:

This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug People

The land now known as Huntingwood is located on the traditional Country of the Dharug people, who have lived in the region for thousands of years. They call this land *Boongarrunbee* (Bungarribee). This landscape provided abundant resources, with campsites located near creeks and wetlands.

Tangible and intangible connections to Country are central to Dharug culture. Physical evidence such as artefacts and scarred trees, reflect how the land was used. Bungarribee Creek runs through the site which provided a freshwater source and habitat for various species, including fish, waterbirds, frogs, lizards, snakes, and mammals, as well as plant life along its banks. These were vital food and raw material resources for Aboriginal people.

Intangible connections to the area such as stories, customs, and social practices — are equally significant, carrying cultural knowledge through generations.

Colours and shapes of Country

The geology and artefacts found within this site tell a story through their colours and diverse materiality, acting as a living library where each element holds a chapter of the past, as the colours of country unfold in earthy palettes that reflect both nature and culture.

The deep brownish-black soils speak of fertile grounds and enduring cycles, while the underlying geology of Bringelly Shale, a Triassic

Wianamatta Group unit, reveals layers of history through shale, sandstone beds, calcareous claystone, and sparse coal deposits. Among these foundations, artefacts emerge as tangible links to those who walked this land before. The muted cream colours of tuff flakes and the warm reds of silcrete pieces found at the site contrast with the translucent qualities of chert and quartz artefacts, each bearing the marks of human craftsmanship. The presence of a scarred tree stand as silent sentinels, their bark etched with stories of cultural practice. Together, these colours and textures capture the essence of place, where geology, ecology, and heritage converge in a rich and enduring tapestry.

The Swift Parrot: a rare visitor

The Swift Parrot is a critically endangered species known for its vibrant green feathers and rapid flight. With fewer than 2,000 birds estimated to remain in the wild, the Swift Parrot faces significant threats, including habitat loss, logging, and predators. Remarkably, this rare parrot finds refuge in the habitat on this site, where flowering eucalyptus trees provide essential food and shelter during its seasonal migration.

The former Great Western Road: from Aboriginal Pathways to colonial infrastructure

The former Great Western Road at Prospect holds exceptional historical significance as the only surviving alignment of the 1818 Great Western Road and is believed to follow the route of an ancient Aboriginal pathway that once traversed Prospect Hill, known as "Marrong", which served as a vital vantage point and navigational marker. For millennia, Aboriginal communities used this track for travel, trade, and cultural exchange.

Constructed by convict labour under the direction of William Cox between 1815 and 1818, the Great Western Road was part of a broader colonial push to expand westward. It was one of three major "Great Roads" built during the colonial period, alongside the Great North Road (1826–1836) and the Great South Road (1819–mid-1840s). These roads were crucial for

connecting remote settlements, facilitating the movement of goods and people, and consolidating colonial control over the landscape.

Remarkably, the Former Great Western Road at Prospect remains intact today, providing a tangible and enduring link to both Aboriginal cultural heritage and the convict era.

5. INTERPRETIVE OPTIONS

5.1 Introduction

The project at Honeman Close requires subtle, engaging and accessible heritage interpretation media including public art which can convey key messages about the site's historic heritage and Aboriginal cultural significance to the site's visitors.

Opportunities for suitable interpretive media to be explored for Honeman Close include

- Interpretive panels
- Public artwork
- Ground plane elements
- Interpretive landscaping

This section provides an overview of the type of possible interpretive media, including key narratives, and possible locations. A Heritage Interpretation strategy is a high-level strategic report which presents a range of possible interpretation media, suitable for Honeman Close and a broad overview of opportunities for integration within the site. It is not intended that all the interpretive elements outlined in the strategy necessarily be developed, but that the most appropriate in terms of project design and scope be integrated into the project planning. As the project progresses through its various design stages, a Heritage Interpretation & Public Art Plan should be developed to provide more detailed information on the final selection of interpretive media and public art as well as their locations, content and materials.

5.2 Interpretative Panels

Visually attractive and well-written interpretive panels are an excellent media for effectively conveying key information about the history of a site. If integrated into the design of a site, interpretive panels can be strategically located to gain appropriate exposure. For Honeman Close opportunities exist to integrate interpretive panels featuring text and imagery related to the historic heritage of the site as well as Aboriginal Cultural Values linked to the site and broader area. Three free standing interpretive panels are recommended in key pedestrian movement areas and gathering spaces.

