

1&2 Murray Rose Avenue, Olympic Park

Historical Archaeological Assessment

Report to Austino Property Group

Auburn Local Government Area

October 2018



 artefact

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Austino Property Group are proposing a residential development at 1&2 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park. The proposed development has been assessed as a State Significant Development, and Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) have been issued for the site (SSD_9403). The requirements for heritage are as follows:

- Prepare a Historical Archaeological Assessment (HAA) detailing the likely impacts and outline the proposed management and mitigation measures to protect and preserve the non-Aboriginal archaeology
- Prepare a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) addressing impacts of the proposed development on any state or local heritage Items in the vicinity
- Prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) identifying any cultural heritage values, impacts and mitigation measures.

Artefact Heritage have been engaged by Austino Property Group to undertake a HAA for the proposed development. This report will identify any likely impacts to potential non-Aboriginal (historic) archaeology and proposed management and mitigation measures. A HIS and ACHAR will be provided in separate reports to meet the remaining heritage requirements of SSD_9403.

Overview of findings

- The study area has been largely used for agricultural and pastoral purposes since the nineteenth century until the late-twentieth century
- There is a high level of landform modification in the study area from late twentieth century contamination fills and subsequent urban redevelopment for Sydney Olympic Park
- There is nil-low potential for historical archaeological 'relics' to be located within the study area.

Recommendations

- The proposed works are not expected to impact archaeological relics and therefore no further archaeological investigation is required
- An Unexpected Finds Procedure would be implemented throughout the duration of the proposed development. If potential archaeological relics are unexpectedly discovered during excavation, work must cease in the affected area and an archaeologist engaged to assess the find. Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment and possibly an excavation permit may be required prior to the recommencement of excavation in the affected area. The Heritage Council would be notified in writing in accordance with Section 146 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 if it was confirmed that relics had been identified
- If human remains, or suspected human remains, are found during the works, all work in the vicinity must cease, the site should be secured, and the NSW Police and Heritage Council must be notified.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Austino Property Group are proposing a residential development at 1&2 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park. The proposed development has been assessed as a State Significant Development, and SEARs have been issued for the site (SSD_9403). The requirements for heritage are as follows:

- Prepare a HAA detailing the likely impacts and outline the proposed management and mitigation measures to protect and preserve the non-Aboriginal archaeology
- Prepare a HIS addressing impacts of the proposed development on any state or local heritage items in the vicinity
- Prepare an ACHAR identifying any cultural heritage values, impacts and mitigation measures.

Artefact Heritage have been engaged by Austino Property Group to undertake the HAA for the proposed development. This report will identify any likely impacts to potential historic archaeology and propose management and mitigation measures. A HIS and ACHAR will be provided in separate reports to meet the remaining heritage requirements of SSD_9403.

1.2 Overview of the proposal

1 Murray Rose Avenue

The proposed development involves the construction of a 15-storey residential development including three (3) basement levels with a bulk excavation depth of approximately 1.85 m.

2 Murray Rose Avenue

The proposed development includes the construction of a 15-storey residential development with two (2) basement levels with a bulk excavation depth of approximately 0.4 m.

The proposed development design is shown in Figure 1.2.

1.3 The study area

The study area consists of 1 Murray Rose Avenue (Lot 1/DP1185060) and 2 Murray Rose Avenue (Lot 2/DP1185060), located in the suburb of Sydney Olympic Park (Figure 1.1). The study area is located in the Local Government Area (LGA) of Auburn and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC). The study area is within the Parish of St John and County of Cumberland.

1.4 Report methodology

This report investigates the historical archaeological potential of the study area. It provides an assessment potential and outlines any management and mitigation measures that may be required to protect and preserve potential archaeological resources. This assessment is being conducted to satisfy requirements outlined in SSD_9403 for the proposal under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Projects) 2005* [SEPP].

It is prepared in accordance with the:

- NSW Heritage Division's guidelines of *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics* (2009).
- Statutory planning controls for the study area under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Projects) 2005*.
- Statutory design controls for the study area under the *Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review)*, which falls under the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001*.

1.5 Limitations

This report provides an assessment of historical archaeological resources only. A built heritage impact assessment and an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment has been provided in separate reports.

1.6 Authorship

This report has been authored by Ryan Taddeucci (Senior Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage). Jenny Winnett (Principal, Artefact Heritage) provided management input and review.

Figure 1.1: Location of the study area.



Document Path: C:\Users\GIS\Desktop\GIS\GIS_Mapping\18177_Olympic_Park\MXD\Study_area.mxd

Figure 1.2: Proposed plans



2.0 STATUTORY CONTEXT

2.1 Introduction

There are several items of State legislation that are relevant to the study area. A summary of these Acts and the implications for the proposed development follow. Under SSD provisions, consent is not needed

2.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) is administered by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and provides planning controls and requirements for environmental assessment in the development approval process. This Act has three main parts of direct relevance to Aboriginal cultural heritage. Namely, Part 3 which governs the preparation of planning instruments, Part 4 which relates to development assessment process for local government (consent) authorities and Part 5 which relates to activity approvals by governing (determining) authorities.

Planning decisions within LGAs are guided by Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and Regional Environmental Plans (REPs). Each LGA is required to develop and maintain an LEP that includes Aboriginal and historical heritage items which are protected under the EP&A Act 1979 and the *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act). The study area is located in the Auburn LGA.

The proposal will be assessed under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the EP&A Act, which establishes an assessment and approval regime for State Significant Development (SSD). Part 4, Division 4.1 applies to development that is declared to be SSD by a State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). Section 89J of the EP&A Act specifies that approvals or permits under Part 4 or Section 139 of the Heritage Act are not required for approved SSD projects. However, approval from the Minister of Planning and Environment is required and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be submitted. The EIS must address the impact of the project on heritage items, through the framework of existing heritage legislation including the Heritage Act, and the local LEPs and Development Control Plans (DCPs).

