



**TOMINGLEY**

**GOLD OPERATIONS PTY LTD**

(A wholly owned subsidiary of Alkane Resources Ltd)

ABN 53 149 040 371



# Tomingley Gold Extension Project

## Addendum Historic Heritage Assessment Report

### Part 11b

Major Project Application No. PA 09\_0155



Prepared by



*OzArk Environment & Heritage Pty Ltd*

December 2021

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View to the west across the Addendum Study Area.

## **ADDENDUM HISTORIC HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

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### **TOMINGLEY GOLD EXTENSION PROJECT – “DAPPO” WATER SUPPLY BORE AND EASEMENT**

NARROMINE, NSW

DECEMBER 2021

Report prepared by  
OzArk Environment & Heritage  
for Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd



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## ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY

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DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement. A required document for major projects documenting all potential impacts to the environment, including heritage, that may arise due to the development.
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
Heritage Act	<i>Heritage Act 1977</i> . Provides for the protection and conservation of historical places and objects of cultural heritage significance and the registration of such places and objects.
Heritage Council	The Heritage Council makes decisions about the care and protection of heritage places and items that have been identified as being significant to the people of NSW.
Heritage NSW	Government department tasked with ensuring compliance with the Heritage Act. Heritage NSW is part of the Department of Premier & Cabinet.
HHMP	Historic Heritage Management Plan
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
SEARs	Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements issued by the DPIE.
SHR	State Heritage Register. A register of places in NSW that are protected by the Heritage Act.
SSD	State Significant Development

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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OzArk Environment & Heritage (OzArk) has been engaged by RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited on behalf of Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd (the Applicant) to complete an *Addendum Historic Heritage Assessment Report* (HHAR) for the proposed “Dappo” water supply bore and easement (the Addendum Project) associated with the Tomingley Gold Extension Project.

The Addendum Study Area is located to the southeast of the township of Narromine at Lot 235 DP 755131 on the “Dappo” property within the Narromine Local Government Area.

This assessment has been completed as an addendum to the *Historic Heritage Assessment Report: Tomingley Gold Extension Project, Tomingley, NSW* (the HHAR; OzArk 2021a) which reports on the results of the assessments completed for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project.

The HHAR and Addendum HHAR will contribute to the *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) being prepared by RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited to accompany an application for development consent under Division 4.1 and 4.7 of Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Desktop database searches completed prior to the survey showed that no listed historic heritage items are located within or near to the Addendum Study Area.

No historic heritage items were identified within the Addendum Study Area during the field survey on 10 December 2021.

Recommendations concerning the historic values within Addendum Study Area are as follows.

1. Following development consent, the Applicant would develop a *Historic Heritage Management Plan* (HHMP) for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project which would be agreed to by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) (with input from Heritage NSW). The HHMP would also include an unanticipated finds protocol and unanticipated skeletal remains protocol. An example of an unanticipated finds protocol for historic items and/or human skeletal materials is provided in **Section 5.3.1**.
2. All land-disturbing activities must be confined within the assessed Addendum Study Area. Should the parameters of the proposed work extend beyond this, then further archaeological assessment may be required.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE ADDENDUM PROJECT

OzArk Environment & Heritage (OzArk) has been engaged by RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited on behalf of Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd (the Applicant) to complete an *Addendum Historic Heritage Assessment Report* (Addendum HHAR) for the proposed “Dappo” water supply bore and easement (the Addendum Project) associated with the Tomingley Gold Extension Project.

The Addendum Study Area is located approximately 4.9 kilometres (km) to the southeast of the township of Narromine and 32 km north of the village of Tomingley in central western NSW (**Figure 1-1**).

This assessment has been completed as an addendum to the *Historic Heritage Assessment Report: Tomingley Gold Extension Project, Tomingley, NSW* (OzArk 2021a) which reports on the results of the assessments completed for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project.

The HHAR and Addendum HHAR will contribute to the *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) being prepared by RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited to accompany an application for development consent under Division 4.1 and 4.7 of Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

