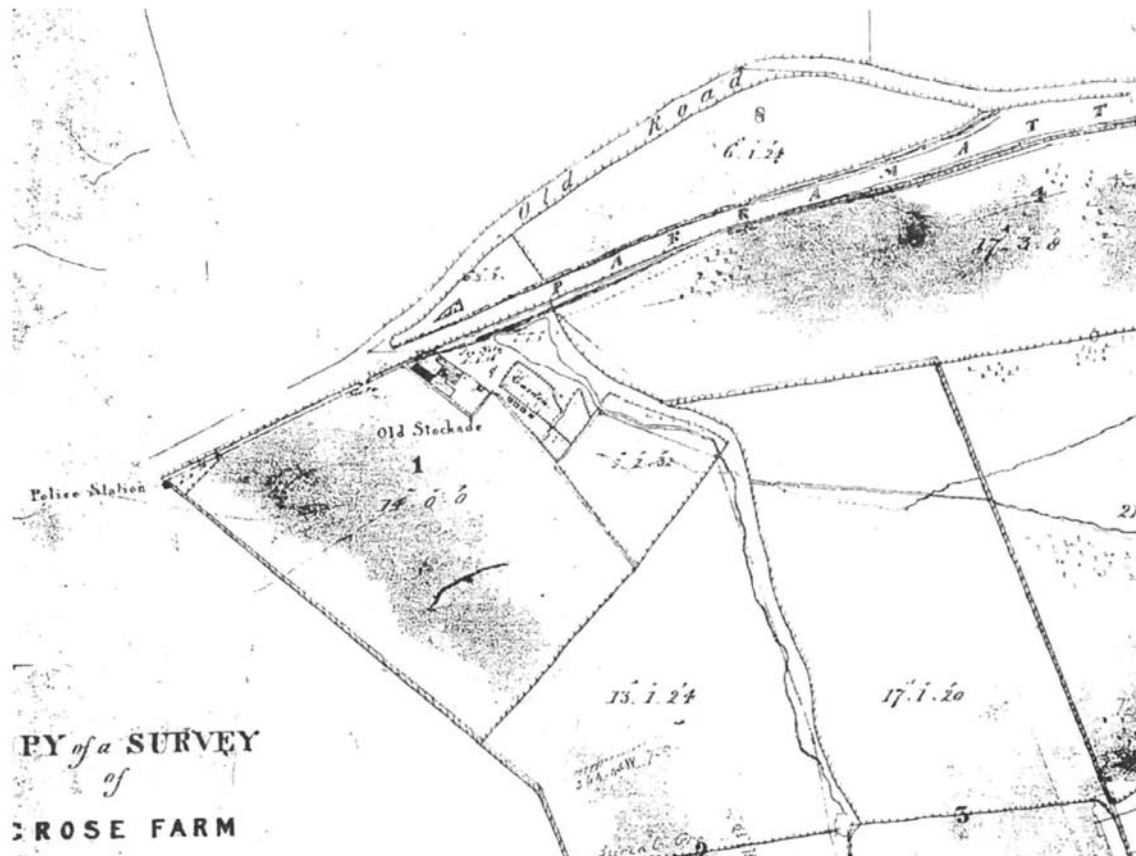


# Non-Indigenous Archaeological Assessment

## CODCD Project, University of Sydney



Report to  
**The University of Sydney**

November 2009

**CASEY & LOWE Pty Ltd**  
Archaeology & Heritage

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## **Executive Summary**

### **Aim of Report**

The aim of the report is to establish the potential for non-indigenous archaeological remains within the CODCD Stage 1 study area, assess their significance and put forward appropriate recommendations to manage the identified significance in light of the proposed works.

### **Results**

The assessment has found:

1. The overall study area assessed in this report has the potential to contain remains of Grose Farm, a government farm established by Governor Macquarie c1819 which had barrack accommodation for 160 men and boys. The farm provided fodder for the horse and oxen at the Carters' Barracks as well as training in agricultural practices for the convict men and boys. Operation of the public farm ceased c1832. The buildings were still present in 1844 and may have been demolished when the land was acquired for the construction of the University in the 1850s. Any such remains are considered to have State heritage significance.
2. The area to be affected by the proposed Stage 1 building is outside the area where early plans show the convict buildings were concentrated. The Stage 1 building area was probably cleared farmland in the convict period.
3. This result should be revisited if the nature of the development changes, particularly if impacts extend further north.

### **Recommendations**

1. Based on the conclusion that the proposed Stage 1 development is some way south of the buildings associated with the convict-period use of the land, and that the development site was cleared farmland in this period, no archaeological testing or preliminary investigation is seen as being necessary.
2. The finding of any suspected relics during the development should be reported to the archaeologist.

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## Document Status

Name	Date	Purpose	Author	Reviewed
DRAFT Issue	16 Nov 2009	Draft issue	TL / NS	MC

# **Non-Indigenous Archaeological Assessment CODCD Project, University of Sydney**

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

The present report is a revision of an assessment written in June 2007 by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd on behalf of the University of Sydney. For the present report Casey & Lowe have been engaged by the University of Sydney to look at the southern section of the overall area, that will be affected by Stage 1 of the proposed Centre for Obesity, Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease (CODCD) development. This report establishes the potential for non-indigenous archaeological remains within the study area, assesses their significance and put forward appropriate recommendations to deal with them based on the proposed development.

Casey & Lowe have previously carried out the archaeological assessment and subsequent testing of land in Rose Street, Darlington, prior to the construction of the new Economics Building.<sup>1</sup> This produced a methodology for the assessment of the research potential and significance of sites within the Darlington campus. More recent work for the Campus 2010 project included additional testing in Darlington on the site of the old 'Tin Sheds' (USYD Central building site).

### **1.2 Study Area**

The Stage 1 study area is located to the west of the University Ovals 1 and 2 (Fig. 1.1).

### **1.3 Previous Studies and Archaeological Investigation**

The *University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Plan*, 2002 identified ten sites of historic archaeological potential (p.30-31): The area to the north of the CODCD Stage 1 development site was identified as:

1. The site of the 1840s convict road gang stockade and garden west of Orphan School Creek, now located in the north-east corner of St John's College sports ground, and adjacent to and possibly within the Veterinary Sciences boundary. This area also has potential for Aboriginal sites. The archaeological potential is assessed as moderate to low.

As this assessment shows, the Conservation Plan was inaccurate in the identification of the archaeological resource within the study area and the assessment of the site's potential.

