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19-23 Rosalind St, Cammeray

Aboriginal Due Diligence Report

February 2026

We acknowledge the Cammeraygal the Traditional Owners of the land on which 19-23 Rosalind St, Cammeray sits today. **We recognise the Cammeraygal's continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging**.

Document Information

Citation

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Local Government Area

North Sydney

Cover Image

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This report has been prepared based on research by Curio Projects specialists. Historical sources and reference material used in the preparation of this report are acknowledged and referenced at the end of each section and in figure captions.

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1. Introduction

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1. Introduction

1.1. The Purpose of this Report

This Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment (DD) has been prepared by Curio Projects (Curio) on behalf of Perifa Rosalind Development Pty Ltd (Perifa) to assess the potential environmental impacts that could arise from the construction of a seniors housing development (the development) at 19-23 Rosalind Street, Cammeray (the study area). This report supports the assessment of the proposed development under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*

Industry specific SEARs were issued on 17 October 2025 for the development. Development for the purposes of seniors housing with an Estimated Development Cost (EDC) of more than $30 million and includes a residential care facility is state significant development under Schedule 1, Section 28 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems)* 2021 (Planning Systems SEPP). The proposed development has an EDC exceeding $30 million and includes a residential care facility component. Accordingly, it is considered State Significant Development.

The purpose of this DD is to identify whether or not Aboriginal cultural heritage site/s or objects are likely to be present within the study area, and whether or not ground disturbance would be likely to harm Aboriginal objects (if present), and whether further assessment is required for the study area.

This Aboriginal Due Diligence Report comprises an Assessment to identify the likelihood potential of any surface or subsurface Aboriginal Archaeological Deposits. This report will aim to identify any development constraints and legislated requirements that will need to be considered in future stages. This report has been prepared with reference to the following documents:

- North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013
- North Sydney Development Control Plan 2025
- ICOMOS 2013. *Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance*, the Burra Charter (Burra Charter).
- DECCW, 2010, *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW*

1.2. Site Identification

The site is located at 19–23 Rosalind Street, Cammeray within the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA). It comprises three (3) allotments legally described as SP4657, SP5218 and SP16181, and occupies a total area of approximately 4,100m². A site aerial showing each allotment is provided in Figure 1.1. Each respective lot currently comprises a three (3) storey residential flat building with the two (2) of the rear buildings situated on battleaxe allotments connected to Rosalind Street. The apartment complexes contain internal courtyards, asphalt and concrete driveways and an open parking area along the eastern side of the study area.

Figure 1.1: Study Area indicated in green with lot numbers SP4657, SP5218, and SP16181 indicated.

1.3. Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

In accordance with section 4.39 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for SSD-96505456 were issued on 17 October 2025. This report has been prepared to respond to the relevant issued SEARs, as set out in the table below.

SEAR	Response
21. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Where there is known, or reasonably likely, to be Aboriginal cultural heritage on or near the site demonstrate that impacts have been adequately investigated and assessed by: • Identifying that an appropriate prior planning process has already considered these impacts, e.g. a rezoning or development application, or • Providing an initial assessment of the potential impacts. If potential impacts are significant, provide an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) which: • Identifies, describes and assesses any impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites or values associated with the site • Is prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines.	If required: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report This document has been prepared to address this SEAR.
22. Environmental Heritage Where there is potential for direct or indirect impacts on environmental heritage, provide a Statement of Heritage Impact and Archaeological Assessment (where required), in accordance with the relevant guidelines.	If required: Statement of Heritage Impact and Archaeological Assessment Curio has prepared both a Statement of Heritage Impact and an Archaeological Assessment to address this SEAR.

1.4. Limitations and Constraints

The Due Diligence Code of Practice states that 'consultation with the Aboriginal community is not a formal requirement of the due diligence process', however, as the determinants and custodians of their own heritage, only Aboriginal people are able to provide useful information regarding Aboriginal cultural and social values and significance. No consultation with the local Aboriginal community, however, has been undertaken as part of this assessment, and therefore no social or cultural assessment of Aboriginal heritage values has been undertaken at this time.

This report constitutes a desktop assessment only and has been prepared using available historical data and documentation available for the study area including archaeological reports and assessments. No further historical or archival research was undertaken.

1.5. Authorship and Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by Kieran McGee, Archaeologist, with review by Rebecca Agius, Senior Archaeologist and Heritage Specialist, both of Curio Projects.

2. Statutory Context

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2. Statutory Context

2.1. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act), administered by the Aboriginal Heritage Planning Section of Heritage NSW, is the primary legislation that provides statutory protection for all 'Aboriginal objects' (Part 6, Section 86, Section 90) and 'Aboriginal places' (Part 6, Section 84) within NSW.

An Aboriginal object is defined through the NPW Act as:

> *Any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.*

The NPW Act provides the definition of 'harm' to Aboriginal objects and places as:

> *...any act or omission that:*
>
> *a) Destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or*
>
> *b) In relation to an object – moves the object from the land on which it has been situated, or*
>
> *c) Is specified by the regulations, or*
>
> *d) Causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b), or (c)*

The NPW Act also establishes penalties for 'harm' to Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places, as well as defences and exemptions for harm. One of the main defences against the harming of Aboriginal objects and cultural material is to seek an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the NPW Act, under which disturbance to Aboriginal objects could be undertaken, in accordance with the requirements of an approved AHIP.

2.2. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (NSW) 1979

The NSW Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure administers the EPA Act, which provides the legislative context for environmental planning instruments to be made to legislate and guide and the process of development and land use. Local heritage items, including known archaeological items, identified Aboriginal Places and heritage conservation areas are protected through listings on Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) or Regional Environmental Plans (REPs). The EPA Act also requires that potential Aboriginal and historical, archaeological resources are adequately assessed and considered as part of the development process, following the requirements of the NPW Act and the Heritage Act.

Part 4, Division 4.1 of the EP&A Act identifies and defines State Significant Development projects as those declared under Section 89C of the EP&A Act. SSD and State Significant Infrastructure projects (SSI), replace 'Concept Plan' project approvals, in accordance with Part 3A of this Act (repealed in 2011).

When a project is assessed to be SSD, the process of development approval differs with certain approvals and legislation no longer applicable to the project. Of relevance to the assessment of

Aboriginal heritage for a development, the requirement for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) in accordance with Section 90 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act) is removed for SSD projects (EP&A Act Section 89J).

The project does meet the criteria for SSDA and therefore is not subject to the provisions of the NPW Act.

2.2.1. North Sydney Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2013

The North Sydney LEP 2013 provides local environmental planning provisions for land within the North Sydney LGA. Part 5.10 of the North Sydney LEP 2013 outlines the controls for heritage conservations including the conservation of Aboriginal objects, Aboriginal places of heritage significance, built heritage and archaeological sites.

Part 5.10(8) of the North Sydney LEP 2013 requires:

> *The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development in an Aboriginal place of heritage significance—*
>
> *(a) consider the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the place and any Aboriginal object known or reasonably likely to be located at the place by means of an adequate investigation and assessment (which may involve consideration of a heritage impact statement), and*
>
> *(b) notify the local Aboriginal communities, in writing or in such other manner as may be appropriate, about the application and take into consideration any response received within 28 days after the notice is sent.*

2.2.2. North Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP) 2025

The North Sydney DCP 2025 is a non-statutory development control plan that provides the detailed design guidelines to support the North Sydney LEP 2013. The DCP provides guidance on how development may occur and includes primary objectives to ensure that items of environmental and cultural heritage are conserved, respected, and protected.

According to Provisions P1 and P2 Part C- Heritage Conservation, Section 2 – Aboriginal Heritage, of the North Sydney DCP 2025 applicants must:

> *P1 Obtain relevant approvals from the Aboriginal Heritage Office prior to commencing work where a site contains, or has potential for Aboriginal objects.*
>
> *P2 Building and landscaping works, including paths and driveways are not to disturb any Aboriginal objects.*

2.3. Heritage NSW (former OEH) Guidelines

In order to best implement and administer the protection afforded to Aboriginal objects and places as through the NPW and EP&A Acts, the former NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (now part of Heritage NSW) have prepared a series of guidelines with regards to Aboriginal heritage. These guidelines are designed to assist developers, landowners and archaeologists to better understand their statutory obligations with regard to Aboriginal heritage in NSW and implements best practice policies into their investigation of Aboriginal heritage values and archaeology in relation to their land and/or development. These guidelines include:

- *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010) (The Due Diligence Code of Practice).
- *Guide to Investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH 2011a) (Guide to Investigating).
- *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW 2010b) (Code of Practice).
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010c)(Consultation Guidelines).
- *Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits, A Guide for Applicants* (OEH 2011b)

The purpose of the Due Diligence Code of Practice is to '*assist individuals and organisations to exercise due diligence when carrying out activities that may harm Aboriginal objects and to determine whether they should apply for consent in the form of an AHIP*'. This current report has been prepared in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice.

2.3.1. The Due Diligence Process

The Due Diligence process (in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice guidelines) (Figure 2.1), is a step-by-step process that provides proponents with a reasonable method to follow to determine whether their proposed activity has the potential to harm Aboriginal objects, and to identify reasonable constraints and opportunities of the activity, relating to Aboriginal heritage in the activity location. The primary steps of the Due Diligence process are:

- Step 1 – Determine whether the activity will disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees.
- Step 2a – Database search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Services (AHIMS), and other known sources to determine whether any registered sites are located within or near the study area.
- Step 2b – Environmental and Landscape Assessment.
- Step 3 – Impact Avoidance Assessment.
- Step 4 – Desktop Assessment and Visual Inspection.

Following this process, should the assessment determine that Aboriginal objects are likely to be present and have potential to be impacted, the Due Diligence Code of Practice advises further investigation and impact assessment (Step 5). Should the assessment determine that Aboriginal objects are unlikely to be present/unlikely to be harmed through the proposed activity, then the activity may proceed with caution.

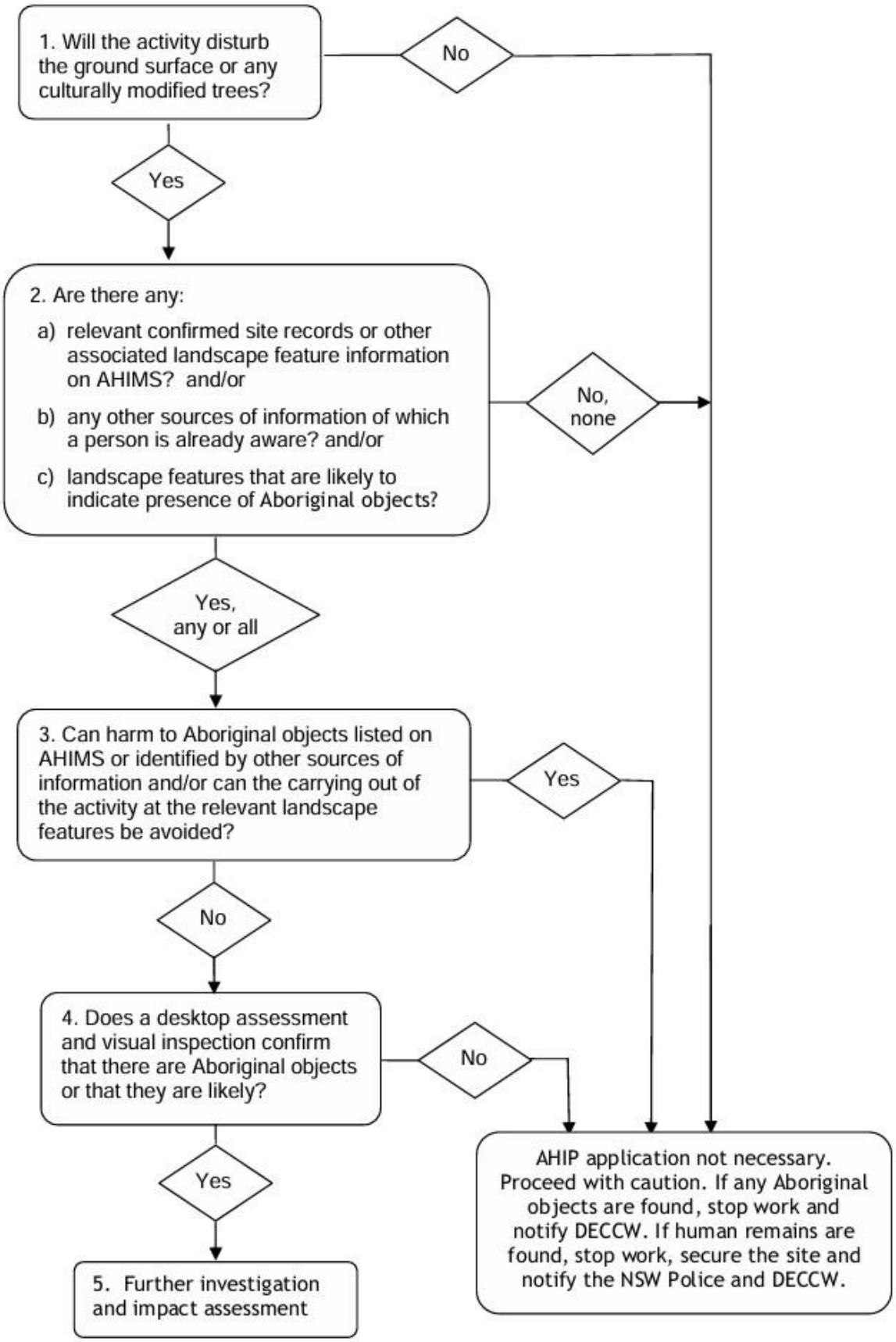

Figure 2.1: Outline of the Due Diligence process Source: OEH 2010a

3. Due Diligence Assessment

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3. Due Diligence Assessment

The following section assesses Aboriginal archaeological potential using the steps outlined in the Due Diligence Code of Practice.