Auburn City Council LEP 2010

The study area falls within the Auburn LEP 2010. The Auburn LEP aims to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and conservation areas, including associated fabric, setting and views; and to protect archaeological sites. The LEP stipulates development controls in relation to developments proposed on or near heritage listed properties, archaeological sites, or Aboriginal places of heritage significance.

There are no heritage items on the Auburn LEP 2010 that are located within the study area.

2.3 State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Development) [SEPP] 2005

The *State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Development) [SEPP] 2005* aims to facilitate the development, redevelopment or protection of important urban, coastal and regional sites of economic, environmental or social significance to the State. This is in order to facilitate the orderly use, development or conservation of those State significant sites for the benefit of the State. It facilitates service delivery outcomes for a range of public services and to provide for the development of major sites for a public purpose or redevelopment of major sites no longer appropriate or suitable for public purposes.

Development projects which are governed by SEPP legislation require Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) to be issued by the legislative authority in order for consent on major works to proceed. The Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park project has been issued with two heritage-related SEARs requirements, one of which this archaeological assessment is aimed to fulfil.

Heritage provisions under SEPP legislation require developmental consent for activities that demolish, move, alter or excavate a heritage item or known archaeological site. It also requires that potential impacts from development projects to heritage items be assessed.

2.4 Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001

The *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act* (SOPAA) 2001 aims to ensure that Sydney Olympic Park becomes an active and vibrant centre within metropolitan Sydney, and premium destination for cultural, entertainment, recreation and sporting events. It ensures that any new development carried out in the designated Sydney Olympic Park precinct accords with best practice accessibility, environmental and town planning standards. Provisions outlined in the SOPAA and subordinate statutory documents applies to the area of Sydney Olympic Park, shown in Figure 2.1 below.

Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review)

Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (SOPMP) (2018 Review) is a statutory document under the SOPAA 2001 which provides detailed design controls for development proposals. In relation to heritage, the SOPMP (2018 Review) states that development should:

Conserve heritage items, the Abattoir Heritage Conservation Area, Showground Road, the Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park and significant trees
(SOPMP (2018 Review) 2018: 34).

The SOPMP (2018 Review) divides the Sydney Olympic Park into a number of precincts with specific development controls. The study area is located in the Parkview Precinct (Figure 2.2). The SOPMP (2018 Review) outlines no special controls in regard to heritage for development in this precinct.

Figure 2.1: Boundary of Sydney Olympic Park, study area in blue

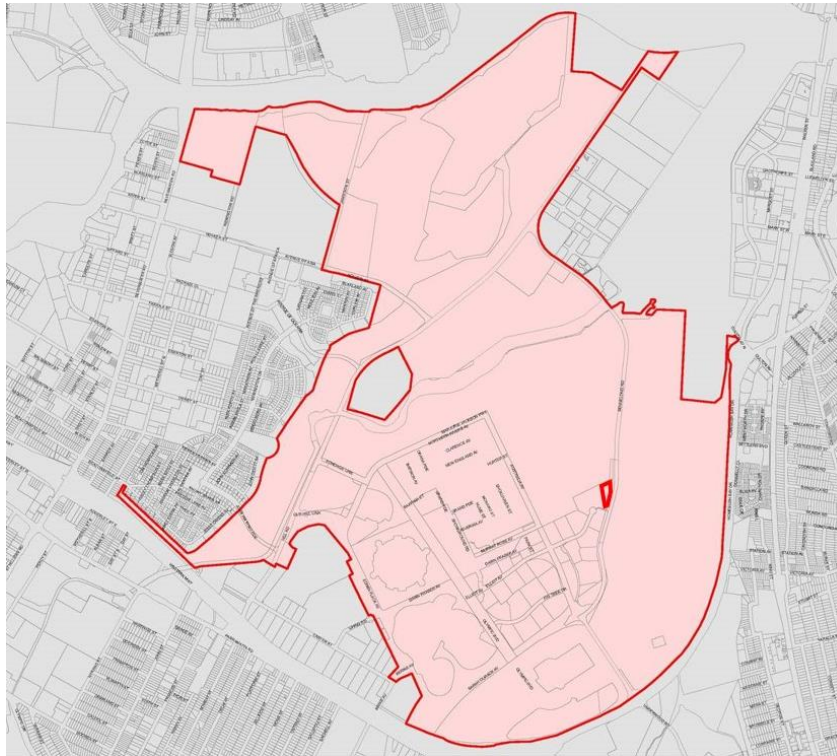


Figure 2.2: Parkview Precinct area in Sydney Olympic Park



2.5 Heritage Act 1977

The NSW *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) provides protection for items of 'environmental heritage' in NSW. 'Environmental heritage' includes places, buildings, works, relics, movable objects or precincts

considered significant based on historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic values. Items considered to be significant to the State are listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR) and cannot be demolished, altered, moved or damaged, or their significance altered without approval from the Heritage Council of NSW.

2.5.1 The 2009 'Relics provisions'

The Heritage Act also provides protection for 'relics', which includes archaeological material or deposits. According to Section 139 (Division 9: Section 139, 140-146):

- (1) A person must not disturb or excavate any land knowingly or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.
- (2) A person must not disturb or excavate any land on which the person has discovered or exposed a relic except in accordance with an excavation permit.
- (3) This section does not apply to a relic that is subject to an interim heritage order made by the Minister or a listing on the State Heritage Register.
- (4) The Heritage Council may by order published in the Gazette create exceptions to this section, either unconditionally or subject to conditions, in respect of any of the following:
 - a. Any relic of a specified kind or description,
 - b. Any disturbance of excavation of a specified kind or description,
 - c. Any disturbance or excavation of land in a specified location or having specified features or attributes,
 - d. Any disturbance or excavation of land in respect of which an archaeological assessment approved by the Heritage Council indicates that there is little likelihood of there being any relics in the land.