5.2.1 Key stories

Key stories associated with the interpretive panels are:

- This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug
- Colours and shapes of Country
- The former Great Western Road: from Aboriginal pathways to colonial infrastructure

5.2.2 Examples

The following section presents examples of interpretive panels that showcase historic and Aboriginal values through text and imagery. While the content and images will be tailored to each story, a consistent approach to design, material selection, and sizing should be maintained across all panels at the site to ensure visual cohesion.



Figure 14: Left - Interpretive panel at Good Street Granville by Artefact. Right - Interpretive panel at Tumut Station.

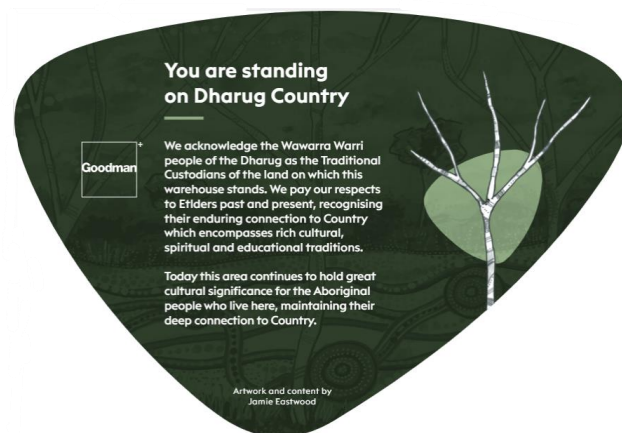


Figure 15: Interpretive panel at Roussell Road, Eastern Creek. Artwork and text by Jamie Eastwood, design by Artefact.



Figure 16: Top - Nowra Bridge interpretive panel featuring artwork by local Aboriginal students from the TAFE. Bottom - Interpretive panel featuring artwork and photographs of artefacts at Parramatta Heritage Centre by FRD.

5.2.3 Content outline

For the key story:

- The former Great Western Road: from Aboriginal pathways to colonial infrastructure

Interpretive panels could incorporate historic maps, drawings and text related the construction of the Great Western Road. Relevant records and journal entries by key figures such as William Cox, George Evans and others linked to the construction of the Highway could also be utilised. Interpretive text and imagery should also explore the

For the key stories:

- This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug
- Colours and shapes of Country

Interpretive panels could feature examples of archaeological finds from the site, e.g. photographs of found artefacts and descriptions of their traditional functions and use. Text to this effect would need to be developed with Traditional Custodians and knowledge holders.

Panels could also feature artworks and graphics from locally connected artists and words in Dharug language, to be developed in close consultation with Dharug knowledge holders.

5.2.4 Possible locations

Key areas that lend themselves to the display of interpretive panels are along the proposed pedestrian paths and gathering areas near the office and warehouse spaces 1 and 2. Key opportunity locations have been highlighted in red in the Site Layout Plan in Figure 17.

5.2.4.1 Interpretive walk along Honeman Close

Future opportunities may also include the development of an interpretive walk along the landscaped easement of Honeman Close, where interpretive panels could be installed, integrating them into a possible future pedestrian pathway.

- Panel 1: This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug

- Panel 2: Colours and shapes of Country
- Panel 3: The former Great Western Road: From Aboriginal pathways to colonial infrastructure

--- Interpretive walk along possible future pedestrian pathway



Figure 17: Proposed Site Layout - Urban Design Report (Source: Goodman & SBA)

5.2.5 Other considerations

Detailed panel materials, design, and sizes will need to be confirmed in a comprehensive Heritage Interpretation Plan and Public Art Plan at a later stage of the development. It is generally recommended to consider the following when developing interpretive panels for the site:

- **Durability:** Use weather-resistant materials suitable for outdoor conditions, ensuring panels withstand sun, rain, and vandalism.
- **Maintenance:** Design panels for easy cleaning and repair, with minimal upkeep requirements.
- **Accessibility and Engagement:** Ensure content is accessible to a broad audience, with readable fonts and adequate font sizes, appropriate text size, high contrasts. Ensure panels are set at adequate heights, for accessibility. Make the content engaging with 200-300 words of text maximum and at least 1-2 images per panel.
- **Consistent Style:** Maintain a cohesive visual and graphic identity that reflects the site's cultural and natural heritage, using complementary colours, fonts, and layouts.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Collaborate with Traditional Custodians and Dharug knowledge holders on panels that feature Aboriginal content.

