

Mills Oakley ABN: 51 493 069 734

15 October 2018

Our ref: MDSS/KXMS/3286582

All correspondence to: PO Box H316 AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 1215

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By email: acowan@willowtp.com.au

Dear Andrew

Advice on application of Development Consent 145/20/33 Property: 780 Wallgrove Road, Horsley Park

We refer to your request to provide advice in relation to the interpretation of the above development consent and its application to The Austral Brick Company's (**Austral**) operation at the above site. Specifically you have asked us to review Planning Approval and subsequent Building Approval 145/20/33 (together, **the Development Consent**) which applies to the site and provide specific advice on:

- a) The land to which the Development Consent applies; and
- b) The legal interpretation of the Development Consent and activities which it authorises.

Summary

In our view, based upon the applicable legislation, facts set out below, historical documents contained on the Land Registry Service register and our review of the Development Consent we advise as follows:

- Historical title inquiries confirm that the lots to which the Development Consent applies (being Pt. Portion 36-39, New Horsley Road and Pt. Portions 79 and 22, Parish of Prospect) are allotments which are now contained in Lot 7 DP1059698, being the lot on which the Austral operations exist.
- The Development Consent expressly authorises the manufacture of bricks, the extraction of clay and shale material and the processes required to implement those approved uses.
- The approvals granted, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1919, are deemed to be a *Development Consent* as that term is defined by the *Environmental Planning and* Assessment Act 1979 (the Act) and continue to operate.
- The Development Consent, by its own terms, contains specific requirements for the physical layout of the site including location of buildings, areas of vegetation and locations on which excavations may be carried out and applies to the whole of the Site.
- The Development Consent is to be construed liberally, according to its terms.

NOTICE





Transaction Details

Date: 11/07/2019 16:27

Order No. 57804352 Certificate No: 89620449 Your Reference: 3286582

Certificate Ordered: NSW LRS - Copy of Cancelled Title - Cancelled Title CT7450-163

Available: Y Size (KB): 502

Number of Pages: 4

Scan Date and Time: 10/08/2012 21:16

Req:R644057 /Doc:CT 07450-163 ct /Rev:10-Aug-2012 /Sts:OK.OK /Prt:11-Jul-2019 16:27 /Seq:1 of 4 Ref: /Src:U

203

New South Wales.

68463-1 10.56 K 1853 [CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.]

Primary Appns. Nos. 13074 and 19307 Rsference to last Titles Vol. 6735 Fol. 26 " 6884 " 140



REGISTER BOOK. 7450 Fol. 163

Issued on Transfer No. G465062 (part) and request for consolidation.

HARRIE DAVIS of Guildford, Grazier, is now the proprietor of an Estate in Fee Simple, subject nevertheless to the reservations and conditions if any contained in the relevant Grants and also subject to such encumbrances, liens and interests as are notified hereon in Those piecee of land in the Shire of Blacktown, Parishes of Melville and Prospect and County of Cumberland ehown in the plan hereon and thsrein edged red and also shown as to part as Lot D2 in plan lodged with Transfer No. G465062 being the lande described in the Schsdule hereunder.

SCHEDULE

	Parish	Number of Portion	Name of Grantee	Date of Grant
		Part 34	Ieaac Maeon	
		Part 36	William Bowman Junior	
	Melville	Part 37	George Bowman	and the second s
.)		Part 38	Andrew Thompson	17th August 1819
		Part 39 +	Julia McNally	die e
	Prospect	Part 79 *	Samuel Terry	
	Prospect	Part 222	Thomas Howard	
		(

EXCEPTING THEREOUT the bed of Eastern Creek coloured brown in the plan hereon.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my Seal, this

Twenty-eighth day of

1953 at 12 o'clock noon.

MORTGAGE No. F108/60

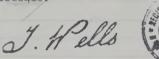
No. F793060 Mortgage dated 29th December 1952 from

Harrie Davis to Rural Bank of New South Wales of part of the land above described Produced 20th January 1953 and entered 23rd October

Signed in the presence of Asstratimer

NOTIFICATION REFERRED TO

Right of Way appurtenant to the part of the land above described formerly comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 6159 Folio 119 affecting the piece of land coloured blue in the plan hereon created by Transfer No. C818416.



Registrar General

No. F108160 Mortgags dated 7th October 1949 from Marrie Davis to The Commercial Bank of Australia Limited as regards the part of the land formerly comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 6159 Folio 119. Produced 9th November 1948 and entered 20th September 1950 at 12 o'clock noon.



F383834 Mortgage dated 26th Juns 1950 from Harrie Davis to The Commercial Bank of Australia Limited as regards the part of the land formerly comprised in Certificate of Title Volums 6338 Folio 87. Produced 24th January 1951 and entered 16th August

Covenant contained in Transfer No. F773158 affecting Lot D2

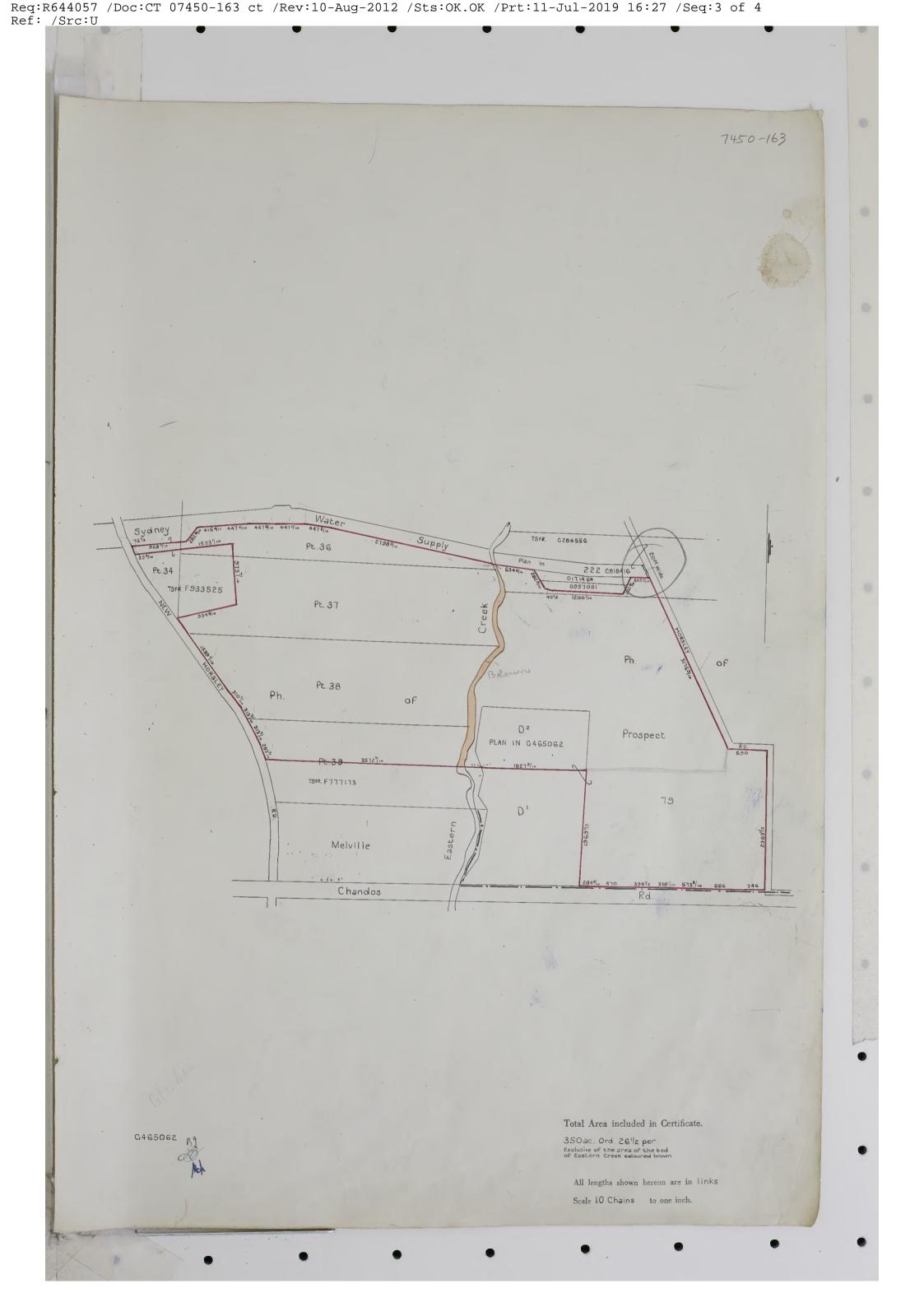
above described.

