

South West Rocks

Aboriginal Heritage
Assessment

MVPG

December 2006

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This report was prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out in the contract between Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd ABN 12 002 773 248 (ERM) and the Client. To the best of our knowledge, the proposal presented herein accurately reflects the Client's intentions when the report was printed. However, the application of conditions of approval or impacts of unanticipated future events could modify the outcomes described in this document. In preparing the report, ERM used data, surveys, analyses, designs, plans and other information provided by the individuals and organisations referenced herein. While checks were undertaken to ensure that such materials were the correct and current versions of the materials provided, except as otherwise stated, ERM did not independently verify the accuracy or completeness of these information sources

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Environmental Resources Management Australia (ERM) has been commissioned by Macleay Valley Property Group Pty Ltd (MVPG) to prepare an Aboriginal heritage assessment under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) for a proposed residential subdivision of Lot 2 in DP 581117, commonly known as 334 – 356 Gregory Street, South West Rocks (the study area). This assessment follows advice from the Director-General of the Department of Planning (DoP).

In correspondence dated 21 November 2005, DoP confirmed that it has determined that the proposed subdivision is a ‘major project’ to which Part 3A of the EP&A Act applies.

This report presents the results of archaeological survey and Aboriginal consultation conducted in April and May 2006.

1.1

ASSESSMENT AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of this assessment was to ascertain whether there are any Aboriginal heritage constraints to the proposed development. To achieve these aims the following objectives were established:

- to consult with the local Aboriginal community as to the specific social value of the land;
- to determine whether heritage site patterning indicates potential heritage issues on the study area;
- to identify and record any Aboriginal heritage objects and places on the land;
- to assess the significance of any Aboriginal heritage objects and places on the land;
- to assess the impact of the proposed development on Aboriginal heritage values; and
- to prepare recommendations on the management of Aboriginal heritage values in consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

1.2

STUDY AREA

The study area comprises Lot 2 DP 581117, which is located on the north east intersection of Gregory Street and Arakoon Road, approximately 3 km south of the town centre of South West Rocks on the mid-north coast of New South Wales (refer to *Figure 1.1*). Situated approximately 3.5 km directly south of the nearest coastline (Trial Bay), the study area cannot be seen from locations close to the beach or from coastal foreshore areas.

1.3

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project will provide for a high quality residential development at the entrance to South West Rocks, along Gregory Street (*Figure 1.2*).

Project approval is sought for a staged subdivision of approximately 46 lots. It will include an internal road and lots ranging in size from approximately 500 m² to 8055 m².

The existing house will be accommodated on a lot with an area of approximately 8055 m², which is comprised of 1171 m² of land on the north side of Cooper Street and 6344 m² of land on the south side of Cooper Street. The development does not include any physical works on the portion of the site on the north side of Cooper Street and it was therefore not assessed as part of this study. The lot will have access from Cooper Street.

The electricity transmission easement will be included in a lot frontage to Arakoon Road, Gregory Street and Cooper Street.

The existing sewer pump station will be accommodated on a lot that is to be acquired by Kempsey Shire Council.

1.4

STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

Chapter 2 provides environmental and archaeological contextual information.

Chapter 3 describes the assessment methodology employed.

Chapter 4 outlines the results of consultation and the archaeological survey.

Chapter 5 provides an assessment of the construction impact on Aboriginal heritage in the study area.

Chapter 6 lists legislation guiding Aboriginal heritage management.

Chapter 7 includes Aboriginal heritage management recommendations.

1.5

PROJECT TEAM

Jenna Lamb (ERM Archaeologist) conducted the heritage field survey, authored the report, and took all photographs. Neville Baker (ERM Heritage Team Leader) completed the technical review of the report. Effort was made to include local Aboriginal community representatives in the fieldwork. Phone calls were placed to Kempsey LALC but were not answered.