Section 4 (1) of the Heritage Act (as amended in 2009) defines a relic as:

...any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and is of State or local heritage significance

A relic has been further defined as:

Relevant case law and the general principles of statutory interpretation strongly indicate that a 'relic' is properly regarded as an object or chattel. A relic can, in some circumstances, become part of the land be regarded as a fixture (a chattel that becomes permanently affixed to land).¹

Excavation permits are issued by the Heritage Council of NSW, or its Delegate, under Section 140 of the Heritage Act for relics not listed on the SHR or under Section 60 for relics listed on the SHR. An application for an excavation permit must be supported by an Archaeological Research Design and Archaeological Assessment prepared in accordance with the NSW Heritage Division archaeological

¹ *Assessing Significance for Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'*, Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, 2009:7.

guidelines. Minor works that will have a minimal impact on archaeological relics may be granted an exception under Section 139 (4) or an exemption under Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act.

2.5.2 The State Heritage Register (SHR)

The SHR was established under Section 22 of the Heritage Act and is a list of places and objects of particular importance to the people of NSW, including archaeological sites. The SHR is administered by the New South Wales (NSW) Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and includes a diverse range of over 1,500 items, in both private and public ownership. To be listed, an item must be deemed to be of heritage significance for the whole of NSW.

To carry out activities within the curtilage of an item listed on the SHR, approval must be gained from the Heritage Council by securing a Section 60 permit. In some circumstances, under Section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, a Section 60 permit may not be required if works are undertaken in accordance with the NSW Heritage branch document *Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval*² or in accordance with agency specific exemptions. This includes works that are only minor in nature and will have minimal impact on the heritage significance of the place.

There are no SHR items located within the study area.

² Heritage Council of New South Wales 2009

3.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Aboriginal history

Aboriginal occupation of the Homebush Bay area is likely to date back to before 15,000 years ago (before sea levels had stabilised at modern levels during the ice age). However, there are few scientifically dated sites within the area. At present the oldest (and one of the only) dated sites within the area is the John Curtin Reserve rock shelter on Toongabbie Creek (some 6 kilometres northwest of Homebush Bay), which has an initial occupation date of around 5,600 years ago. By about 6,000 years ago, waters had completely flooded over the old coastal plain, and the current Sydney environment was largely stabilised. The vast majority of sites in the area date to within the last 5,000 years, well after the sea had reached its present level.

The traditional land owners of the area Sydney Olympic Park is situated on are the Wann clan, known as the Wann-gal. The lands of the Wann-gal stretched along the southern shore of the Parramatta River between Cockle Bay (Cadi-gal land) and Rose Hill (Burrumbidgee-gal land). To the north were the Wallumetta-gal. The Wann-gal and their ancestors lived in Homebush bay for thousands of years, utilising the resources of the bay.³

After the first fleet arrived in 1788, contact between the Wann-gal and the Europeans began when boats used Parramatta River to get from Sydney Cove to Rose Hill, where a European settlement had developed. In 1789, wide spread smallpox claimed the lives of many Aboriginal people in the Sydney area, and is likely to have impacted the Wann-gal at Homebush Bay. Several encounters and conflicts between Europeans and Aboriginal people are documented for the Homebush Bay area throughout the 1790s, and in the early 1800s Aboriginal people were working for and supplying fish to the Blaxlands on their Newington Property but by the 1850s the records become increasingly scarce. Despite the land grants, it is likely that the cleared land was continually used by Aboriginal people up until the late nineteenth century.⁴

Physical evidence of the usage of the Homebush Bay area by Aboriginal people has been found in the form of stone artefacts located in the area. In addition, several scarred trees have been found within remnant forest. Aboriginal shell middens were known to have lined Homebush Bay and the Parramatta River but were destroyed in the limekilns in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and subsequent alterations to the shoreline.⁵

3.2 Early Land Grants and Subdivision 1788 - 1906

After the European settlement of Sydney Cove in 1788, the Homebush Bay area came to be known as 'The Flats' after the extensive mangroves and mud flats in the region.⁶ The first land grant in the area was allotted to Thomas Laycock in 1794, which he called 'Liberty Plains'.⁷ In 1810 this farm was sold to D'Arcy Wentworth who named the site 'Home Bush' (Figure 3.1). D'Arcy Wentworth was a public servant and surgeon in the colony, and acquired surrounding land grants, increasing his property in size to 920 hectares. A homestead and later a horse racing track was built on the land in 1825 (Figure 3.2).⁸ The horse racing track was used as the headquarters of the Australian Jockey Club between 1841 and 1860 (Figure 3.3).⁹ The track was located 2.2 km southeast of the study area, at the corner of Underwood Road and Parramatta Road. D'arcy Wentworth continued to own

³ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/indigenous_history

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ *ibid.*

⁶ *ibid.*

⁷ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/wentworth-darcy-1545>

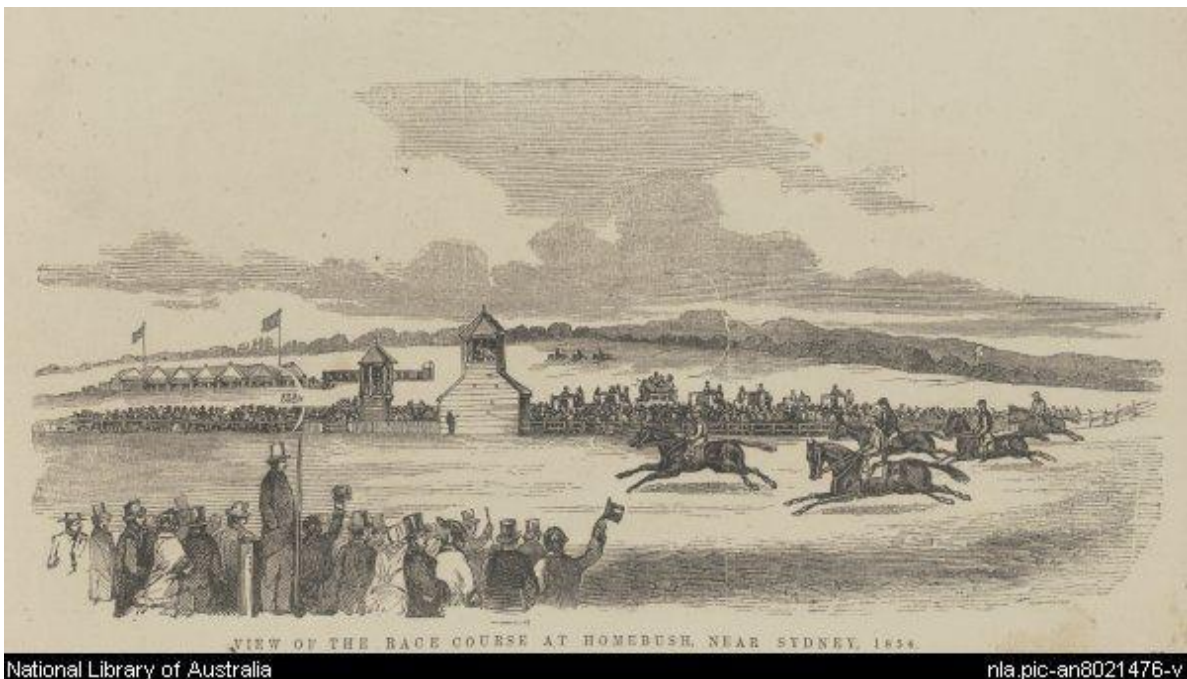
⁸ *ibid.*

⁹ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/colonial_history

Figure 3.2: Front view of Wentworth's homestead in 1917 (Source: State Library NSW)



Figure 3.3: Homebush horse racing track in 1854 (Source: National Library of Australia)



In 1881, a proposal was made for subdividing the southeast portion of Wentworth's estate for residential development. This subdivision was called the Homebush Park Estate. By 1883, some of the land had been subdivided, but it was another three years before the first lot was sold. It remained sparsely populated into 1890, and only allotments near Parramatta Road were considered favourable.¹³ By 1906 the farm buildings and horse racing track had become derelict and the site became a favourable choice by the government for the State Abattoir.¹⁴

3.3 Twentieth century industries 1907-1988

The area was resumed in 1907, and the State Abattoir constructed in 1910 after the Glebe Island Abattoir was deemed as publicly unsafe following the plague. This preceded development of service roads for the abattoir and associated buildings. A branch railway line through the abattoir site was constructed by 1908, which included the levelling of the site.¹⁵ This railway line was further developed in 1910, with site levelling, excavation, roadways and platforms constructed.¹⁶ The abattoir eventually ran into a deficit and closed in 1988.¹⁷

Figure 3.4: 1916 St John Parish map of area with approximate study area shown in red. State Abattoir located to the southwest, and the brick works to the north (Source: LPI)



¹³ Godden Mackay 1990, pg. 5.

¹⁴ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/wentworth-darcy-1545>

¹⁵ Godden Mackay 1990, pg. 5.

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/industrial_history

A State Brick Works was located at the northern side of Homebush from 1911. Access roads were constructed, and a railway line was developed to provide access to the Brick Works. The Brick Works was used until its closure in 1940, when it was taken over by the Naval Armament Depot as a munitions store. It was later reopened following the end of World War Two until it ceased trading in 1988. The area has been rehabilitated as a wetland area with a raised walkway for visitors.¹⁸

The Newington Armament Depot, which lay to the north of Homebush, was expanded after World War One, and took over some of the facilities in Homebush such as the Brick Works pit and some land that was part of the State Abattoir for storage of munitions.¹⁹

As industrial development in Sydney expanded in the mid-twentieth century, locations to discard industrial waste were required. Homebush, at that time relatively undeveloped, was chosen as a dumping location for toxic waste, including waste from factories such as Timbrol and Union Carbide that were located nearby in Rhodes.²⁰ Wentworth Bay was filled in with industrial waste and the natural ecology of the area was severely damaged. The area nearest Homebush Bay became a shipbreaking yard in 1966, with many of the wrecks still visible today. By 1988 there was an estimated 9 million cubic metres of waste and contaminated soils spread over 400 hectares within the 760-hectare site (Figure 3.5).²¹

Figure 3.5: View of the waste deposited in Homebush Bay taken in 1972 (Source: State Library of NSW)



¹⁸ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/industrial_history

¹⁹ Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013

²⁰ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/industrial_history

²¹ http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/our_park/history_and_heritage/site_remediation

Figure 3.6: View of the study area in 1943 (Source: Six Maps)



3.4 Sydney Olympic Park Redevelopment 1990s

The southern portion of Homebush was developed as Sydney Olympic Park following the 1993 successful bid for Sydney to host the 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Part of this development was the construction of sports facilities, competitor housing, roads, and rejuvenation of parklands and streetscapes. Rehabilitation and stabilisation of the area was conducted due to the contamination from prior industrial use.

In July 2001, the Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) was established, a statutory body of the NSW Government under the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001*. The Authority's charter is to manage and promote the 640-hectare Sydney Olympic Park site, including protection of the 425-hectare Millennium Parklands, which included the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve.²²

From at least 2002 the study area was used as a car park up until 2014, when Murray Rose Avenue was constructed.

²² Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013

Figure 3.7: View of the study area in 2005 (Source: Google Earth)



Figure 3.8: View of the study area in 2014 (Source: Google Earth)



4.0 SITE ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

A site inspection of the study area was carried out on 24 September 2018 by Ryan Taddeucci (Senior Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage) and Jennifer Norfolk (Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage). The aim of the inspection was to locate any visible archaeological remains, assess the natural landform of the area and identify areas of previous disturbance. The site inspection was conducted on foot and a photographic record was made.

4.2 Site description

1 Murray Rose Avenue

The northern portion of the study area is the mapped extent of 1 Murray Rose Avenue. The area is located north of Murray Rose Avenue and is boarded to the east by Bennelong Parkway and Samsung Electronics Australia to the west (Figure 4.1). To the west the area has been cut into and a retaining wall constructed to accommodate a loading dock for Samsung Electronics Australia. A chain-link fence boarded the entire property.

The area was densely covered by high grasses which restricted ground surface visibility (Figure 4.2). An east west oriented, bitumen footpath was located across the centre of 1 Murray Rose Avenue (Figure 4.3). A few areas of ground exposure were present across 1 Murray Rose Avenue, these areas did not contain evidence of historical artefacts (Figure 4.4). A concrete garden bed had been established in the centre of the property (Figure 4.6). A fallen telephone pole was also located within the property (Figure 4.5).

From the exterior of the property it was evident that the ground had been artificially elevated from the natural plain located to the east. A retaining wall had been constructed along the east and trees planted to stabilise the elevation of the property.

Figure 4.1: View of west of Samsung Electronics Australia (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.2: View east of the artificial slope of the property down to Murray Rose Avenue (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.3: View east of the bitumen footpath (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)

Figure 4.4: Ground exposure (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.5: Fallen telephone pole
(Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.6: View west of garden bed
(Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



2 Murray Rose Avenue

The southern portion of the study area is the mapped extent of 2 Murray Rose Avenue. The area is located south of Murray Rose Avenue and is bordered to the east by Bennelong Parkway and an active construction area to the west. At the time of the site inspection the property was occupied by Landlease and a number of temporary buildings had been constructed within the property.

A large portion of the property had been covered in concrete. Due to the laying of concrete there were very few areas of exposed ground. In the south of the property, no concrete had been laid; however, dense foliage completely obscured surface visibility. Gravel had also been scattered across the study area, obscuring surface visibility (Figure 4.9).

A retaining wall had been established in the property (Figure 4.7). The east of the property was bordered by a large retaining wall, approximately 2 m high (Figure 4.13). At the southern edge of the property there was an artificial slope (Figure 4.14). The slope illustrated that the property was situated on top of fill above clay overlaying bedrock.

Figure 4.7: Retaining wall located at the south of the property (facing northwest) (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.9: Vegetated area at the south of the property (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.11: Ground exposure (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.8: Retaining wall located at the south of the property (facing west) (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.10: View north west of the Landlease car park (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.12: View west from the north of the property (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.13: View west of retaining from outside the property (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



Figure 4.14: View west of artificial slope along the south of the property (Photographed by R. Taddeucci, 24 September 2018)



4.3 Geotechnical investigations

1 Murray Rose Avenue

Geotechnical investigations were conducted on 1 and 5 September 2017, and comprised the auger drilling of four boreholes (BH1 to BH4) to depths between 5.64 m and 7.94 m below existing surface levels using a Tungsten Carbide ('TC') bit (JK Geotechnics 2017). The investigation found that the subsurface profile was generally comprised of a sandy and clayey fill over residual silty clay and shale bedrock. The depth of fill ranged from 0.9 m (BH4) to 3.3 m (BH1 and BH3). Natural residual clays were encountered below the fill extending to the underlying bedrock. The natural silty clays were generally of medium to high plasticity and were assessed as very stiff to hard strength. The clays contained varying amounts of fine to medium grained ironstone gravel.

2 Murray Rose Avenue

Geotechnical investigations were conducted on 9 and 10 September 2017, and comprised the auger drilling of four boreholes (BH1 to BH4) to depths between 5.68 m and 6.77 m below existing surface levels using a Tungsten Carbide ('TC') bit (JK Geotechnics 2017). The investigation found that the subsurface profile was generally comprised of a sandy and clayey fill over residual silty clay and shale bedrock. Fill was encountered at the surface in all boreholes and extended to depths ranging from 1.2 m (BH2 and BH3) to 1.4 m (BH1). Natural residual clays were encountered below the fill and extended to the underlying shale bedrock. The natural silty clays were generally of medium to high plasticity and were assessed to be of very stiff to hard strength. The clays contained varying amounts of fine to medium grained ironstone and shale gravel.

Figure 4.15: Location of boreholes, 1 Murray Rose Avenue (Source: JK Geotechnics 2017)