has been discharged MORTGAGE No. F793060 walton

Certificate

Req:R644057 /Doc:CT 07450-163 ct /Rev:10-Aug-2012 /Sts:OK.OK /Prt:11-Jul-2019 16:27 /Seq:2 of 4 Ref: /Src:U No. H 330721 TRANSPER glated 29 th September 59 goseph Borg of Not 11 4 12 D. 1230290 Registrar General. Subject to Covenans 30 No. 430/91/ TRANSFER dated 9" September con ered 16th February 1960

as to load in this transfer this deed is cancelled the surface of t Jony Vella of dato 1, 2,030, \$ 30290. 30197 REGISTRAR GENERAL No H38/360. TRANSFER dated 26th November 19 89.
The Metiopolitan Water Serverage and Drainage Board of part shown on plans with H38/360 Discharged from Mortgage No. F383834 RANSFER dated 10th houselles 1959 H351298 the deed is caucacy Notro subject to Covenant Entered 10th February 1960 MORTGAGE No. As to land in this transfer Claude Hubert Burgers of dot 40 5 REGISTRAR GENERAL D.P. 36290 MORTGAGE No. F 383834 Entered 10th February 1960 Vol. 7849 tol. 31 This deed is cancelled as to New Certificates of Title red 5th august 1959 Lots And 2 Vol. 9271 For 139 and 140 respectively Subject to Coverant Entered 10th Lelesway 19 60
As to land in this transfer this deed is concelled REGISTRAR GENERAL and new certificate issued Vol. 7849Fol. 138 No. J 142941 RANSFER dated 24th Hugest 1962. Jakaor DP 36 290 of lots 13 and 14 Andrew Vella of Kol 10 D. ? 30290 IRANSFER, dated 26th October 1969 of the land within described 19th Deloher



Req:R644057 /Doc:CT 07450-163 ct /Rev:10-Aug-2012 /Sts:OK.OK /Prt:11-Jul-2019 16:27 /Seq:4 of 4 Ref: /Src:U





Transaction Details

Date: 04/10/2018 10:45

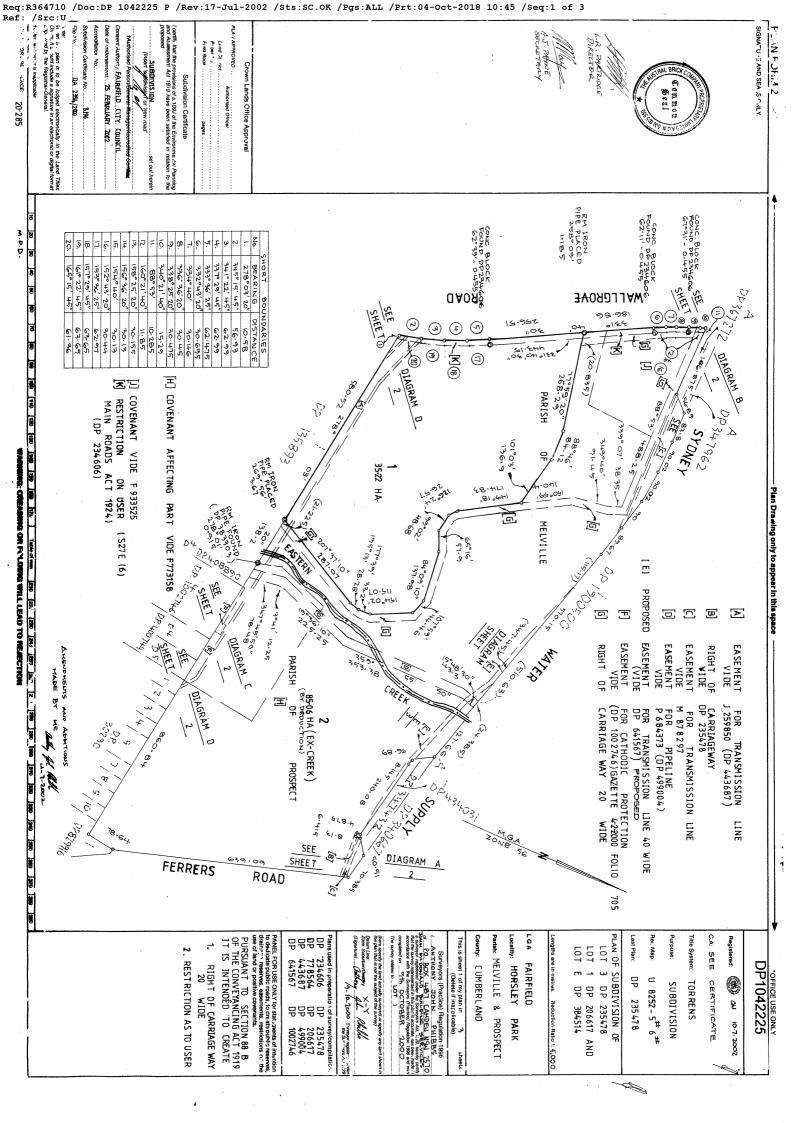
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Certificate Ordered: NSW LRS - Copy of Plan - Deposited Plan 1042225