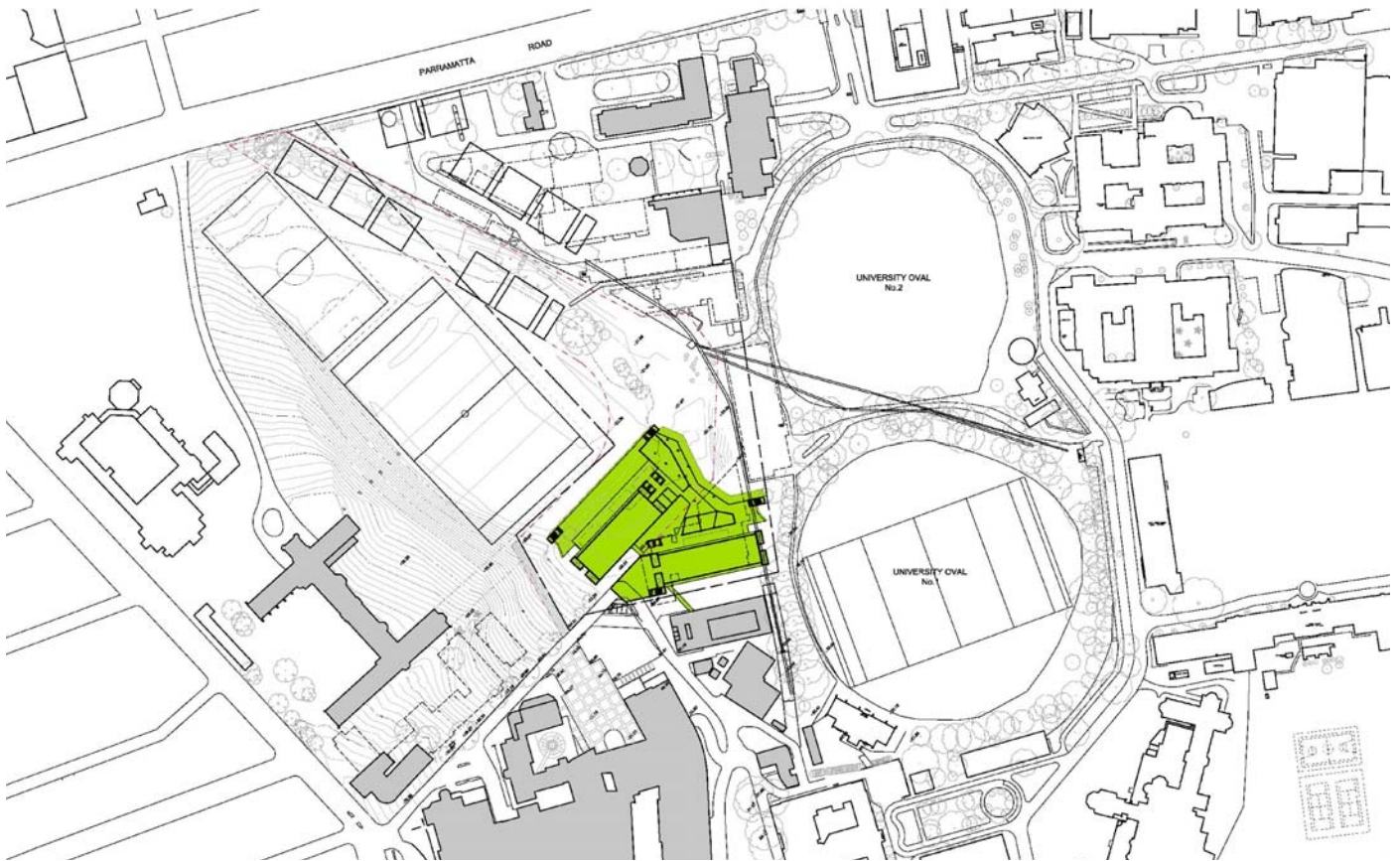
### **1.4 Statutory Constraints**

#### **1.4.1 Part 3A Application**

The development is proposed to be approved under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (EPBC) Act. If it is approved under Part 3A, the Director-General of the Department of Planning will issue requirements to be addressed by the project's Environmental Assessment (EA). These are likely to include requirements for archaeological heritage. This process removes the need for separate permits for historic-period archaeology from the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning.

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<sup>1</sup> Casey & Lowe, *Archaeological Assessment, Sections of the Darlington Campus, University of Sydney*, for the University of Sydney, 1997.



**Figure 1.1:** ARC Project study area.

#### 1.4.2 Heritage Council Policies and Guidelines

There are a range of archaeological guidelines which inform this report:

- *Archaeological Assessment Guidelines*, NSW Heritage Office, Department of Urban Affairs & Planning, 1996. A new draft of this has been prepared but not yet published.
- *NSW Heritage Manual*, NSW Heritage Office, Department of Urban Affairs & Planning, 1996.
- *Historical Archaeological Investigations: A Code of Practice*, NSW Department of Planning, 2006.
- *Historical Archaeological Sites, Investigation and Conservation Guidelines*, Department of Planning and NSW Heritage Council, 1993.
- *Excavation Director's Assessment Criteria*, NSW Heritage Office.
- *ICHAM Charter, The ICOMOS Charter for the Protection and Management of Archaeological Heritage*, ICOMOS International, 1990.
- *Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations*, UNESCO, 1956.
- *Archaeology Review* (1999) establishes standards, policies and guidelines and is endorsed by the Heritage Council of New South Wales. A new review has been written but has not been publicly endorsed or placed on the Heritage Office webpage.

Other relevant Heritage Office Guidelines:

- *Heritage Interpretation Policy and Guidelines*, Heritage Information Series, NSW Heritage Office, August 2005.
- *Photographic Recording of Heritage Items*, Heritage Information Series, NSW Heritage Office, 2006.

### 1.5 Report Authorship

This report is based on the original written by Dr Mary Casey and reviewed by Tony Lowe, Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd. Section 2.1, the historical background, was researched and written by Nicole Secomb, historian. Tony Lowe produced the overlay plans and liaised with the client.

### 1.6 Acknowledgements

David Colpo, DJC Consulting Pty Ltd  
Phil Jones, PJEP Environmental Planning

### 1.7 Terminology<sup>2</sup>

#### Historical Archaeology

Historical Archaeology (in NSW) is the study of the physical remains of the past, in association with historical documents, since the European occupation of NSW in 1788. As well as identifying these remains the study of this material can help elucidate the processes, historical and otherwise, which have created our present surroundings. It includes an examination of how the late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century arrivals lived and coped with a new and alien environment, what they ate, where and how they lived, the consumer items they used and their trade relations, and how gender and cultural groups interacted. The material remains studied include:

- \* Archaeological Sites:
  - below ground: these contains relics which include building foundations, occupation deposits, rubbish pits, cesspits, wells, other features, and artefacts.
  - above ground: buildings, works, industrial structures and relics that are intact or ruined.
- \* Cultural Landscapes
- \* Maritime Sites:
  - shipwrecks
  - structures associated with maritime activities.

#### Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is here used and defined as a site's potential to contain archaeological relics which fall under the provisions of the *Heritage Act 1977* (amended). This potential is identified through historical research and by judging whether current building or other activities have removed all evidence of known previous land use.

#### Archaeological Site

A place that contains evidence of past human activity. Below ground sites include building foundations, occupation deposits, features and artefacts. Above ground archaeological sites include buildings, works, industrial structures and relics that are intact or ruined.

#### Archaeological Investigation or Excavation

The manual excavation of an archaeological site. This type of excavation on historic sites usually involves the stratigraphic excavation of open areas.

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<sup>2</sup> Many of the definitions used here are taken from the *Archaeological Assessments Guidelines*.

### **Archaeological Monitoring**

Archaeological monitoring is recommended for those areas where the impact of the works is not considered to mean the destruction of significant archaeological fabric. Nevertheless the disturbance of features both suspected and unsuspected is possible. In order to provide for the proper assessment and recording of these features an archaeologist should inspect the works site at intervals they consider to be adequate and to be 'at call' in case the contractor uncovers remains that should be assessed by the archaeologist. The discovery of unexpected significant relics would require additional Heritage Office approval.

Monitoring is a regular archaeological practice used on many building and development sites.

### **Excavation Permit**

A permit to disturb or excavate a relic issued by the Heritage Council of New South Wales under Section 60 or Section 140 of the NSW *Heritage Act* 1977.

### **Preliminary Investigation**

A means of opening up areas of the site without having any significant impact on the resource so as to determine more accurately issues associated with degree to which the potential remains may survive, their significance and potential for interpretation. This type of work typically involves more than archaeological testing.

### **Research Design**

A set of questions which can be investigated using archaeological evidence and a methodology for addressing them. A research design is intended to ensure that archaeological investigations focus on genuine research needs. It is an important tool that ensures that when archaeological resources are destroyed by excavation, their information content can be preserved and can contribute to current and relevant knowledge.

### **Research Potential**

The ability of a site or feature to yield information through archaeological investigation. The significance of archaeological sites is assessed according to their ability to contribute information to substantive research questions, although some archaeological remains may be significant for other reasons, including on aesthetic, historic and/or social grounds.

### **Sampling**

Sampling of the archaeological resource is an excavation strategy that is adopted when there is a large area that contains a similar resource and it is not considered warranted to fully excavate everything as the sample can be extrapolated to stand for the whole of the resource. The sample taken should be considered representative of the whole related resource and should be chosen only after detailed consideration of the various alternatives.

### **Testing**

The usual intention behind archaeological testing is to have a look in the ground to confirm the archaeological potential of the site identified in the archaeological assessment. It can be an integral part of the process of confirming the presence or absence or integrity of the archaeological resources. It is important to have a testing strategy that addresses the predictive model. Determining the location of significant remains can identify development constraints and allow for informed development decisions.

