

3.0 HISTORICAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Introduction

Windsor is one of the oldest towns in Australia as well as being one of the five “Macquarie towns”, established by that governor. It has a high public profile as an “historic” place. The town has evolved through several periods of development associated with economic and social change. The proposed bridge will cross the Hawkesbury River, with its southern approach within the eastern margin of Thompson Square. This place was the genesis of the town of Windsor with a government precinct established here from 1795. It was the focus of almost all the principal government buildings of the early settlement to the 1830s. The relationship to the river and an anchorage established it as the direct link between this settlement and Sydney. In the second half of the nineteenth century it evolved into a residential and commercial precinct with the Macquarie Arms Hotel on one corner and houses of varying types along the western and eastern sides. These buildings and public spaces formed an instantly recognisable and much recorded panorama of the town.

In this section the primary evidence that is being used for the comprehensive analysis in the assessment has been summarised to identify principal periods of development and, specifically, places and features that could have left evidence in the ground. This evidence, if it survives, would be an archaeological archive that could expand our knowledge of the development of this place as well as provide evidence available through no other source and tangible links to seminal periods, places and people.

3.2 Topography

Understanding the topography of a place is critical for any archaeological site. Landform influences how places were used and the changes made to the topography to make it more useful can have serious implications for the preservation of older features and deposits of archaeological value.

Thompson Square has been much modified; its original topography is best seen in early images. These consistently record an east-west ridge line high above the river with the land below characterised by a steep and uneven descent to the waterline. The slope appears to have been fairly gradual from the ridge to half way down to the river, then it dropped sharply to a relatively level riverside terrace. A short drainage line running approximately SW to NE is assumed from the possible alignment of the brick sewer constructed during Macquarie’s time. The drainage line may have been captured in a lithograph dated to c.1813, where a small bridge is shown on open ground – within the area that is now believed to encompass both Thompson Square Reserves and the current road to the bridge.

By the time the earliest images were created around c.1810 the majority of the land in the area of Thompson Square had been cleared and tracks had been formed down the slope and across

the contours. The earliest image of the land adjoining Thompson Square was made in 1798 and gives a vivid impression of the uneven and undulating topography (Plate 3).



Plate 1: *The area of Thompson Square in c. 1809 recorded in a watercolour attributed to George William Evans (“The Head of Navigation Hawkesbury River”). By this time the landscape has been modified to varying degrees: compare this image with Plate 4.*

The first substantial changes made to the landform were in c. 1815 when a new wharf was built at the bottom of the square. It required piling and filling along the river’s edge and the slope behind was reduced apparently by cutting and filling. Images of the square in the later years of the nineteenth century show the outcome of this work in the more regular landform that still characterises Thompson Square. The introduction of fill to raise and level the slope could have acted to preserve elements of the older town and act as a buffer when new works have been carried out here. There have been more recent changes to the landscape since that time due to the construction of the present bridge and recent changes along the waterfront for the construction of a gabion wall. The construction of Bridge Street and Old Bridge Street are likely to have made the most impact on the underlying profile through excavation and the introduction of services.

3.3 Mulgrave Place 1793 - 1795

3.3.1 Impetus for Settlement

In the first years of settlement the most pressing need of the colony was for food, to be self-supporting. The soil in Sydney was poor and while better results were obtained at Parramatta the estimates of production were still too small to support the growing colony. In 1793 the

expanding colony was still only farming 1700 acres². The need to find tracts of fertile ground was a priority. Windsor was surveyed for this purpose in the earliest years of settlement but Governor Phillip vetoed permanent settlement there due to its distance from Sydney.

3.3.2 Allocation of Land

Specific instructions had been sent from England regarding the alienation of land to settlers in grants, instructions followed to the letter by Governor Phillip. Despite this prohibition, when land was granted to James Ruse and Charles Williams by Lieutenant Governor Grose in 1794 they were already established on farms with crops in the ground in the area now called Pitt Town Bottoms, an area to the north-east of the present town of Windsor, well beyond the study area. These first twenty-two farms were primarily located on the eastern bank of the Hawkesbury River and four on the eastern bank of South Creek close to its confluence with the Hawkesbury River.

The first settlers called the place Green Hills but Grose called it Mulgrave Place. Five years after the allocation of the first land grants over six hundred people were living in the area. Acting Governor Paterson followed the same method of land distribution as his predecessor offering land without consideration of official instructions.

On the northern side of the river the long fertile river flats have been constantly cropped since 1794. Bowd identified several substantial farms along the road to Wilberforce dating from the 1790s commencing with one owned by William Cuckow a convict of the First Fleet located 0.3 km from the present bridge. He acquired it in 1794 and established a farm. Further along the road was a grant made to Thomas Gosper in the same period. These grants of arable land averaged approximately thirty acres³.

3.3.3 Character of the Settlement

It has been argued that the distance from Sydney and its bureaucracy of this new settlement influenced its character; many of the new settlers were ex-convicts⁴. To encourage settlement and farming in this district Grose offered convicts a reduction in their sentences if they took up farming here. This character changed as the separation between the two places was minimised by the construction of a new track from Parramatta, which reduced travel from two days to eight hours⁵ and river traffic increased through the local construction of ships. For the first few years though this part of the Hawkesbury was a series of individual farms rather than an agricultural settlement with a focus.