5.3 Public Art

Public artworks can be an evocative and successful tool in interpreting the heritage significance of a site while also enhancing its aesthetic and cultural character. This type of interpretive media creates a visual statement about the cultural heritage of an area and is important in place-making for the public domain. Public art can be integrated into the architecture, design and functional elements of a site and may work in

tandem with other interpretive elements, such as lighting, functional or ground plane elements.

For Honeman Place 3 key areas have been identified as possible locations for public art and 3 types of public artwork have been identified. It is recommended that public artworks are realised by locally connected Aboriginal artists.

5.3.1 Key Stories

Key stories associated with public art are:

- This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug
- Colours and shapes of Country
- The Swift Parrot: a rare visitor

5.3.2 Type of public artwork

The following three types of public artwork are recommended as most suitable for the site:

1. Functional artwork in the form of seating in outdoor gathering spaces. This public artwork could respond to the key story '*This is Boongarrunbee, land of the Dharug*'.
2. Internal wall artwork in communal spaces within offices 1 and 2: This artwork could respond to key story '*Colours and shapes of Country*'.
3. Integrated artwork design in outdoor mesh screens of the office areas of warehouse 1 and 2. This artwork could respond to key story '*The Swift Parrot: a rare visitor*'.

5.3.3 Examples

The following images provide examples for three types of recommended public artworks.

1. Example of functional artwork in the form of seating in outdoor gathering spaces



Figure 18: Outdoor seating artwork 'Memory Vessel' by Heidi Axelsen, Hugo Moline, Jamie Eastwood and Dean Kelly, in the shape of a Nawi (canoe) and referencing the geology of the site through a strata of tinted concrete with embedded stones, pebbles, shells and glass.



Figure 19: Seating overlays with Dharug language by Nocole Monks, St Leonards Health Complex

2. Examples of internal wall artwork in communal spaces

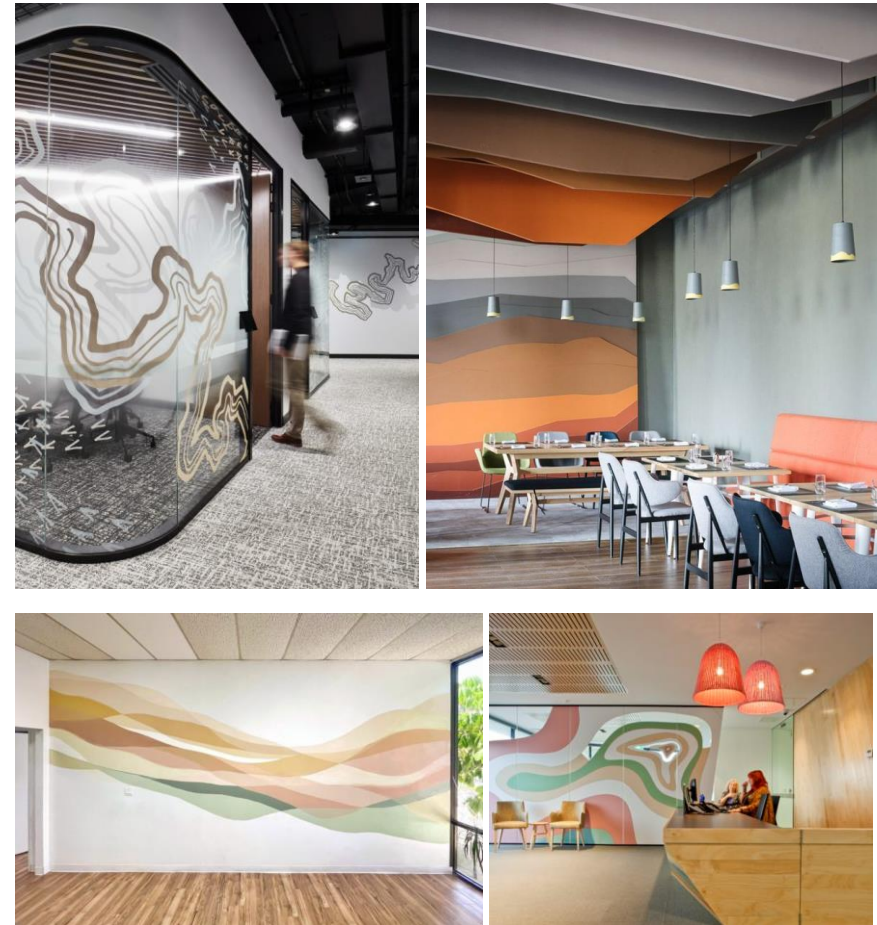


Figure 20: Top left - Energy Australia Office artworks by Jamie Eastwood. Top right - wall design - strata inspired (Source: Pinterest). Bottom left - Wall artwork by Sara Irene Louise (Source: Pinterest). Bottom right - Internal wall design by Dandenong MDC, Artillery Interior Architecture