3.1. Is the proposed activity low impact for which there is a defence in the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019?

No. Due to the proposed significant ground disturbing works the proposed activity high impact and does not qualify for a defence.

3.2. Step 1: Will the proposed activity disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees?

Yes, the proposed development includes the bulk excavation of the entire study area to a two-level depth, with the exception of setbacks. This entails the disturbance of almost the entire ground surface. No cultural trees have been identified within the study area as a part of this study. The proposal is also located within a highly urbanised area with little to no remnant native vegetation.

3.2.1. Proposed Development

The proposed development includes the construction of a new seniors housing development and comprises the following works:

- Site preparation works including demolition of three (3) existing residential flat buildings and associated parking facilities as well as bulk excavation
- Construction of two (2), five (5) and six (6) storey buildings, Building A and B respectively, comprising the following:
  - Building A:
    - 7 x 2-bedroom ILUs
    - 11 x 3-bedroom ILUs
    - Internal communal space for use by residents
  - Building B:
    - 11 x 2-bedroom ILUs
    - 20 x 3-bedroom ILUs
    - Two (2) residential care facility beds and residential care hub
    - Internal communal facilities for use by all residents comprising a cinema, private dining room, gymnasium and pool
- Communal open space and associated landscaping
- Construction of two (2) basement levels to facilitate car parking accessible via Rosalind Street
- Ground Level neighbourhood shop located in Building A
- Extension and augmentation of utility infrastructure as required

The proposal also includes a new stormwater connection within the Rosalind Street road reserve, running from the development's discharge point to tie into Council's existing drainage system near No. 39 Rosalind Street. The Stormwater Management Plan[1] describes this as a new 375 mm diameter reinforced concrete pipe, with a new kerb inlet pit/chamber arrangement along Rosalind Street.

[1] Innovis, 2025, *19-23 Rosalind Street, Cammeray NSW Stormwater Management Plan*. Prepared for Perifa Rosalind Development