² Karskens, G (2009); The Colony A History of Early Sydney: 117

³ D. G. Bowd (1986); Hawkesbury Journey: 96

⁴ Ibid: 119-120

⁵ Ibid; 118, 121

What is incontestable is the success of the area for farming. The ease with which good crops could be had from the fertile soil led several commentators to conclude that the settlers were becoming dissipated due to the easy living that arose from these circumstances⁶. It was to be a stereotype of the local settler for many years to come.

3.3.4 Sources of Evidence

Apart from contemporary accounts and official documents the best source of evidence for the appearance and use of the place in this period is a survey of the original farms on the Hawkesbury by Surveyor Augustus Alt prepared in 1794. The present day area of Thompson Square was beyond the scope of Alt's survey and it can be inferred that nothing had as yet been developed in that area.

3.3.5 The Development of the Square and Wilberforce

There is no evidence to suggest that in this period Thompson Square was actively used or developed in any way. The land on the northern side of the river was being allocated in grants of approximately thirty acres that were being developed for farms. There is no evidence to identify any specific sites on the northern side of the river in this period.

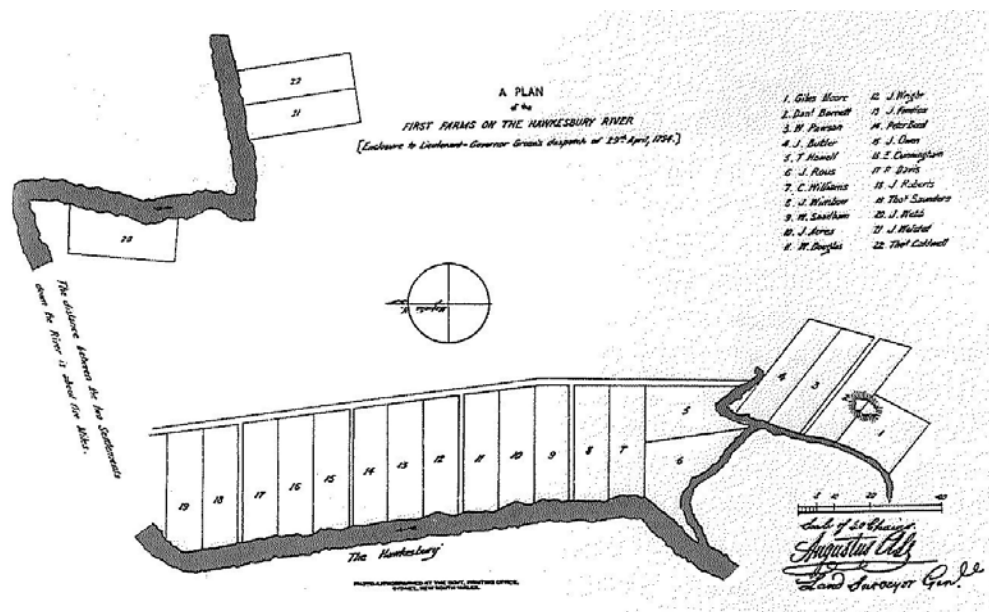


Plate 2 "A Plan of the first farms of the Hawkesbury River", where Pitt Town is now (Augustus Alt 1794). Source: Rosen 1995: 14):

⁶ For example David Collins quoted in Barkley-Jack, J (2009); Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed; 9-11

3.4 Green Hills 1795 - 1810

3.4.1 The Changing Character of the Settlement

In 1795 at the invitation of Captain Paterson military officers came to the Hawkesbury to select land to farm although it is likely, at best, they were absentee landlords. However, the character and purpose of the settlement on the river changed significantly in the same year with the establishment of a store and small military garrison. These buildings and the men who were associated with them were located away from the established area of Mulgrave Place. This new settlement was located further to the west where a landing place could be established for boats. This was the genesis of Thompson Square and ultimately of the town of Windsor. The creation of the stores, wharf and small garrison provided the focus for an administrative settlement that became Windsor.

3.4.2 Baker's Farm

William Baker was the first storekeeper, responsible for the supplies and the small stores building established by Paterson in 1795. He was granted thirty acres of land on June 30 1800 at Mulgrave Place having purchased the original order for the land from James Whitehouse⁷. Higginbotham suggests that Portion 13 on an undated Parish Map of Windsor was Baker's farm; in support of this attribution is Meehan's plan of 1812 that does show Baker's fences on this allotment adjoining the river. Higginbotham further asserts that Portion 14 next to Baker's Farm, now essentially the site of Thompson Square was specifically reserved for government purposes⁸. There is an image published in 1798 in David Collins *Account of the English Colony in NSW* that shows Baker's Farm high above the river bank. There are two substantial buildings shown and other works but the image is described as Baker's Farm so it is unlikely that either was the store. It also does not show the wharf and it has been concluded by Barkley-Jack that these improvements must have been in the adjoining government reserve.