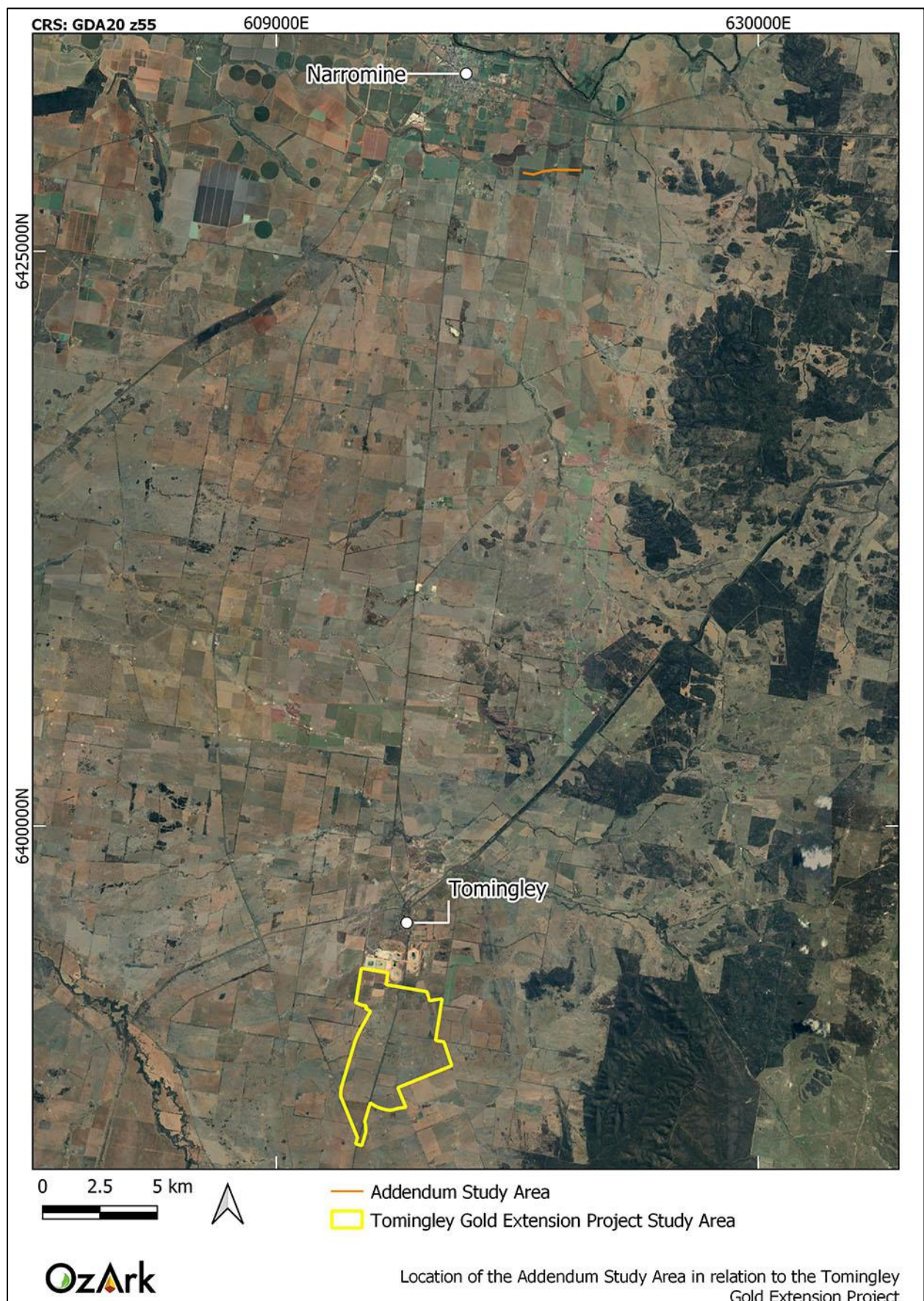
## 1.2 BACKGROUND

OzArk (2021a) completed the HHAR for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project, located approximately 35 km to the south of the Addendum Study Area (**Figure 1-1**).

Five historic heritage items were identified during the survey including the village of McPhail, the McPhail Mine, and the Rosewood Stud, the Eulinda Park homestead, and the Old Thornycroft ruins.

Following the completion of the HHAR, the Applicant identified that the Addendum Project (detailed in **Section 1.3**) was required as part of the Tomingley Gold Extension Project application. Given the Addendum Study Area is distant from the Tomingley Gold Extension Project Study Area, it was considered that an Addendum ACHAR was appropriate to assess the proposed impacts to the Addendum Study Area.

**Figure 1-1: Map showing the location of the Addendum Study Area in relation to the Tomingley Gold Extension Project Area.**



### 1.3 PROPOSED WORK

The Applicant currently operates a water supply bore on the “Woodlands” property (**Figure 1-2**). A Water Access Licence (WAL) 20270 permits extraction of up to 1,000 MLpa from that bore. Extracted water is pumped via an approved water supply pipeline to the TGO Mine Site. That pipeline and water supply is also used to supplement the water supply for Tomingley village.