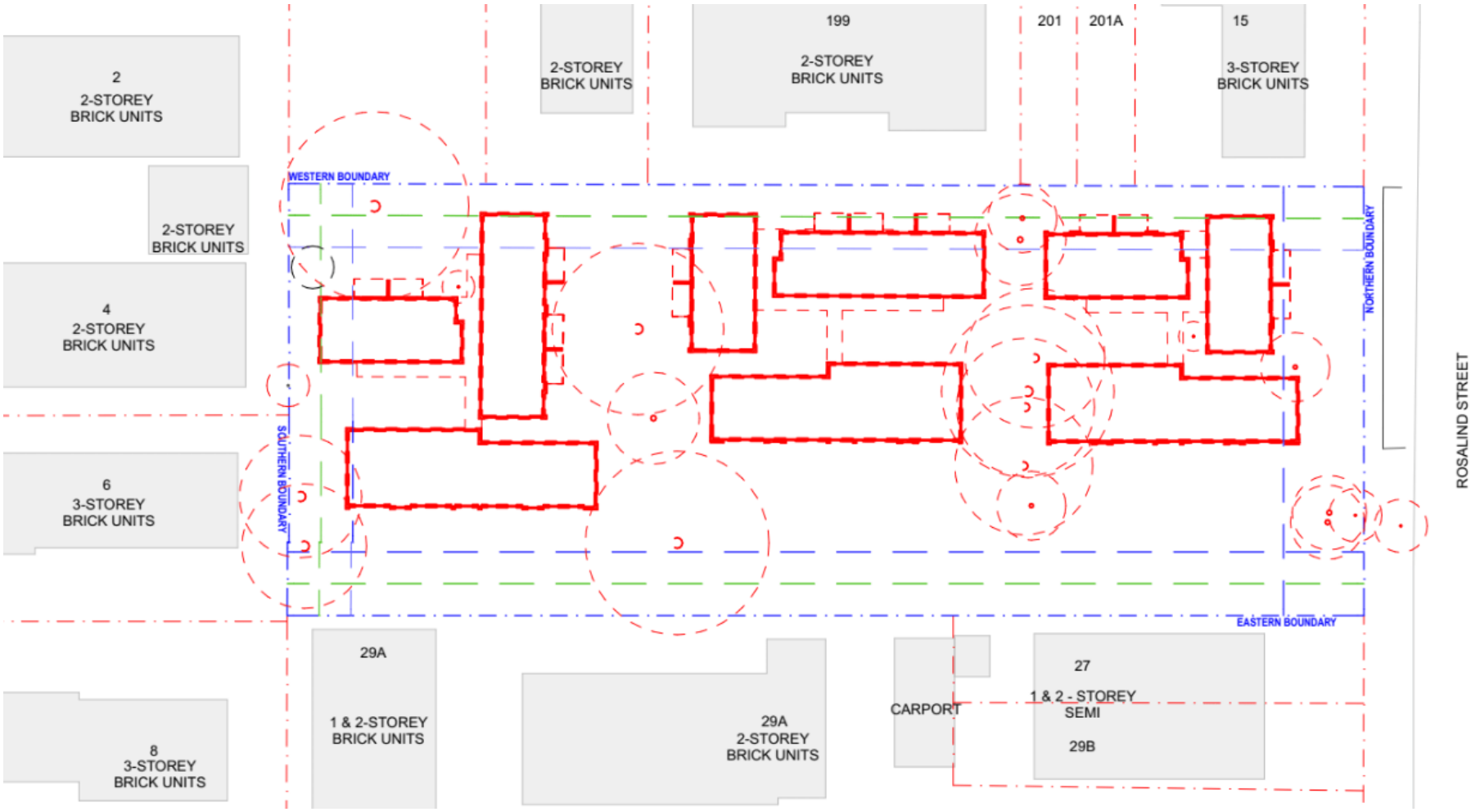


Figure 3.1: Demolition Plan
Source: CHROFI 2026

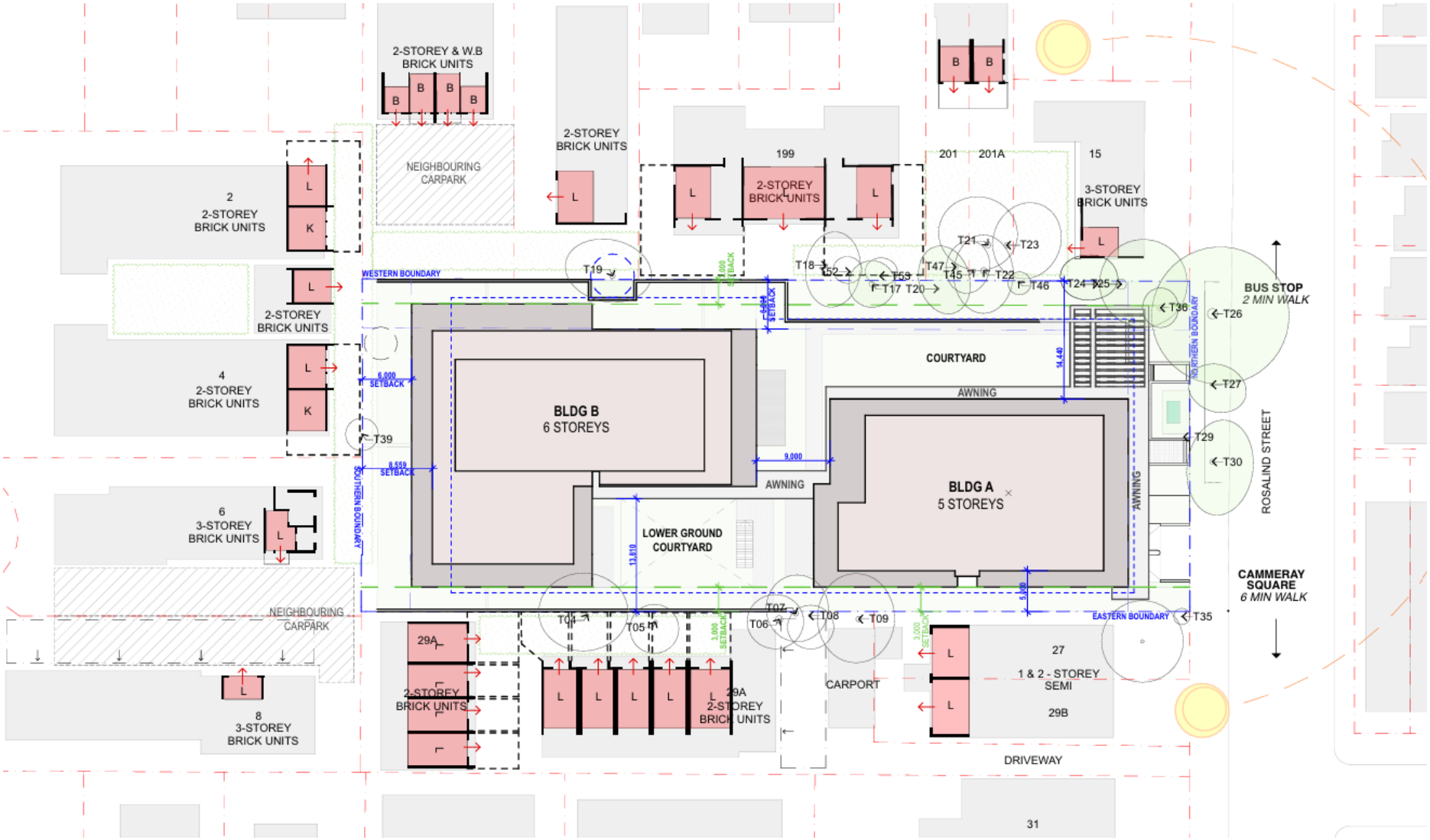


Figure 3.2: Site analysis of proposed works
Source: CHROFI 2026

Figure 3.3: Basement 2 proposed plan
Source: CHROFI 2026

Figure 3.4: Lower ground proposed plan
Source: CHROFI 2026

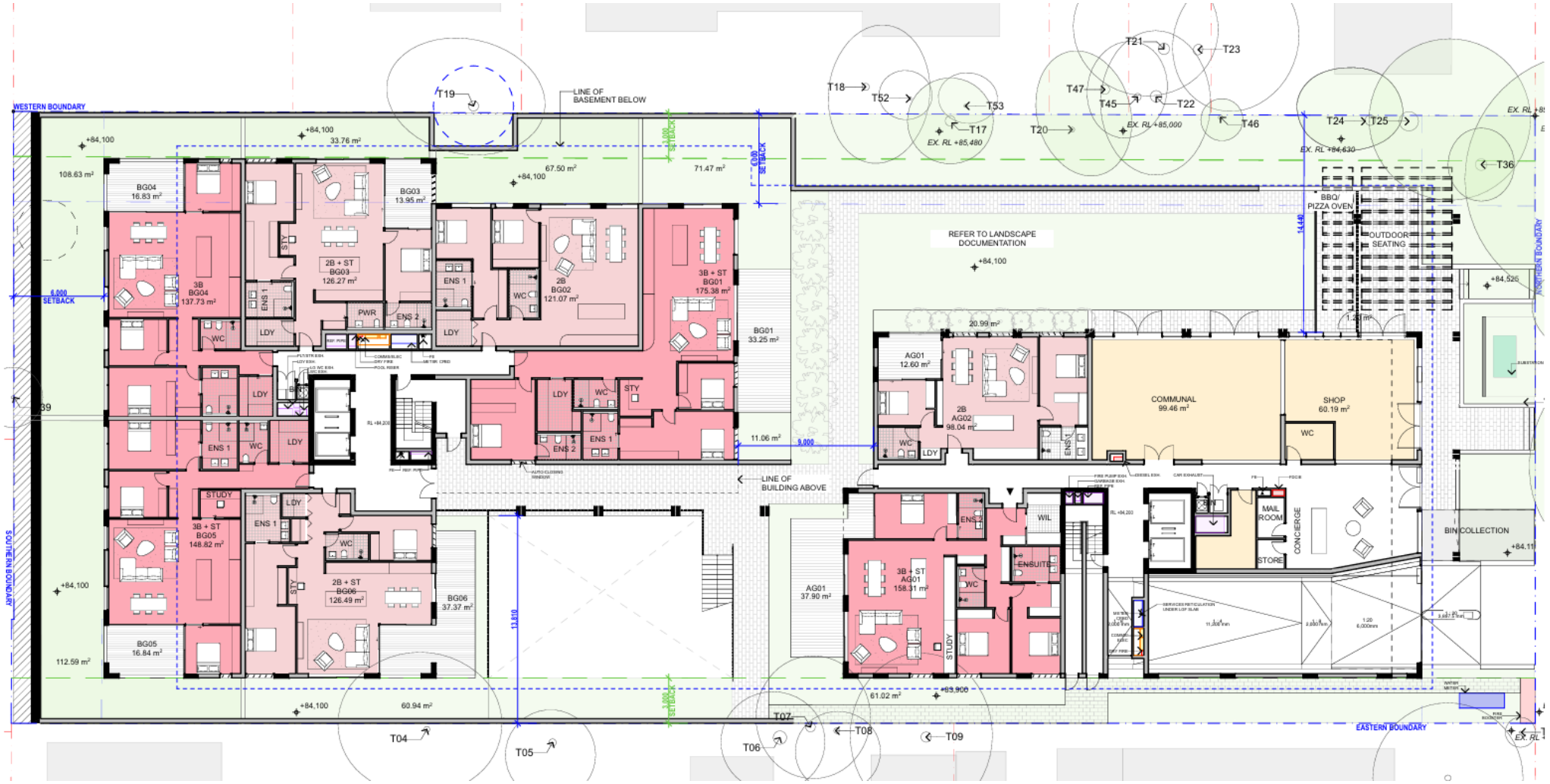


Figure 3.5: Ground floor proposed plan
Source: CHORFI 2026

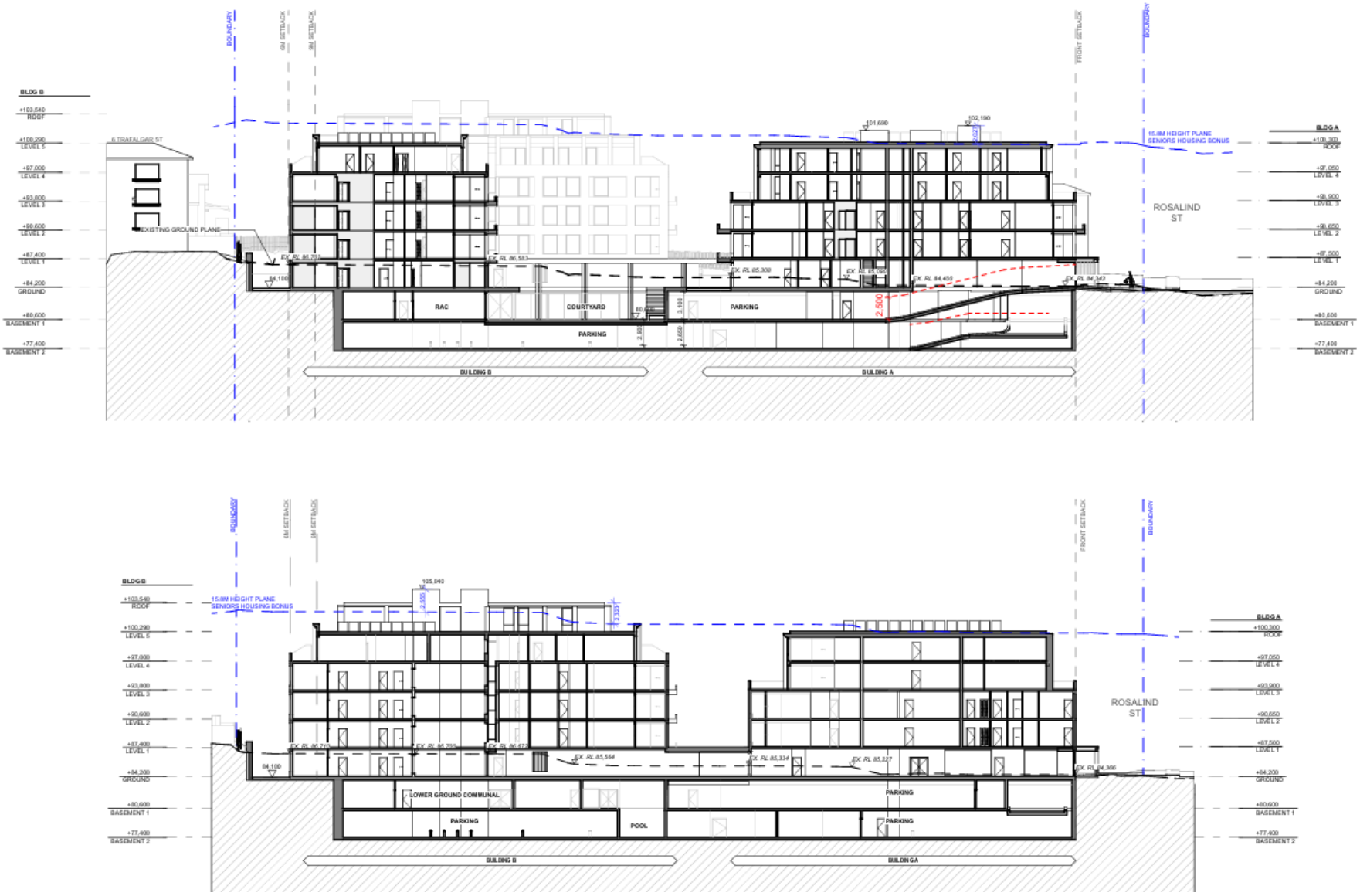


Figure 3.6: Sections
Source: CHROFI 2026

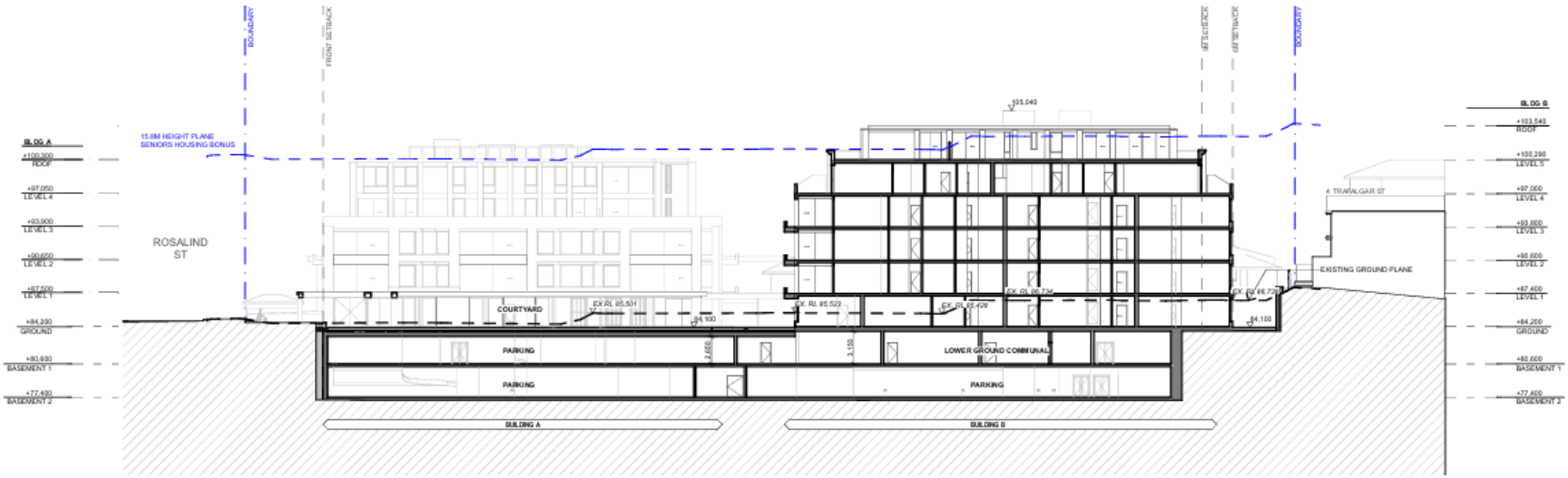


Figure 3.7: Sections
Source: CHROFI 2026

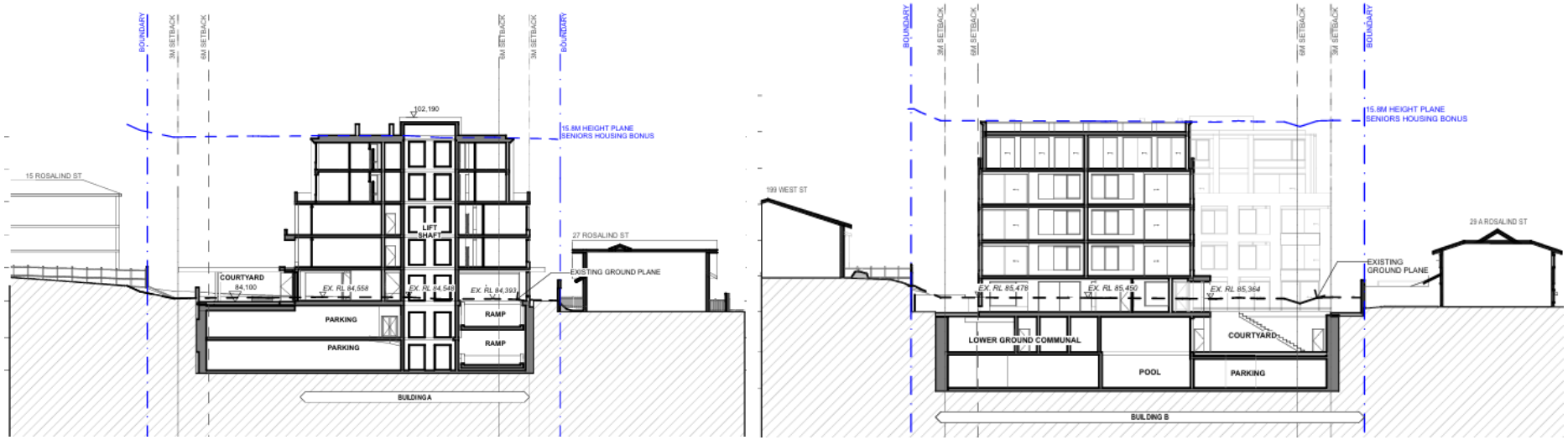


Figure 3.8: Sections
Source: CHROFI 2026

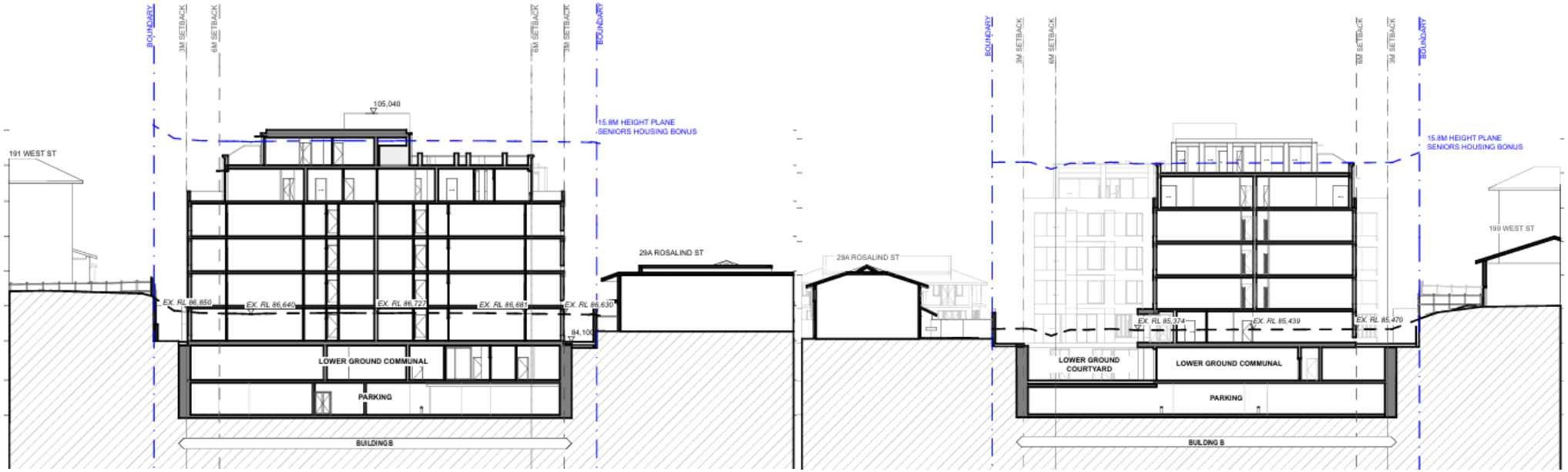