Available: Y Size (KB): 325

Number of Pages: 3

Scan Date and Time: 17/07/2002 14:42







Transaction Details

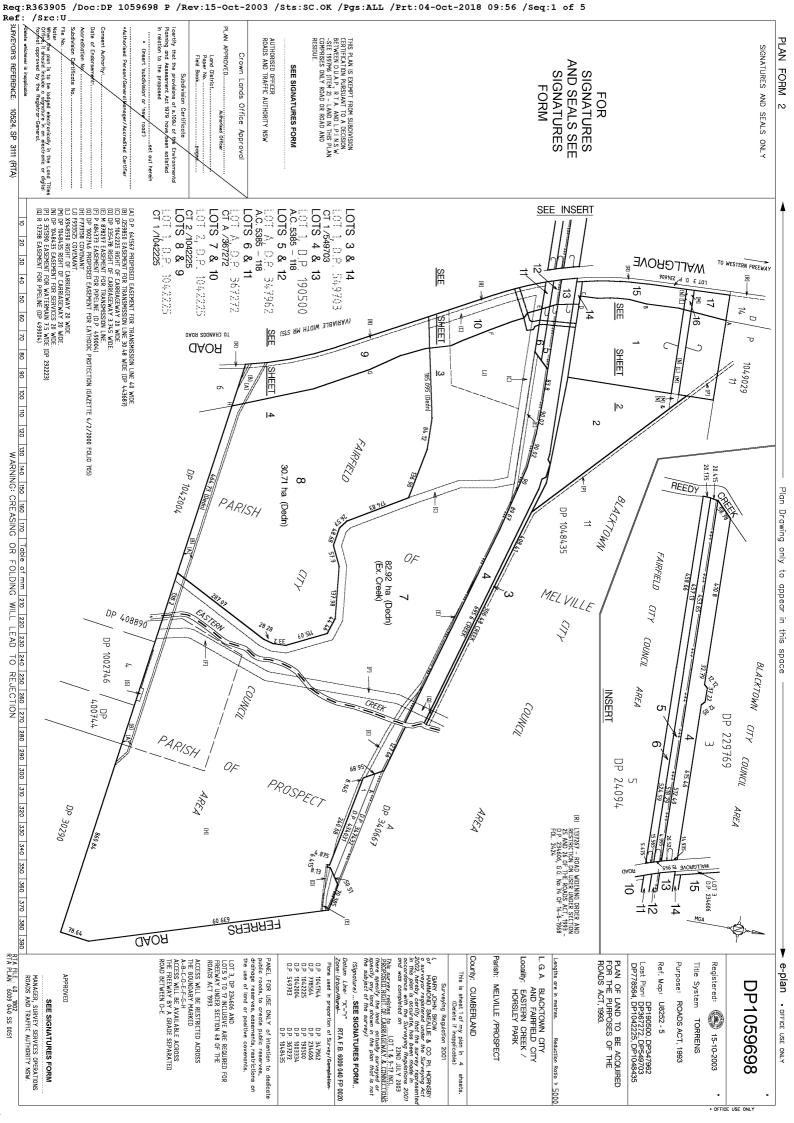
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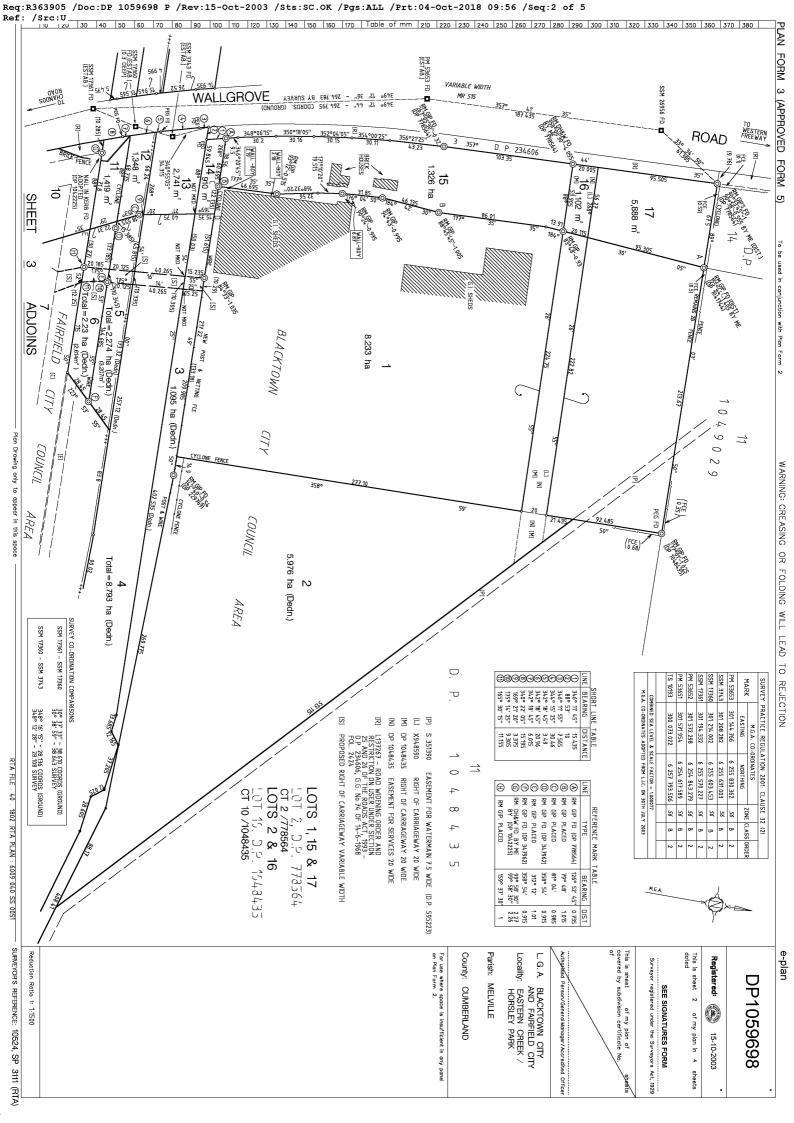
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Certificate Ordered: NSW LRS - Copy of Plan - Deposited Plan 1059698

Available: Y Size (KB): 383 Number of Pages: 5

Scan Date and Time: 15/10/2003 22:42





CERTIFICATES, SIGNATURES AND SEALS

Sheet 1 of 1 sheet(s)

PLAN OF LAND TO BE ACQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE ROADS ACT, 1993.

DP1059698

SIGNATURES, SEALS and STATEMENTS of intention to dedicate public roads or to create public reserves

Registered:

and drainage reserves.



