



ATT25: Start Up [DSCN_1197]



ATT25: Final Shot [DSCN_1276]



ATT26: Start Up [DSCN1189]



ATT:26 Final Shot [DSCN_1249]



ATT27: Start Up [DSCN_1190]



ATT27: Final Shot [DSCN_1257]



ATT28: Start Up [DSCN_1192]



ATT28: Final Shot [DSCN_1259]



ATT29: Start Up [DSCN_1194]



ATT29: Final Shot [DSCN_1267]



ATT30: Start Up [DSCN_1195]



ATT30: Final Shot [DSCN_1272]



ATT31: Start Up [DSCN_1287]



ATT31: Final Shot [DSCN_1342]



ATT32: Start Up [DSCN_1285]



ATT32: Final Shot [DSCN_1253]



ATT33: Start Up [DSCN_1248]



ATT33: Final Shot [DSCN_1300]



ATT34: Start Up [DSCN_1291]



ATT34: Final Shot [DSCN_1306]



ATT35: Start Up [DSCN_1351]



ATT35: Final Shot [DSCN_1297]



ATT36: Start Up [DSCN_1321]



ATT36: Final Shot [DSCN_1353]



ATT37: Start Up [DSCN_1318]



ATT37: Final Shot [DSCN_1347]



ATT38: Start Up [DSCN_1316]



ATT38: Final Shot [DSCN_1338]



ATT39: Start Up [DSCN_1314]



ATT39: Final Shot [DSCN_1334]



ATT40: Start Up [DSCN_1323]



ATT40: Final Shot [DSCN_1391]



ATT41: Start Up [DSCN_1328]



ATT41: Final Shot [DSCN_1387]



ATT42: Start Up [DSCN_1329]



ATT42: Final Shot [DSCN_1363]



ATT43: Start Up [DSCN_1332]



ATT43: Final Shot [DSCN_1357]



ATT44: Start Up [DSCN_1325]



ATT44: Final Shot [DSCN_1382]



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ATT45: Final Shot [DSCN_1404]



ATT46: Start Up [DSCN_1367]



ATT46: Final Shot [DSCN_1395]



ATT47: Start Up [DSCN_1368]



ATT47: Final Shot [DSCN_1400]



ATT48: Start Up [DSCN_1379]



ATT48: Final Shot [DSCN_1414]



ATT49: Start Up [DSCN_1375]



ATT49: Final Shot [DSCN_1421]



ATT50: Start Up [DSCN_1373]



ATT50: Final Shot [DSCN_1417]



ATT51: Start Up [DSCN_1371]



ATT51: Final Shot [DSCN_1423]

7.5.2 Stratigraphic Analysis

This section of the report is a summary of the soil profiles encountered. It aims to identify and ascertain the stratigraphic integrity of the site.

The soil landscape for the study area consists of the Berkshire Park (bp) Soil Profile. The geology of the study area consists of three depositional phases of Tertiary alluvial/colluvial origin. This includes the following sandstone and clay formations, St Mary's overlain by the Rickabys Creek gravel formation, which varies in thickness across the region, and is then topped by the Londonderry Clay.