Figure 3.9: Sections
Source: CHROFI 20265

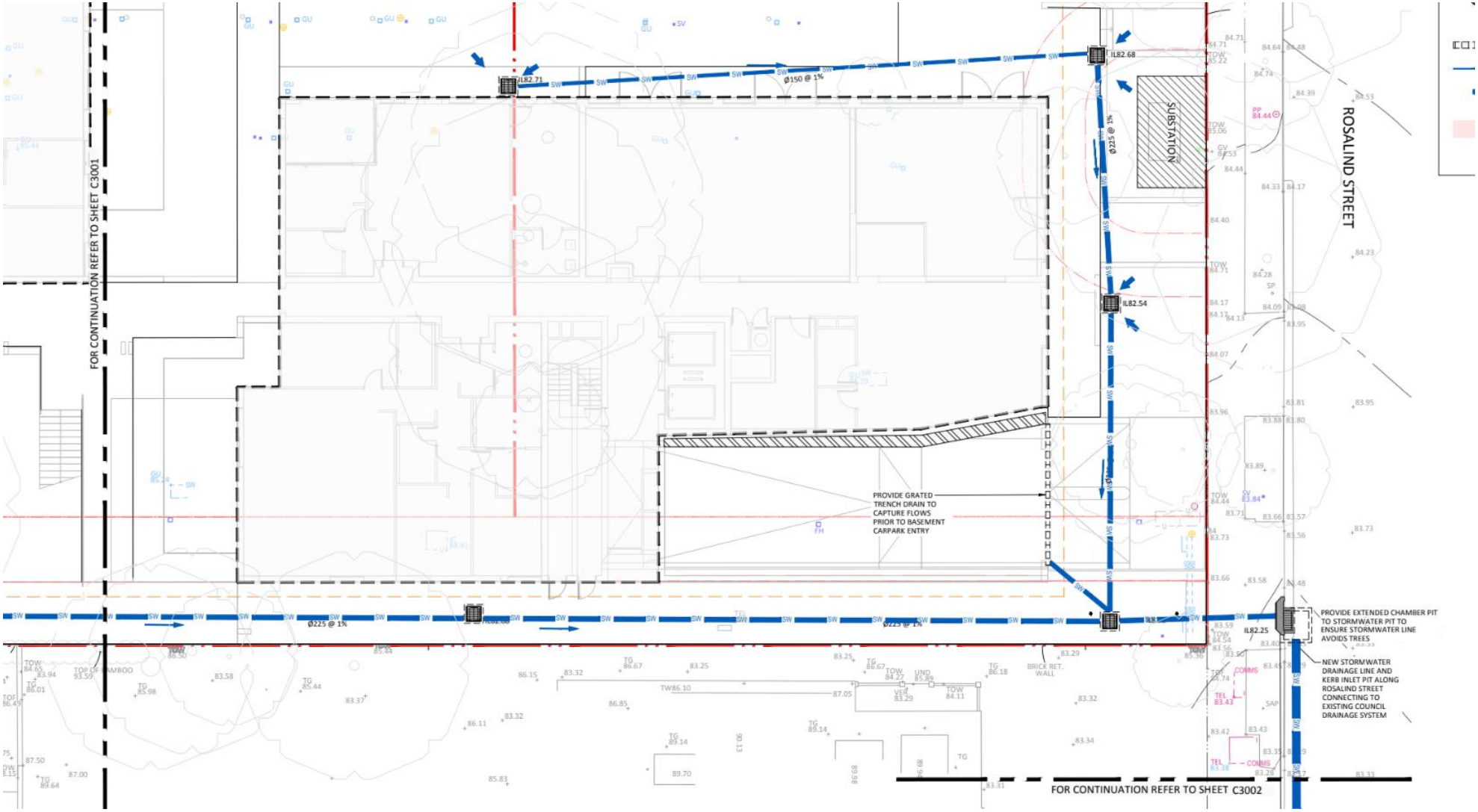


Figure 3.10: Siteworks and drainage plan
Source: Innovis Agile Outcomes 2025

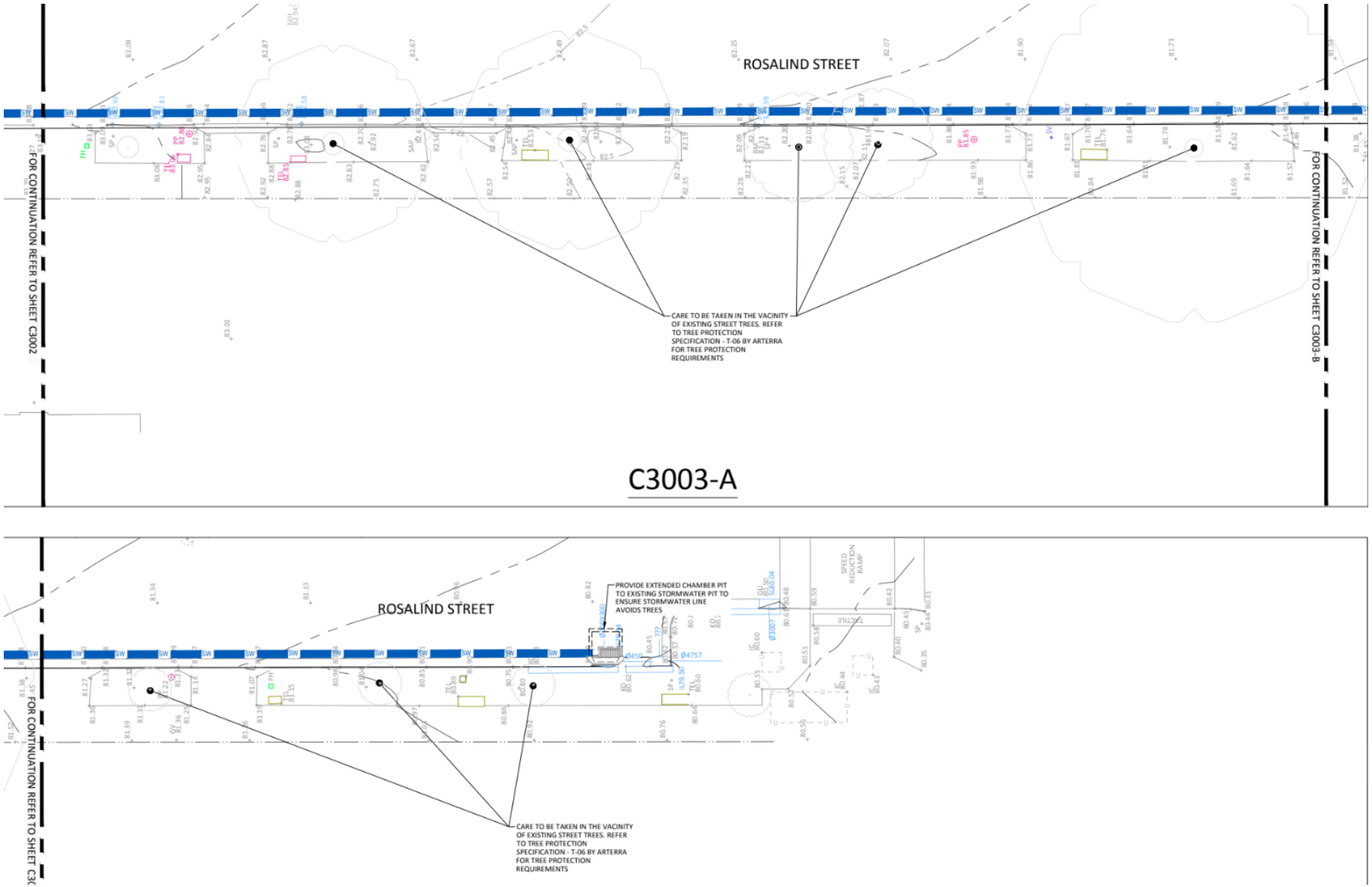


Figure 3.11: Siteworks and drainage plan
Source: Innovis Agile Outcomes 2025

3.1. Step 2a: Database Search

3.1.1. AHIMS Search

An extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database was undertaken on 23/10/2025 centred on the study area with a buffer of 1000m (Figure 3.12). The search results identified 3 registered sites. No Aboriginal sites are identified as being located within the study area. The extensive search results are available in Appendix A – AHIMS Search.