15-10-2003

The survey relates to LOTS 1 AND 9 TO 17 INCLUSIVE, PROPOSED RIGHT OF CARRIAGEWAY & CONNECTIONS...... (specify the land actually surveyed or specify any land shown in the plan that is not the subject of the survey)

Signature Dated 4
Surveyor registered under the Surveying Act 2002

Department of Lands Approval

(Authorised Officer)
that all necessary approvals in regard to the allocation of the land

that all necessary approvals in regard to the allocation of the land shown hereon have been given

Office

Subdivision Certificate

I certify that the provisions of s.109J of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 have been satisfied in relation to:

the proposed.......set out herein (insert 'subdivision' or 'new road')

* Authorised Person/General Manager/Accredited Certifier

Authorised i erson/deneral manager/Accidenced derinier

File no: .

Note:

When the plan is to be lodged electronically in Land and Property Information, it should include a signature in an electronic or digital format approved by the Registrar-General.

Delete whichever is inapplicable.

THIS PLAN IS EXEMPT FROM SUBDIVISION CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO A DECISION BETWEEN DUAP, RTA & LPI NSW – SEE 1997 M6 (Item 2). LAND IN THIS PLAN COMPRISES ONLY ROAD OR ROAD AND RESIDUE.

AUTHORISÉD OFFICER ROADS AND TRAFFIC AUTHORITY, NSW

APPROVED:

MANAGER, SURVEY SERVICES
OPERATIONS

ROADS AND TRAFFIC AUTHORITY, NSW

Use PLAN FORM 6A for additional certificates, signatures and seals





Transaction Details

Date: 04/10/2018 11:47

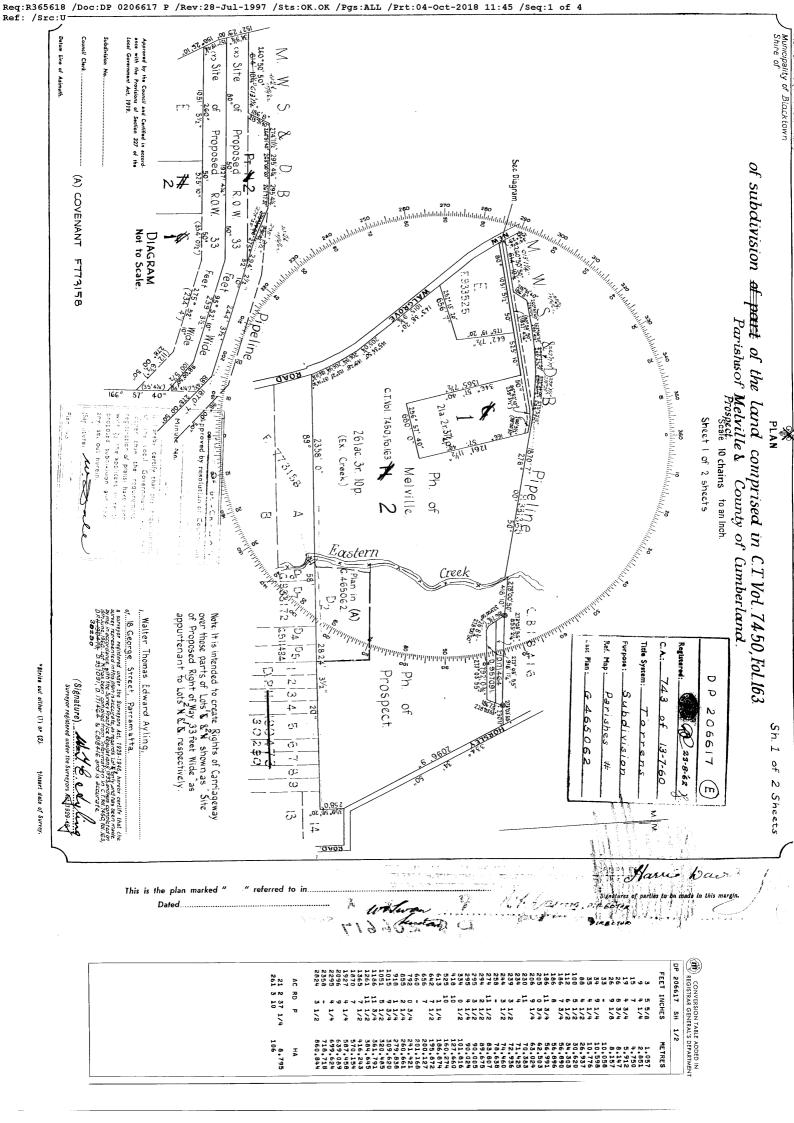
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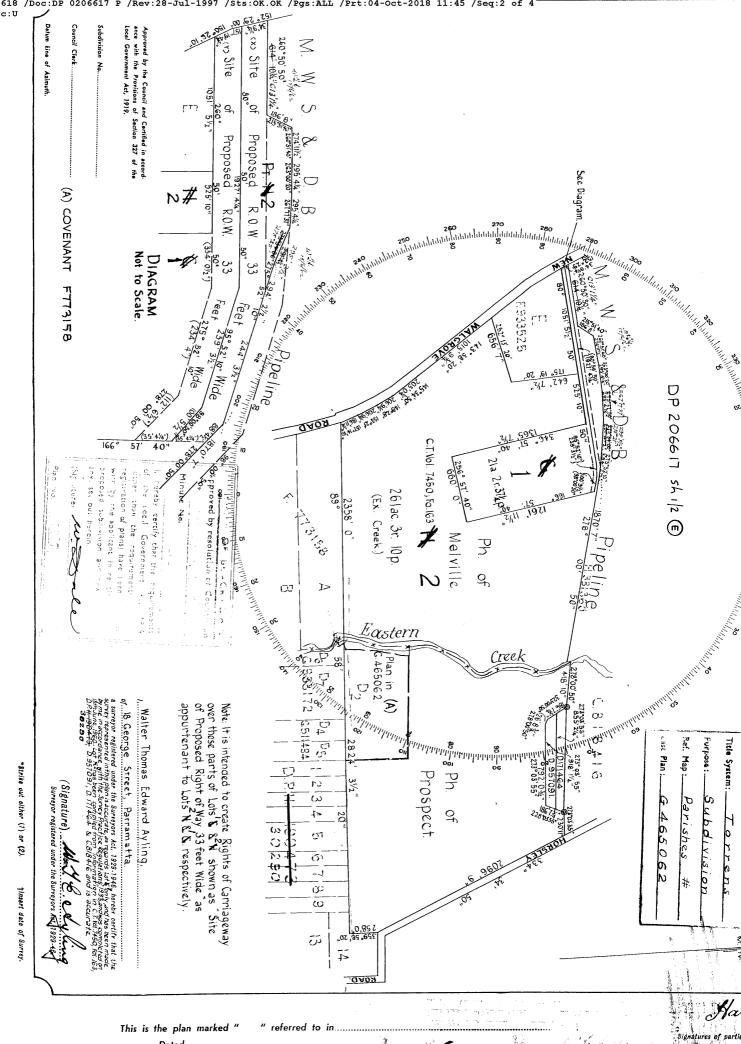
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Available: Y Size (KB): 387