## **1.8 Abbreviations**

HRA	Historical Records of Australia
ML	Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

SHR                State Heritage Register  
SRNSW           State Records of New South Wales

### 1.9 List of Figures

**Figure 1.1:** CODCD Project study area.

**Figure 2.1:** Grose Farm as surveyed by Surveyor Elliot, 10 December 1827. The convict barracks is arrowed. Surveyor General's Sketch Books, Vol 1 Fol 6, SRNSW

**Figure 2.2:** Detail of 1844 survey showing the stockade site, AO Map 2842.

**Figure 2.3:** Detail of 'Survey of Grose Farm', 1844. Notation at top left reads: "The buildings in the stockade coloured red are of brick, those tinted purple are of wood". AO Map 2841.

**Figure 2.4:** W. H. Wells: 'Camperdown' dated 6 January 1845, ML SLNSW Z M3 811.1824/1845/1.

**Figure 2.5:** Plan of 1890 showing first university buildings. Note notation "Grose Farm". The site of the barracks is arrowed, with no buildings shown. Note the dam immediately east of the site.

**Figure 3.1:** Interpretative tracing of the 1844 plan. The barracks buildings are a mixture of brick and timber structures.

**Figure 3.2:** The 1844 plan of barracks overlaid with the modern roadways and buildings and indicating the proposed location of the development

**Figure 3.3:** Modern aerial of Stage 1 site.

## 2.0 Historical Background

### 2.1 Development of the Study Area

The initial post-1788 land-use was cleared farmland, part of Grose Farm, to Lieutenant-Governor Major Francis Grose. He received a grant of 30 acres in 1792 on which to build a house.<sup>3</sup> Grose sold his lease when he left the colony in 1794. The study area is within this original 30 acre grant (Fig. 2.1).<sup>4</sup>

On 15 August 1803 Governor King granted the Committee for conducting the Female Orphan Institution land at Sydney and Cabramatta. On 10 August 1806 he granted the committee a further 280 acres of land, being part of Grose Farm. After some consideration and negotiation, Governor Sir Thomas Brisbane agreed to resurrender Grose Farm land on 27 May 1823 in return for land situated elsewhere.<sup>5</sup> However, pastoral and agricultural activity by the government had been underway on the site for some years. Returns for working cattle for Grose Farm were identified for June to December 1812 and February 1813.<sup>6</sup> By c1818/19 the land was turned into a public farm to raise fodder for the horses and oxen employed on public works in Sydney. It was originally under the Superintendence of Captain Gill who apparently managed it badly. In 1819 it came under the management of Major Druitt who 'had some knowledge of agriculture and introduced up-to-date methods in an effort to set an example of enlightened husbandry'.<sup>7</sup>

In November 1819, while giving evidence at the Commission of Inquiry into the state of the colony by J. T. Bigge, Major George Druitt stated that the original purpose of Grose Farm was for feeding government cattle. He endeavoured to improve the cultivation and make it productive while rearing and instructing labourers in the practice of agriculture. The convicts were described as being lodged in one large house and two small ones and regularly messed and mustered under the same rules and restrictions as those in other convict barracks. Druitt described the land as naturally bad, baking in the sun when ploughed. Fifty-seven labourers were employed at the farm at the time Druitt gave his evidence. The farm had started with eight men. Druitt estimated that it would take 20 men to maintain the farm once it was under good cultivation. He obtained manure from the stables at the Carters' Barracks. He noted that the convicts preferred to be in service at Grose Farm with many applying to be sent there; it operated as 'an indulgence'. There were few complaints of misconduct there and confinement at night was ensured by irregular roll call times, the vigilance of the superintendent, and the convicts being locked up.<sup>8</sup>

An enlargement of the buildings at Grose Farm, clearing and ornamental cultivation of 160 acres, erection of a strong 4 railed fence, farming offices and a series of embankments and reservoirs for water was reported in 1820.<sup>9</sup> In September the same year instructions issued to the Deputy Superintendent of Grose Farm suggested the presence of barrack housing for working convicts. While the majority of the document gives insight into the daily routine of the convicts housed there, it also gives some clues as to what was located on the site. This document notes that, "No man is to be permitted to wash in the pond area near the road, the ponds at the back of the farm are only to be used for this purpose" and that the tools had to be locked in the tool room in the mess house during meal times.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Pearson et al. *University of Sydney, Grounds Conservation Plan*, 2002, Vol. 1, p. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Pearson et al. *University of Sydney, Grounds Conservation Plan*, 2002, Vol. 1, p.12 ff, sequence of development plans

<sup>5</sup> Statement by Letters, Darling to Huskisson, HRA Vol 14, pp.98-99.

<sup>6</sup> Colonial Secretary's Correspondence, Special Bundles, 1809-1827, Returns of the Government Stock Establishments and other papers, microfilm copy SR Reel 6031, p.15, SRNSW.

<sup>7</sup> Fletcher 1976:118.

<sup>8</sup> Grose Farm 1819 – Evidence of Major Druitt before commission of enquiry, JT Bigge Report Evidence BT 1, pp.75-82 (ML).

<sup>9</sup> Grose Farm 1820, JT Bigge Report Appendices, BT 12, pp.341-42 (ML).

<sup>10</sup> Instructions to the Deputy Superintendent David Roberts at Grose Farm Barracks, SRNSW Reel 6050 pp.2-4.



**Figure 2.1:** Grose Farm as surveyed by Surveyor Elliot, 10 December 1827. The convict barracks is arrowed. Surveyor General's Sketch Books, Vol 1 Fol 6, SRNSW.

The daily routine of a convict consisted of:

- 8am - breakfast
- 8.45am - leave barracks for work
- 1pm - lunch
- 2pm - Convicts to already be at their place of work
- Sunset bell – finish work
- 8pm - men locked up

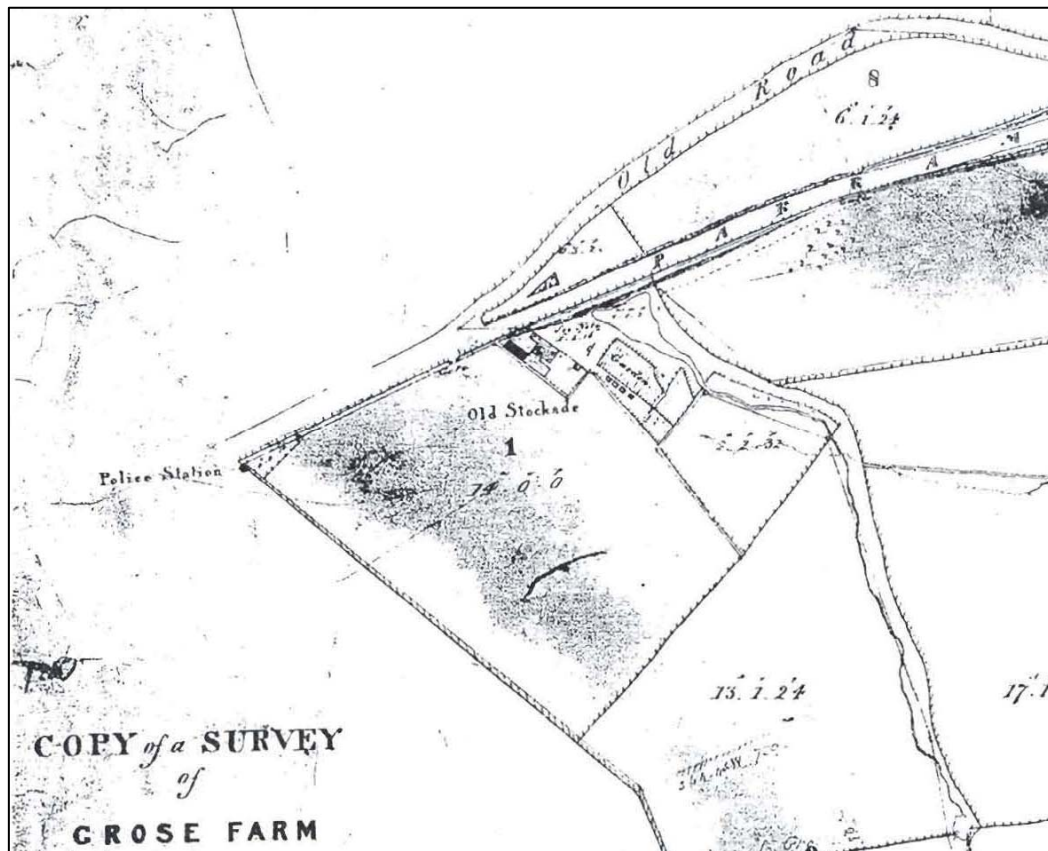
On Sundays the convicts could not leave the barracks until 1pm and had to be back by sunset. If late, they were confined to their cells and reported.<sup>11</sup>