⁷ Higginbotham, E (1986); Historical and Archaeological Investigation of Thompson Square Windsor: 5

⁸ Ibid



Plate 3: *Baker's Farm above the Hawkesbury published in 1798 and included in David Collins "Account of the English Colony of NSW" Volume 1: 340*

3.4.3 Government Precinct

Both Higginbotham and Barkley-Jack⁹ conclude that the present site of Thompson Square was the land used to house the store, the military garrison's accommodation and a wharf all of which formed the nucleus of a precinct that would go on to be the focus of development for government buildings through several administrations. Barkley-Jack makes the point, based on several contemporary images, that this government precinct in its original form was much larger than the present area of Thompson Square, stretching as far Catherine Street to the east, west beyond Baker Street and from South Creek to the Hawkesbury River.

That it was reserved for Government purposes by 1799 can be confirmed by the conditions of Andrew Thompson's lease of land that specifically refers to it being within ground reserved for the use of the Crown¹⁰; Meehan's plan of 1812 identifies the site of Thompson's lease and it is on land bordering the present square. From 1795 through to 1810 this area of land around Thompson's lease and up to Baker's Farm was used as the site for many buildings built on behalf of the government for a variety of purposes including stores, accommodation for government officials, lock-ups, barracks, a church and school building amongst many others. Contemporary images provide evidence of their association in this precinct.

⁹ Barkley-Jack, J (2009); Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed; 100

¹⁰ LPI, Register of Grants Series 2; p320

3.4.4 Thompson's Allotments

Thompson's Square is named for Andrew Thompson who was given one acre on the Government Reserve overlooking the river in 1799. The position of his grant was described as bound on the north by the Hawkesbury River and on all sides by "ground reserved for the use of the Crown"¹¹

Thompson had arrived in Green Hills in 1796 and it is possible that he lived on this property before his official lease was granted to him. Thompson's land was located on the river on the eastern side of the present-day square. Meehan's plan of 1812 identifies Thompson's land in this location where it is described as Mr Thompson's premises. There is one house and an extensive garden; these features are repeated on later town plans up to 1842. Today at 4 Bridge Street there is a brick wall that has been identified as a boundary wall from Thompson's period based on its materials and relationship to the boundaries recorded on those several surveys.

The lease for the land also stated that if the Governor deemed it necessary to "build or enlarge the public storehouses adjacent thereto" as much of Thompson's land as was required to achieve this objective would revert to the Crown¹².

In 1809 Thompson received another lease on the government reserve. This contained a little over an acre and was bound by South Creek and Bridge Street and approximately Arndell Street¹³. It was confirmed by Governor Macquarie in 1810.

3.4.5 Sources of Evidence

The principal source of evidence for this period is the official correspondence of the Governor and the colonial bureaucracy but the best evidence for the appearance and development of the Square is a series of images dated from between c. 1807 and 1813.

- A watercolour probably made by Assistant Surveyor George William Evans. The image is not reproduced here for copyright reasons but can be viewed at the Mitchell Library Small Picture File. It is similar to the 1809 watercolour attributed to Evans but includes a slipway from a large shed to the river.
- A watercolour probably made by Assistant Surveyor George William Evans dated to c. 1809
- A second watercolour attributed to George William Evans probably to be dated to c. 1811 (the attribution of the two images to Evans is not certain but their dates of production are reasonably accurate)

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Ibid

¹³ E. Higginbotham (1986); Historical and Archaeological Investigation of Thompson Square Windsor: 12

- A lithograph by Phillip Slager, “A View of Part of the Town of Windsor in New South Wales” printed in 1813 and probably produced about that time based on the presence of the Macquarie Arms Hotel in it, a building not constructed until 1811 and finished in 1815
- A third watercolour attributed to Evans has been dated to 1810 – 1811.



Plate 4: A watercolour of Windsor, titled “Head of navigation Hawkesbury River” “probably by G W Evans”. Source: ML SB1V/Wind/6.

Slager’s image (Plate 5) is not consistent with the three attributed to Evans; the location and number of buildings and the orientation of fences are different possibly due to the changes made to the place over the three or four years encompassed by the production of the several works. Slager’s work is more readily reconciled with confirmed structures and landscapes in and around Thompson Square.