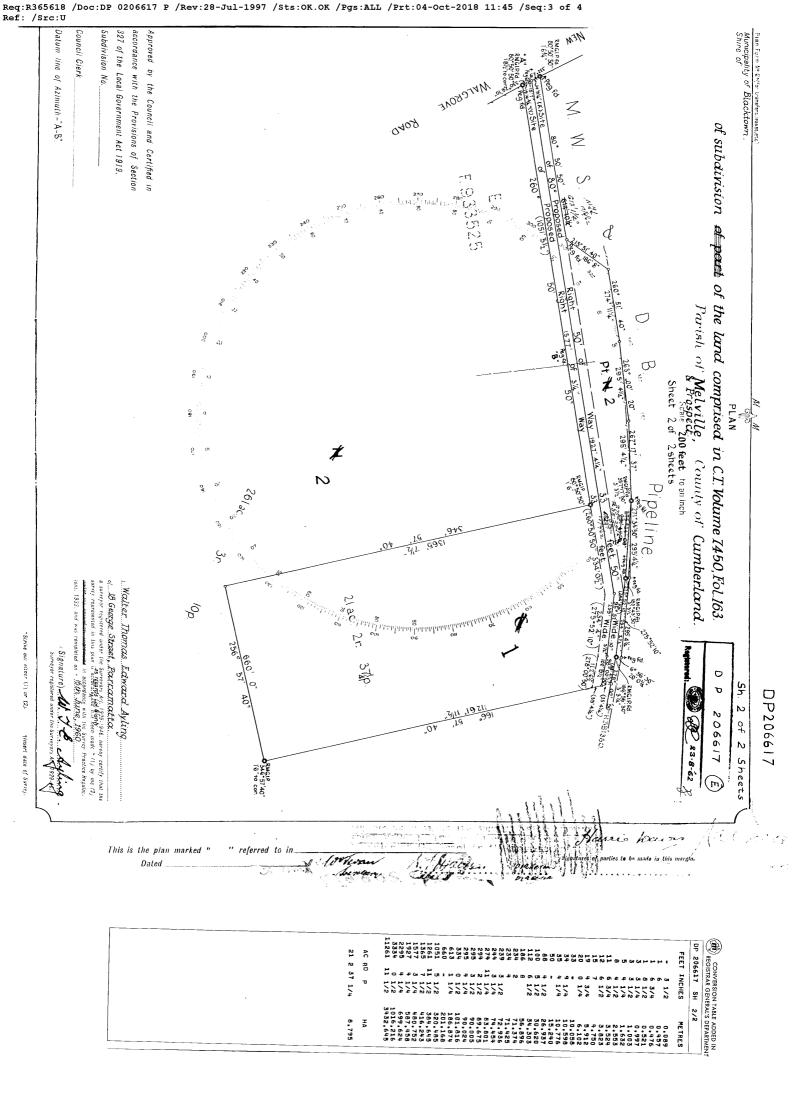
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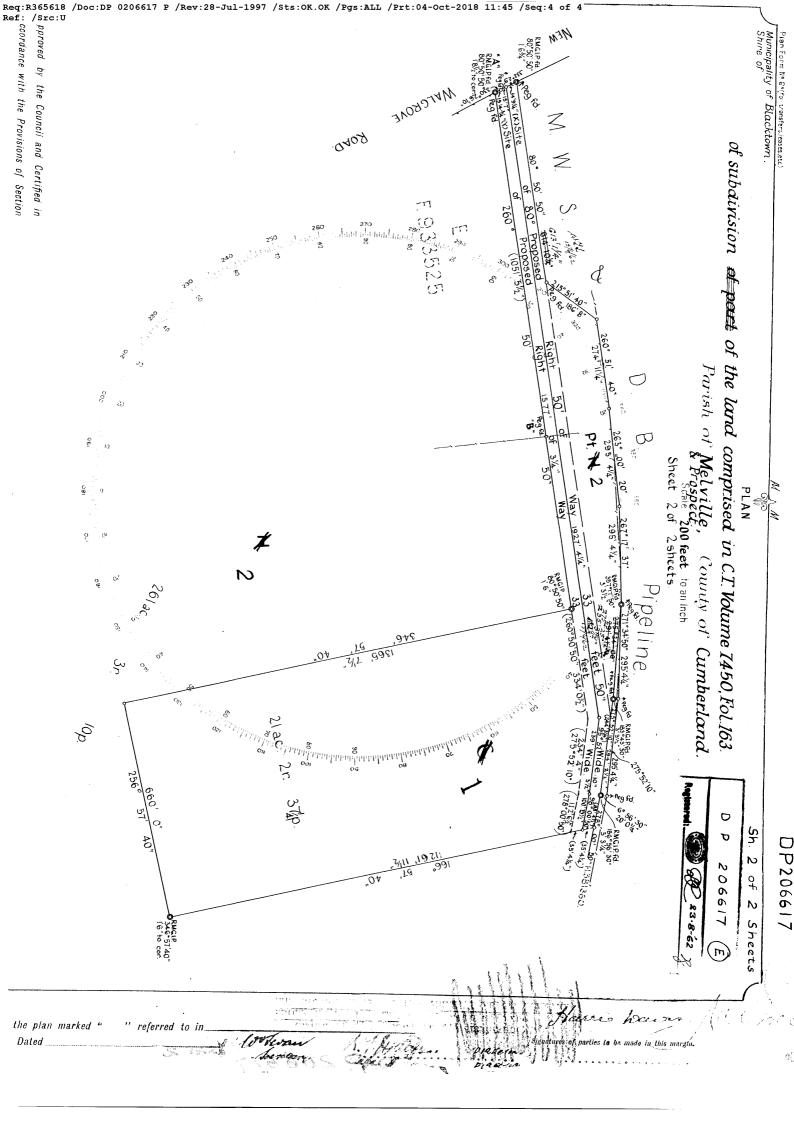
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Dated.