Only a month after the issue of the above guidelines to the Superintendent at Grose Farm, investigations by Commissioner Bigge for his report into the state of the colony saw Major Druitt advise of the following:

- The land was worth £11 per acre in its improved state.
- 20 acres were cleared and cultivated with wheat, oats and maize.
- The value of the farm was obvious with the opportunity for experimental farming and the eagerness with which local settlers embraced the farming practises advocated at the farm.

<sup>11</sup> Instructions to Deputy Superintendent David Roberts at Grose Farm Barracks, 4 Sept. 1820, SRNSW Reel 6050 pp.2-4.

- The farm provided the means to instruct convict men and boys in ploughing, stumping and general farming works; and helped with their conversion to useful members of society. It was intended that the remaining 100 acres would be cleared and stumped and would be in use by 1821.<sup>12</sup>



**Figure 2.2:** Detail of 1844 survey showing the ‘stockade’ site, AO Map 2842, SRNSW.

While Druiitt seemed confident in the operations of Grose Farm, John Campbell wrote to the Colonial Secretary in February 1822 proposing a better way to utilise the farm. He noted that it was currently laid out in eight divisions of various sizes with no regular system of cropping pursued, causing exhaustion of the already poor soil in some areas of the farm. Campbell suggested altering all the fencing to make consistently-sized fields with controlled cropping. When the soil was no longer useful for cropping he proposed that the farm be let out for use of the Sydney settlers as a Dairy Farm or some other appropriate use.<sup>13</sup> It is in the same year that the most significant descriptions of the barracks at Grose Farm can be found.

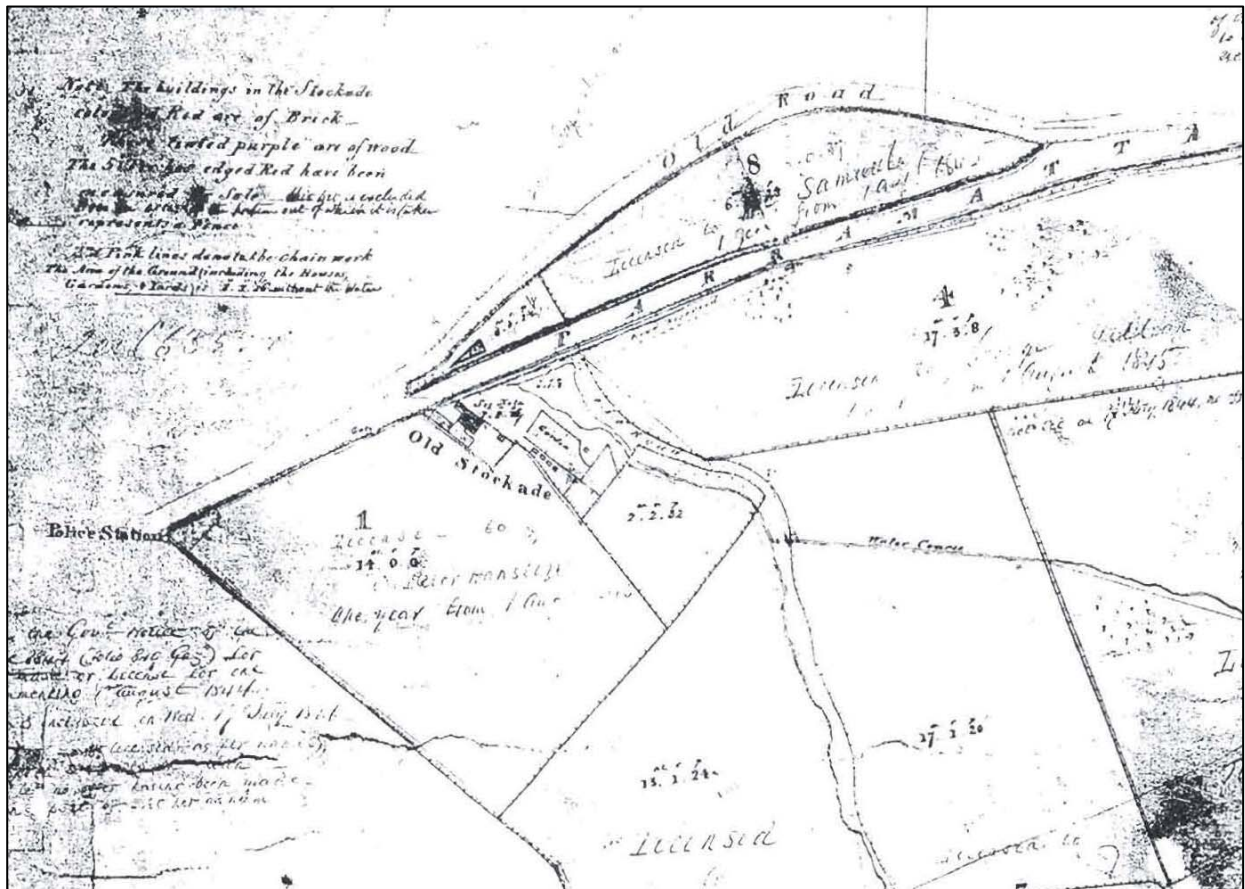
Macquarie reported in his list of public works undertaking during his Governorship the construction of:

Another Barrack for 100 Convict Men and Boys at “Grose Farm”, two Miles from Sydney, employed there in Agriculture on Government account. This farm, which now belongs to Government and which consist of 300 Acres of Land, is completely

<sup>12</sup> Grose Farm – Report by Major Druiitt 21/10/1820, JT Bigge Report Appendices, BT 24, pp.5209-11.

<sup>13</sup> John Campbell to the Colonial secretary 12/2/1822, SRNSW Reel 6017, pp.25-31.

enclosed by a strong five rail fence, and is extremely useful for furnishing Grain and Grass for the Government working Horses and Oxen.<sup>14</sup>



**Figure 2.3:** Detail of ‘Survey of Grose Farm’, 1844. Notation at top left reads: ‘The buildings in the stockade coloured red are of brick, those tinted purple are of wood’. AO Map 2841, SRNSW.

The Bigge Report described 280 acres of land used for pasturage of horses and draught cattle which had been cleared since 1819. Farm buildings were erected and the old houses on site enlarged to sleep 160 men and boys. Brick airing sheds were constructed as were a series of tanks which were created by deepening and enlarging the rivulet running through the farm and making a reservoir at the lowest point where it adjoined the road. Gardens were laid out along the banks to grow vegetables for the use of the convicts and an old fence around the farm was in the process of being replaced by a new, four rail fence.<sup>15</sup>

Bigge was not particularly complimentary of the farm, noting that the land was inferior despite the farm having been useful in supplying the green food for draught cattle employed at Sydney. It had also exhibited farming and animal husbandry practices and taught better agricultural practices to settlers, especially in the area of eradicating tree roots and stumps. The best labourers had been utilised, tools and materials were abundant and it was superintended by convict Ebenezer Knox who had significant experience in the southern counties of Scotland. Chief Engineer Major

<sup>14</sup> Report of Major General L. Macquarie...A list of public buildings...1 January 1810 to 30 November 1821, Macquarie to Bathurst 27/7/1822, HRA, Vol. 10, p.6836.