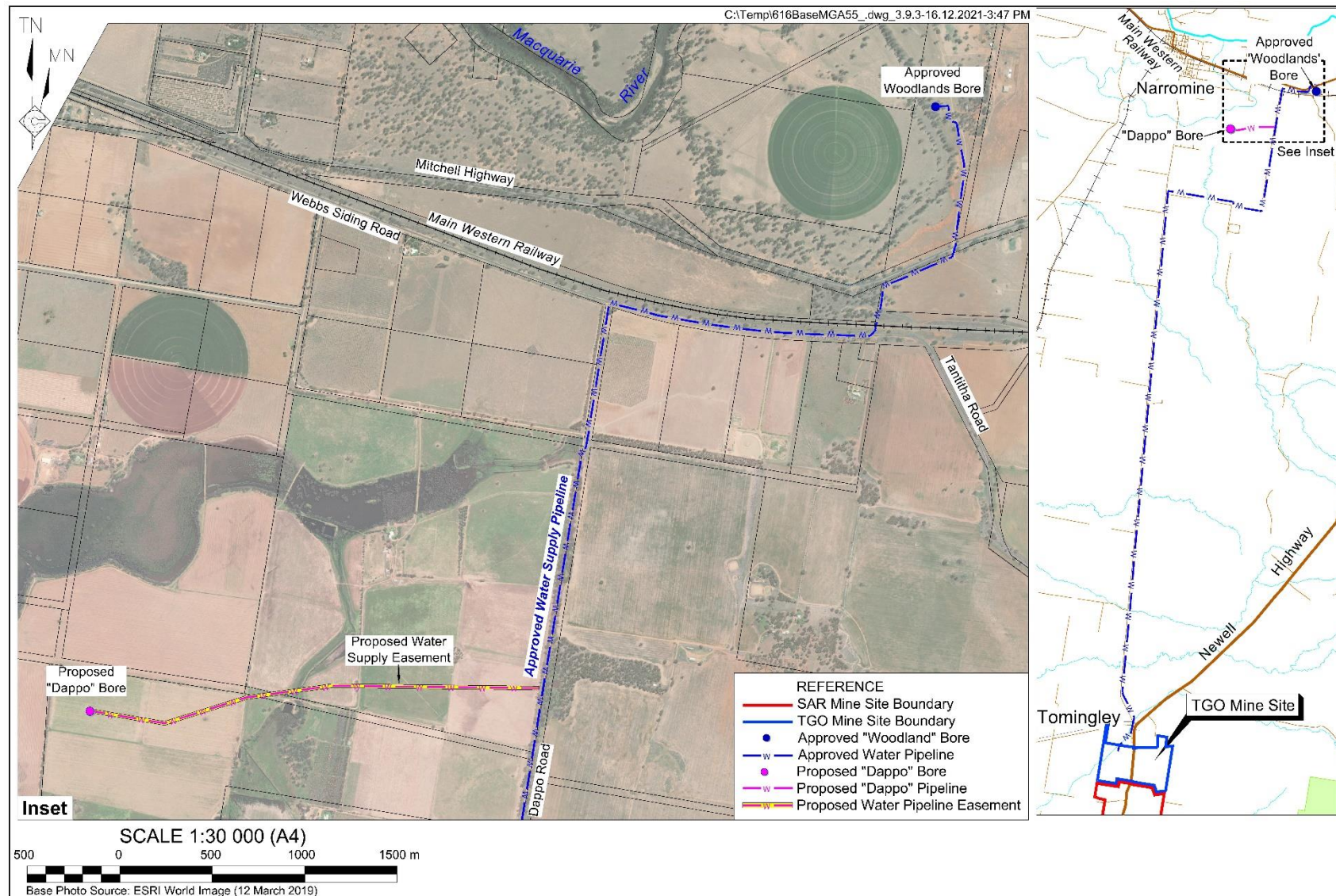
The Site Water Balance identifies that under certain circumstances, more than 1,000 MLpa of water may be required. As a result, the Applicant proposes to replace an existing dilapidated bore on the “Dappo” property (Lot 235 DP 755131) (**Figure 1-2**). The replacement bore would:

- extract water from the same groundwater source and the same depth as the existing bore
- be within 20m of the existing bore
- have an internal diameter the same as the existing bore.

In addition, the Applicant proposes to construct and operate an approximately 2.4 km buried pipeline from the replacement bore to the existing water supply pipeline (**Figure 1-2**). The proposed pipeline would be joined the approved pipeline which has adequate capacity to transfer the combined 1,400 MLpa of water from the “Woodlands” and “Dappo” bores to the TGO Mine Site.



