

## 3.5 Non-Indigenous heritage

This Section summarises the existing non-Indigenous heritage in the Project area (and the legislative basis for their listing), based on the findings of Technical Paper 3 — *Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment* (Volume 2). The non-Indigenous heritage impacts associated with the Project are discussed in Section 8.5.

### 3.5.1 Assessment approach

The key objective of the non-Indigenous heritage assessment was to identify historic/European (non-Indigenous) archaeological and cultural heritage values in the vicinity of the Project. In order to identify these values, a review of the relevant State and Federal heritage registers and listings, and existing local and regional environmental plans was undertaken. Two site inspections were carried out on 20 June and 1 November 2007 with the aim of:

- identifying the context of the existing rail corridor
- identifying historic sites and/or resources that could be affected by the Project.

Statements of heritage significance were prepared for items identified during the site visit that were not already assessed or listed on any heritage register, or subject to existing planning schedules or heritage provisions. Assessment of such items was undertaken against the criteria for listing in the NSW State Heritage Register (SHR) (refer Section 5 of Technical Paper 3). The records found on the SHR form a subset of the larger State Heritage Inventory (SHI), which contains information for about 20,000 heritage items listed on State lists (such as local environment plans (LEPs), regional environment plans and the SHR).

A full discussion of the legislative framework for non-Indigenous heritage is provided in Technical Paper 3.

#### ***Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

No items or places of non-Indigenous heritage significance listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) were identified within or adjacent to the Project area.

#### ***Heritage Act 1977***

One item of State heritage significance was located within the Project area: the Riverstone Railway Station and yard group is listed in the NSW SHR.

A copy of the heritage listings for this item is provided in Appendix A of Technical Paper 3. A summary of the significance of this heritage item is provided in Table 3-21.

#### **Section 170 of the Heritage and Conservation Register**

As government instrumentalities, TIDC and RailCorp must maintain a Heritage and Conservation Register under Section 170 of the *Heritage Act 1977*. No items were identified during a search of the TIDC S170 Heritage and Conservation Register. However, two items were identified during a search of the RailCorp S170 Heritage and Conservation Register:

- Riverstone Railway Station and yard group
- Quakers Hill Footbridge (also listed on the SHI).

### **Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979**

The *Blacktown Local Environmental Plan 1988* is the principal planning instrument for the Blacktown LGA. The following items are listed on the heritage schedule of the Blacktown LEP:

- Riverstone Station Railway Group
- Former Riverstone Stationmaster's Residence.

### **NSW National Trust**

The Riverstone Railway Station Group is listed on the National Trust (NSW) register. The group includes the Railway Station and Group, Former Station Master's Residence, Former Railway Barracks and the War Memorial in front of the station.

### **3.5.2 Site inspection outcomes and significance assessments**

Historic cultural heritage items (two listed and one unlisted) were identified within the Project area during the site inspections. These items and their heritage significance are summarised in Table 3-21.

The location of heritage listed buildings at the Riverstone Station precinct in relation to the proposed station upgrade works (refer Section 6.2.1) is shown Figure 3-18.