Transaction Details

Date: 04/10/2018 11:47

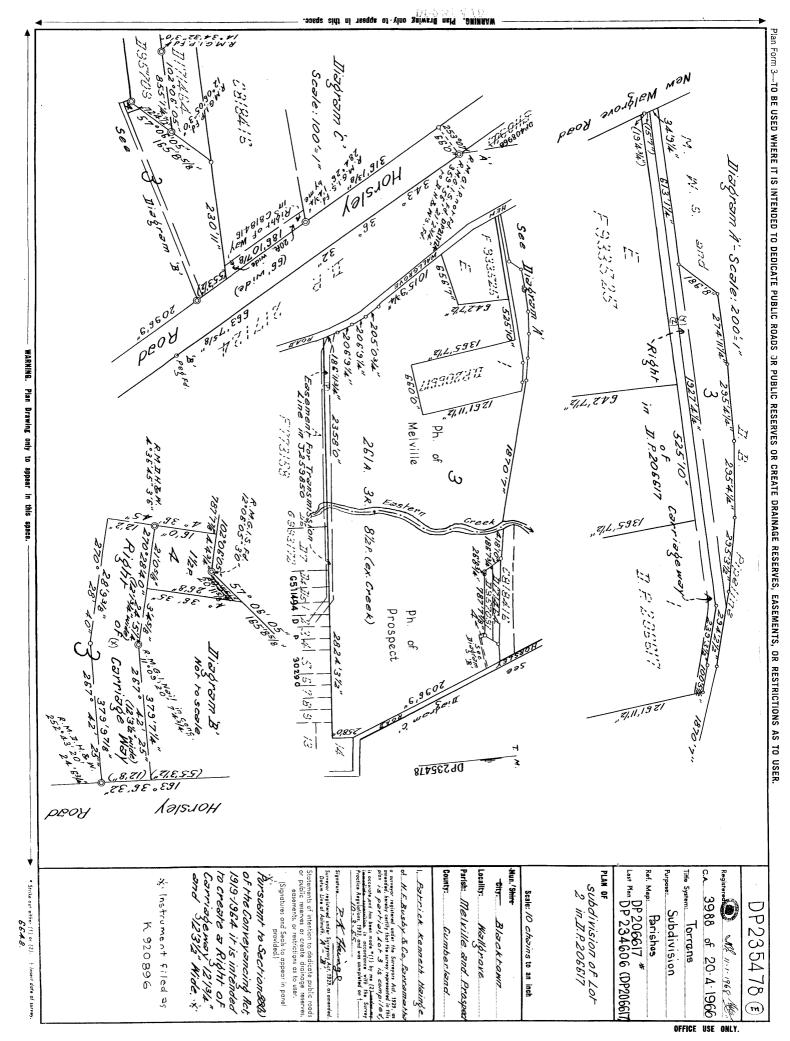
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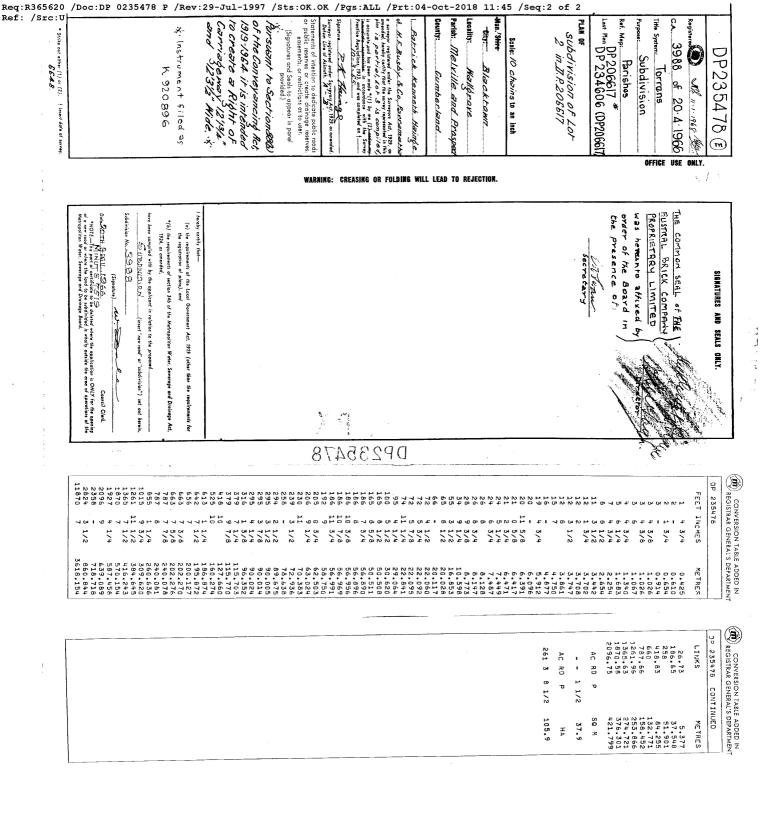
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Available: Y Size (KB): 193

Number of Pages: 2

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Transaction Details

Date: 04/10/2018 11:47

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Available: Y Size (KB): 76 Number of Pages: 1

Scan Date and Time: 11/11/1992 09:39

PlanformW6 (for transfers, leases.etc.

Municipality of
Shire of Blacktown "They consents to the within plan "A" subdivision F933525 Parish of Mewille County of Cumberland \326°33'10" 100'0" K3 ISTOH of survey of part of land in CT. Vo. 6338-Fo.87 75/40 Bay 19.00.57 & surflating of other (1) or (2). 32.1°36'40' 100'1018" Spike Pd in R.P. - Scale : 200 Feet to an Inch. (Signature) Surveyor registered under the Surveyors Act, 1928, wice-mathews tinsert date of Surrey I, Bruce Richard Davies, Registrar General for New South Wales, certify that this negative is a photograph mode as a permanent record of a document in my custody this 5th day of March, 1979 933525 DP 384514 FEET INCHES 13 3 7 1/2 AC RD P CONVERSION TABLE ADDED IN DEPARTMENT OF LANDS 6 3/4 6 3/4 4 3/4 6 1/2 0.457 0.576 0.571 5.912 5.912 24.549 20.23 30.480 30.480 30.480 30.553 1133.553 1186.872 200.127 METRES

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Background

We understand the relevant facts to be as follows, based on the documentation provided and correspondence received:

- The Austral Brick Company Pty Ltd owns land known as 780 Wallgrove Road, Horsley Park (Lot 7 DP1059698).
- Austral, through associated and related entities, has operated the business of brick
 manufacturing and the extractive industry required to facilitate that operation on the Site since
 at least 1962.
- Austral proposes to upgrade the existing plant and machinery on the site and intends to submit a request for State Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) to the Department of Planning and Environment as a preliminary step to the submission of a development application for consent to upgrade the existing facilities on the Site.
- As part of the initial SEARS consultation, the Department of Planning and Environment has
 requested confirmation that the Development Consent in fact applies to the land on which the
 current operation is undertaken and clarification in respect of the scope of the Development
 Consent, if it applies.
- You have asked us (Mills Oakley) to advise on the land to which the Development Consent applies. You have also asked that we provide advice on the scope of the existing consent, including an interpretation of the activities which it authorises and may lawfully be carried out on the site pursuant to the consent.

Detailed Advice

- 1. 780 Wallgrove Road, Horsley Park The Site history
- 1. In response to our brief and your instructions we have undertaken a set of comprehensive inquiries of the LRS system to obtain the historical title searches and documentation relating to the previous ownership and allotment structure of the Site as it is currently composed.
- The Development Consent related to an application made in respect of the following parcels of land:
 - a) Pt. Portion 36-39, New Horsley Road; and
 - b) Pt. Portions 79 and 22, Parish of Prospect
- 3. Copies of the historical title documents are enclosed with this advice at Annexure A.
- 4. We have cross checked copies of the above historic title documents against the relevant date of the Development Consent and the title boundaries of the Site as it currently exists.
- 5. Fortunately, the Site is bounded on three sides by road reserves (and has been since the date on which the Development Consent was approved) and is divided through the middle by the creek reserve known as "Eastern Creek". These physical boundaries make identification of the lots which previously existed on the Site a relatively simple task, by reference to the location of the existing roads and creek reserve.
- 6. The historical title documents at Annexure A clearly depict the allotments referenced by the Development Consent, the boundaries of which align with the boundaries of the current site and

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Deposited Plan references.