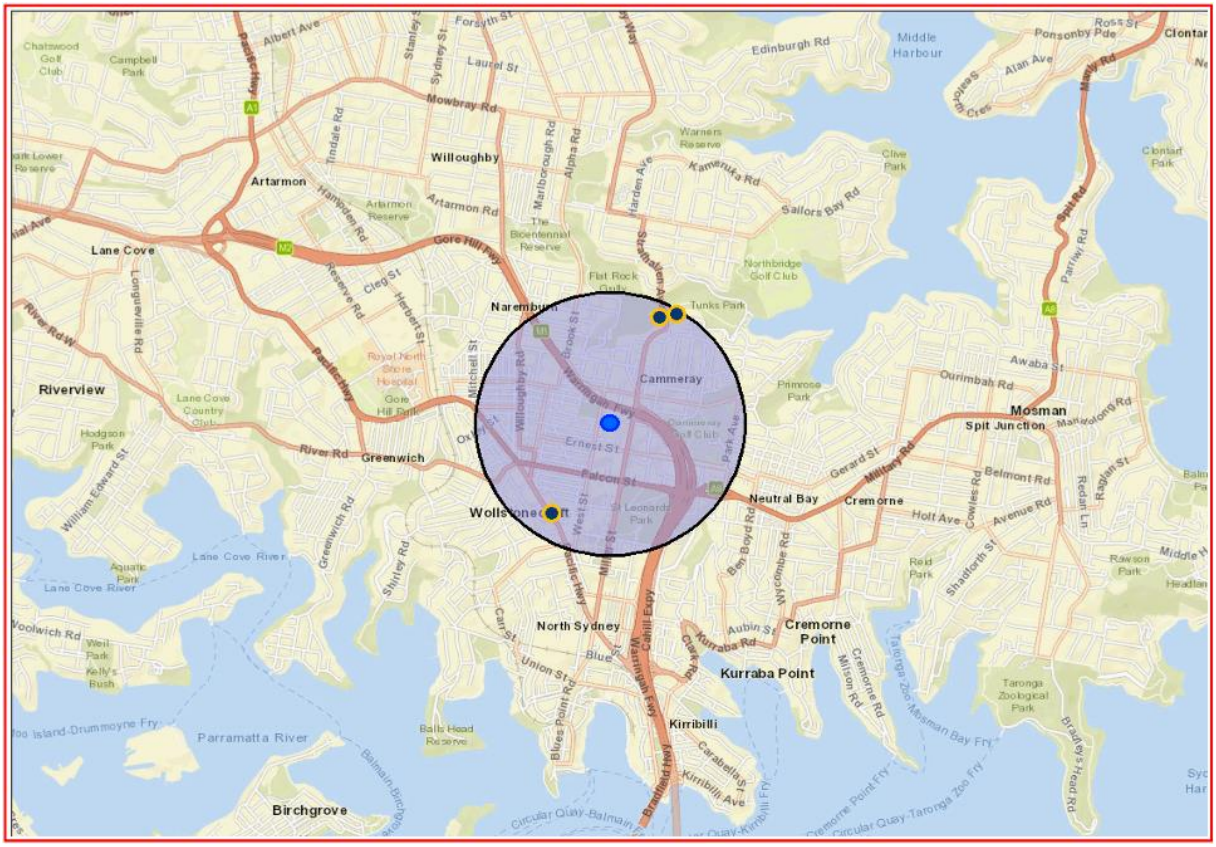


Figure 3.12– Map showing study area location (blue dot), AHIMS extensive search results (gold bordered black dots) and 1000m circular search zone. Note south-west site located near Pacific Highway is not considered a site (45-6-0825)

The AHIMS database is a record of archaeological work and Aboriginal heritage within NSW. The majority of archaeological work is triggered by statutory requirements related to development projects. As such, AHIMS results for the search area are controlled by the presence of Aboriginal archaeological deposits, the amount of development and research within the search area and whether the development occurred within periods with reporting requirements. Therefore, AHIMS does not represent the true archaeological potential of the search area and should only serve as a starting point to inform the potential for further research, rather than be classified as a definitive or exhaustive record of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the study area.

45-6-0825 Myrtle Street – Not a Site

The site card explains that this site contains sea shell material which "superficially resembles aboriginal midden" but is instead natural material used as filling. It is included in AHIMS in case of future reports.

45-6-2539 Suspension Bridge Rockshelter (west) – Shelter with Midden

The site card reports a rockshelter containing two midden deposits. The middens are likely less than 30 cm deep and contain Anadara and Oyster shell.

45-6-0633 Mosman;Flat Rock Creek;Tunks Park 1; - Shelter with Art, Shelter with Midden

The site card reports a large sandstone rock shelter (56m x 11m) within a cliff line. 9 Red ochre (7 indeterminate figures, 2 infilled boomerangs) figures are present on the eastern end of the cave wall. The site also contains a shell midden at least 80 cm deep.

3.1.2. Other Heritage Registers

There are no Aboriginal heritage items or sites registered on statutory or non-statutory heritage registers within or in the direct vicinity of the study area. This, however, is likely due to the fact that the study area is unlikely to have been the subject of any Aboriginal investigations over the years, rather than the likelihood that there is no potential for Aboriginal objects to be discovered.

No Aboriginal archaeological deposits are contained within the North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013. Furthermore, a search of Trove (National Library of Australia) and The State Library of NSW for articles indicating Aboriginal activity in the Cammeray area which would create archaeological deposits was undertaken and found no results.

3.1.3. Other Source of Information: Comparative Assessments

A review of previous archaeological investigations is a critical component in assessing the potential archaeological resource of a site. Comparative analysis of studies conducted in the region, on similar landforms, or within analogous site types can provide valuable insights into the likely nature and extent of archaeological material that may be present. Such reviews serve as an important proxy for predicting site conditions prior to any subsurface investigation. Given the inherently destructive nature of archaeological excavation, it is essential to maximise existing knowledge to inform a targeted and efficient research strategy and to minimise unnecessary ground disturbance.

Aboriginal North Sydney: an outline of indigenous history (2019)[2]

The North Sydney Council compiled and designed this report, authored by Dr Ian Hoskins, as an overview of the Aboriginal life, country and sites in North Sydney. The report can be used as a very general review of the likely archaeological deposits present within the study area.

The report suggests local Cammeraygal people primarily lived on the coast, with the most likely type of sites to occur were in the form of rockshelters and midden. However, the report argues that this may be an observation bias as coastal groups were more easily observed than forest groups by colonial writers. As the study area is over 1km from the nearest primary body of water, the likely resources locally obtained were berries, yam, fern-root, banksia flowers, and honey. Animal resources included ring-tailed possums, bandicoots and quolls. With the exception of animal bone, it is unlikely that any other remains would survive within the study area.

[2] Hoskins, *Aboriginal North Sydney: An Outline of Indigenous History*.

Port Jackson archaeological project: a study of the prehistory of the Port Jackson catchment, New South Wales. Stage I – site recording and site assessment (1991)[3]

Dr Val Attenbrow completed an assessment of the research and survival potential of archaeological sites around Port Jackson (now Sydney Harbour). This project focussed on the survival of archaeological and midden deposits. The great majority of the identified sites were coastal and/or rock shelter based.

An Archaeological survey of Northbridge Golf Links by Bobbie Oakley (1984) [4]

Bobbie Oakley produced a contracted survey of Northbridge Park, now Northbridge Golf Club, located approximately 1200m to the northeast of the study area. The survey found five shelters with archaeological deposit, four open middens, five potential habitation sites, and an engraving site.

Bo-rā-ne Ya-goo-na Par-ry-boo-go Yesterday Today Tomorrow An Aboriginal History of Willoughby (2009)[5]

This book is a history of the Cammeraygal people, on whose land the study area is located. It contains multiple observations of Cammeraygal material culture and cultural practices which could produce archaeological deposits. These include but are not limited to, funerary pyres and burials, ochre ornamentation, fishing and hunting practices, middens, the occupation of rockshelters, use of hearths, canoes, spears, animal traps, rock art engravings and painting.

Caring For Badu - An Aboriginal history of the Flat Rock, Tunks Park and Middle Harbour area (2024)[6]

Geoffrey Hunt completed this report for the North Sydney Council as an enforceable undertaking for Sydney Water. The oldest dated site on the north shore is a midden within the vicinity of Flat Rock Creek with an age of 6000-5450 years bp (before present or years before 1950). Similar to previous assessments, the most common types of observed sites include: fish traps, shell middens (over 31% of recorded sites), rockshelters (58% of recorded sites), art sites, deposits of seeds and bones, stone tools and burials. Open camps are rare and/or difficult to observe in the archaeological record but are indicated by scatters of artefacts and campfire hearth remains. Scar trees were also produced, by either removing bark for tools or by carving designs into the tree. Sandstone outcrops can exhibit grinding grooves, symbolic engravings, and artificially enlarged hollows for water storage. Fire management also occurred throughout the bush, which may be evidenced by layers of ash.

Stone tools are likely to be made of quartz pebbles derived from Hawkesbury Sandstone, basaltic rocks, silcrete, river cobbles, ad various stone imported from greater distances.

3.2. Step 2b: Are there any landscape features that are likely to indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects?

The physical setting of the study area, its natural resources, landforms, and wider landscape setting has a significant influence over the nature, location, and form of Aboriginal occupation and usage patterns through their interactions with the land (tangible values and site), while also providing a meaningful landscape context for intangible heritage and connection to Country.

[3] Attenbrow, "Port Jackson Archaeological Project: A Study of the Prehistory of the Port Jackson Catchment, New South Wales. Stage I - Site Recording and Site Assessment."
[4] Bobbietje Oakley, *An Archaeological Survey of the Northbridge Golf Links*.
[5] Counsell, "Bo-Ra-Ne Ya-Goo-Na Par-Ry-Boo-Go: Yesterday Today Tomorrow-an Aboriginal History of Willoughby."
[6] Hunt, *Caring for Badu: An Aboriginal History of the Flat Rock, Tunks Park and Middle Harbour Area*.

The Due Diligence Code of Practice identifies certain landscape features that have the high potential for Aboriginal archaeological resources and cultural heritage. Under the Code of Practice, the following landscape features are identified as having high potential for Aboriginal objects.

- within 200m of waters, or
- located within a sand dune system, or
- located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland, or
- located within 200m below or above a cliff face, or
- within 20m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

3.2.1. Hydrology and Topography

Water availability and topography are recognised factors that can aid in developing predictive modelling of patterns of life and movement of Aboriginal communities prior to European occupation. An understanding of natural hydrology, landscapes and landform patterning can provide information regarding potential resources that would have been available locally to the study area.

The hydrology of an area also impacts the formation and preservation of archaeological deposits. Hydrological events and characteristics including flooding, waterflows and drainage can impact the preservation of, create, or destroy archaeological deposits.

Currently, Flat Rock Creek is the closest permanent body of water (600m to the north), with Willoughby Creek 700m to the east. Early maps depict Willoughby Creek extended further west, such that the study area was within 100m of the creek (Figure 3.13 to Figure 3.15). This increases the potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits, especially those related to estuarine site exploitation including middens and shell deposits.

The topography of an area influences the formation and preservation of archaeological deposits. The study area is essentially level and not in close proximity to any ridge tops, ridge lines, or headlands. The study area is not located within 200m below or above a cliff face nor is the study area within 20m of a cave, rock shelter, or cave mouth. The lack of attractive landscape features decreases the likelihood of Aboriginal archaeological deposits.

As such, the study area may have historically been within proximity to a permanent body of water, a landscape feature indicating a high potential for archaeological resources. However, the lack of high potential topographical features lowers the overall potential for the study area.