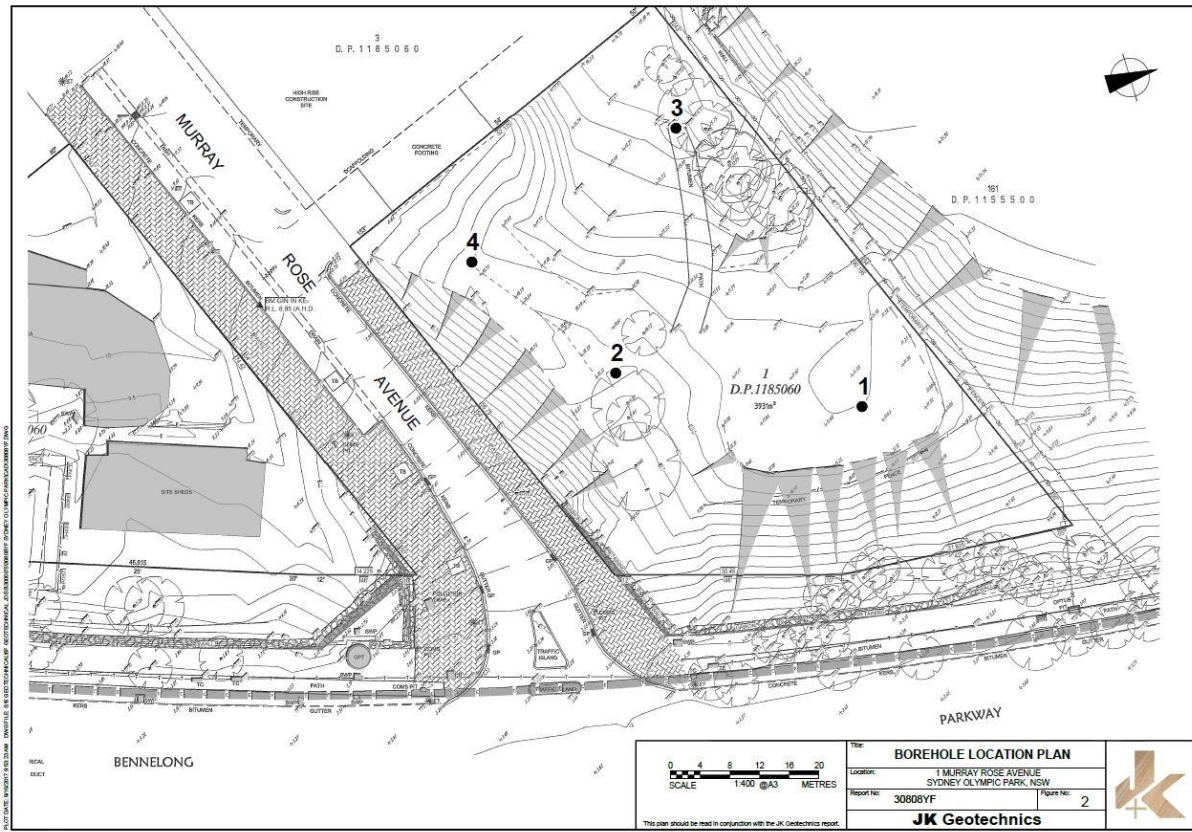
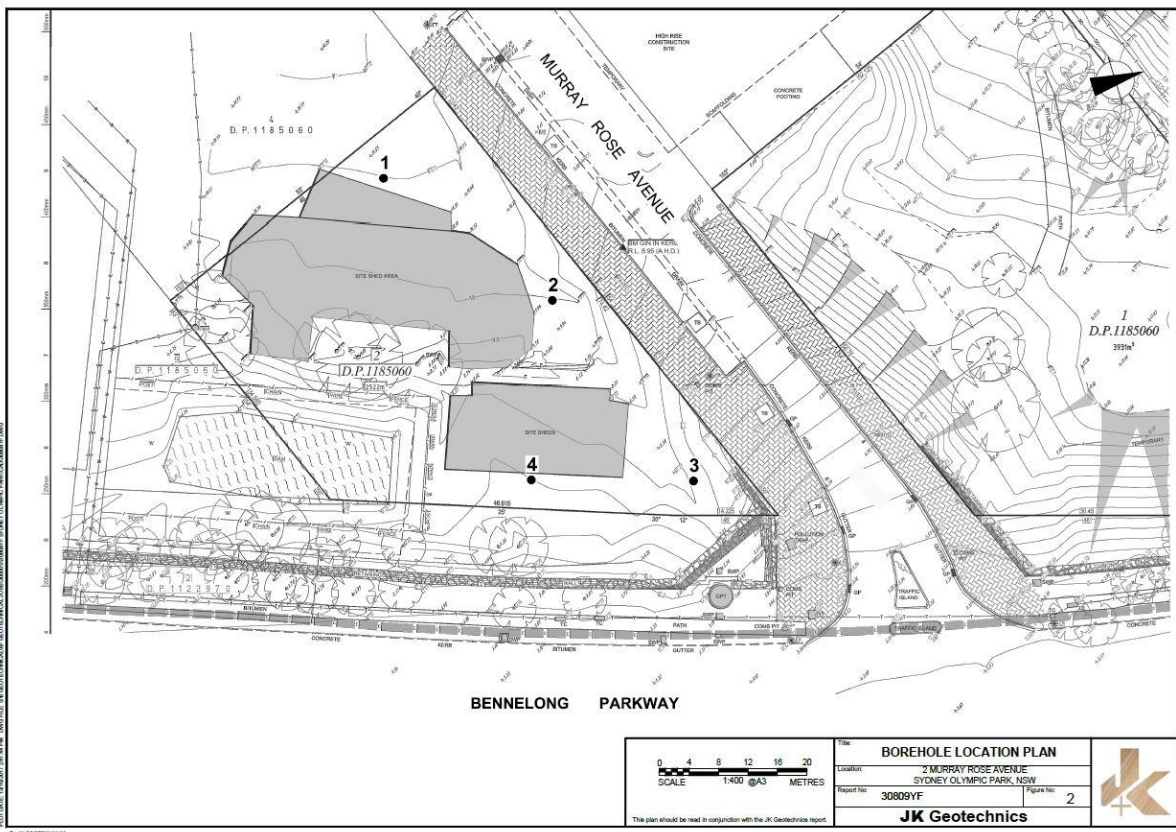


Figure 4.16: Location of boreholes, 2 Murray Rose Avenue (Source: JK Geotechnics 2017)



4.4 Previous impacts

The Homebush Bay area was used as a dumping ground for industrial waste from nearby factories from the 1960s up until the 1990s. Waste remediation documentation from 1996 shows that up to 60 hectares north of Boundary Creek was classified as 'Unhealthy Land' under the Public Health Act 1991²³ and that the study area was also located in an area that was in breach of safety requirements of the Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Act 1985.