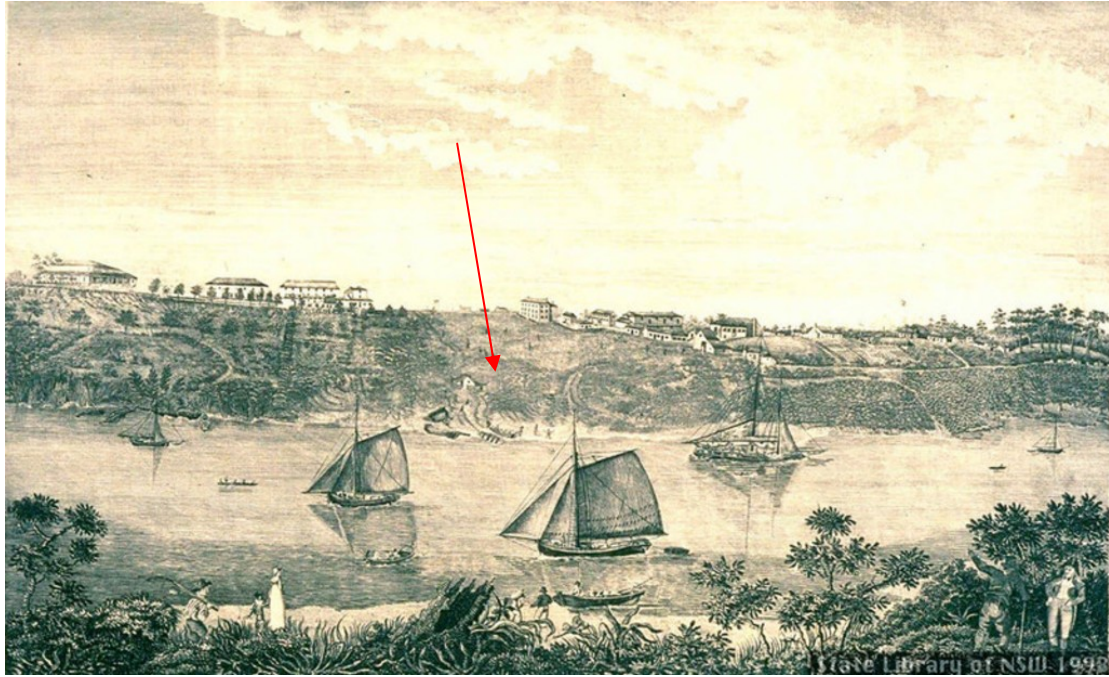


Plate 5: *Lithograph, Phillip Slager 1813 showing Thompson Square in “A View of the Town of Windsor in New South Wales”. The estimated line of Old Bridge Street is indicated by the arrow.*

3.4.6 Principal Improvements

The earliest identified improvements within the Square or its close environs were those associated with Baker’s Farm, the store and the accommodation provided for the military guard. However, Governor Hunter’s Return of Buildings on the Hawkesbury¹⁴ presented in 1796 makes it clear that several more important and substantial structures had been added to the Government Precinct and others were added after 1800. As this area was much more extensive than Thompson Square some buildings are known to lie outside the Project area, while the location of others remains uncertain. Refer to Table 2 for a summary of expected impacts.

¹⁴ HRA Series 1, vol 2 pp 560-561.

Table 2: Summary of Expected Impacts

Date	Name	Discussion	In Project Area/likely impact
1795-	Baker's Farm	The first residential building including house, outbuildings and garden on the western side of square	No
c.1796 -	Thompson's House	On the eastern side of the Square surrounded by gardens and possibly enclosed by a wall (fragment remains at 4 Bridge Street). Described as a small cottage facing the river in 1820	No
1795 – 1799	The first store in the charge of Baker	Timber built and within fifty feet of the river; swept away in 1799	Possible but unknown
1795 – c.1815	First Wharf	Built to service the first store; position unknown but likely to be close to the position of the wharf that replaced it in 1815 located on the eastern side of the present bridge	Possible
1795 -	Guard House	Security for the storehouse was provided by a small detachment of privates and a sergeant. Barkley-Jack describes their accommodation as a building constructed in 1795 on the side of a small stream that entered the river between Barker Street and Thompson Square on the western side.	Possible but unlikely
1795 -	Old Bridge Street	Until about 1815 access from the stores to the wharf was probably by a rough track seen in many of the images. This changed with a contract to create a new wharf and turning area next to it; the slope was evened out as part of the work. From then access to the wharf was as it appears on later plans 1842.	Probable

1796-1800	Log Granaries	Governor Hunter caused the construction of two granaries, both log-built and one hundred feet in length and both enclosed behind a paling fence. The description indicates that the two buildings were placed together but only one can be identified within the principal images; it appears to have been on the eastern side of the present-day square close to Thompson's property.	Possible
1796 - 1800	Storehouses and granaries	Cited in Hunter's Return of Public Works in 1800 the granaries are described separately to the two log buildings that the Governor had caused to be erected. The storehouses could include the original 1795 building but by 1800 it had been swept away by floods. In 1806 a return of public works noted that "one old thatched store" was unfit for service and it is possible that this building was one of these earliest stores. A reference is made in the following year to a thatched storehouse being out of repair.	Possible but unknown
1796 - 1800	"Two Government Houses"	These are described in Hunter's Return of Public Works but their precise location is unknown. The reference is likely to refer to accommodation supplied for government employees rather than the building occupied by the principal governing officer. In 1800 they were the subject of repairs.	Unknown
1795-	Military Barracks	A reference from the 1796 return of buildings and could refer to the accommodation provided in 1795 for the detachment guarding the store; in 1800 it had been the subject of repairs.	Unknown
1796 -	Officers' dwellings	Referred to as having been repaired in the 1800 return of public works.	Unknown
1796 -	Miscellaneous "public brick buildings"	Referred to as being subject to repair in the 1800 return of Public Works	Unknown