3. Examples of integrated artwork design in outdoor mesh screens

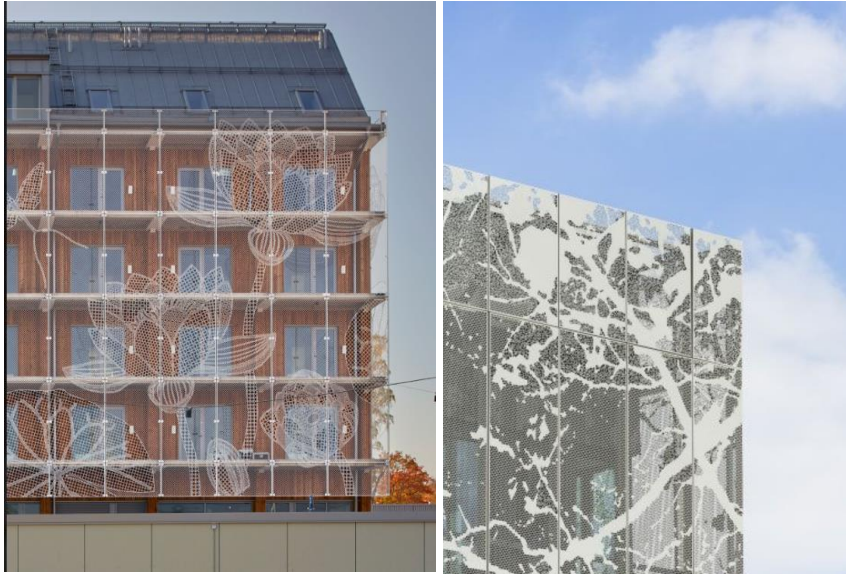


Figure 21: Left – Artwork design in outdoor mesh screen by Redford Architectural. Right – Mesh artwork designs on police station in Les Mureaux, France by Ameller, Dubois & Associés



Figure 22: Bird artwork design integrated into metal mesh panelling (Source: Pinterest)

5.3.4 Locations

Several locations for public art were identified during the Walk on Country and through online consultations with Traditional Custodians. These were based on the possible type of artwork and the materials suitable for each site.

5.3.4.1 Functional artwork in the form of seating

Artistic seating could be integrated into the outdoor areas of offices 1 and 2, either within the covered outdoor seating areas or within the landscaping strip adjacent to the entrance area. Possible locations have been marked up in red in Figure 23.