Figure 1-2: Proposed work showing impact footprint.



## 1.4 ADDENDUM STUDY AREA

The Addendum Study Area is located to the southeast of the township of Narromine at Lot 235 DP 755131 on the “Dappo” property. The Addendum Study Area is approximately 2.4 km in length and has a width of 20 metres (m) (**Figure 1-3**).

**Figure 1-3: Aerial showing the Addendum Study Area.**





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## 2 ASSESSMENT INTRODUCTION

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### 2.1 RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Cultural heritage is managed by several state and national Acts. Baseline principles for the conservation of heritage places and relics can be found in the *Burra Charter* (Burra Charter 2013). The *Burra Charter* has become the standard of best practice in the conservation of heritage places in Australia, and heritage organisations and local government authorities have incorporated the inherent principles and logic into guidelines and other conservation planning documents. The *Burra Charter* generally advocates a cautious approach to changing places of heritage significance. This conservative notion embodies the basic premise behind legislation designed to protect our heritage, which operates primarily at a state level.

Several Acts of parliament provide for the protection of heritage at various levels of government.

#### 2.1.1 Commonwealth legislation

##### ***Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*** (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act, administered by the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, provides a framework to protect nationally significant flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places. The EPBC Act establishes both a National Heritage List and Commonwealth Heritage List of protected places. These lists may include Aboriginal cultural sites or sites in which Aboriginal people have interests. The assessment and permitting processes of the EPBC Act are triggered when a proposed activity or development could potentially have an impact on one of the matters of national environment significance listed by the Act. Ministerial approval is required under the EPBC Act for proposals involving significant impacts to National/Commonwealth heritage places.

##### Applicability to the Project

It is noted there are no Commonwealth or National heritage listed places within the Addendum Study Area and as such, the heritage provisions of the EPBC Act and other Commonwealth Acts do not apply (refer to **Section 3.2.1**).

#### 2.1.2 State legislation

##### ***Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*** (EP&A Act)

The EP&A Act established requirements relating to land use and planning. The framework governing environmental and heritage assessment in NSW is contained within Part 4 of the EP&A Act:

- Part 4: Local government development assessments, including heritage. May include schedules of heritage items.

- Division 4.7: Approvals process for state significant development.

#### Applicability to the Project

As the Project is an SSD, Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act (formerly Section 89J) applies and provides a defence for any investigative or other activities that are required to be carried out for the purpose of complying with any environmental assessment requirements (i.e. Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements [SEARs]: see below).

Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act also notes that an approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under Section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) are not required. It is normally a condition of approval for SSD projects that historic heritage be managed under a *Historic Heritage Management Plan* (HHMP).

#### **Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements**

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Project (SSD-9176045) was issued on 5 July 2021.

The SEARs recognise historic heritage as a key issue to be examined in the EIS and state:

*"an assessment of the likely Aboriginal and historic heritage (cultural and archaeological) impacts of the development, including adequate consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders having regard to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation requirements (DECCW, 2010), and documented in an Aboriginal Cultural heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) including the significance of cultural heritage values for Aboriginal people who have cultural association with the land.*

*an assessment of the impact on historic heritage in accordance with the NSW Heritage Manual, including heritage conservation areas and State and local heritage items within and near the site, and detailed mitigation measures to offset potential impacts on heritages values."*

#### Applicability to the Project

This Addendum HHAR has been prepared in accordance with the *NSW Heritage Manual* (Heritage Office 1996) to address the SEARs and agency requirements regarding historic heritage.

Aboriginal cultural heritage for the Project is addressed in *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: Tomingley Gold Extension Project, Tomingley NSW* (OzArk 2021b) and *Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: Tomingley Gold Extension Project – "Dappo" Water Supply Bore and Easement, Narromine, NSW* (OzArk 2021c).

#### **Heritage Act 1977** (Heritage Act)

The *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) is applicable to the current assessment. This Act established the Heritage Council of NSW. The Heritage Council's role is to advise the government on the protection of heritage assets, make listing recommendations to the Minister in relation to

the SHR, and assess/approve/decline proposals involving modification to heritage items or places listed on the SHR. Most proposals involving modification are assessed under Section 60 of the Heritage Act.

Automatic protection is afforded to 'relics', defined as *'any deposit or material evidence relating to the settlement of the area that comprised New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and which holds state or local significance'* (note: formerly the Act protected any 'relic' that was more than 50 years old. In 2009 the age determination was dropped from the Act and now relics are protected according to their heritage significance assessment rather than purely on their age). Excavation of land on which it is known or where there is reasonable cause to suspect that 'relics' will be exposed, moved, destroyed, discovered or damaged is prohibited unless ordered under an excavation permit.