1796 - 1919	Government House	Hunter describes how he caused a building to be erected for the commanding officer of the district; it was a weatherboard house, shingled, with a cellar, a skillion kitchen and “other accommodation” enclosed within a paling fence. This house is almost certainly the house later referred to as the government house. It was situated well to the east of the present-day Thompson Square and is visible in many contemporary images. In 1806 it was reported that the roof and foundation of the building was totally decayed. In 1807 it was reported that this building had been repaired and two new rooms added to it. The building survived until 1919; it was described in 1916 as timber built and plastered inside and out. It had a great deal of brick work in the cellar, chimneys, verandah etc	No
1796 -	Lock-Up	The only reference to a building of this purpose was in 1800 when Governor Hunter noted his intention to build a more secure prison, not thatched as the existing timber or log building was but tiled or shingled. The location of the older lock-up is not known.	Unknown
1801	New brick storehouses	In 1800 Governor Hunter recorded his intention of building two new stores both brick-built to increase the security of the produce held within them. At least one of these storehouses was recorded as being built between September 1800 and December 1801.	Unknown
1801	Guardhouse	In the same dispatch of 1800 Hunter also noted that as well as the stores a new weatherboard guardhouse was to be built in association with them. It is uncertain whether this building was undertaken and completed.	Unknown
1801	Log Prison	As well as the stores and guard house the list of requirements for the settlement included “a strong log prison” to be tiled or shingled; it was to replace an older building of the same purpose.	Unknown

1803	Brick granary	In this year it was recorded that a very spacious three floor brick granary had been completed; this could have been the second store to be built of the two proposed in 1800. The new building was 101 feet long and 25 feet wide; it can be seen in several images. One floor was reported to be still incomplete in 1806 but the building was complete by 1807 ¹⁵ . Possibly it was this building that was converted in 1810 to become a temporary chapel with housing for the chaplain and the rest as a public school. Other offices were added with a garden and surrounded by a fence	No
1803-1805	School House and Chapel	In 1803 at the time that the new three-storey store was being completed bricks were being burnt to construct a large school house with out-buildings and a garden. It had been partly completed by 1804 when it was described as 100 x 24 feet, of two floors but its final date of completion was somewhere between 1806 and 1807 when it was reported as completed in the latter year. It was also used as a place of divine worship.	No
1803-1809	Thompson's store, workshop and stables	Andrew Thompson constructed a three-storey store on his lease fronting the Hawkesbury River. It can be seen in the two earliest images of the precinct thus it must have been built somewhere between 1803 and 1809. Apart from the store contemporary evidence records that there were stables and workshops behind it.	No

¹⁵ Ibid; 12

3.5 A Macquarie Town

3.5.1 The Five Towns

Windsor was one of five towns in the Hawkesbury–Nepean district named and greatly influenced in their plan and appearance by Governor Macquarie. The towns were founded to provide accommodation and security for the settlers in those districts, to provide the administrative services of the government and civil and ecclesiastic benefits. Windsor was unique in this respect in that it was the only town that incorporated an existing small village. Macquarie sent out detailed instructions for the establishment of the towns including the creation of a uniform grid pattern for each. There was to be a central square that was intended to house the church, school, gaol and guard house. Windsor was exempt from these rules because the governor had made specific requirements for it and it already had some of these improvements in the existing precinct established since the 1790s. The completed town plan was presented to the governor and signed in 1812 (Plate 6).

Of considerable importance to the development of the space was Andrew Thompson's bequests made as part of his will and initiated on his death in October 1810. He divided his valuable estate with half given to his family and one quarter each to Governor Macquarie and the merchant trader Simeon Lord. His leasehold property and the buildings erected upon it either reverted to the Crown or were purchased by it. By this means a hospital and gaol were rented from the estate of Andrew Thompson until 1812 and the barracks until c. 1818 along with a granary and house¹⁶ and a three-storey store. Most of the buildings rented from the Thompson estate have been identified with his South Creek lease, beyond the Thompson Square property. These include a building subsequently used as a military barracks, a court house, gaol and hospital¹⁷. Macquarie also carried out repairs on several of the existing buildings including converting a granary to a temporary chapel, school and housing for the chaplain.

What the Slager drawing (Plate 5) shows is that Macquarie removed large numbers of buildings from the square leaving essentially only Thompson's House, the Government House, the Macquarie Arms hotel and buildings to the west. Most of the large buildings on the square constructed in the preceding fifteen years were removed

¹⁶ E. Higginbotham (1986); Historical and Archaeological Investigation of Thompson Square Windsor: 13

¹⁷ Higginbotham, E (1986); Historical and Archaeological Investigation of Thompson Square Windsor: 5