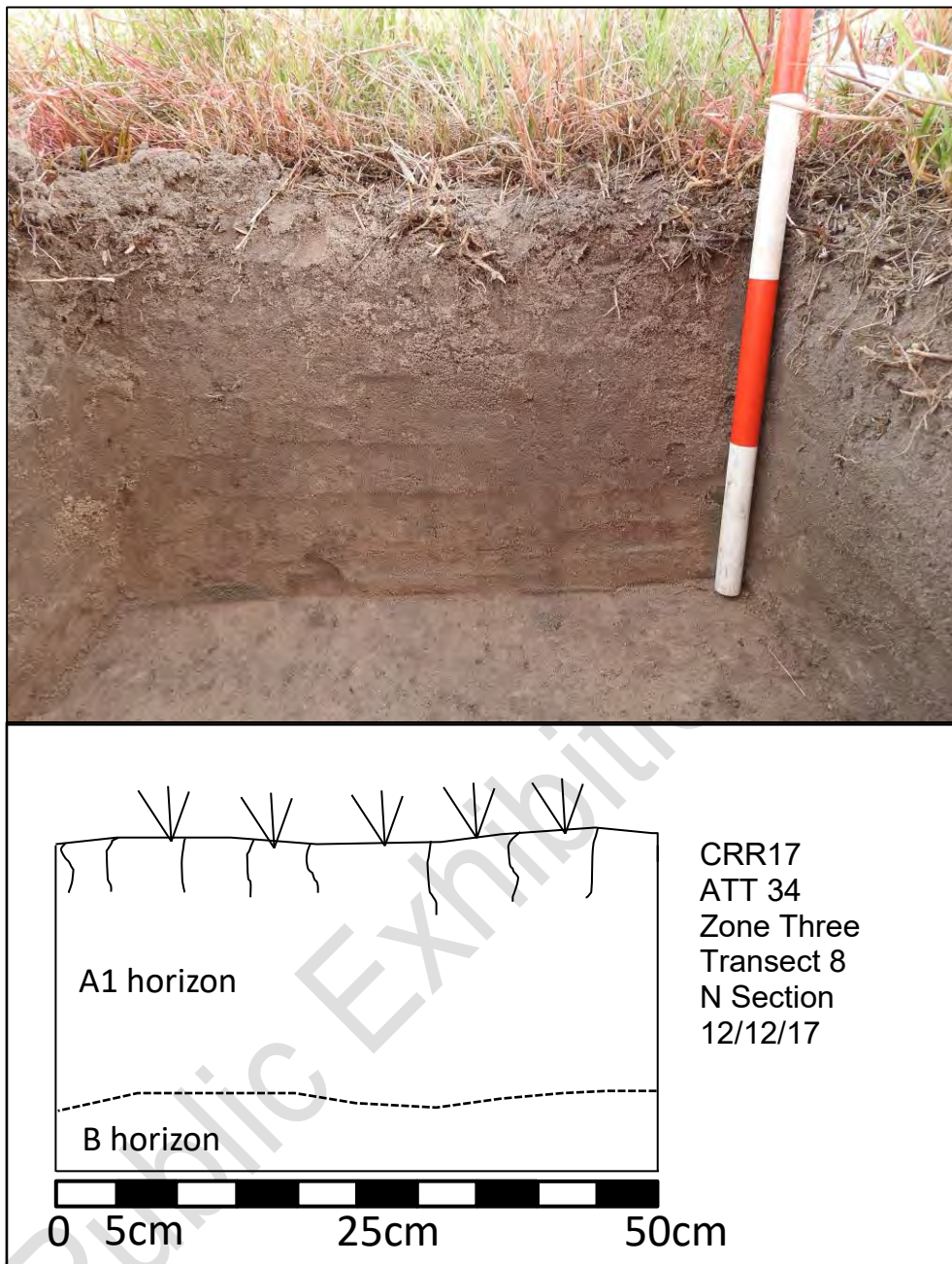
The study area is a floodplain/ flats. The soils observed through testing are consistent with the Berkshire Park soil landscape (bp) in which on flats and small drainage lines to 50cm of sandy clay loam A2 horizon (bp2) can be found overlaying <50cm B horizon made up of sandy clay with iron nodules (bp3).

- bp2 (A2 horizon) reddish brown – yellowish brown sandy to fine sandy clay loam with a porous sandy fabric, however can be hardsetting. no inclusions.
- bp3 (B horizon) brown sandy (slightly silty) clay with porous sandy fabric. It has a weak structure and may contain mottles, usually orange in colour, ironstone nodules are common.

Test trenches remained relatively shallow with a maximum excavation depth of 55cm. Excavation of the test trenches ceased once the sterility of the soil could be confirmed.

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7.5.2.1 Selected Section



7.6 DISCUSSION

A background analysis of the environmental and archaeological context, revealed that parts of the study area were likely to contain Aboriginal archaeological material, however, test excavation revealed no Aboriginal objects.