#### Applicability to the Project

There are no SHR listed items within, or near to, the Addendum Study Area (refer to **Section 3.2.1**). Items of local heritage significance that are normally listed in LEPs are also protected under the Heritage Act.

### **2.1.3 Local legislation**

#### ***Local Environmental Plans***

The Addendum Study Area is within areas administered by the Narromine Shire Council LEP 2011.

The LEP includes a schedule of heritage conservation areas and items that require either development consent or exemptions for projects that may impact conservation outcomes (Section 5.10 of the LEP). The objectives set out in Section 5.10 of the LEP states:

- (a) to conserve the environmental heritage of an LGA,
- (b) to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and heritage conservation areas, including associated fabric, settings and views,
- (c) to conserve archaeological sites,
- (d) to conserve Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance.

Section 5.10(3)(a) (i) and (ii) set out the circumstances when a Development Application is not required when there is an impact to heritage items. Exemptions to consent are related to works that are of a minor nature or works that will not adversely impact the heritage values of a place.

#### Applicability to the Project

There are no items listed on the Narromine LEP within, or near to, the Addendum Study Area (refer to **Section 3.2.1**).

## **2.2 HISTORIC HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**

The current assessment will apply the Heritage Council's *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice* (Heritage Council 2006) in the completion of a historical heritage assessment, including field investigations, to meet the following objectives:

**Objective One:** To identify whether historical heritage items or archaeological deposits are likely to be present within the Addendum Study Area.

**Objective Two:** To assess the significance of any recorded historical heritage items or potential deposits.

**Objective Three:** Determine whether the Project would likely cause harm to recorded historical heritage items or potential deposits.

**Objective Four:** Provide management recommendations and options for mitigating impacts.

## **2.3 OZARK PERSONNEL**

### **2.3.1 Field assessment**

The fieldwork component of the historic heritage assessment was undertaken by Dr Jodie Benton (OzArk Director, BA [Hons] and PhD [Archaeology] University of Sydney) on 8 November 2021 and 10 December 2021.

### **2.3.2 Reporting**

This assessment report was compiled by:

- Report author: Stephanie Rusden (OzArk Senior Archaeologist, BSc, University of Wollongong, BA, University of New England).
- Contributor: Brendan Fisher (OzArk Project Archaeologist, BA Archaeology, The University of Sydney).

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## **3 HISTORIC HERITAGE ASSESSMENT: BACKGROUND**

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### **3.1 BRIEF HISTORY OF NARROMINE AND SURROUNDS**

#### **3.1.1 Colonial settlement of the region**

Prior to European settlement, the area of Narromine and its surrounding region was occupied by the Wiradjuri people. In 1818, explorer John Oxley passed through the district during his exploration of the Macquarie River. Soon after, in the 1830s, squatters entered the area and began settlement along the Macquarie River, including William Charles Wentworth, the explorer who crossed the Blue Mountains in 1813 and established 'Narromine' station in 1835.

The region became more accessible in 1882 with the arrival of the railway in Narromine and Trangie. Prior to that, Trangie started out as station called 'Weemaabah' which was established in the 1830s and used for stock grazing. Cobb and Co coaches often passed through Weemaabah on the route between Dubbo to Bourke and stopped at the Swinging Gate Hotel up-river from the property. In 1866, Walker and Cornish established a property named Trangie, an Aboriginal word said to mean 'quick'.

In 1893, William O'Neill, one of the first people to grow wheat for grain in Narromine, raised the possibility of irrigation in the Narromine region (NLHG 2004, Umwelt 2017). O'Neill was ahead of his time, since a severe drought began in 1895 which continued to 1903 and caused parts of the Macquarie River to dry up. It was not until the completion of Burrendong Dam in 1969 which provided a stable and consistent water source that irrigation in the Narromine region became more prevalent. Burrendong Dam provided irrigation water for downstream landholders and agriculturalists, who used the water to supplement existing supplies and increase the holding capacity of the riverside holdings or to enable growth of high value crops (Kass 2003). In particular, the completion of Burrendong Dam allowed farmers to complete the Buddah Lake Irrigation Scheme in 1969, the Narromine/Trangie scheme in 1971 and the Trangie/Nevertire scheme in 1973. With the irrigation schemes, crops such as cotton, grain sorghum, canola, wheat, Lucerne, oats and vegetables were more secure (NLHG 2004).