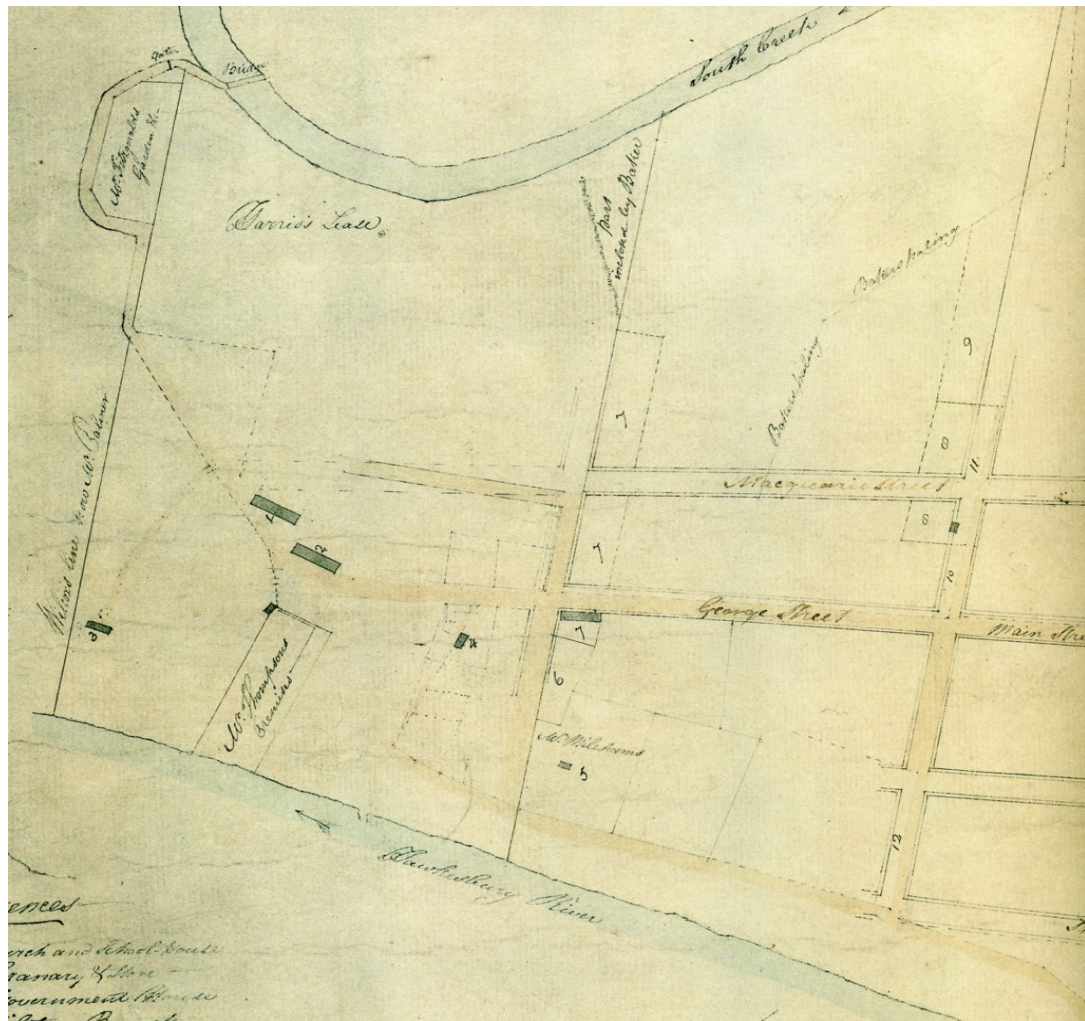


Plate 6: Detail of the 1812 (Meehan) survey of Windsor showing the land now encompassed by Thompson's Square and its environs. The building at the southern end of the precinct labeled No 1 is the Church and School House; No 2 is the granary and store; No 3 is the Government House and No 4 is the Military Barracks. The small building in the centre is Thompson's house with his garden labeled as Mr Thompson's premises. Source: Jack 2010.

3.5.2 Improvements to the Thompson Square

At Macquarie's instigation, improvements to Thompson Square were made that included a wharf and sewers; refer for details to Table 3.

Table 3: Summary table of improvement to Thompson Square

Date	Name	Discussion	In Project Area
1814-1815	Wharf	A wharf was constructed at the bottom of Thompson Square in 1815. It was described as large and substantial, timber-built. It provided a loading space for vessels up to 100 tons and a ferry was established from here to the north bank of the river. One contract was made in 1814 that described how the land at the bottom of the square was to be piled and filled and the wharf was to extend fifty feet into deep water. A second contract let in 1815 provided for more wharf space at the bottom of Thompson Square. In November 1816 much of the new wharf was completed but was destroyed by flood. Francis Greenway prepared a new plan and estimate for repairs and completing the project; the new work was completed by 1820. The wharf is shown on several surveys of the 1830s and 1840s.	Very likely
1815	Brick Sewers	At first likely to be a natural drainage line in 1814 a brick sewer was made in the square by contract workers. It was finished in 1820. The drain was either a central drain with smaller drains to either side or two sewers on either side of the square. It is likely to have been a large brick barrel drain and the central drain is the more likely design based on oral evidence. The main part of the sewer is likely to be found in the upper reserve but the lower portion is likely to have been destroyed by the approaches to the current bridge. A boat club built on brick piers in the lower part of the reserve in the 1950s and demolished in the 1960s may have impacted part of the drain but local anecdotes suggest that some parts still survive and will be found within the project area.	In part probable

Unknown	Government Stables	In 1820 John Howe, in giving evidence to the Bigge enquiry, noted that there were Government stables built close to Andrew Thompson's store. These are almost certainly buildings shown in surveys of the 1830s and 1840s located on the eastern side of the Square at the northern end of Thompson's old garden. This would be close to the intersection with present-day George Street	Possible
1814-	Land Forming	In association with the construction of the wharf, works were undertaken to re-landscape the lower part of the square. The square was to be re-graded to make the slope more gradual from the ridge line at the southern end to the wharf platform at the northern end. Part of the river bank on the western side of the wharf and punt was to be cut away to enable carts to turn there. The edge of the river next to the wharf was piled and filled.	Probable
1811	Macquarie Arms	On the corner of George Street and the square the construction of this inn was completed in 1815 and a boundary wall built around it in 1819 remains partly in situ.	No

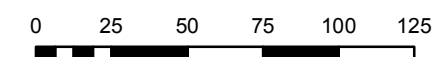
Refer Figure 3 for the overlay of 1812 plan on current aerial photograph.