As the proposed development is intending to impact the entirety of the study area, all landscape units both identified as potentially disturbed and/ or intact were tested as part of the programme of test excavation. All test trenches were found to be sterile and were excavated to a significant depth to confirm their sterility.

The results of this exercise should form the basis of decisions for ongoing management and further action of which further investigation is not warranted however caution is necessary.

7.7 RESEARCH CONTEXT

The research questions are based on the information that has been gathered from previous excavations within and within the vicinity of the study area as well as making an attempt to place the site in a regional context and offer some explanation for the activities that may have taken place within the study area.

7.7.1 Response to research questions

No artefacts were located as a result of the programme of test excavation, therefore the following research questions could not be addressed.

- Are archaeological or cultural materials present in the Holocene Age deposits?
- If so how do these artefact densities compare at a local and regional level?
- Are rare or representative archaeological or cultural materials present?
- Are locally or regionally significant archaeological or cultural material present in the Holocene age deposits?
- Is it possible to assign a temporal framework to any of the excavated material?
- What was the nature and extent of the activity that took place within the study area and how does the study area compare with other sites in the immediate vicinity and similar landforms to the study area?
- What raw materials were chosen for the manufacture of stone implements?
- Is the area suitable to be set aside for preservation of Aboriginal archaeological material?

8.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

The processes of assessing significance for items of cultural heritage value are set out in *The Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance: the Burra Charter* (amended 1999) formulated in 1979 and based largely on the Venice Charter of International Heritage established in 1966. Archaeological sites may be significant according to four criteria, including scientific or archaeological significance, cultural significance to Aboriginal people, representative significance which is the degree to which a site is representative of archaeological and/or cultural type, and value as an educational resource. In New South Wales the nature of significance relates to the scientific, cultural, representative or educational criteria and sites are also assessed on whether they exhibit historic or cultural connections.

The criteria for formulating significance values are set out below:

- 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).
- b) An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the cultural or natural history of NSW (or the cultural or natural history of a local area).
- c) An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area).
- 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.
- 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).
- 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).
- 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 areas' cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments).

8.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

8.1.1 Educational Significance

The educational value of any given location will depend on the importance of any archaeological material located, on its rarity, quality and the contribution this material can have on any educational process (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p. 11).

No archaeological and/or Aboriginal cultural material was located as a result of the programme of test excavation. Therefore, no educational significance can be assigned to the study area.

8.1.2 Scientific Significance

The scientific value of any given location will depend on the importance of the data that can be obtained from any archaeological material located, on its rarity, quality

and on the degree to which this may contribute further substantial information to a scientific research process. (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.11).

No archaeological and/or Aboriginal cultural material was located as a result of the programme of test excavation. Therefore, no scientific significance can be assigned to the study area.

8.1.3 Representative Significance

The representative value of any given location will depend on rarity and quality of any archaeological material located and on the degree to which this representativeness may contribute further substantial information to an educational or scientific research process. (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.11).

No archaeological and/or Aboriginal cultural material was located as a result of the programme of test excavation. Therefore, no representative significance can be assigned to the study area.

8.2 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

As defined in the 'Burra Charter' (ICOMOS, 1999) cultural significance is broken into three parts: aesthetic, historic and scientific value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is a concept which assists in estimating the value of any given place. Places that are likely to be of significance are those which can contain information which may assist with the understanding of the past or enrich the present, and which will be of value to future generations. The meaning of these terms in the context of cultural significance is outlined below. It should be noted that they are not mutually exclusive, (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.12).

8.2.1 Historic Significance

A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of subsequent treatment. (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.11).

No historical significance has been assigned to the study area by any participating Aboriginal Stakeholders.

8.2.2 Scientific Significance

The scientific value of any given location will depend on the importance of the data that can be obtained from any archaeological material located, on its rarity, quality and on the degree to which this may contribute further substantial information to a scientific research process. (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.11).

No scientific significance has been assigned to the study area by any participating Aboriginal Stakeholders.