<sup>15</sup> Bigge, *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the state of the colony of NSW*, 19 June 1822, Facsimile Edition 1968, p.24.

Druitt directed the general operation of the farm. Despite this, Bigge found the value of the farm had been ‘been diminished by the injudicious precipitation with which they [the activities] had been conducted’.<sup>16</sup>

Based on convict returns in *Historical Records of Australia* the convict population at the farm had already peaked by the time this report was written and was down to less than 30 by 1829.<sup>17</sup>

Year	Convicts at Grose Farm
1 <sup>st</sup> year 18??	8
1819	57
1821	141
1825	26
1828	26 at Longbottom and Grose Farm
1828	22
1829	29 at Longbottom and Grose Farm

**Table 2.1: Convict population at Grose Farm.**<sup>18</sup>

In 1832 Governor Darling reported that the Superintendent of Grose Farm had replaced the superintendent at Emu Plains. The Grose Farm position was being filled by a subordinate position at £40 per year rather than £130 due to ‘*the establishment having lately been very much reduced*’.<sup>19</sup> In January the same year a request for 50 acres at Grose Farm was made by Mr James King in exchange for land he was granted in the interior for services. Although the document names Goose Farm, it is widely acknowledged as being Grose Farm. King goes on to describe a farm of 500 acres abandoned by the government as unprofitable and free of timber along Parramatta Road. He also asked for the previously mentioned Longbottom Farm, also abandoned.<sup>20</sup> When the grant of 50 acres appears not to have eventuated as of November 1832, Governor Bourke suggested to Lord Goderich that since the site proposed for Government House contained no land suitable for profitable use, apart from a kitchen garden, due to its rocky and scrubby nature, that Grose Farm be given for use of the Governor. The soil was described as of moderate fertility but badly watered. It was expected do little more than keep the cows required for the house and provide hay for the horses. The cost of the labour and necessary tools would be borne by the governor, while the cost of supporting the few remaining farm buildings would be borne by the public.<sup>21</sup> This was not the first time it had been suggested for use by the Governor. Thomas Brisbane had also proposed the idea in 1826.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Bigge, *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the state of the colony of NSW*, 19 June 1822, Facsimile Edition 1968, p.24.

<sup>17</sup> Hasy to Darling, HRA Vol 14, p.637; Darling to Murray, HRA Vol. 14, p.647.

<sup>18</sup> Hasy to Darling, HRA Vol 14, p.637; Darling to Murray, HRA Vol. 14, p.647.

<sup>19</sup> HRA Vol. 16, p.314.

<sup>20</sup> James King to Viscount Goderich, 2/10/1832, HRA Vol. 16, p.765.

<sup>21</sup> Governor Bourke to Viscount Goderich, 2/11/1832, HRA Vol. 16, pp.786-77.

<sup>22</sup> Sir Thomas Brisbane to Earl Bathurst, HRA, 13/4/1826, p.846.



**Figure 2.4:** W. H. Wells: 'Camperdown' dated 6 January 1845, ML SLNSW Z M3 811.1824/1845/1, showing the convict farm buildings along the western side of the creek.

This was followed quickly with a letter from Governor George Gipps suggesting that the permission for the Governor to retain Grose Farm for his own use was no longer possible. Not only was its proximity to Sydney more valuable, but it was now divided into grazing paddocks and let in eight lots to Sydney butchers. Streets had also been laid out through part of it.<sup>23</sup> Several months later Lord Stanley replied that no part of Grose Farm was to be used by the Governor.<sup>24</sup>

This description of use of the site supports the description of Grose Farm offered for lease or license for one year in 1844. In the *Sydney Morning Herald* dated 25 June 1844 the government offered eight lots for lease. Lot 1, located at the northwestern end of the farm, was estimated as being 18 acres and comprised two fenced paddocks, the old stockade, and the garden and yard attached to the stockade (Figs 2.2, 2.3, 2.4). It did not include the police station at the extreme

<sup>23</sup> Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 15/6/1845, HRA Vol. 14, p.376.

<sup>24</sup> Lord Stanley to Sir George Gipps, 9/11/1845, HRA Vol. 14, p.609.

western end of the farm (cnr of Missenden Road and Parramatta Road). The upset price was £30.<sup>25</sup>

The remaining lots were spread over 11 fenced paddocks. Lot 4 included provision for a reserved road extending from a slip panel on Parramatta Road to the creek near the stockade. Any lessee was required to keep the fences and buildings in repair.<sup>26</sup> It is during this time that the plans showing the site have been located. Two similar maps dated 1844 and 1846 show the stockade site and its location within the land identified for university purposes. These plans describe the stockade as being of brick and wood. The stockade site was presumably demolished when construction took place for the university.<sup>27</sup>

## **2.2 Government Agriculture and Convict Barracks**

Government agriculture was initially established at Farm Cove in 1788 but it quickly became obvious that the soil was poor and by searching inland along the river good soil was identified at Parramatta (Rose Hill). In November 1788 government farming was established at Parramatta and in April 1791 at nearby Toongabbie. Cultivation at Parramatta shifted from the area where the town was eventually laid out in 1791. Accommodation for convicts at Parramatta and Toongabbie was in wattle and daub huts rather than in more sophisticated barrack buildings. The soil was quickly exhausted due to the lack of fertilisers, especially due to the small number of animals who could produce manure. After the departure of Governor Phillip in December 1792 government farming continued at Toongabbie (Table 2.1).<sup>28</sup>

Lieutenant John Macarthur, who had been appointed inspector of public works at Parramatta in February 1793, believed that farming should be undertaken by private enterprise rather than government. While Lieutenant-Governor Grose had similar ideas he did not abandon public farming, although he did reduce the total areas being worked by government from 400 acres in 1793 to 340 acres in 1795. This farming was mainly at Toongabbie but also on 60 acres in Petersham. Huts were built at this new farm to accommodate the convict workers. Public farming eventually ceased in 1796 because the newly appointed Governor Hunter was opposed to this practice but he was instructed to recommence farming, which he did in 1797. While initially successful the small number of available convicts towards the end of Hunter's administration, reduced through emancipation and few new arrivals, led to reduced numbers of convict labourers available for crop production.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, 25/6/1844, p.3.

<sup>26</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, 25/6/1844, p.3.

<sup>27</sup> Grose Farm, SRNSW, AO Maps 2841, 2842 and 2843.

<sup>28</sup> Kerr 1984:8-9; Fletcher 1976b:26-29.

<sup>29</sup> Fletcher 1976b:29-30; Collins 1978 (1975):266.

Governor	Arrival	Departure
<b>Arthur Phillip</b>	January 1788	10 December 1792
<b>First Interregnum</b> <i>2½ years without a Governor appointed by the British Government. The Lieutenant-Governor acted as Governor during this period, 1793 to September 1795</i> <i>Lieutenant-Governor Major Francis Grose and Captain William Paterson</i>		
<b>Captain John Hunter</b>	September 1795	September 1800
<b>Captain Phillip Gidley King</b>	September 1800	August 1806
<b>Captain William Bligh</b>	6 August 1806	arrested 26 January 1808
<b>Second Interregnum</b> Mutiny by the NSW Corps against Bligh. No appointed Governor for almost 2 years, Lieutenant-Governor acted as Governor during this period. Individuals in charge of the colony included Major Foveaux.		
<b>Colonel Lachlan Macquarie</b>	31 December 1809	December 1821, leaves the colony in February 1822
<b>Major-General Sir Thomas Makdougall Brisbane, Bart. KCB</b>	1821-	1825
<b>Lieutenant-General (later Sir) Ralph Darling</b>	1825-	1831
<b>Major-General Sir Richard Bourke, KCB</b>	1831-	1837
<b>Sir George Gipps, Kt Bach.</b>	1838-	1846

**Table 2.1:** List of early Governors of New South Wales.

By the time of Phillip King's arrival in 1799, soon to be appointed governor, little successful public agriculture was being undertaken. King was under instructions from the British government to continue with public farming so as to provide rations for the convicts which would not cost the government money. He quickly established a new government farm at Castle Hill and leased a farm on the Hawkesbury. He allowed Toongabbie farm to go out of production because the soil was exhausted and much of the land had passed into private hands. Government farming was successful when there were sufficient numbers of convicts but as the agricultural practices were highly labour intensive the fall off in numbers of convicts typically meant there was a fall off in the amount of crops being produced.<sup>30</sup> Governors Hunter and King were both concerned to have a balance between public and private agriculture so as to provide a market for private agriculture which would otherwise have a limited market. In addition there were still times of food shortages which meant government needed to have reserves in storage.