### **3.2 LOCAL CONTEXT**

#### **3.2.1 Desktop database searches conducted**

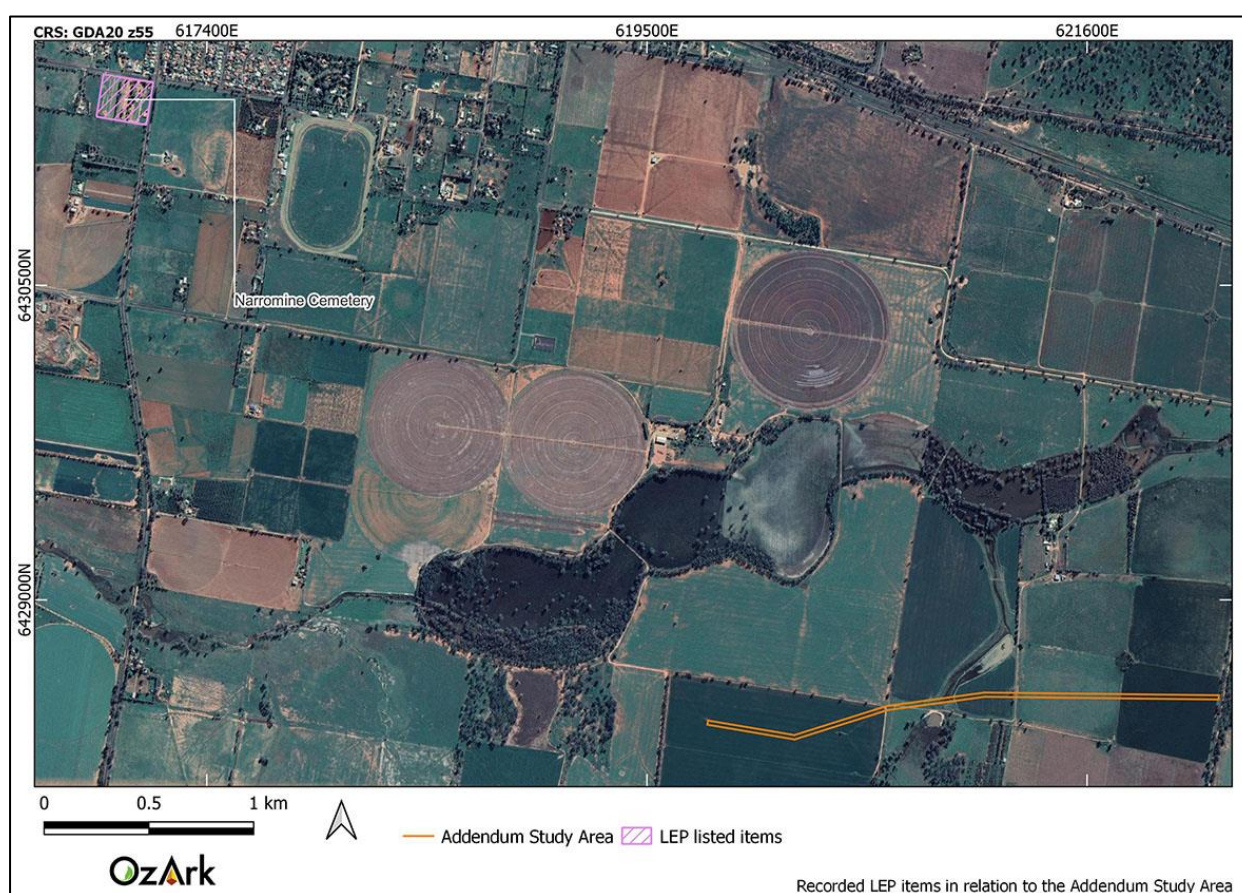
A desktop search was conducted on the following databases to identify any potential previously recorded heritage within the Addendum Study Area. The results of this search are summarised in **Table 3-1**.

**Table 3-1: Historic heritage: desktop-database search results.**

Name of Database Searched	Date of Search	Type of Search	Comment
National and Commonwealth Heritage Listings	27/10/21	Narromine LGA	No places listed on either the National or Commonwealth heritage lists are located within the Addendum Study Area.
SHR	27/10/2021	Narromine LGA	No items on the SHR are located within or near the Addendum Study Area.
Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register	27/10/2021	Narromine LGA	No items on the Section 170 Register are located within or near the Addendum Study Area.
LEP	27/10/2020	Narromine LEP of 2011	No items on the LEP are located within or near the Addendum Study Area.

A search of the Heritage Council of NSW administered heritage databases and the Narromine LEP returned no records for historical heritage sites within, or near to the Addendum Study Area.