3.5.3 Northern bank of the Hawkesbury

There is still an almost complete lack of evidence for the development of the land on the northern side of the river in this period. Evans' 1811 view of Thompson's Square (Plate 1) includes on the left a detail of a substantial building on the northern side of the river enclosed within a paling fence. It is impossible to precisely locate this site.



Figure 3: Historic Plan Overlay - Meehan 1812



Metres

Scale: 1:2,500 @ A3

Scale: 1:2,500 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Biosis Research Pty. Ltd.
18-20 Mandible Street
Alexandria
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Offices also in: Ballarat, Melbourne, Wollongong, Canberra, Wangaratta



Date: 05 April 2012, File number: 14020
Checked by: PBK, Drawn by: JMS
Location: P:\14000s\14020\Mapping\14020_F3_Meehan_1812.mxd

Acknowledgements: Aerial - (c) SKM 2011

3.6 Regional Centre 1820S – 1850s

3.6.1 Reduction of the Government Precinct

By the later 1820s more than 32,000 acres had been cleared on the Hawkesbury and half had been cultivated¹⁸. This was the largest cultivated area in the colony. The town of Windsor served as a regional centre with over twenty public buildings and substantial numbers of privately owned premises were in the course of development; the museum on the western side of Thompson Square was built in this decade. The success of farming in the region and the greater element of free enterprise that now characterized the town had its impact on Thompson Square. Many of the buildings erected there for government purposes, such as the storehouses, were no longer required and were either demolished or abandoned. One of the early brick granaries, for example, was still present in 1848 but it was marked as an unoccupied warehouse and was demolished in 1861 to be replaced by a school of arts. This building is still standing at the south-eastern corner of Bridge and George Streets outside the study area.

3.6.2 The Government and Private Faces of the Square

A town plan of 1827 demonstrates the increasing subdivision occurring with the main part of the town. Within Thompson Square the land on the eastern side was devoted to Government purposes while the western side of the square was subdivided between individuals with four buildings shown occupying the street frontage, two being hotels. The purpose of the building within the government land on the street frontage of the square is unknown.

By 1831 whatever this small building had been on the eastern side of the square it had been removed and the site redeveloped for government purposes.

Refer to Figure 4 for overlay of 1827 plan on current aerial photograph

¹⁸ Barkley and Nicholls (1994); Hawkesbury 1794 – 1994: 30

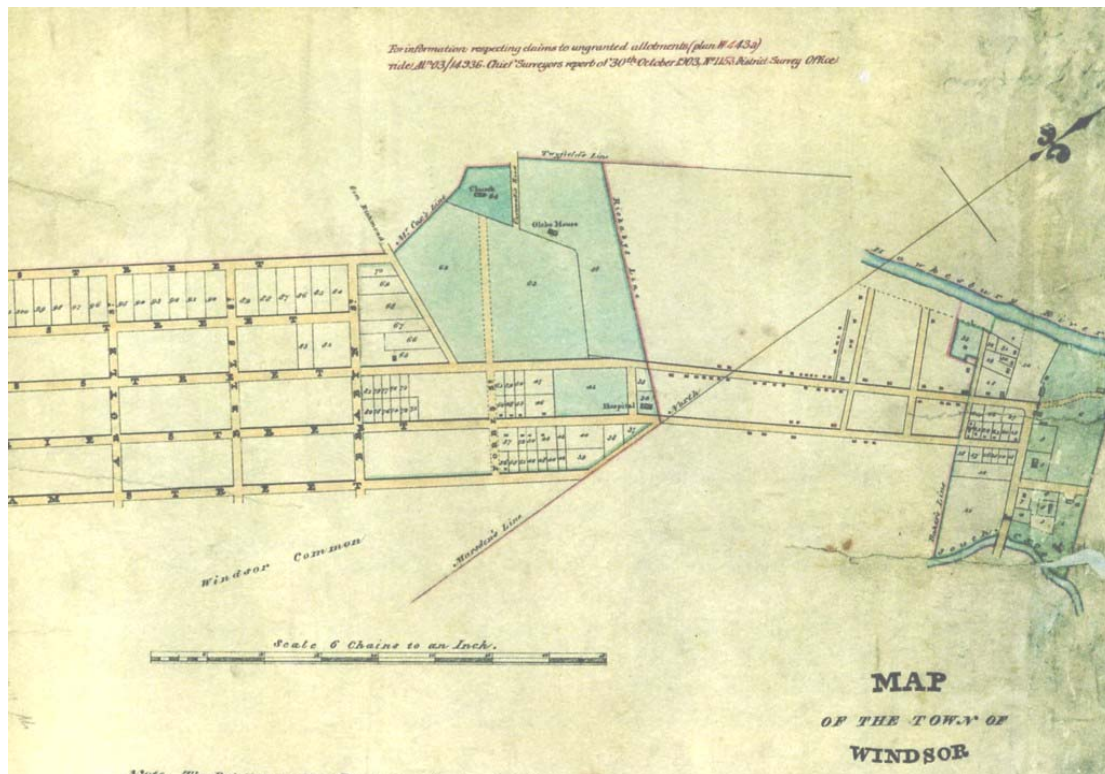


Plate 7: Part of the Map of the Town of Windsor of 1827 showing the clearly defined open space with most of the earlier buildings gone except Government House and the Macquarie Arms, also shows subdivision for private development (Surveyor Thompson SZ 526)