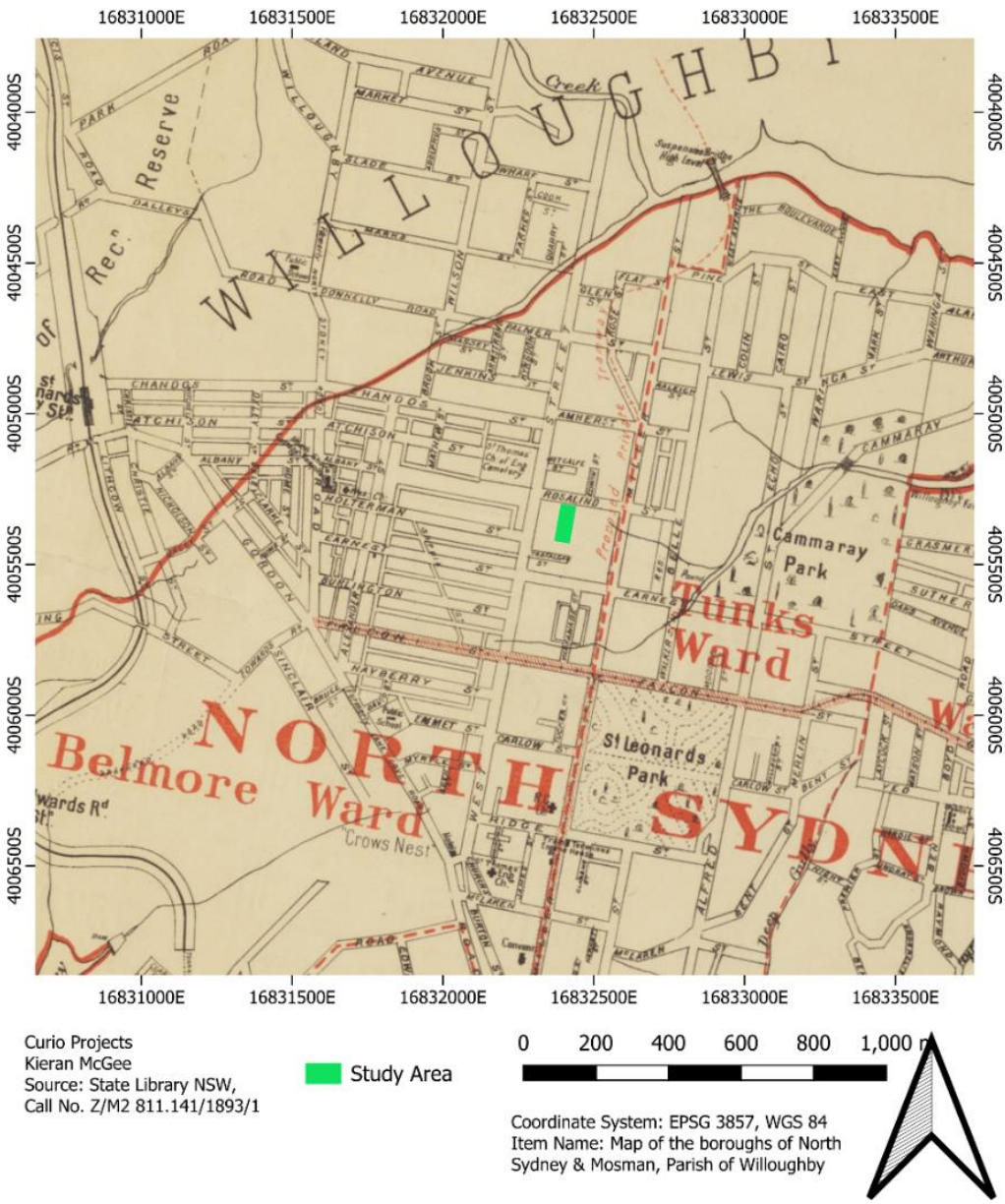


Figure 3.13 1893 Map depicting boroughs of North Sydney. Study area depicted in green located in the Belmore Ward. Note close proximity to Willoughby creek to the east.

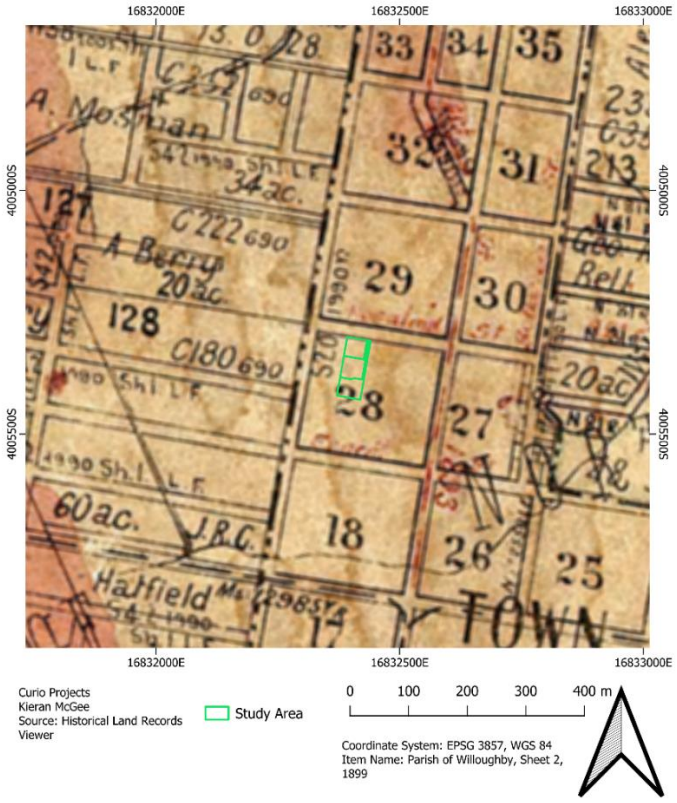


Figure 3.14 1899 map depicting Willoughby Parish, study area indicated in green, Note close proximity to creek line to the east.

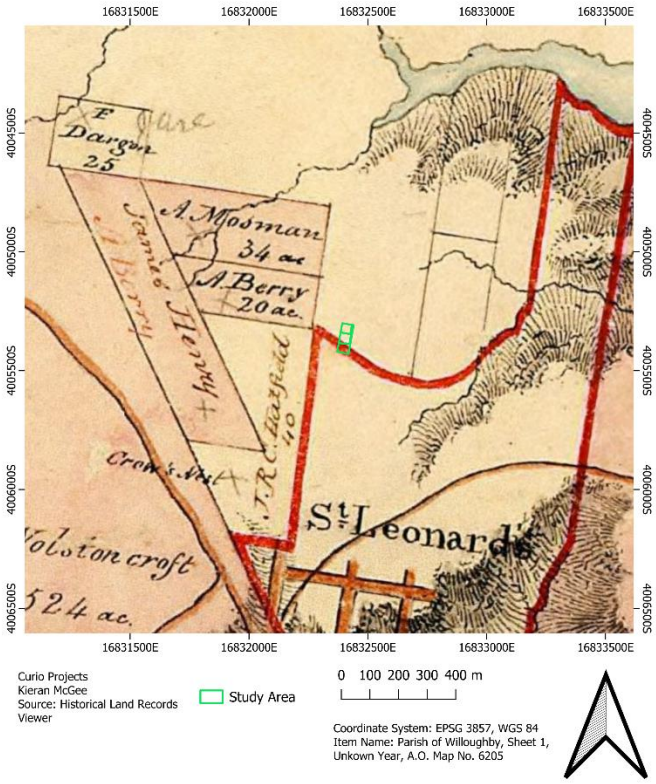


Figure 3.15 Early (pr1838-1899) map of Parish of Willoughby, study area indicated in green. Note proximity to creek lines to the east.

3.2.2. Geology and Soils

The geology and soils of a locale can provide information for the prediction and modelling of the nature and positioning of potential Aboriginal sites. For example, soil types capable of supporting vegetation/flora resources of importance to Aboriginal people (and the corresponding faunal resources that would utilize the vegetation), may provide clues to indicate Aboriginal use and occupation across the landscape. The acidity and organic contents of the soil also influence the long-term, taphonomic, survival potential of archaeological deposits.

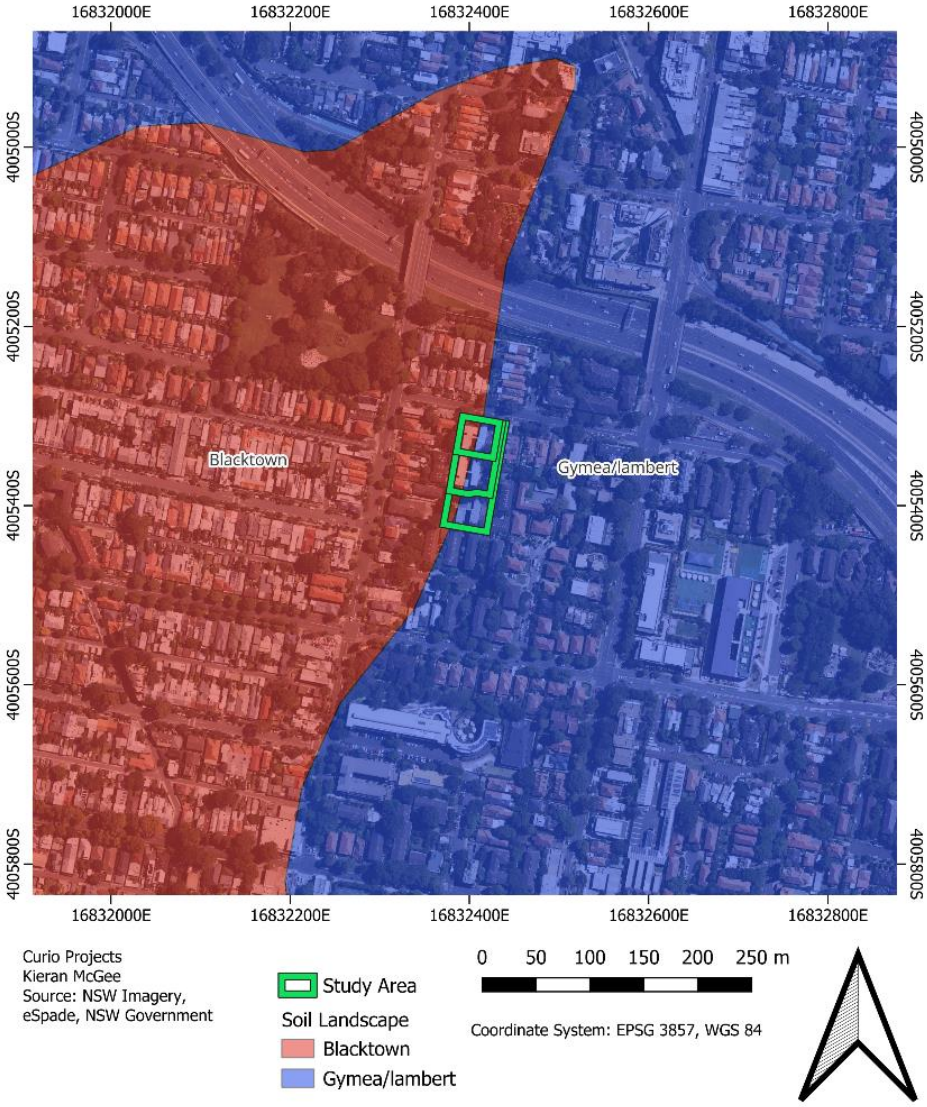


Figure 3.16 Map indicates the study area in green. Extent of soil landscapes indicated.

The study area is north-south bisected by Blacktown (west) and Gymea/lambert (east) soil landscapes (Figure 3.16).

Blacktown soil landscape is characterised by gently undulating rises on Wianamatta Group shales and Hawkesbury shale with almost completely cleared tall open-forest (wet sclerophyll forest) and

open-woodland (dry sclerophyll forest)[7]. Soils present as moderately deep (<100 cm) Red and Brown Podzolic Soils (Dr3.21, Dr3.11, Db2.11) on crests, upper slopes and well-drained areas; deep (150-300 cm) Yellow Podzolic Soils and Soloths (Dy2.11, Dy3.11) on lower slopes and in areas of poor drainage (Figure 3.17). The Blacktown soil landscape has moderate erodibility. The majority of the soil classes range from slightly to moderately acid, with the exception of bt3 and bt4 which range from strongly acid to slightly acid. Where present, high acidity and erodibility negatively impacts the survival potential of any archaeological deposit, particularly those deposits comprised of shell and bone.

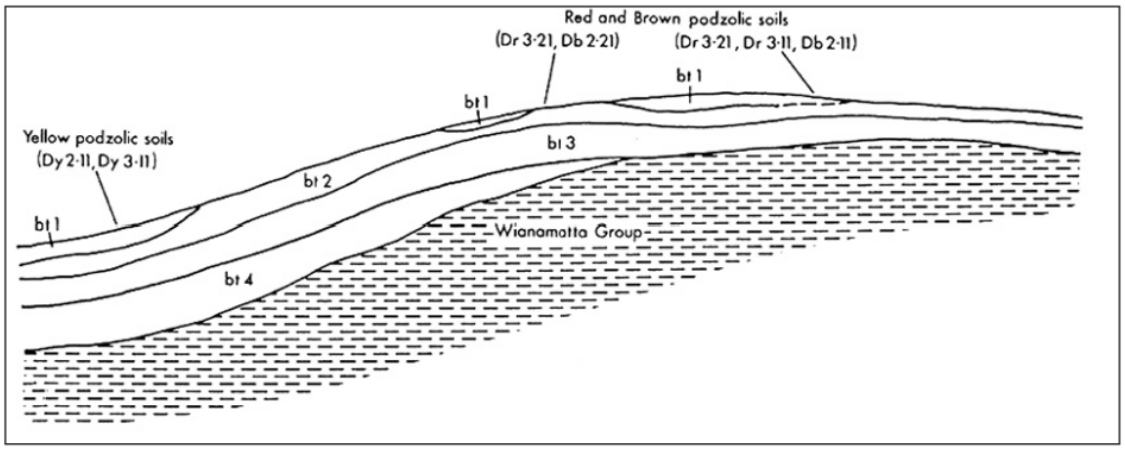


Figure 3.17 Schematic cross-section of Blacktown soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials. Source: Espade

The Gymea/lambert soil landscape is primarily comprised of the Gymea landscape with small areas of the Lambert landscape included, these landscapes share many qualities between them[8]. The Gymea landscape is characterised by undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with extensively cleared open-forest (dry sclerophyll forest) and eucalypt woodland. Soils present as shallow to moderately deep (30-100cm) Yellow Earths (Gn2.24) and Earthy Sands (Uc5.11, Uc5.23), on crests and inside of benches; shallow (,20cm) Siliceous Sands (Uc1.21) on leading edge of benches; localised Gleyed Podzolic Soils (Dg4.21) and Yellow Podzolic Solids (Dy4.11, Dy5.11, Dy5.41) on shale lenses; shallow to moderately deep (<100 Siliceous Sands (UC1.21) and Leached Sands (Uc2.21) along drainage lines (Figure 3.18). The majority of the soil materials range from strongly (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.5). Where the soil materials have low organic matter contents, the soils are moderately to highly erodible.