8.2.3 Aesthetic Significance

Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. Such criteria may include consideration of the form, scale, colour,

texture and material of the fabric; the smells and sounds associated with the place and its use. (Australia ICOMOS, 1999 p.11).

No aesthetic significance has been assigned to the study area by any participating Aboriginal Stakeholders.

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9.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This section aims to evaluate and discuss the potential archaeological impact of the proposed development.

No Aboriginal objects and/or features of cultural and archaeological significance were located during the programme of test excavation. The A2 horizon was found to be present over the site. However, in review of the results and level of sterility of the soil, there is a low- nil possibility of their being artefacts present and works may proceed with caution.

Site No. / Unit	Type of Harm	Degree of Harm	Consequence of Harm
N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

9.1 POTENTIAL HARM TO ABORIGINAL OBJECTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

No Aboriginal objects and/or features of cultural and archaeological significance were located during the programme of test excavation. The A2 horizon was found to be present over the site. However, in review of the results and level of sterility of the soil, there is a low- nil possibility of their being artefacts present and works may proceed with caution.

9.2 ASSESSING HARM

No Aboriginal objects and/or features of cultural and archaeological significance were located during the programme of test excavation. The A2 horizon was found to be present over the site. However, in review of the results and level of sterility of the soil, there is a low- nil possibility of their being artefacts present and works may proceed with caution.

9.3 AVOIDING AND MINIMISING HARM TO ABORIGINAL OBJECTS

No Aboriginal objects and/or features of cultural and archaeological significance were located during the programme of test excavation. The A2 horizon was found to be present over the site. However, in review of the results and level of sterility of the soil, there is a low- nil possibility of their being artefacts present and works may proceed with caution.

9.4 JUSTIFICATION OF HARM TO ABORIGINAL OBJECTS

No Aboriginal objects and/or features of cultural and archaeological significance were located during the programme of test excavation. The A2 horizon was found to be present over the site. However, in review of the results and level of sterility of the soil, there is a low- nil possibility of their being artefacts present and works may proceed with caution.

10.0 MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION

The management recommendations presented in the following section of the report take into account the following:

- Legislation outlined in this report which protects Aboriginal cultural and archaeological objects and places in New South Wales;
- Research and assessment carried out by the author/s of this report;
- Results of previous archaeological assessment and excavation in the vicinity of the study area;
- The concerns and views of the Aboriginal stakeholders listed in this report;
- The impact of the proposed development on any Aboriginal archaeological material that may be present;
- The requirements of the consent authority (Hawkesbury Council).

10.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings from the test excavation indicate the site to be of nil-low archaeological significance, intact A horizon was present onsite, however no Aboriginal objects and/or deposits of cultural significance were located, therefore the development should be allowed to proceed with caution.

The recommendations have been formulated after consultation with RAPs, the proponent and the OEH after issue of the development application plans (Figure 4.1 – Figure 4.6).

- Consultation with the registered Aboriginal stakeholders should continue. Stakeholders have been given the opportunity to comment on the recommendations of this report and these comments are included in this report;
- An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan should be devised as a final document for the study area when State Significant Development (SSD) status (SSD #8614), in order to manage any unexpected Aboriginal archaeological and cultural constraints that may arise;
- Archaeological test excavation in accordance with Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010) revealed no Aboriginal archaeological objects or deposits: the development as shown (Figures 4.1 – 4.6) should be allowed to 'proceed with caution';
- After this and before any ground disturbance takes place all development staff, contractors and workers should be briefed prior to works commencing on site as to their responsibilities regarding any Indigenous archaeological deposits and/or objects that may be located during the following development;

If any Aboriginal archaeological deposits and/or objects are located during the development, then the following should take place;

- All work is to cease in the immediate vicinity of the deposits and/or objects

- The area is to be demarcated
- OEH, a qualified archaeologist and the participating RAPs are to be notified.