Remediation strategies prior to the development of Olympic Boulevard for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games involved extensive earthworks to manage these ground toxins. Much of the ground surface was excavated and moved to new artificial landforms located near the study area – specifically where the Tom Wills Oval and the Bicentennial Marker are located. In the process Boundary Creek was diverted to the south of its original location in order to avoid chemical leaching into the waterway²⁴.

The extent of this landfill area is unclear. Geotechnical reports discussed in Section 4.3 above show that boreholes have identified deep deposits (up to 3.3 m) of artificial contaminated fill.

Further ground surface impacts occurred following the waste remediation process with the construction of the car park in use from 2002 until 2013. In 2014, 2 Murray Rose Avenue was the site of a construction compound associated with the removal of the carpark and the installation of Murray Rose Avenue. Further impacts have been caused by services excavation for stormwater drains, sewer lines, electricity and street lights in and around the study area.

The study area has been classified as being highly disturbed.

²³ Whithers, N.J. 1996. "Embracing Risk Management: The Homebush-Newington Experience", report by AXIS Environmental Consultants for the Olympic Co-ordination Authority. CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne. Pp 131 – 132.

²⁴ Sydney Olympic Park Remediated Lands Management Policy 2014, p8.

5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Historical archaeological potential is assessed by identifying former land uses and associated features through historical research and evaluating whether subsequent actions (either natural or human) may have impacted on evidence for these former land uses. This chapter will assess these factors to determine the potential for intact archaeological remains to be located in the study area.

5.1 Land use summary

There are four major phases of land use associated with the study area:

- Phase 1 (1788 – 1906): Vegetation clearance for European farming, including the construction of a farmhouse and horse racing track, and later subdivision.
- Phase 2 (1910 – 1988): The area was part of the State Abattoir and continued to be used as a cleared farming area up until the mid- twentieth century.
- Phase 3 (1928 – 1988): Used for waste disposal in the late twentieth century.
- Phase 4 (1993 – 2000): Remediation of contaminated landfill involved extensive earthworks in the study area. Subsequently redeveloped into a carpark prior to the 2000 Olympic Games, with excavation for services and surface landscaping.

5.2 Relevant archaeological studies

There have been previous archaeological studies in the vicinity of Sydney Olympic Park, and Homebush Bay, but none have been conducted specifically of the study area.

Artefact Heritage 2016, Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park, Historic and Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment, prepared for Ecove Group

Artefact Heritage undertook a historic and Aboriginal archaeological assessment and prepared a heritage impact statement of Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park in 2016. The assessment found that Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park had been largely used for agricultural and pastoral purposes since the nineteenth century until the late-twentieth century. It also found that there was a high level of landform modification in the study area from late twentieth century contamination fills and subsequent urban redevelopment for Sydney Olympic Park. The report concluded that there is nil-low potential for historical archaeological 'relics' or Aboriginal heritage to be located within the study area. Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park is located 910 m to the southwest of the study area.

Urbis, August 2015, 2 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park, Historic and Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment, prepared for Mirvac.

Urbis undertook a historic and Aboriginal archaeological assessment and prepared a heritage impact statement of 2 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park in August 2015. The assessment deemed the area to have no evidence of aboriginal occupation and previous excavations of the site had revealed the ground surface was largely an introduced or reformed top soil, and no evidence of previous structures of land use were found.

This site is located 650 m to the southwest of the study area.

Godden Mackay Pty Ltd, August 1990, State Abattoir Homebush Buildings Archaeological Assessment., prepared for NSW Property Services Group.

This report investigated the State Abattoir which is north of the study area. It primarily focused on the built heritage of the site, with a detailed historical review of the site.

5.3 Potential archaeology

Analysis of parish maps, aerial photographs, archival documents, and photographs suggests that the study area has low potential to contain archaeological deposits and features associated with the early habitation and subsequent development of the area. Generally, the study area has been subject to low intensity agricultural uses. In the mid-twentieth century contaminated landfill was deposited in the study area and later remediated through large-scale earthworks.

The archaeological potential of the study area will be presented using the following grades:

Nil-Low Potential: land use history suggests limited development or use, or there is likely to be quite high impacts in these areas, however deeper sub-surface features such as wells, cesspits or isolated archaeological deposits may survive.

Moderate Potential: land use history suggests limited phases of low-moderate development intensity, or that there are impacts in this area. A range of archaeological remains are likely to survive, including building footings and shallower remains as well as deeper sub-surface features.

High Potential: substantially intact archaeological remains could survive in these areas.

Phase 1 (1788 – 1906): Early Land Grants and Subdivision

Land-use during this phase is characterised by land clearance and cattle grazing. The study area was located within a substantial portion of land sold to D'Arcy Wentworth in the early nineteenth century. A farmhouse, associated outbuildings, roads, and a horse racing track were constructed on this property. These buildings were not within the current study area. The land was largely divided into paddocks for agriculture, and later subdivisions for the proposed Homebush Estate were never developed into housing within the study area. There is no evidence that any structures were constructed on the study area during this phase.

Potential archaeological remains typically associated with nineteenth century agricultural use are ephemeral in nature. Activities such as tree clearance, fence construction, the development of unsealed roads and agricultural planting leave little material evidence and are not likely to be located.

There is nil potential for archaeological remains associated with the Wentworth Estate track to be present within the study area.