The closest listed items to the Addendum Study Area listed on Schedule 5 of the Narromine LEP is the 'Narromine Cemetery' (Item I20) located 3.8 km to the northeast (**Figure 3-1**).

**Figure 3-1: Location of the LEP listed items in relation to the Addendum Study Area.**



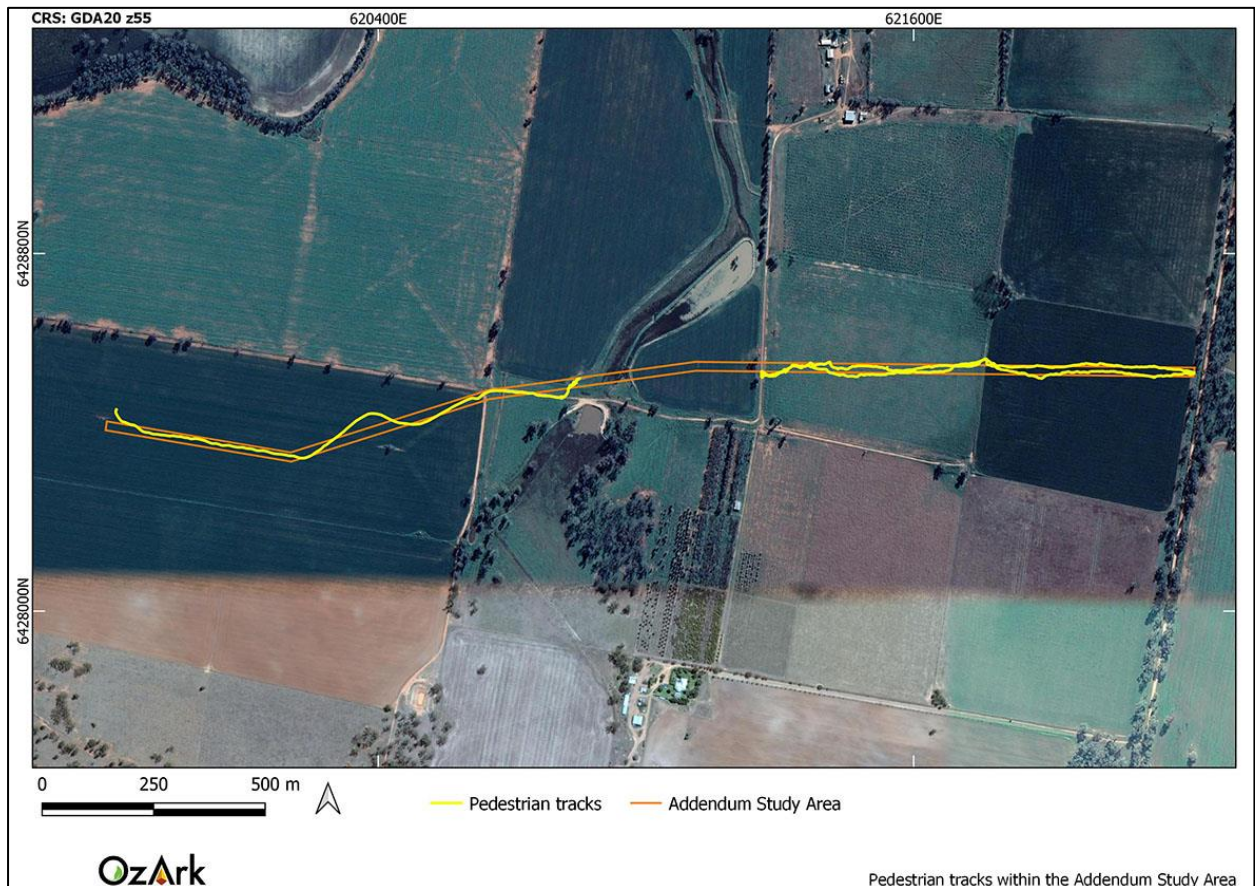
## 4 RESULTS OF HISTORIC HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 SURVEY AND FIELD METHODS

Standard archaeological field survey and recording methods were employed (Burke and Smith 2004). The historic heritage assessment occurred concurrently with the Aboriginal heritage survey (OzArk 2021c)

The majority of the 2.4 km alignment of the Addendum Study Area was surveyed on foot by an OzArk Archaeologist (**Figure 4-1**).