Should any human remains be located during the following development;

- All excavation in the immediate vicinity of any objects of deposits shall cease immediately;
- The NSW police and OEH's Enviroline be informed as soon as possible;
- Once it has been established that the human remains are Aboriginal ancestral remains, OEH and the relevant Registered Aboriginal Parties will identify the appropriate course of action.

Additional Recommendations

Copies of the final version of this report should be forwarded to the following organisations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ➤ Mr P. Baigent and M. Walsh from Conrad Gargett; | ➤ Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation; |
| ➤ Deerubbin LALC; | ➤ Widescope Indigenous Group; |
| ➤ Kamilaroi-Yankuntjatjara Working Group; | ➤ Didge Ngunawal Clan; |
| ➤ Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments; | ➤ Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation; |
| ➤ A1 Indigenous Service; | ➤ Darug Aboriginal Land Care; |
| ➤ Amanda Hickey Cultural Services; | ➤ Cullendulla; |
| ➤ Aboriginal Archaeological Services; | ➤ Murramarang; |
| | ➤ Biamanga; |
| | ➤ Goobah Developments |

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Aboriginal/ Aborigine	These terms apply to indigenous Australians throughout time.
Aboriginal Object	A term now used (formerly 'relic') within the NSW <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974</i> to refer to "...any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains."
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit, issued under Part 6 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, where harm to an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place cannot be avoided.
Alluvial	Describes material deposited by, or in transit in flowing water.
AMAC	Archaeological Management and Consulting Group.
Artefact	Any object, usually portable, that has been made or shaped by human hand.
Assemblage	A collection of artefacts found in close proximity with one another often excavated together.
Axe grinding Grooves	Areas on a stone surface where other items such as stone tools, wood or bones have been sharpened.
Basalt	A dark coloured, basic volcanic rock.
Bioturbation	Reworking of sediments through the action of ground dwelling life forms. This can also include soil cracking and root activity.
Broken Flake	A flake fragment which displays only part of the diagnostic features of a complete flake.
BP	Before present (AD1950).
Burial	Sites containing the physical remains of deceased Aboriginal people.
Ceremonial Sites	Places or objects of ceremonial, religious or ritual significance to Aboriginal people.
Chert	A hard siliceous rock suitable for flaking into tools.
DCP	Development Control Plan.
DP	Deposited Plan.
Erosion	Process where particles are detached from rock or soil and transported away principally via water, wind and ice.
Flake	A piece of stone, detached by striking a core with another stone.
Flaking/Knapping	The process of making stone tools by detaching flakes from a piece of stone.
Friable	Easily crumbled or cultivated.
Hard setting	Soil which is compact and hard. It appears to have a pedal structure when dried out.
Heritage Division	Formerly known as the Heritage Branch
Holocene	The period of time since the last retreat of the polar icecaps, commencing approximately 10,000 – 110,000
Intensification	Increased social and economic complexity.

Landscape Unit	An area of land where topography and soils have distinct characteristics, are recognisable, describable by concise statements and capable of being represented on a map.
Laminite	A thinly bedded, fine grained sedimentary rock.
LEP	Local Environment Plan.
LGA	Local Government Area.
Lithics	A term used to describe stone and stone artefacts.
Loam	A medium textured soil of approximate composition of 10- 25% clay, 25-50% silt and 2% sand.
Loose	A soil which is not cohesive.
Matrix	Finer grained fraction, typically a cementing agent within soil or rock in which larger particles are embedded.
Midden	Aboriginal occupation site consisting chiefly of shells, which can also include bone, stone artefacts and other debris.
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (formerly known as the DECCW)
Open Campsite	A surface accumulation of stone artefacts and/ or other artefacts exposed on the ground surface.
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	An area where no surface archaeological remains are visible but where it has been assessed that there is some potential for sub-surface archaeological remains to be present.
Ped	An individual, natural soil aggregate.
Pedal	Describes a soil in which some or all of the soil material occurs in the form of peds in a moist state.
Plastic	Describes soil material which is in a condition which allows it to undergo permanent deformation without appreciable volume change or elastic rebound and without rupture.
Pleistocene	The epoch of geological time starting 1.8 million years ago.
Quartz	Common mineral with naturally sharp edges and poor fracturing properties. Colour ranging from clear, to milky white and pink.
Quartzite	Homogenous medium to coarse grained metamorphosed sandstone.
Rock Painting	Encompassing drawing, paintings or stencils that have been placed on a rock surface usually within a rock shelter.
Rock Engraving	Pictures which have been carved, pecked or abraded into a rock surface, usually sandstone and predominantly open, flat surfaces.
Sandstone	A detrital sedimentary rock with predominantly sand sized particles.
Scarred/ Carved Tree	A tree from which bark has been deliberately removed.
Sclerophyll	Denoting the presence of hard stiff leaves, typically used to classify forest and indicative of drier conditions.
Sedimentation	Deposition of sediment typically by water.
Silcrete	A sedimentary rock comprising of quartz grains in a matrix of fine grained – amorphous silica.
Silt	Fine soil particles in size ranges of 0.02 – 0.002mm.