**Table 3-21 Summary of cultural heritage items identified within the Project area**

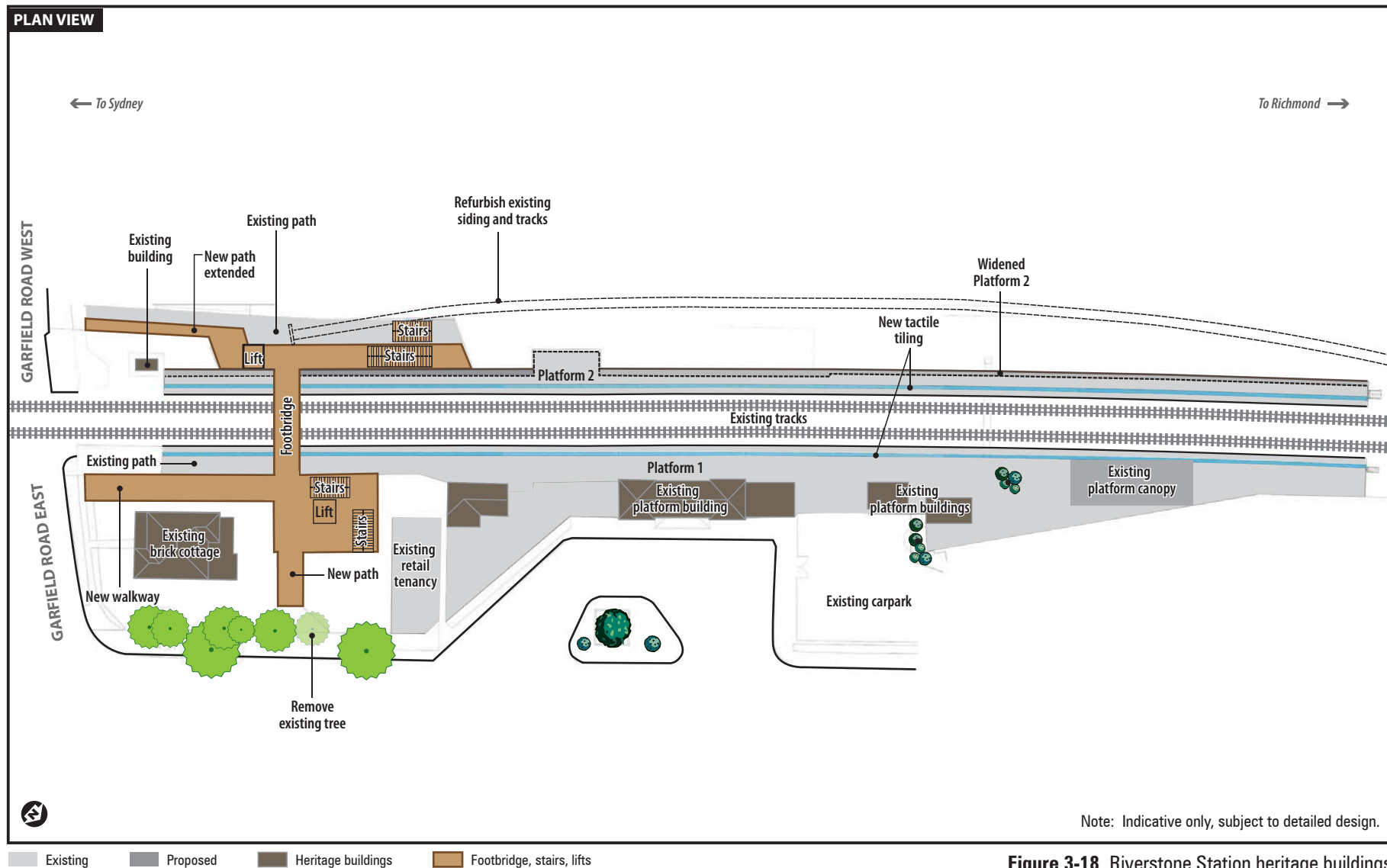
Item	Location	Listing <sup>1</sup>	Level of significance	Significance/issue
Riverstone Railway Station and yard group	Riverstone Railway Station	SHR, S170 Register, Blacktown LEP, NT	State	The Riverstone Station and yard group is an excellent composite group of station and service buildings with several unusual buildings located in the metropolitan area, and retaining its original track arrangements. Although the site has been added to over its history, it retains the form of an early station complex.
Quakers Hill footbridge	Quakers Hill Railway Station	SHI, S170 Register	Local	The footbridge and ticket office were constructed in 1975, and are a good example of the technological and stylistic change that occurred in the early 1970s.
Quakers Hill to Vineyard rail corridor	Entire length of rail corridor comprising the Project	Not listed	Local	While not listed on any formal heritage register, the non-Indigenous heritage assessment (refer Technical Paper 3) determined that the structural items, such as cuttings, culverts and embankments, associated with the Richmond Branch Line have limited potential to further our understanding of the changes in the building practices, and materials used in the construction and upgrade of 19 <sup>th</sup> century railway lines.

Note: 1: SHI = State Heritage Inventory, S170 Register = RailCorp Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register, SHR = State Heritage Register, LEP = Local Environmental Plan, NT = National Trust.

### **Schofields Station**

Further investigation of the history behind Schofields Station was undertaken in response to concerns raised by the Schofields community, during community information sessions in mid-2008 (refer Chapter 4), that the station has heritage significance that needs to be taken into consideration. The following findings were made by the subsequent heritage assessment undertaken for the Project:

- The Schofields Station siding was initially located further south of the current Schofields Station. The station has since been relocated to its current location on land sold to the Commissioner of Railways by John Schofield in 1881. Based on the results of platform excavations at other sites in NSW, it is not expected that any remnants of the original platform remain.
- The current station complex at Schofields, comprising the station building, platform and an ancillary building fronting Railway Parade, is a relatively recent construction and contains no significant heritage components. Schofields Station initially consisted of a short brick platform that was the length of one train carriage and was constructed on one side of the track, while a siding was constructed on the other side. The siding remained in use until it became inadequate for the needs of the community and the platform was lengthened in 1939 (Schofield 1985).



**Figure 3-18** Riverstone Station heritage buildings and the proposed new footbridge, stairs and lifts