3.6.3 Police Buildings

In place of the small building (referred to in the previous section) at the northern end of Thompson's old river holding were three new buildings. These were a prisoner's barracks, a barracks for the police and stables for their horses. The same information concerning these buildings is repeated on several plans of the 1830s and up to 1848 when these buildings are described as being in a "ruinous state". These buildings are adjacent to the proposed new road but are unlikely to be disturbed by works for it.

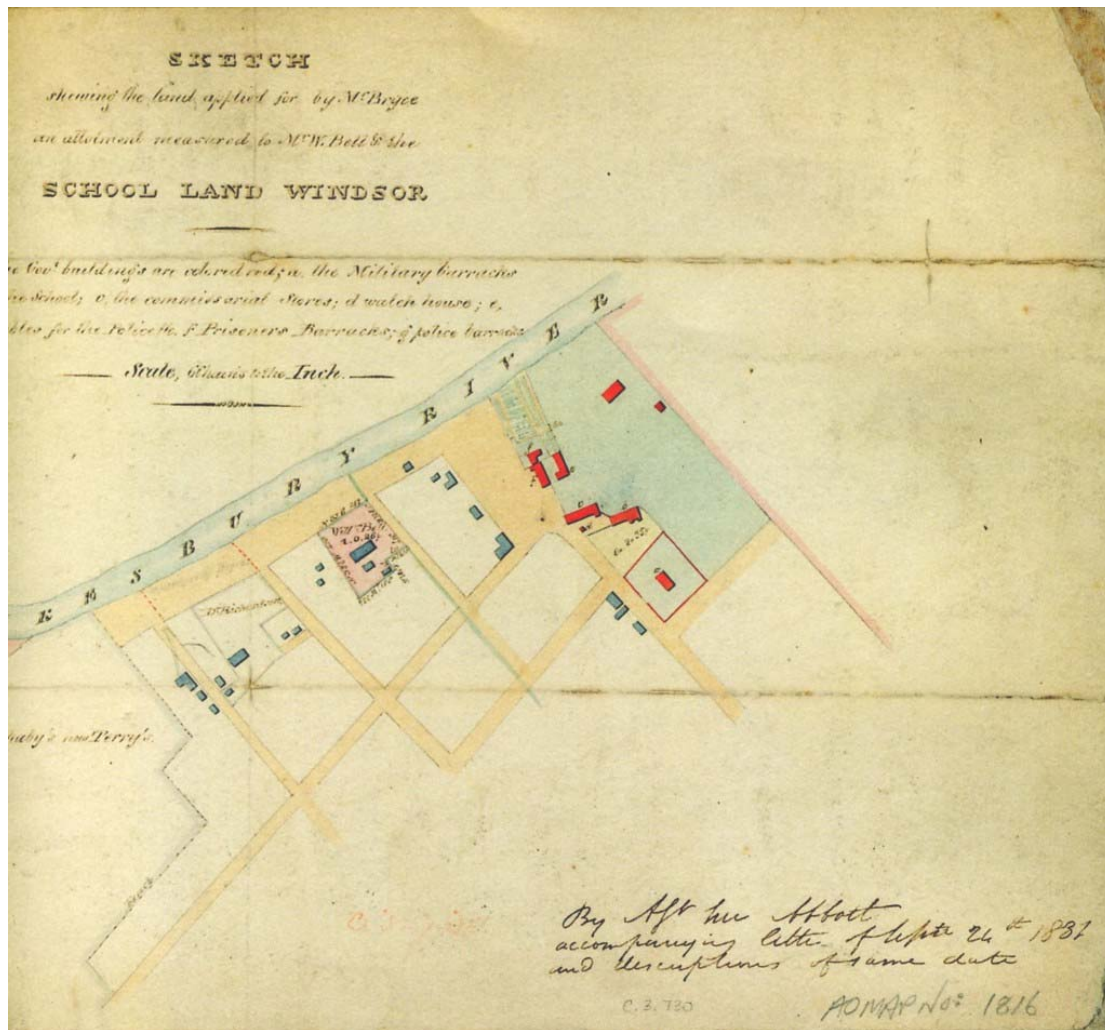


Plate 8: Thompson Square in 1831 showing the newly constructed building on the Government reserve on the eastern side of the square (SRO AO Map 1816)

Armstrong's plan of the town in 1842 shows the buildings to be adjacent to a large garden, formerly Thompson's but now part of the Police Magistrate's premises, his house being the former Government House.

Refer Figure 5 for 1831 plan overlay on current aerial photograph