Slope	A landform element inclined from the horizontal at an angle measured in degrees or as a percentage.
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Subsoil	Subsurface material comprising the B and C horizons of soils with distinct profiles.
Stone Resource Site	A geological feature in the landscape from which raw material for the manufacture of stone tools was obtained.
Texture	The coarseness or fineness of a soil as measured by the behaviour of a moist ball of soil when pressed between the thumb and forefinger.
Topsoil	A part of the soil profile, typically the A1 Horizon, containing material which is usually darker, more fertile and better structured than the underlying layers.
Weathering	The physical and chemical disintegration, alteration and decomposition of rocks and minerals at or near the earth's surface by atmospheric and biological agents.

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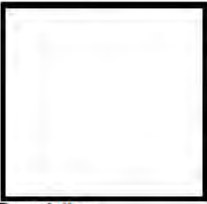
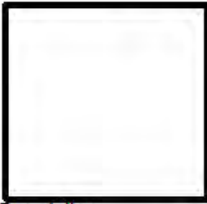
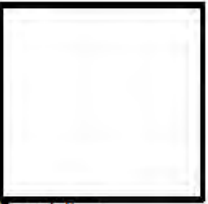
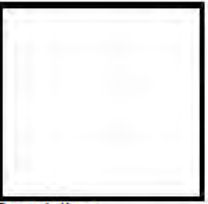
WALKER, P.H.

1975 A Soil Survey of The Cumberland Plain. NSW Department of Agriculture.

Public Exhibition Only

APPENDICES

APPENDIX ONE – SAMPLE TEST TRENCH CONTEXT FORM

AMAC Group Aboriginal Archaeology Recording Form - Test Excavation										CRR17
Excavator		Recorded By		Date:		Area		Pit Number		
Dimensions		Transect (GPS)		Location/Landform		Pit GPS:				
0.5m x 0.5m <input type="checkbox"/>										
1m x 1m <input type="checkbox"/>										
Description of Pit: (e.g Historical Features, Natural Features)										
Spit No.	Spit Depth (mm)	Soil Horizon	Notes eg. Matrix, Colour (mottled), Horizontal boundary (diffuse, sharp, clear), texture (grainy, smooth, plasticine, spongy), Moisture (dry, moist), Compaction (loose, weak, firm,), Inclusions (grass roots, rocks, charcoal etc)				Artefacts (NPW) Count	No. of Buckets		
Additional Notes: (e.g section collapse, contamination etc)							Sample Charcoal (C14)			
							Spit:			
							Sample Soil (TL / OSL)			
							Spit:			
Photographs:										
Image	Notes	Dir	Image	Notes	Dir	Image	Notes	Dir		
Sketches:										
										
Description:		Description:		Description:		Description:				

LEVELS			Pit Number:	
Location of Datum:	Level	RL (=HOI – Lvl)	Level	RL (=HOI – Lvl)
	1.		6.	
Datum:	2.		7.	
Backsight (BS):	3.		8.	
Height Of Instrument (HOI) (= Dat + BS):	4.		9.	
	5.		10.	