The rules were changed in February 1804 when Lord Hobart instructed King to only cultivate the amount of land necessary to employ the convicts. King now focused on assisting private farmers by assigning convicts to them. Governor Bligh (1806-1808) followed the same practice but still sought to maintain some government farming as a means of controlling the price of grain. By 1807 there was 524 acres in cultivation. Following the rebellion and Bligh's removal in January 1808 the amount of ground being cultivated was substantially reduced. No new public farms were established until after the arrival of Governor Macquarie.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>30</sup> Fletcher 1976b:30-32.

<sup>31</sup> Fletcher 1976b:32

In 1810 there were food shortages and Governor Macquarie quickly recommenced public farming, with 300 acres being sown with wheat and potatoes. After this successful harvest which rectified the immediate food shortage he decided not to continue any further public farming. While initially supportive of government farming Macquarie soon realised the economics were not in its favour. Private farming using assigned convicts was considered to be more successful and public farming of grain for the local market ceased. Some experimental farming did continue at Bathurst (1815) to test its capability and also at Port Macquarie (1821) which was to be self-sufficient within 18 months of establishing the penal colony.<sup>32</sup>

Yet between 1818 and 1820 three new public farms were established. By 1819 Grose Farm was operating with two other public farms at Longbottom (Concord), 8 miles to the west along Parramatta Road from Grose Farm, and Emu Plains.<sup>33</sup> While Fletcher suggests their establishment was possibly influenced by Commissioner Bigge, who thought government should own farms where they could undertake 'experiments in agriculture, which the limited means of the settlers in New South Wales would not generally admit', Grose Farm appears to have been established prior to Bigge's arrival in September 1819.<sup>34</sup> Macquarie reassured Lord Bathurst that these types of undertakings could be 'profitable and that agricultural employment would benefit the convicts' as they would be 'employed at "most useful labour and in a manner that is most likely to improve their morals and make them hereafter good and useful servants"'.<sup>35</sup>

Agriculture at Emu Plains was more successful than at Grose Farm. It had better alluvial soil and by 1820, 500 acres were sown with flax, tobacco and various grains. Emu Plains even produced a profit. Emu Plain operated from September 1819 until August 1832. Longbottom Farm at Concord was used more for timber and charcoal-yielding wood. The farms established by Macquarie after 1810 were not intended to implement the London government's objectives of providing food for convicts; instead they were intended to assist with incidental aspects of running the colony. As in the case of Grose Farm which provided feed for the horse and oxen stabled in the Carters' Barracks (Belmore Park, Central Station).<sup>36</sup>

Only a few convict barracks were built in NSW prior to the arrival of Governor Macquarie and they were generally accommodated in huts or tents. Governor King built a two-storey stone barracks at Castle Hill Farm (1801) which was the subject of a recent archaeological investigation.<sup>37</sup> King also built a gaol (1802-04) at Parramatta, the upper floor of which became the first Female Factory at Parramatta.<sup>38</sup> The accommodation at Toongabbie was mainly huts similar to those erected in Parramatta rather than a barracks.

Hyde Park Barracks was under built instructions from Governor Macquarie. Building commenced in March 1817 and was completed in June 1819.<sup>39</sup> Three other all male convict barracks were known to be built between 1819-1820: the Carter's Barracks (Belmore Park, Central Station) and the Parramatta and Windsor barracks. Kerr notes that these three barracks 'were constructed under the direction of Major Druitt, the Chief Engineer, from plans or working drawings furnished by the overseer of bricklayers, Francis Lawless'.<sup>40</sup> They were built to a similar plan and elevation which varied from the standard brick and hospital patterns of Watts' Military Hospital and Parramatta Convict Hospital or Greenway's Hyde Park Barracks. Lawless

<sup>32</sup> Fletcher 1796b:117-118

<sup>33</sup> Fletcher 1976b:118-119

<sup>34</sup> Quoted Fletcher 1976b:119; J. T. Bigge in ADB Online <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A010093b.htm>.

<sup>35</sup> Fletcher 1976b:119

<sup>36</sup> Fletcher 1976b:118-119

<sup>37</sup> Mathew Kelly and Graham Wilson, Castle Hill Farm talk, Sydney Historical Archaeology Workshop 2006.

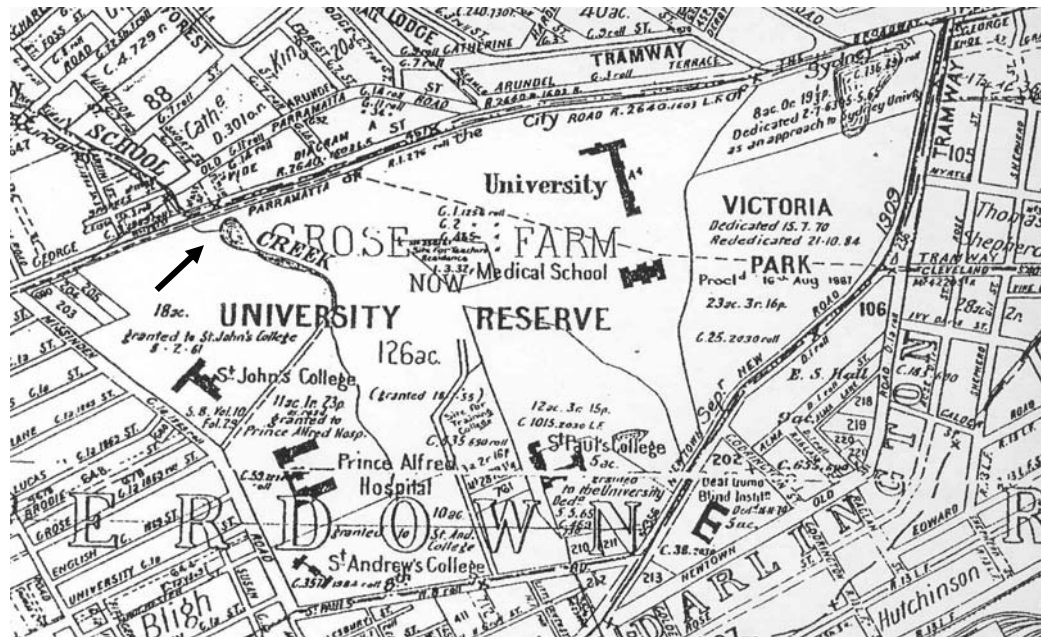
<sup>38</sup> Kerr 1984:42

<sup>39</sup> HRA 10:192; Kerr 1984 *Design for Convicts* p. 39.

<sup>40</sup> Kerr 1984:52

is thought to have adopted designs from a common English source.<sup>41</sup> James Kerr does not refer to the barracks built at Grose Farm in his research which suggests that it is a relatively unknown building and that there are no known plans.

The aim of building the barracks at Grose Farm was to provide labour to the government agricultural enterprise at Grose Farm. It was one of three government farms established under Governor Macquarie who had to find employment for the influx of male convicts following the end of the Napoleonic wars.<sup>42</sup>



**Figure 2.5:** Plan of 1890 showing first university buildings. Note notation “Grose Farm”. The site of the stockade is arrowed, with no buildings shown. Note the dam immediately east of the site.