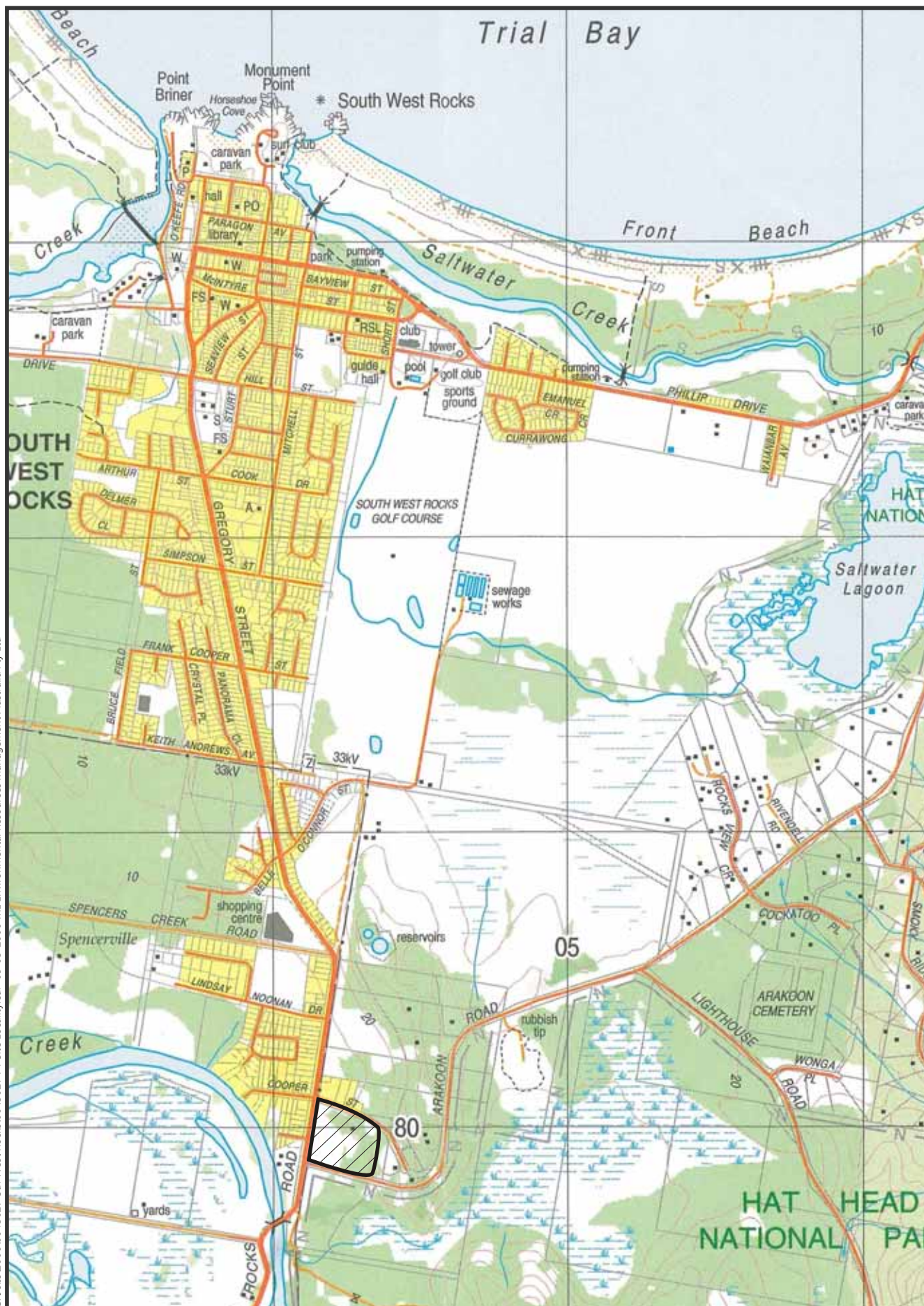


Figure 1.1

Location of the study area



0 500m