- 7. In our view, it is clear that the boundaries of the Site align with the lot boundaries of the lots nominated by, and the subject of, the Development Consent.
- 8. For completeness, the Development Consent, at the time of issue, applied to an area of land currently known as Lot 8 DP1059698 (**Lot 8**). We are informed that Lot 8 has been exhausted in terms of extraction and been subsequently subdivided and is now subject to a separate Development Consent for the resource recovery and waste facility which is operated by Veolia.
- 9. In summary, our investigations have confirmed that the allotments identified by the Development Consent now form part of the Site.
- 10. Accordingly, the development consent clearly applies to the Site.

2. What is the status of the 1960 Planning Approval and 1961 Building Approval?

- 11. By their own terms the 1960 Planning Approval and 1961 Building Approval (both numbered 145/20/33) were granted pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1919* (**Local Government Act**) and Ordinances authorised by it.
- 12. Both approvals were granted subject to conditions enumerated in the respective documents.
- 13. The Planning Approval dated 17 November 1960 approved the application for development of the Site for "the manufacture of bricks and the extraction of clay and shale" subject to conditions (1)-(8) contained in the document and the submission of plans and specifications for approval of the building and structures on the Site. .
- 14. The procedure during the period in which the consents were granted required the submission of a planning application and once approved, the submission of detailed building plans for a proposal.
- 15. Following submission of detailed plans (presumably in accordance with the Planning Approval conditions) a Building Approval was issued on 23 June 1961 pursuant to the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme Ordinance. The Building Approval authorised the erection of a range of structures, the planting of landscaping and imposed further conditions on the location of operations and operational characteristics of the use of the premises.
- 16. Through a series of transitional and deeming provisions, both the Planning Approval and Building Approval satisfy the definition of a Development Consent, as that term is defined by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and continue to operate in full force and effect accordance with their terms. We set out a summary of the relevant provisions below.

The legal framework

- 17. The legislative scheme which governed the erection of buildings in 1960 and 1961 was found in Part X1 of the Local Government Act.
- 18. The Cumberland County Planning Scheme Ordinance (**CCPSO**) was made as a schedule to *the Local Government (Amendment) Act 1951*.
- 19. The CCPSO was deemed to be an Ordinance under Part XIIA of the Act, and applied until such time as local councils within the Cumberland County district adopted their own planning scheme ordinances.
- 20. In the Blacktown Local Government Area The CCPSO was superseded by the Blacktown Planning Scheme Ordinance (**BPSO**) which was notified in the New South Wales Government



Gazette on 26 April 1968. Accordingly, at the time of the grant of both approvals the relevant Ordinance was the CCPSO.

- 21. Part VI of the CCPSO dealt with "Consents", and cl 41 provided as follows:
 - (1) Any application for the consent of the responsible authority under the provisions of this Ordinance shall be made in writing to the responsible authority by the owner or his representative appointed in writing and shall be accompanied by the following plans and particulars:
 - (a) if the application is for consent to the use of a building or work or to the use of land, a plan in triplicate sufficient to identify the land to which the application relates and particulars in writing in triplicate of the purpose for which the building, work or land is used at the date of the application and the purpose for which consent is sought;
 - (b) if the application is for consent to the erection of a building or the carrying out of a work, a plan in triplicate sufficient to identify the land to which the application relates and particulars, illustrated by maps and drawings in triplicate, sufficient to describe the building or work, its location on the site and the purpose for which it is to be used:...
 - (3) (a) The responsible authority may grant the application unconditionally or subject to such conditions as it may think proper to impose or refuse to grant such application.
 - (b) The responsible authority shall cause notice to be given to the applicant of its decision and in the case of a consent given subject to conditions or of a refusal, the reasons therefor shall be indicated in the notice.
- 22. The CCPSO made express provision for the approval of applications and both the Planning Approval and Building Approval were granted pursuant to these provisions.
- 23. Some time after the grant of the approvals, and construction of the premises, the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) came into force on 1 September 1980.
- 24. The Act reconceived the way in which Planning was undertaken in NSW and provided for procedures for the assessment of development and the grant of approvals and the concept of what is now known as, development consent.
- 25. As part of this change, the *Miscellaneous Acts (Planning) Repeal and Amendment Act 1979* (**the Planning Repeal Act**) provided for a range of provisions which addressed the transition from the Local Government Act and Cumberland County Scheme Ordinance to the operation of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- 26. Schedule 3 of the Planning Repeal Act addresses savings and transitional provisions and provides at clause 2 for Planning Scheme Ordinances made under the Local Government Act (including the CCPSO) to be classified as "former planning instruments".
- 27. Relevantly, Clause 7 of Schedule 3 of *The Miscellaneous Acts (Planning) Repeal and Amendment Act 1979* provides:

"7 Consents, approvals and permissions

(1) <u>Any consent, approval or permission granted</u> in respect of an application made <u>under a former planning instrument</u>, and in force immediately before the appointed day, shall, subject to subclause (2), <u>continue in full force and effect subject to</u>:

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- (a) the operation of any provision of that instrument or any term or condition of that consent, approval or permission governing or relating to the currency, duration or continuing legal effect of that consent, approval or permission, and
- (b) the operation of any condition (other than that referred to in paragraph (a)), restriction or limitation, subject to which that consent, approval or permission was granted...
- (4) A consent, approval or permission referred to in subclause (1) is taken to be a development consent within the meaning of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979."
- 28. The Planning Approval and subsequent Building Approval issued by Blacktown Council were granted pursuant to the Local Government Act and terms of the CCPSO and constituted an approval granted under a former planning instrument for the purposes of Clause 7, above.
- 29. Clause 7 of the Miscellaneous Acts (Planning) Repeal and Amendment Act 1979 operates to ensure that those approvals continue to remain in force, and are taken to be, development consent for the purpose of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- 30. Accordingly, the instrument of approval of both the planning approval and building approval are to be construed as Development Consents for the purpose of the Act and must be interpreted in accordance with the principles of construction developed by the Court.
 - 3. Construing the Development Consent What do they authorise?
- 31. The way in which a development consent, and its conditions, are construed is a task which the Land and Environment Court and Court of Appeal have been asked to undertake on numerous occasions.
- 32. The Courts in a number of matters have developed clear and defined principles about the way in which development consents are to be interpreted and any exercise in interpretation is required to apply these to the circumstances of each case.
- 33. The starting point for any exercise of construction is an understanding of the nature and function of a Development Consent as a public document to be relied upon. In this regard, Spiegelman CJ identified the principle clearly in *Winn v Director National Parks and Wildlife* (2001) 130 LGERA 508 at [4] in which he noted:
 - "A public document, such as a development consent, constitutes a unilateral act on the part of the consent authority expressed in a formal manner, required and intended to operate in accordance with its own terms. It has, as Stein JA points out, an inherent quality that it will be used to the benefit of subsequent owners and occupiers. It is also a document intended to be relied upon by many persons dealing with the original grantee, or assignees of the grantee, in such contexts as the provision of security. In some respects it is equivalent to a document of title. It must be construed in accordance with its enduring functions".
- 34. The Court's decision in *Winn* built on a decision of the Court of Appeal in *House of Peace Pty Ltd v Bankstown City Council* [2000] NSWCA 44 which confirmed that a use permitted by a development consent should be construed broadly and given a "fair but liberal reading of the rights it confers" at [41].
- 35. This approach was confirmed by Preston CJ in the case of *Ulan Coal Mines Limited v Minister for Planning and Moolarben Coal Mines Pty Limited* [2008] NSWLEC 185 in which the question of construction of a consent was raised, and his honour turned to the terms of the consent itself for assistance in relation to its meaning and the scope of the consent's operation.