[7] Office of Environment and Heritage, *Blacktown Soil Landscape*.
[8] Environment and Heritage, "Gymea Soil Landscape."

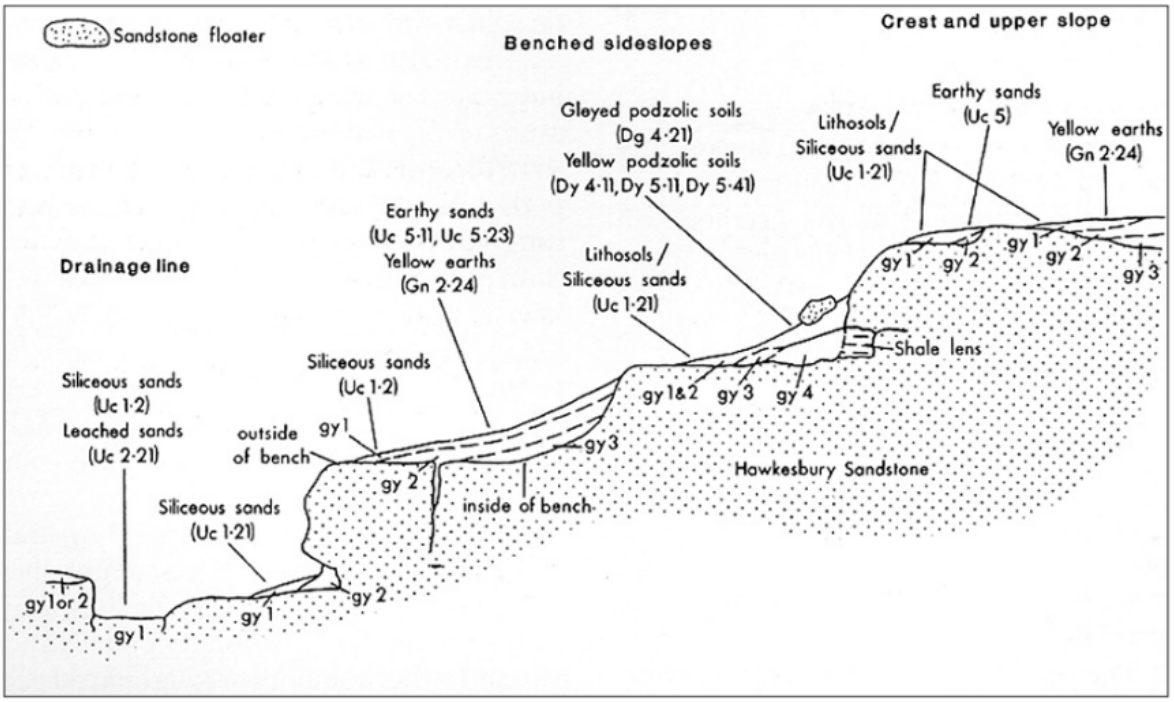


Figure 3.18 Schematic cross-section of Gymea soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.

As the study area is located along the border between two soil landscapes, a geological change is expected through the site with younger Wianamatta Group shales (west) overlying Hawkesbury sandstone units (east). This transition adds complexity to the assessment of potential, as soil landscape borders could range from highly diffuse to sharp depending on the geomorphological history of the study area region. A geotechnical assessment would assist in understanding the soil landscape of the study area.

Overall, both soil landscape types have some potential to contain archaeological deposits where sedimentation occurred to significant depth (i.e. >30 cm). However, this potential is limited by the generally low thickness and high acidity of Gymea/lambert soils and the high acidity of the Blacktown soil landscape. There is a low concern for past erosion of soils containing potential archaeological deposits due to the long-term protection from erosion offered by the site's development history (see 3.2.6).

3.2.3. Geotechnical Investigation

A detailed geotechnical investigation undertaken in September 2025 comprised six cored boreholes drilled across the site to depths of between 10 m and 14.74 m below ground level. The investigation identified a consistent subsurface profile across the site, comprising up to approximately 1.8 m of anthropogenic fill overlying shallow residual clayey sands derived from weathered sandstone. Beneath these residual soils, highly to extremely weathered sandstone was encountered, transitioning to slightly weathered Class III sandstone between approximately 3 m and 5 m below ground level. No deep alluvial or colluvial soil profiles were identified. Groundwater was not encountered in the upper soil profile and was only recorded within the sandstone at depth.

These findings indicate that the site comprises relatively shallow residual soils over sandstone bedrock, consistent with a ridge-top landform rather than a depositional environment. Importantly, there is no evidence of deep (>3 m) intact natural soil profiles that would typically be associated with higher potential for buried Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the Blacktown soil landscape.

Figure 3.19: Borehole locations Source: Elite Geosciences 2025

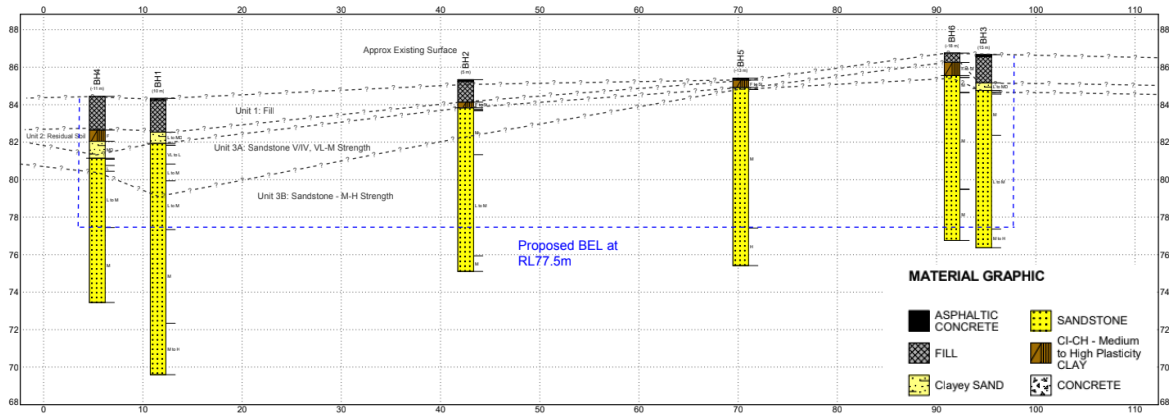


Figure 3.20: Subsurface condition long section Source: Elite Geosciences 2025

3.2.4. Ecology

An understanding of the original ecology of an area provides information about the resources that Aboriginal people would have utilized in the area, and how this influenced how different locations were accessed, used and visited. Plants and animals can be direct resources, such as tree bark for canoes, shields etc. or edible plants, or can be an indirect resource, creating habitats for different animals for hunting.

The original native vegetation of the gymea soil landscape comprised dry sclerophyll woodland and open-forest. Ridges and upper slopes were dominated by sclerophyll open-woodland. Common species include red bloodwood *Eucalyptus gummifera,* yellow bloodwood *E. eximia,* scribbly gum *E. haemastoma,* brown stringybark *E. capitellata* and old man banksia *Banksia serrata.* On sheltered slopes, black ash *E. sieberi,* Sydney peppermint *E. piperita* and smooth-barked apple *Angophora costata* are common tree species. The dry sclerophyll understorey consists of shrubs from the families Epacridaceae, Myrtaceae, Fabaceae and Proteaceae.

The original native vegetation of the blacktown soil landscape comprises tall open-forest (wet sclerophyll forest) and open-woodland (dry sclerophyll forest). Any remnant native vegetation can contain Sydney blue gum *Eucalyptus saligna,* blackbutt *E. pilularis,* forest red gum *E. tereticornis,* narro-leaved ironbark *E. crebra*, grey box *E. moluccana, ash E. sieberi* with a dry sclerophyll shrub understorey.

Many of these plants have utility for food, habitation or tool production purposes. Further, they also acted as habitat for hunted animal and insect species. This highly productive environment within and surrounding the study area increases the likelihood of Aboriginal occupation, and the creation of Aboriginal archaeological deposits.

3.2.5. Tool Manufacture

No raw materials or rock outcrops suitable for tool manufacture are known to be present or observed within the study area.

3.2.6. Site Preservation

The potential for in-situ Aboriginal objects is lower on land that has been disturbed by more recent European land use. For Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present in situ, they require the retention of natural soil profiles in the area that would be extant from 1788. Areas of the study area that may have the highest potential for natural soils to be present (and corresponding potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits), are areas where the lowest level of historical development and excavation have been undertaken.

The Cammeray area has been inhabited for at least 5800 years[9] with St Leonards first fixed for township in the 9 October 1838 New South Wales Government Gazette. The 1846 census counted 412 people with 106 houses, with St Leonards population increasing to 5126 by 1875[10]. By this period local development included a School of Arts, telegraph lines and a postal service. Whilst market gardening was practised locally, there is no direct evidence that the study area was used for market gardening[11].

- As indicated by the aerial imagery below (
- Table 3-1), the study area has undergone at least three major phases of development and/or modification:
- 1838-1943, clearing of native vegetation and the construction of a complex of three buildings. Multiple buildings overlap the current study area from adjoining lots. Most of the southwest quarter of the study area is not developed at this stage. Whilst the pre-1943

[9] Hoskins, *Aboriginal North Sydney: An Outline of Indigenous History*.
[10] Brodsky, *North Sydney, 1788-1962*.
[11] Hoskins, "'A Sober, Industrious Law-Abiding People': Chinese Market Gardeners and Storekeepers in North Sydney, 1870–1940."

development process is unclear, it is likely there was only one phase of development between 1870 and 1943 following the regional population boom discussed above.

- 1943-1955. The demolition of some buildings which overlap the study area and modifications to the present buildings. The southwest quarter of the study area is mostly cleared of vegetation.
- 1955-1965. The current buildings present on the study area have been constructed, including the parking lot along the eastern side. No major modifications are observed after this construction, except the maturation of landscaped trees.

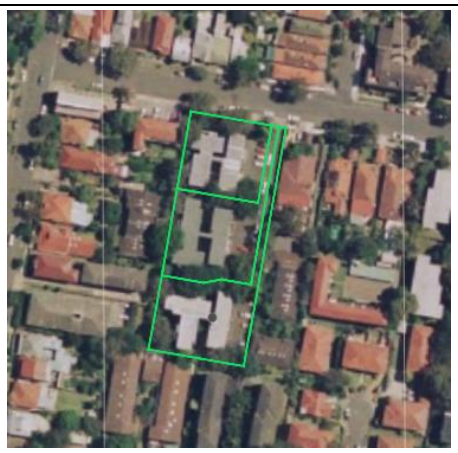
Table 3-1. Historical Aerial Images of the study area

Historical Aerial Images *Source: Historical Imagery Viewer, Spatial Services NSW*	
 1943 – Study area indicated in green. Study area contains at least three buildings with large open area to southwest. Surrounding area extensively developed for residential use.	 1955 – Whilst difficult to discern, the southern buildings overlapping the study area have been demolished. Some modification has occurred with the demolition of the small NW building and modification to other buildings.
 1965 – The current study area buildings and car park are now present. Demolition for the Warringah freeway has occurred to the northeast of the study area.	 1970 – No obvious changes to the study area

1986 – The Warringah Freeway has been constructed to the North of the study area

1991 – No obvious changes to the study area

1994 – Study area appears as is today



2005 – Study area appears as is today

3.3. Step 3: Can you avoid harm to the object or disturbance of the landscape feature?

No, the proposed activity will involve construction works, bulk excavation of the entire study area, and landscaping. This desktop assessment indicates that Aboriginal objects may possibly occur within the study area due to its archaeologically significant landscape features, namely sitting on soil systems with potential for archaeological deposits (Blacktown, Gymea/lambert), historical proximity to a water course and minimal subsurface disturbances in large sections of the study area.