### 2.3 The Macquarie Building Program<sup>43</sup>

The Grose Farm barracks is a relatively unknown aspect of Governor Macquarie’s building program which was aimed at providing infrastructure for the colony and more humane circumstances for convicts and as part of a means of civilising colonial society. Macquarie’s policy of building infrastructure caused problems through the use of convict labour for an extensive public works building program and the perception that some of these buildings were too grandiose for a penal colony. In his first year or so he built an army barracks, a new hospital, the turnpike road to Parramatta and the Hawkesbury, and a new bridge across the Tank Stream.<sup>44</sup> Governor Macquarie claimed his administration erected 265 buildings and works throughout New South Wales (217) and Van Diemen’s Land (48).<sup>45</sup> Macquarie was censured early on by Lord Liverpool for his expenditure on public works and was ordered to seek permission from the government for any further public buildings or works.<sup>46</sup> Lord Bathurst also warned Macquarie against spending colonial revenue on his building program without permission from Treasury.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>41</sup> Kerr 1984:53

<sup>42</sup> Fletcher 1976b:118

<sup>43</sup> Extract from Casey 2002: Chapter 12.

<sup>44</sup> Abbott 1978:315; HRSNW 7:438, 449-453, 509, 514-517, 605-606, 608, 617; HRA 7:486-487.

<sup>45</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 27 July 1821, HRA 10:684-699.

<sup>46</sup> Liverpool to Macquarie, 4 and 5 May 1812, HRA 7:481.

<sup>47</sup> Bathurst to Macquarie, 3 February 1814, HRA 8:132.

In 1811, 1813, 1814 and 1815 the British were fighting Napoleon and the French in Portugal and Spain and were spending a lot of time and money on this war and clearly did not want to be distracted by this expensive distant penal colony.<sup>48</sup>

Following the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 many more convicts were sent to New South Wales. During April and May 1818, 1046 convicts arrived at Port Jackson. The colony was recovering from a period of scarcity and there was no immediate employment for the new arrivals. They were all placed on the government stores (rations), to be clothed and victualled for the next seven months before the settlers would have any need to take on new convict labour. Macquarie sent some of the newly arrived male convicts down to Van Diemen's Land but this absorbed only a limited number. He could not reduce public expenditure because the problem caused by the increasing convict population was exacerbated by convicts being returned to government by settlers who were unable to feed them because of extensive damage to their crops by flooding. This placed many of the new convicts back on the public expense.

By March 1819 a further 2,600 convicts had arrived, only a small proportion of whom did not receive a government ration. To ameliorate the situation of having so many convicts on the stores Macquarie was 'obliged to employ at present Strong Gangs of Convicts on the several Public Works in progress' as well as mending roads and bridges.<sup>49</sup> At least in this way the colony would receive long-term benefits from having to maintain so many convicts. An important building project completed during this time was the Hyde Park convict barracks. From 4 June 1819 male convicts were lodged in the just completed convict barracks near Hyde Park. Now male convicts could be locked up and placed under surveillance at night which greatly reduced the nightly robberies and violence in the town and established greater control over convict behaviour and generally improved the quality of life for the residents of Sydney.

In July 1819 Macquarie noted that if more male convicts were to arrive he would have to start public cultivation again to keep the convicts occupied.<sup>50</sup> Macquarie re-established government farming at Emu Plains when another 1057 convicts arrived in the middle of 1820 but as we know from the research for this report he also appears to have established Grose Farm by 1819.<sup>51</sup> In the period from September 1820 to early January 1821 a further 1680 male convicts arrived in Sydney and 315 males were sent to Van Diemen's Land.<sup>52</sup>

The population of New South Wales in April 1810 was 10,452; by November 1815 it was 12,911 and by 1821 it had more than doubled to 29,783.<sup>53</sup> This rising population included a large increase in convicts and placed unprecedented stress on the resources of the colony, through the need to feed and cloth the convicts and find labour to employ and thereby control them. Ritchie's analysis of the population and economics of this unprecedented situation is helpful in assessing Macquarie's success as an administrator. In 1806, convicts formed 26 per cent of the population, rising to 41 per cent in 1819. Macquarie actually lowered the cost of a convict per annum to £30 in 1816-1818 and to £25 in 1819-1821, the years of his supposed greatest extravagances. In addition, the proportion of convicts on the stores to the general population was slightly reduced. Between 1814 and 1820, Macquarie assigned 7178 male convicts to settlers, retaining 4587 for government service. Two-thirds (1587) of the convict mechanics (skilled) were retained in government service.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>48</sup> HRA 7:349, 354, 455; HRA 8:1, 139.

<sup>49</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 16 May 1818, HRA 9:792-794, 796-797; Macquarie to Bathurst, 24 March 1819, HRA 10:86-89; Macquarie to Bathurst, 24 March 1819, HRA 10:96.

<sup>50</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 20 July 1819, HRA 10:192-193.

<sup>51</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 1 September 1821, HRA 10:366.

<sup>52</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 18 January 1821, HRA 10:378-379.

<sup>53</sup> Macquarie to Castlereagh, 30 April 1810, HRNSW 7:360; Macquarie to Bathurst, 18 March 1816, HRA 9:91; Macquarie to Bathurst, 30 November 1821, HRA 10:575.

<sup>54</sup> Ritchie 1986:156-157

Yet, according to those with pastoral interests, the use of convict labour on public works made them unavailable for farming etc and as a result they objected to Macquarie's building program, although in 1819-21 the governor was unable to assign more than half the new convicts. Bigge criticised Macquarie for his policy of using most of the skilled 'mechanics' for the public building programs when they were needed by private farmers to erect houses and outbuildings. Macquarie defended this as necessary 'in order to ensure employment for the large number of labourers in government employ'. The colonists complained that the public buildings would not assist with the maintenance of convicts while involvement in agriculture would provide for the convicts' future, help with their reform, remove them from the temptation of the towns and association with other convicts and assist in export growth activities such as wool production.<sup>55</sup>

#### **2.4 Commissioner Bigge and the Commission of Inquiry<sup>56</sup>**

Commissioner Thomas Bigge was appointed in January 1819 to inquire into the state of the colony of New South Wales and arrived in Sydney on 25 September 1819. Macquarie first heard about the commission of inquiry not from Lord Bathurst but from James Chapman, a clerk in the Colonial Office.<sup>57</sup> Bigge's appointment was a wide-ranging brief to examine the legal, administrative, ecclesiastical, trade revenue and internal resources aspects of the colony.<sup>58</sup> Bathurst informed Bigge that the settlements of New Holland should be considered as 'Receptacles for Offenders' and the management of the colony was to focus on 'keeping up in them such a system of just discipline, as may render Transportation an Object of serious Apprehension'. To the British government the role of New South Wales was to serve as a deterrent to the commission of crimes in Britain, a place to create apprehension in the minds of potential criminals, 'where those who looked upon strict Discipline and Regular Labour as the most severe and the least tolerable of Evils'. Yet the passing of 30 years of settlement had seen New South Wales become a place where free settlers, including former convicts, could enjoy prosperity, thus making it less successful as a penal settlement and deterrent to crime in Britain. Macquarie found free settlers living in a penal settlement not willing to surrender their rights to the same regulation as applied to convicts. Yet the number of convicts being transported was increasing, establishing the need to maintain places of penal servitude. The result was conflicts of interests between free settlers, emancipists and the continuance of a penal colony.<sup>59</sup>

Lord Bathurst was concerned that the erection of additional convict accommodation, as requested by Macquarie to house the ever rising number of convicts, would increase the Treasury's burden. Building convict barracks was sensible but he was concerned that these settlements had become places neither of apprehension nor reformation. If the settlements could not be 'placed upon a footing that shall render it possible to enforce, with respect to all the Convicts, strict Discipline, Regular Labour, and constant Superintendence...the System of unlimited Transportation to New South Wales must be abandoned'. Therefore Bathurst decided to appoint a commissioner to investigate the future of the colony and accordingly the Bigge Commission was established, not to investigate Governor Macquarie, but the future of the colony. Issues of concern were: how transportation might continue in relation to expansion of free settlement and how these two different types of residents might fit together; how to manage better the problems of providing a deterrent to crime in Britain and the reform of convicts; and lastly how New South Wales could be advantageous to the empire as a free colony.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>55</sup> Abbott 1978:319-320; Ritchie 1971:48, 50, 55, 59, 64, 78, 82.

<sup>56</sup> Extract from Casey 2002: Chapter 12.