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36. This principle was endorsed and extended by the Court of Appeal in *Allandale Blue Metal Pty Ltd v Roads and Maritime Services* [2013] NSWCA 103 at [42] in which Meagher JA observed:

The consent is not the result of a bargaining process between two or more parties, and is not personal to the applicant but ensures for the benefit of subsequent owners and occupiers. <u>Its meaning must be determined objectively, having regard to these matters which do not focus on the circumstances in which the consent was given by reference to what was known both to the applicant and the consent authority. To that extent, the principles of construction appropriate to contracts, which provide that in the case of ambiguity or uncertainty reference may be made to surrounding circumstances known to the relevant parties, do not apply: cf Codelfa Construction Pty Ltd v State Rail Authority of NSW [1982] HCA 24; 149 CLR 337 at 352; Toll (FGCT) Pty Ltd v Alphapharm Pty Ltd [2004] HCA 52; 219 CLR 165 at [40], [41].</u>

- 37. In relation to the interpretation of consents and their conditions, the Court has confirmed, on numerous occasions, that ambiguity or uncertainty does not lead to invalidity of a condition and that the court's will seek to avoid uncertainty by adopting a construction which gives statutory instruments and decisions practical effect: see, for example, Westfield Management Ltd v Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd [2006] NSWCA 245 (8 September 2006) at [36]-[40] (special leave to appeal was refused but with a qualification on proper approach to construction of conditions: Westfield Management Ltd v Perpetual Trustee Co Ltd [2007] HCA Trans 367 (1 August 2007), p 23), Anderson v Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (2006) 151 LGERA 229 at 258 [82]
- 38. The final point to note, is that the Court has found that in circumstances of uncertainty or ambiguity within a development consent, it should be construed against the interests of the Council (consent authority) rather than the interests of the developer (Ryde Municipal Council v The Royal Ryde Homes and Another (1970) 19 LGRA 321 at 324 and Matijesevic v Logan City Council (No. 2) (1983) 51 LGRA 51 at 57).
- 39. When interpreting consents, the Court has indicated clearly, that an interpretation should be adopted that gives practical effect to the terms of the development consent itself, and adopts a liberal interpretation of the rights provided by it.
- 40. In undertaking our assessment of the Development Consent, and specifically the rights which it operates to permit on the Site we have had regard to the above principles.
- 41. The relatively short and concise nature of the Development Consent has assisted in our assessment however, the lack of detail (which may be expected from a more contemporary consent) requires that an interpretation be adopted which reflects a liberal reading of the rights conferred and uses permitted by the terms of the Instruments of approval.
- 42. In our view, the scope of the consent is clear and a plain reading of it's terms is sufficient to give practical effect to the authorisation which it provides.
- 43. Applying the above principles to the Development Consent it expressly authorises a number of activities to be carried out on the Site.
- 44. The Development Consent by its own terms expressly authorises the use of the Site for:
 - a. The manufacture of bricks;
 - b. The extraction of clay; and
 - c. The extraction of shale.
- 45. In the absence of detailed conditions or provisions which address the way in which those processes are to be carried out, in our view, the Development Consent also authorises processes and activities reasonably necessary to undertake the expressly authorised uses of the Site.

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- 46. In this regard, activities such as stockpiling, loading, storage and grading of material are activities contemplated and necessarily implied by the terms of the Development Consent. This interpretation accords with the court's approach in *House of Peace* and also the principles identified in *Westfield* and *Royal Ryde Homes*.
- 47. Clearly, the processes associated with the manufacture of bricks and extraction of material required for that purpose have developed and evolved over time. The manner in which these processes occur is not something which is restricted by the Development Consent and is something which is expressly contemplated by a number of authorities including Grace v Thomas Street Café Pty Ltd (2007) 159 LGERA 57 at [56]-[69].
- 48. Accordingly, we are of the view that the method of manufacturing and extraction is not specifically constrained by the Development Consent beyond the physical specifications provided for by the terms of the Building Authorisation and subsequent consents for constructions of structures on the Site.
- 49. The operation of the premises has, as expected, evolved to meet the contemporary standards and processes associated with the manufacture of bricks, which is expressly authorised and permitted by the Development Consent.
- 50. In terms of structures, the physical requirements for the site and location of plant are expressly dealt with by the Development Consent and specifically conditions (a) through (f) of the Building Approval dated 23 June 1961.
- 51. We understand subsequent approvals have been obtained by Austral for other structures on site however, the general layout and areas of use are defined and continue to operate as defined by the Development Consent.
- 52. In our view, the terms of the Development Consent are clear and expressly authorise the use of the Site for processes required for and associated with the manufacturing of bricks and extraction of clay and shale material at the Site. Although less detailed than a contemporary consent, a simple application of the principles of construction developed by the Court allow the Development Consent to operate with practical and ongoing effect.

Summary

- 53. In our view, the Development Consent clearly operates to permit the manufacture of bricks, the extraction of clay and shale material and processes and activities associated with the extraction and manufacturing which is to occur on Site.
- 54. The only limits provided on the use of the Site are contained within the Development Consent itself and prescribe expressly the areas on which extraction and manufacture are not to be undertaken, such as areas within 100 ft of the Water Pipeline and 50 feet of the road.
- 55. The Development Consent applies to the Site and may lawfully be relied upon to undertake manufacturing and extraction in accordance with its terms. In this regard, the processes to carry out the manufacture and extraction are not restricted by the Development Consent and are to be read liberally to give practical effect to the Development Consent, which may include the use of more contemporary processes for manufacturing not contemplated at the time the Development Consent was granted.

If you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact Matt Sonter on +61 2 8035 7850 or msonter@millsoakley.com.au

NOTICE



Yours sincerely

Matt Sonter Partner

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