3.4. Step 4: Desktop Assessment

3.4.1. Site Inspection

This section provides a description of the existing structures and features within the study area, as well as context and overview of the immediate surroundings, including places of importance essential to the understanding of the physical context of the site. A site visit was conducted by Rebecca Agius on 5 November 2025.

The study area consists of 3 three-storey residential buildings predominantly constructed of plaster double brick. The buildings are a complex shape, generally consisting of one large truncated T shaped section joined by a thin rectangular section to a parallel large rectangular section.

An open bitumen/tarmac covered parking area extends from a Rosalind St entrance down the entire eastern side of the study area

Low to medium density residential development surrounds the study area. The study area is located on a large suburban block delineated by Rosalind St, West St, Ernest St, and Miller St. Notable surrounding elements include the St Thomas Rest park to the northwest of the study area, the Warringah Freeway located to the north and two schools located to the southeast and south of the study area.

Figure 3.21 to Figure 3.25 illustrate the study area and its immediate surrounding context.

Figure 3.21: Northeastern portion of 19 Rosalind St as viewed from Rosalind St, looking southwest. Source: Google Streetview accessed November 2025

Figure 3.22: Northern portion of 19 Rosalind St as viewed from Rosalind St, looking south. Source: Google Streetview, accessed November 2025.

Figure 3.23: Northern portion of 19 Rosalind St as viewed from Rosalind St, looking southeast. Source: Google Streetview, accessed November 2025

Figure 3.24: 3D reconstruction of study area as viewed from eastern side of study area, looking west, 23 Rosalind St indicated in red for reference. Source: Microsoft Bing Maps, accessed November 2025.

Figure 3.25: 3D reconstruction of study area as viewed from western side of study area, looking east, 23 Rosalind St indicated in red for reference. Source: Microsoft Bing Maps, accessed November 2025.

3.4.2. Predictive Model

Predictive modelling is a key tool in assessing the archaeological potential of a site and informs appropriate management and mitigation strategies. It draws on environmental context, historical land use and disturbance, and the distribution of nearby sites (including excavated areas and registered AHIMS sites) to anticipate the type and extent of archaeology that may be present.

The assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area considers original landforms, the extent of historical disturbance, and the availability of natural resources that would have supported pre-contact Aboriginal occupation. This is supported by comparative research from nearby or similar sites.

For Aboriginal archaeological material to remain in situ, natural soil profiles from before 1788 must be intact. Areas of the site with minimal historical disturbance are therefore considered to have the highest potential for retaining such deposits.

Based on an assessment of the pre-European environmental context of the study area, AHIMS results and study area development history. The following conclusions can be made:

- 3 registered Aboriginal sites were identified on AHIMS within a 1km vicinity of the study area. One of these is not a site, whilst the other 2 are coastal rock-shelters with art and middens.
- The study area is situated along a boundary between Blacktown and Gymea/Lambert soil landscapes. Both soil landscapes have potential to contain archaeological deposits, with thick Blacktown soils having the highest potential. Soil landscape boundaries may display complex transitions between types, making it difficult to assess the likely thicknesses of sedimentation present at the study area without a geotechnical investigation.
- The natural native vegetation of the study area prior to clearance would have been comprised of wet/dry sclerophyll forest or woodland. The landscape indicates an overall abundance of local food and material resources.
- The study area has been entirely cleared of its native vegetation and undergone at least three phases of disturbance: Initial construction of a complex of three buildings between 1838 and 1943; between 1943 and 1955, the demolition of some buildings which overlap the study area and modifications to buildings present; between 1955 and 1965 The buildings currently present on the study area constructed, no major modifications are observed after this construction except the maturation of landscaped trees.
- The shallow soil profile and presence of underlying sandstone support the assessment of low Aboriginal archaeological potential, as any archaeological material, if present, would be confined to the upper soil horizons, which have already been subject to historical disturbance.
- Currently, the nearest perennial water course, Flat Rock Creek, is 600m to the north of the study area. Prior to land clearance and settler occupation, Willoughby Creek extended further west from its current extent, such that it was within 100 m of the study area.
- The study area is located within areas known to have access to plant and animal resources. These areas would have been favorable locations for resources of past Aboriginal people. However, the area is likely resource poor compared to the nearby coast and lacks attractive landscape features such as rock shelters. As such, the study area was unlikely to have been a place of occupation, but rather one of ephemeral resource gathering.

- Based on the environmental context of the study area and surrounds, it is likely that the area was used by Aboriginal people for either transitory use or opportunistic occupation.
- Previous studies as presented in Section 3.1.3 in the surrounding area have indicated that:
    - Subsurface potential can exist even in heavily modified areas, especially where remnant natural soils are sealed beneath fill.
    - Forest environments may preserve cultural material such as stone artefacts, animal remains, or burials, but preservation is variable depending on soil moisture, acidity, and disturbance.
    - No surface visibility does not equate to absence and archaeological material may only survive at depth.
    - Precautionary heritage procedures, including ACHMPs and unexpected finds protocols, are utilized across a variety of different sites containing various levels of archaeological potential.
    - The majority of identified Aboriginal archaeological deposits in the Cammeray area and surrounds are located along the coast and comprise combinations of rockshelter, midden and rock art.
- The sections of the study area associated with historic construction and redevelopment retain some potential to contain subsurface Aboriginal archaeological deposits, although the flat, forest environment means that these resources are likely to be isolated finds deposited during travel or resource gathering, and not deposits or places of occupation. As such the potential for subsurface archaeological deposits is nil-low.

3.5. Step 5: Further Investigation and Impact Assessment

Based on the results of the due diligence process, the study area is assessed as having low Aboriginal archaeological potential. This is due to the substantial historical and modern disturbances across the site associated with late-19th-century residential development and mid-20th-century rebuilding, as well as the original soil profiles having been truncated or removed. On this basis, no further Aboriginal archaeological investigation or assessment is required prior to development.

However, the study area is located on the boundary between the Gymea soil landscape (typically shallow, eroded profiles with very limited capacity to retain intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits) and the Blacktown soil landscape (characterised by deeper, more stable clay-rich profiles that may preserve stone artefact assemblages where undisturbed).

Accordingly, while further Aboriginal assessment is not currently warranted, it is recommended that an Unexpected Finds Protocol should be implemented during all ground-disturbing works to ensure that any Aboriginal objects encountered during excavation are managed in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and relevant Heritage NSW procedures.

With these measures in place, the due diligence process is satisfied, and no additional Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment is required.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

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4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions and recommendations have been determined as a result of this Due Diligence.

4.1. Conclusions

The Due Diligence concluded the following in relation to the Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeology of the study area:

The Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment concludes that the study area has nil-low Aboriginal archaeological potential. Although the site lies on the transitional boundary between the Gymea (shallow/erosional) and Blacktown (deeper, artefact-retaining) soil landscapes, the study area has undergone multiple phases of various levels of historical disturbance, including 19th-century building construction, mid-20th-century demolition, and redevelopment into three flat buildings with paved surrounds. These activities have truncated or removed intact pre-1788 soil profiles.

No Aboriginal sites are recorded within the study area, and nearby AHIMS sites are confined to coastal rockshelters and middens, not inland urban allotments. Landscape features signalling high archaeological potential, such as rock shelters, ridge lines, sand bodies, or proximity to major waterways, are absent. While early maps suggest Willoughby Creek once extended closer to the site, the flat forested ridge environment would have been used, at most, opportunistically for transient resource gathering rather than as a focal occupation zone.

Overall, there is no evidence to suggest Aboriginal objects are likely to be present, and the proposed development, while involving deep excavation, does not require further Aboriginal archaeological assessment.

4.2. Recommendations

In accordance with the above conclusions, the proposed development of the study area should consider the following:

Recommendation 1 - Unexpected Finds Protocol

Works for this proposal can proceed in accordance with an 'Unexpected Finds Protocol' which should be incorporated into the construction management plan for the site, and implemented as follows.

- Cease works in the immediate vicinity of the find.
- Contact the Project archaeologist (i.e. Curio Projects) to verify the nature of the find.
- If Unexpected Find is confirmed as Aboriginal archaeology, Project archaeologist will notify Heritage NSW and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council of the potential find. If Unexpected Find is confirmed as not Aboriginal in origin, Project archaeologist will provide advice for works to recommence.
- Project Archaeologist will undertake a preliminary assessment and recording of the find, if suspected to be an Aboriginal object.
- The Project Archaeologist would then formulate an archaeological or heritage management plan specific to nature of the find, which may include a requirement to complete an

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR), if the unexpected find is determined to be an Aboriginal Object.

- The Project Archaeological would also contact the Local Aboriginal Land Council for advice and feedback should an Aboriginal object be identified.

- Following confirmation of the unexpected find, the Project Archaeologist would implement the archaeological/heritage management plan, which may include the requirement to divert works in the area to avoid any impact or harm to the Aboriginal Object, or the requirement for further investigation (i.e. monitoring or test excavation).

- Works may recommence once archaeological/heritage management plan has been successfully implemented, and Project archaeologist provides sign off to contractor for works to resume in vicinity of find.

Recommendation 2 - Human Remains Protocol

While not anticipated to be encountered within the study area, the unexpected discovery of any potential skeletal remains during development works would be managed in accordance with the approved Heritage NSW protocol for the discovery of human remains which is stated as:

If any suspected human remains are discovered and/or harmed the proponent must:

- Not further harm these remains.
- Immediately cease all work at the particular location.
- Secure the area so as to avoid further harm to the remains.
- Notify the local police and Heritage NSW Environment Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide any available details of the remains and their location.
- If human remains are suspected to be Aboriginal, Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council will also be contacted and consulted regarding next steps.
- Not recommence any work at the particular location unless authorised in writing by Heritage NSW.

4.3. Mitigation Measures Summary

The following mitigation measures have been developed in response to the conclusions and recommendations of this archaeological report

Table 4-1: Mitigation Measures for Aboriginal Archaeology

Project Stage Design (D) Construction (C) Operation (O)	Mitigation Measures	Relevant Section of Report
C	Unexpected Finds: Should a suspected Aboriginal artefact be identified, the protocol unexpected finds must be followed.	Section 3.1
C	Human Remains Protocol: If human remains are identified on site during works, the protocol for human remains must be followed.	Section 3.1.3

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Appendix A – AHIMS Search

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Rosalind Cammeray Ext.

Client Service ID : 1058265

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-0825	Myrtle Street	GDA	56	333757	6255113	Open site	Not a Site	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Not an Aboriginal Site	
	Contact	**Recorders**	Australian Museum					**Permits**		
45-6-2539	Suspension Bridge Rockshelter (west)	GDA	56	334524	6256620	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Phil Hunt,M Bennett,Aboriginal Heritage Office					**Permits**		
45-6-0633	Mosman;Flat Rock Creek;Tunks Park 1;	AGD	56	334550	6256460	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -, Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Shelter with Art,Shelter with Midden	2047,98676
	Contact	**Recorders**	Michael Guider					**Permits**		

** **Site Status**

Valid - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

Destroyed - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

Partially Destroyed - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

Not a site - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 23/10/2025 for Kieran Mcgee for the following area at Address : 19 ROSALIND STREET CAMMERAY 2062 with a Buffer of 1000 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 3

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