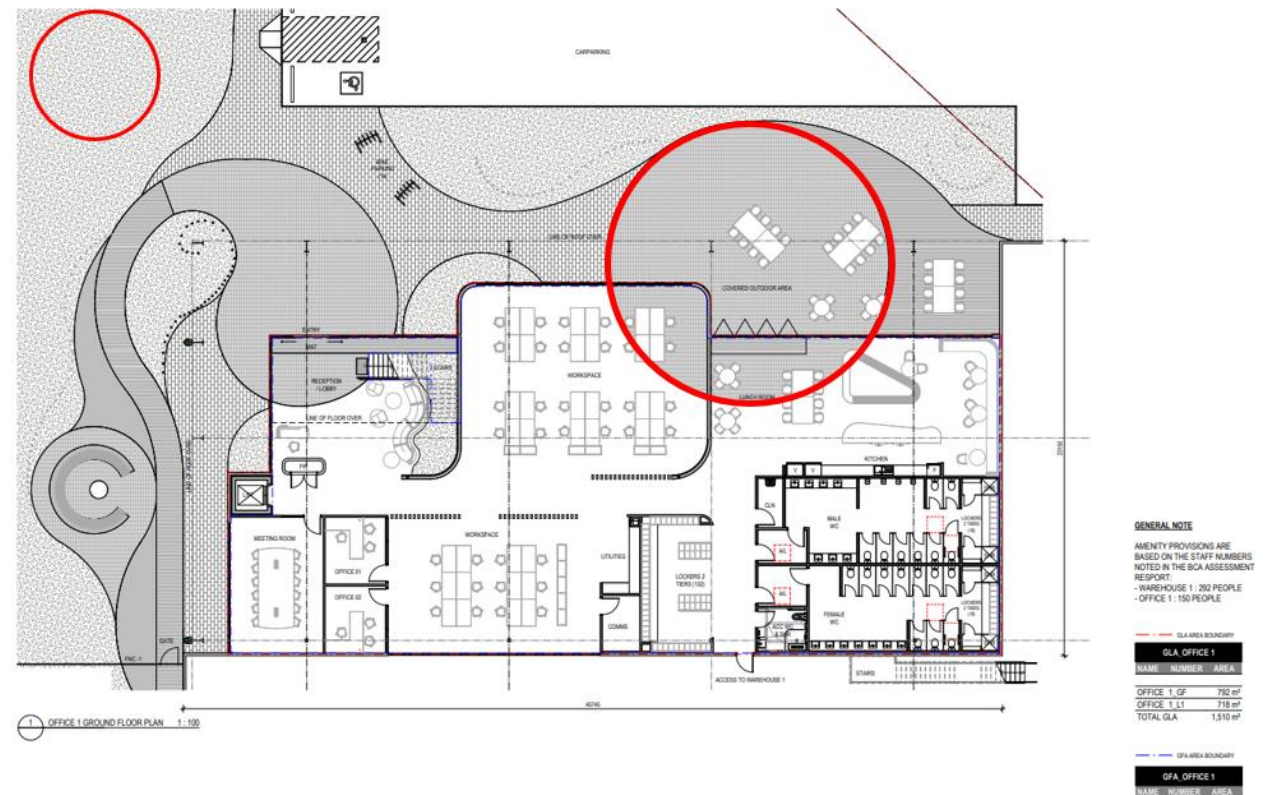


Figure 23: Left and right - Possible locations for functional seating artwork – Warehouse & office 1.

Artistic seating may also be considered for a possible future interpretive walkway along Honeman Close.

5.3.4.2 Internal wall artwork in communal spaces

There are opportunities to incorporate mural artworks or graphic art applications on the internal walls of communal areas within offices 1 and 2. The artwork could be applied directly to the walls, installed as wall decals on glass surfaces, or integrated into the overall design and fabric of the communal spaces.

Possible locations have been identified on the ground level and level 1 of office 1 and are highlighted in red in Figure 24.

It is noted that the office layouts are indicative only at this stage and internal configuration may change.