**Figure 4-1: Pedestrian coverage of the Addendum Study Area.**



### 4.2 PROJECT CONSTRAINTS

The main constraint during the survey was very low levels of exposure (**Figure 4-2**). It was this extremely dense ground cover and standing water that resulted in a middle portion of the Addendum Study Area not being surveyed. The dense ground cover is attributed to large amounts of rainfall in the region throughout 2020 and 2021. In addition, some paddocks across the Addendum Study Area are under crop.

**Figure 4-2: View of the Addendum Study Area.**

	
<p>1. View to the west across the Addendum Study Area.</p>	<p>2. View to the west across the Addendum Study Area showing the primary land use.</p>

### 4.3 SURVEY RESULTS

No historic heritage items or areas of potential with historic archaeological deposits were identified during the survey of the Addendum Study Area. The absence of historic heritage items within the Addendum Study Area is unsurprising given the historic land use and the small size of the Addendum Study Area.

### 4.4 LIKELY IMPACTS TO HISTORIC HERITAGE FROM THE PROJECT

There are no impacts to historic heritage as a result of the Project.

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## **5 MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION**

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### **5.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HISTORIC ITEMS**

Appropriate management of heritage items is primarily determined based on their assessed significance as well as the likely impacts of the proposed development.

In terms of best practice and desired outcomes, avoiding impact to any historical item is a preferred outcome, however, where a historical site has been assessed as having no heritage value, impacts to these items does not require any legislated mitigation.

### **5.2 MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION OF RECORDED HISTORIC ITEMS**

As no items or sites of historic heritage were recorded, no management or mitigation is required within the Addendum Study Area.

### **5.3 UNANTICIPATED FINDS PROTOCOL**

Should consent for the Project be gained, a HHMP would be developed in consultation with the DPIE. The HHMP would contain procedures should a new discovery of significant historic artefacts or items be made during construction or operation of the Project.

The procedure in **Section 5.3.1** is an example of an unanticipated finds protocol that could be incorporated into the HHMP.

#### **5.3.1 Unanticipated finds protocol example**

A historic artefact is anything which is the result of past activity not related to the Aboriginal occupation of the area. This includes pottery, wood, glass, and metal objects, as well as the built remains of structures, sometimes heavily ruined.

Heritage significance of historic items is assessed by suitably qualified specialists who place the item or site in context and determine its role in aiding the community's understanding of the local area, or their wider role in being an exemplar of state or even national historic themes.

The following protocol should be followed if previously unrecorded or unanticipated historic objects are encountered:

1. All ground surface disturbance in the area of the finds should cease immediately, then:
  - a) The discoverer of the find(s) will notify machinery operators in the immediate vicinity of the find(s) so that work can be halted
  - b) The site supervisor will be informed of the find(s).
2. If finds are suspected to be human skeletal remains, then NSW Police must be contacted as a matter of priority.

3. If there is substantial doubt regarding the historic significance for the finds, then gain a qualified opinion from an archaeologist as soon as possible. This can circumvent proceeding further along the protocol for items which turn out not to be significant. If a quick opinion cannot be gained, or the identification is that the item is likely to be significant, then proceed to the next step.
4. Notify Heritage NSW as soon as practical on (02) 9873 8500 providing any details of the historic find and its location.
5. If in the view of the heritage specialist or Heritage NSW that the finds appear not to be significant, work may recommence without further investigation. Keep a copy of all correspondence for future reference.
6. If in the view of the heritage specialist or Heritage NSW that the finds appear to be significant, facilitate the recording and assessment of the finds by a suitably qualified heritage specialist. Such a study should include the development of appropriate management strategies.
7. If the find(s) are determined to be significant historic items (i.e. of local or state significance), any re-commencement of ground surface disturbance may only resume following compliance with any legal requirements and gaining written approval from Heritage NSW.

## 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

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The following recommendations are made based on the potential impacts associated with the Project and with regard to:

- Legal requirements under the terms of the Heritage Act
- Guidelines presented in the *Burra Charter*
- The findings of the current assessment
- The interests of the local community.

Recommendations concerning the historic values within Addendum Study Area are as follows.

1. Following development consent, the Applicant would develop a HHMP for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project which would be agreed to by the DPIE (with input from Heritage NSW). The HHMP would also include an unanticipated finds protocol and unanticipated skeletal remains protocol. An example of an unanticipated finds protocol for historic items and/or human skeletal materials is provided in **Section 5.3.1**.
2. All land-disturbing activities must be confined within the Addendum Study Area. Should the parameters of the proposed work extend beyond this, then further archaeological assessment may be required.

## REFERENCES

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| Umwelt 2017        | Umwelt. 2017. <i>Inland Rail Parkes to Narromine: Non-Aboriginal heritage Impact Statement</i> . Report to ARTC.   |