Phase 2: Twentieth Century Industries (1910 – 1988)

This phase of land use saw the development of the State Abattoir, the Brick Works, and the Newington Armoury Depot in the area. The 1943 aerial photograph (Figure 3.6) identified a large built structure within 2 Murray Rose Avenue and another structure bounding 1 Murray Rose Avenue to the northwest. However, impacts from phase 3 which have removed remains of these structures.

There is nil-low potential for archaeological remains associated with the Twentieth Century Industries phase to be present within the study area.

Phase 3: Industrial Waste Depository (1928 – 1988)

The study area was utilised as a landfill for toxic and non-toxic waste from nearby industrial areas (Rhodes, Concord, Silverwater, Parramatta). No industrial facilities were constructed in the study area during this phase.

There is nil potential for archaeological remains associated with the industrial use phase to be present within the study area.

Phase 4: Sydney Olympic Park Redevelopment (1993 – 2000)

The study area was briefly a bitumen carpark with garden beds built on introduced topsoil. From 2014 the carpark was removed for the extension of Murray Rose Avenue, to join Bennelong Parkway. This area was developed from the 1990s until the present day.

There is nil potential for archaeological remains associated with post-industrial development to be present within the study area.

5.4 Summary of archaeological potential

The potential for the archaeological remains to be located within the study area for each phase is summarised below:

- Phase 1: Early Land Grants and Subdivision – nil potential for archaeological remains associated with early land grants such as postholes, isolated rubbish deposits, timber farm buildings, unsealed roads, and material evidence of the horse racing track
- Phase 2: Twentieth Century Industries – nil potential for archaeological remains associated with the stock road for the State Abattoir, including evidence of road embankments, retaining walls and brick edging
- Phase 3: Industrial Waste Depository – nil potential for archaeological remains associated with industrial development in the study area
- Phase 4: Sydney Olympic Park Redevelopment – nil potential for archaeological remains associated with post-industrial development in the study area.

5.5 Archaeological significance

The Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) issued a new set of guidelines in 2009: Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'. In accordance with the 2009 guidelines, the following section presents a discussion of the potential archaeological resource's research potential and an assessment against the NSW heritage significance criteria.

Archaeological Research Potential

Consideration of archaeological research potential is required when undertaking a significance assessment of an historical archaeological site. Bickford and Sullivan espoused the principles and developed a framework in order to assess archaeological research potential. These principles have been incorporated into three questions and should be used as a guide for assessing the significance of an archaeological site.²⁵

- Can the site contribute knowledge that no other site can?
- Can the site contribute knowledge that no other resource can?

²⁵ Bickford, A and S Sullivan, pp. 23-24

- Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive questions relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?

The study area has nil - low potential to contain an archaeological resource that may be able to support and enhance the current state of knowledge about its phases of occupation. Any surviving archaeological remains within the study area are likely to have been removed when the manmade landfill was deposited. Given the disturbed nature of the study area the potential archaeological resource is unlikely to contribute to current archaeological research agendas.

5.6 Statement of historical archaeological significance

Owing to the land-use history and the high level of previous impacts, there is nil-low potential for significant archaeological remains within the study area. As such, the potential archaeological resource is unlikely to contribute to our understanding or appreciation of the past and does not meet any of the significance assessment criteria.

6.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Proposed development

It is proposed that a 15-storey residential development, including three basement levels with a bulk excavation level of approximately 1.85 m will occur at 1 Murray Rose Avenue. A similar development is planned for 2 Murray Rose Avenue; however, the basement will only have two levels with a bulk excavation level of approximately 0.4 m.

The geotechnical investigations found that 1 Murray Rose Avenue has a fill depth of 0.9 m and 2 Murray Rose Avenue has a fill depth of 1.2 m. It was found that natural deposits were located immediately below the fill layer. Therefore, it is very unlikely that the proposed works will encounter intact historical deposits.

6.2 Impacts to potential archaeological resources

Due to the highly disturbed nature of the ground, archaeological deposits are not likely to exist. The proposed development is unlikely to impact historical archaeological 'relics'.

6.3 Mitigation

The proposal is unlikely to impact any intact archaeological remains therefore no further archaeological investigation is required.

An unexpected finds policy would be implemented in the event of historic archaeological remains being identified during ground works and excavation.

An unexpected finds policy would involve the following actions:

- Stop work within the affected area, protect the potential archaeological find, and inform environment staff or supervisor
- Contact a suitable qualified archaeologist to assess the potential archaeological find
- If historical archaeological 'relics' are identified, works in the affected area should cease, and the NSW Heritage Division should be informed. Further archaeological mitigation or approvals may be required prior to works recommencing
- If human remains are found, work should cease, the site should be secured and the NSW Police and OEH should be notified.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Conclusions

- The study area has been largely used for agricultural and pastoral purposes since the nineteenth century until the late-twentieth century
- There is a high level of landform modification in the study area from late twentieth century contamination fills and subsequent urban redevelopment for Sydney Olympic Park
- There is nil-low potential for historical archaeological 'relics' or Aboriginal heritage to be located within the study area.

7.2 Recommendations

- The proposed works are not expected to impact archaeological relics and therefore no further archaeological investigation is required
- An Unexpected Finds Procedure would be implemented throughout the duration of the proposed development. If potential archaeological relics are unexpectedly discovered during excavation, work must cease in the affected area and an archaeologist engaged to assess the find. Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment and possibly an excavation permit may be required prior to the recommencement of excavation in the affected area. The Heritage Council would be notified in writing in accordance with Section 146 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 if it was confirmed that relics had been identified
- If human remains, or suspected human remains, are found during the works, all work in the vicinity must cease, the site should be secured, and the NSW Police and Heritage Council must be notified.

8.0 REFERENCES

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