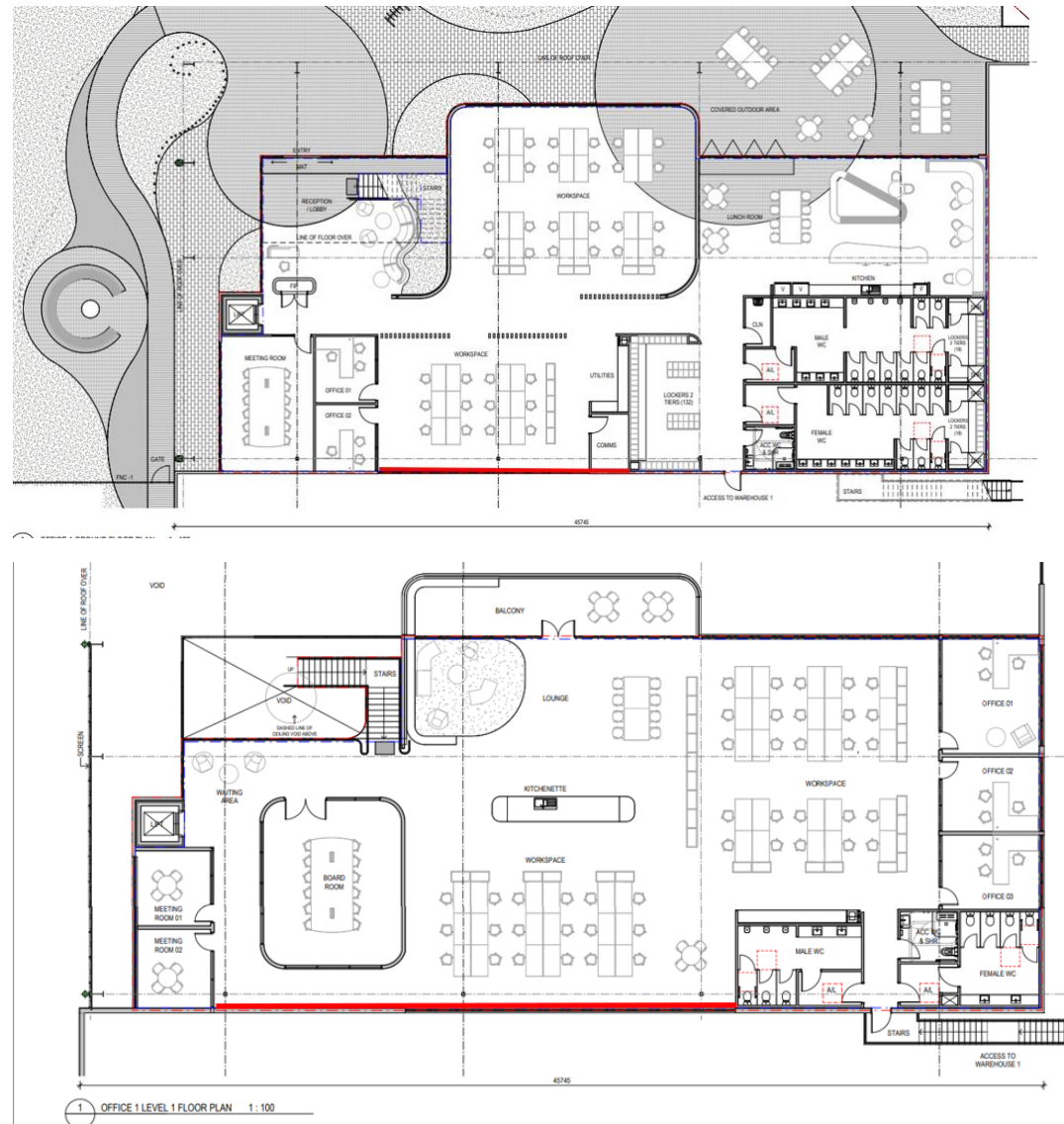


Figure 24: Top - Possible walls for artwork on ground level of office 1. Possible wall on level 1 of office 1.

5.3.4.3 Integrated artwork design in outdoor mesh screens

Opportunities have been identified to integrate artwork designs into the mesh screens located at the office entrance areas of warehouses 1 and 2. Indicative locations have been identified in red in Figure 25 and Figure 26.



Figure 25: Mesh screens on Warehouse 1, north west.



Figure 26: Mesh screens on Warehouse 2, northeast.

5.4 Ground plane elements

Ground plane elements embedded in public domain areas are a subtly effective heritage interpretation medium. Paving colours, metal inlays or sandblasted patterns may be installed into ground planes, forming artworks, tracing the footprints of former structures or containing small 'bites' of textual information, quotes or dates creating a narrative as paths are traversed.

Embedding historic information and design elements into the ground plane of the development at Honeman Close can provide a tangible aesthetic reference to significant historical infrastructures such as the former Great Western Road. By installing such ground plane elements into outdoor gathering spaces at warehouses 1 and 2, a strong visual message about the historic significance of the only surviving alignment of the 1818 Great Western Road site can be created.

5.4.1 Key Stories

The key story associated with ground plane elements is:

- The former Great Western Road: from Aboriginal Pathways to colonial infrastructure

5.4.2 Examples

Ground plane elements could consist of a range of materials and be embedded through various methods. Possible applications can include but are not limited to:

- Metal inlays such as bronze, brass, or stainless steel inlays.
- Etched, engraved or sandblasted concrete.
- Engraved or sandblasted sandstone.

- Pavers with custom designs: Coloured brick or stone pavers with imprinted motifs or patterns
- Tile or ceramic inlays e.g. hand-painted or glazed tiles
- Exposed aggregate in concrete: Decorative concrete with exposed stones or glass
- Integrated lighting features such as LED strips or embedded lights in concrete
- Patterned or stamped concrete



Figure 27: Example of metal inlays with 'bites of information' such as historical dates associated with a site. Sydney harbour foreshore.



Figure 28: Left – metal and coloured paving inlay Marrickville Metro. Right – Metal inlay Little Bay Old Hospital.



Figure 29: Left - Map etched into paving, Duke of York Square, London. Right – Metal plaque inlay at Goodstreet Granville.

5.4.3 Locations

Ground plane elements should be placed in public gathering areas while, maintaining a safe distance from vehicle zones, to ensure that audiences can safely observe the elements. The paved areas outside office 1 and 2 could be considered for ground plane inlays.

Indicative locations have been highlighted in red in Figure 30



Figure 30: Top and bottom - Paved areas outside office 1 and 2.

Ground plane elements could also be embedded within a possible future pedestrian pathway along Honeman Close, noting that the heritage listed Honeman Close road itself would not be impacted. Indicative locations along a possible pathway have been highlighted in red below.

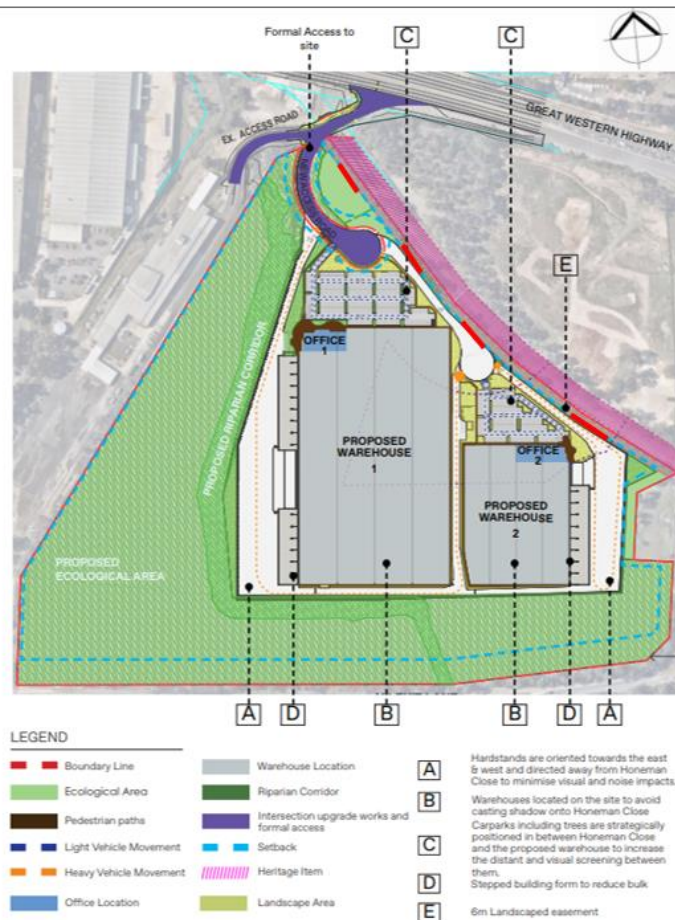


Figure 31: Proposed Site Layout - Urban Design Report (Source: Goodman & SBA)

5.4.4 Possible content

The following presents a preliminary list of possible 'bites of historical information' that could be used in ground plane elements:

July, 1814 Construction of the Great Western Road commenced under the supervision of William Cox, using convict labour.

February, 1815: Completion of the initial road from Emu Plains to Bathurst, covering approximately 100 miles (160 kilometres).

October, 1815: Governor Lachlan Macquarie inspected the road from Parramatta to Bathurst.

1818: The road reached Penrith, with tolls introduced for its use.

Convict Labor: The road was primarily built by convicts, who constructed accommodations and stockades along the route.

Facts and Figures: The road was designed to be at least 12 feet wide, with a cleared alignment of 20 feet to allow two carts to pass.

In 1865 the Great Western Road between Parramatta to Penrith was surfaced with 'metal', or stone flakes.

5.5 Interpretive landscaping

Interpretive landscaping is an effective approach to evoke past landscapes within new developments. Landscaping devices, including use of turf, hardstand, spatial dividers and planting geometry and shapes, as well as planting certain species can create an immersive space for site users that gives a feeling of being surrounded by heritage. Traditional (endemic) plant species that would have grown within the area and provided habitat for local animals could be re-incorporated into the site's landscaping. Where trees have to be removed for construction or safety reasons, trunks or parts of trunks could be retained on site, either within the eco-logical zone or as landscaping devices such as seating, spatial dividers or as material for panelling and screens.

Planting patterns, where trees and understory plants were clumped rather than planted in lines, are preferred to enhance the naturalistic feel and to echo Country.

5.5.1 Key Stories

The key story associated with interpretive landscaping are:

- This is Boongarrunbee , land of the Dharug
- Colours and shapes of Country
- The Swift Parrot: a rare visitor

5.5.2 Examples

The following example images highlight traditional landscaping approaches, incorporating endemic species, local materials, and geometric designs that reference Country.



Figure 32: Top - Bilya Marlee houses the School of Indigenous Studies, Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health, and the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health in Perth. Bottom - Barangaroo Reserve, planting of 84 different species that were native to the Sydney region at the time of colonisation. (Source: Janna Schreier Garden Design)



Figure 33: Interpretive landscaping using traditional landscape shapes and forms
(Source: Pinterest)

5.5.3 Locations

Key locations for interpretive landscaping are the entrance and gathering areas at office 1 and 2.



Figure 34: Proposed landscaped areas office 1, northwest (Source: Goodman & SDA)



Figure 35: Proposed landscaped area warehouse 2, northeast.

5.6 Additional considerations

The following considerations should be taken into account for future heritage interpretation planning at Honeman Close:

5.6.1 Maintenance

Any interpretive elements will require on-going maintenance, such as regular cleaning and periodic remedial work to remove graffiti which will be the responsibility of the owner of the property. It is recommended that a 6-monthly condition check be undertaken by the client on all interpretive elements installed on the property.

5.6.2 Copyright and image ordering

All images (including photographs, maps, and illustrations) in this report are of low quality. For the future graphic design/production of the interpretive elements, high-resolution images will need to be purchased. Once the style and size of interpretive elements has been decided at the appropriate design stage, copyright clearances and/or permissions-to-publish must also be obtained from the image/copyright holders for all images used.

Generally, copyright is in place up until 70 years from the end of the year in which the creator of an image died or 70 years from the end of the year in which the image was first published. Images that are within copyright require permission to reproduce from the copyright holder and may incur a copyright fee and sourcing fee, as well as copyright acknowledgement as specified by the image holder. All images more than 70 years old require permission to reproduce from the image holder and an acknowledgment as specified by the image holder.

Any images of identifiable deceased Aboriginal people should not be shown without permission from known relatives or Traditional Owners, and the

image should be captioned with '*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that this panel contains images of people who are deceased*'.

5.6.1 Artist selection and acknowledgement

If Public artworks by locally connected Aboriginal artists are to be included in this project, a selection of artists portfolios would be provided to the client for review, and a detailed artist brief would be prepared. The client would select one-two artists to produce concept designs, and then engage the chosen artist to produce final artworks/digital files.

Each public artwork should be credited on-site through an artwork sign or panel. Additionally, information about the artist and his work can be provided online or through brochures on site, where feasible. This acknowledgment should include key details such as the artist's name, artwork title, year of creation, materials used and an artwork statement that provides insight into the concept and meaning behind the piece. Additionally, a brief artist bio should be included. Online platforms, such as project websites or council databases, should also feature this information to ensure wider accessibility and ongoing recognition.

6. CONCLUSION

This HIS has been prepared for the project at Honeman Close Huntingwood in accordance with the NSW Heritage Office’s *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: Guidelines*, and the NSW Heritage Council’s *Heritage Interpretation Policy*.

The following interpretive elements are recommended:

- Interpretive panels
- Public artwork
- Ground plane elements
- Interpretive landscaping

Following approval of the HIS by the client, the next stage in the interpretive process is the development of a detailed Heritage Interpretation and Public Art Plan, followed by the final design, production and installation of the interpretive elements within the study area

6.1 Next steps

The next steps in the heritage interpretation process are outlined in the table below.

Table 3: Overview of next steps

Stage	Action	Responsibility	Timing
Stage 1 (this report)	Submission of draft HIS	Artefact	27 March 2025
	Feedback on draft HIP	client	27 March 2025
	HIS provided to stakeholders for comment (2 weeks)	Artefact	31 March 2025
	Feedback from stakeholders incorporated into HIS	Artefact	14 April 2025
	Submission of final HIS	Artefact	15 April 2025
Stage 2 (out of scope)	Develop detailed Heritage Interpretation and Public Art Plan	TBA	TBA
Stage 3 (out of scope)	Design, production and installation of interpretive elements, artist selection and public artwork production and installation.	TBA	TBA

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8. APPENDIX A: CONSULTATION LOG

Person	Organisation	Contacted by	Contact date	Method	Theme	Response
Erin Wilkins	Dharug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Sabrina Roesner/ Alexandra Gaffikin	26 February 2025	Email	Invitation to Walk on Country	No response
Justine Coplin	Dharug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Sabrina Roesner/ Alexandra Gaffikin	26 February 2025	Email	Invitation to Walk on Country	Attended Walk on Country on 13 March 2025
		Sabrina Roesner	31 March 2025	Email	Provision of draft HIS for feedback and input	No feedback provided
		Sabrina Roesner	11 April 2025	Email	Reminder to provide feedback	No feedback provided
James Eastwood	Dharug artist	Sabrina Roesner	13 March 2025	Email	Invitation to online consultation	Attended online consultation meeting on 17 March 2025
		Sabrina Roesner	31 March 2025	Email	Provision of draft HIS for feedback and input	Acknowledged receipt. No feedback provided.
		Sabrina Roesner	10 April	Email	Reminder to provide feedback	No feedback provided



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