<sup>57</sup> Ritchie 1986:166

<sup>58</sup> HRH Prince Regent to Thomas Bigge, HRA 10:3-4

<sup>59</sup> Bathurst to Bigge, 6 January 1819, HRA 10:4-7; Bathurst to Sidmouth, 23 April 1817, HRA 10:807-808.

<sup>60</sup> Bathurst to Bigge, 6 January 1819, HRA 10:4-7; Bathurst to Sidmouth, 23 April 1817, HRA 10:807-808; Ritchie 1986:156.

At first Macquarie welcomed Bigge's commission because he felt that it would reveal the facts of the situation and 'would enable the British government to form a just estimate of the importance of New South Wales which, under his guidance, continued to improve and progress'.<sup>61</sup> Fletcher also supports the view that Macquarie believed he would be vindicated.<sup>62</sup> However, Macquarie and Bigge quickly fell out and Macquarie's third resignation was eventually accepted by Bathurst at the end of 1820. Among their points of conflict were Macquarie appointing emancipist William Redfern as a magistrate, the position of emancipists in society generally, and aspects of the public building program.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> Ritchie 1986:166

<sup>62</sup> 1976a:57

<sup>63</sup> Macquarie to Bathurst, 22 February 1820, HRA 10:214-218; Macquarie to Bigge, 19 November 1819, HRA 10:220-224; Bigge to Macquarie, 10 November 1819, HRA 10:224-231; Macquarie to Bigge, 12 November 1819, HRA 10:233; Macquarie to Bathurst, 22 February 1820, HRA 10:236-238; Macquarie to Bigge, 14 February 1820, HRA 10:244-245; Macquarie to Bathurst, 29 February 1820, HRA 10:291.

### **3.0 Potential Archaeological Resource**

#### **3.1 Archaeological Potential**

Archaeological Potential is here defined as the likelihood that remains that fall under the provisions of the *Heritage Act* 1977 (amended) are present on a site. An archaeological site's heritage significance is often gauged by the level of its *research potential*.

#### **3.2 Research Potential**

This is defined as the ability of a site or feature to yield information through archaeological investigation. The significance of archaeological sites is assessed according to their ability to contribute information to substantive research questions, although some archaeological remains may be significant for other reasons, including on aesthetic, historic and/or social grounds.

#### **3.3 Archaeological Potential of the Study Area**

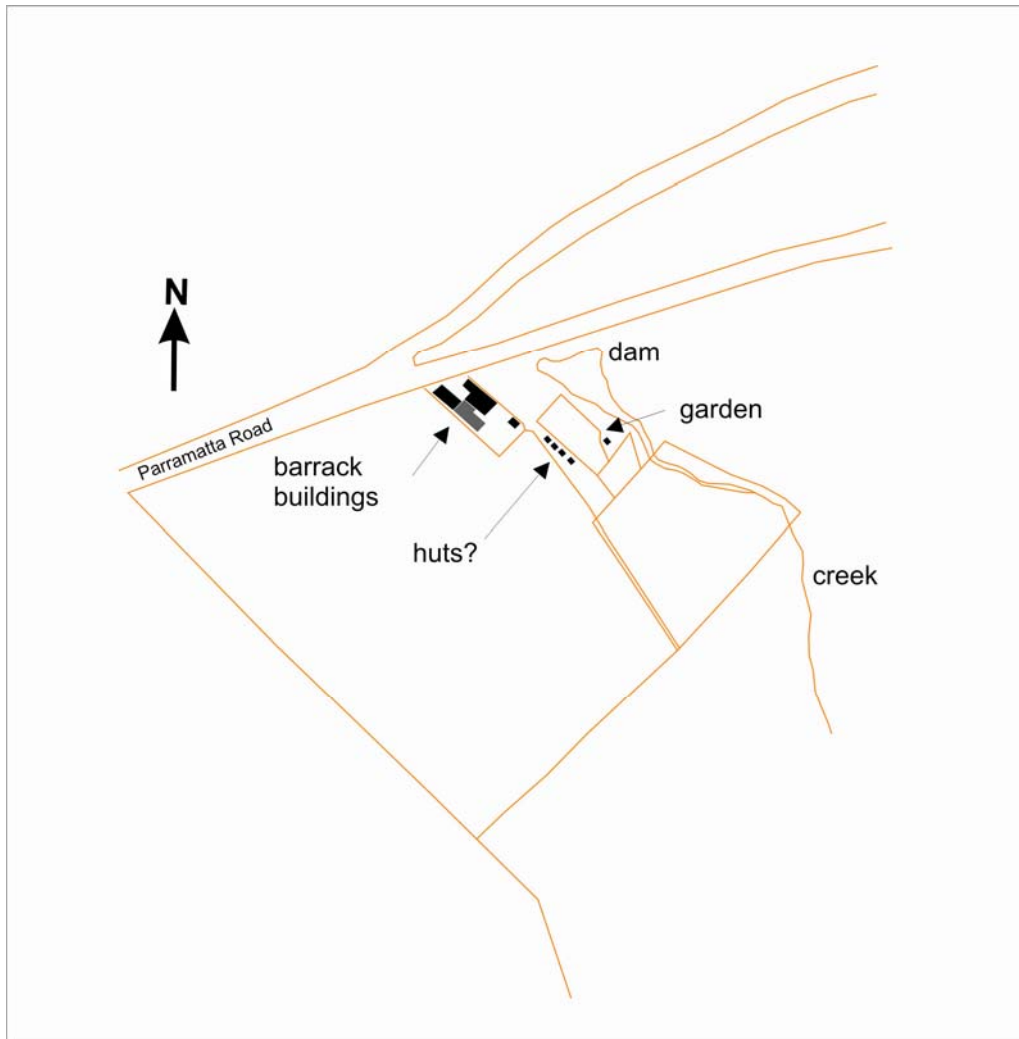
The main buildings associated with Grose Farm (c1819-c1832) consisted of the brick and timber convict barracks, huts, a dam with ponds and brick airing sheds, a fenced garden area along the creekline and fenced paddocks (Figs 2.1 - 2.3, 3.1, 3.2). The convict barracks appear to have been built by c.1818/19 which is around the time of the completion of Hyde Park Barracks in June 1819. As indicated in Section 2.1 above, the 'farm buildings were erected and the old houses on site enlarged to sleep 160 men and boys'. This suggests there were earlier buildings on the site, presumably associated with the operation of the original farm established by Francis Grose or the subsequent resident to whom he sold his lease or when the government used it to graze cattle in the 1810s. The farm buildings and barracks were still present in 1844 (Figs 2.2, 2.3) when they appear to be incorrectly identified as a 'stockade' and possibly when the university acquired the land in the 1850s. As most convict infrastructure became redundant in the years following the cessation of transportation (1841), any continued use of these buildings is uncertain. They may have been used by the various leaseholders and butchers who had access to the land prior to the 1850s. Further research may be able to clarify this issue.

The northern section of the Grose Farm site, to the west of the Veterinary Science buildings, is likely to contain the buried remains of the agricultural farm, the various barrack buildings, and other structural remains and deposits associated with the operation of the agricultural establishment by c1819 into at least the 1830s and possibly later. Remains associated with the subsequent uses of the farm can also be expected.

The overlay of the 1844 plan locates the barrack buildings, dam and garden to the north of the Stage 1 development area and therefore outside the main area of impact (Figs 3.1, 3.2). Road access from Parramatta Road to the Stage 1 development is understood to utilise existing internal roads although new roadbuilding would be necessary where approaching the new building. This should not impact on the site of known convict buildings and remains. The area to be impacted by the Stage 1 development is likely to have been cleared farmland in this period.

#### **3.4 Impacts from twentieth-century Buildings**

The northern half of the Stage 1 development area is at-grade parking associated with the sporting fields to the north. The southern half is existing buildings including a Psychiatry Unit (Fig. 3.3).



**Figure 3.1:** Interpretative tracing of the 1844 plan. The barrack buildings were a mixture of brick and timber structures. Compare with Figure 3.2.

### 3.5 Nature of Impacts from Proposed Development

The proposed development is a multi-storeyed medical research facility. Its construction will disturb any archaeological remains over its footprint.

### 3.6 Archaeological Context

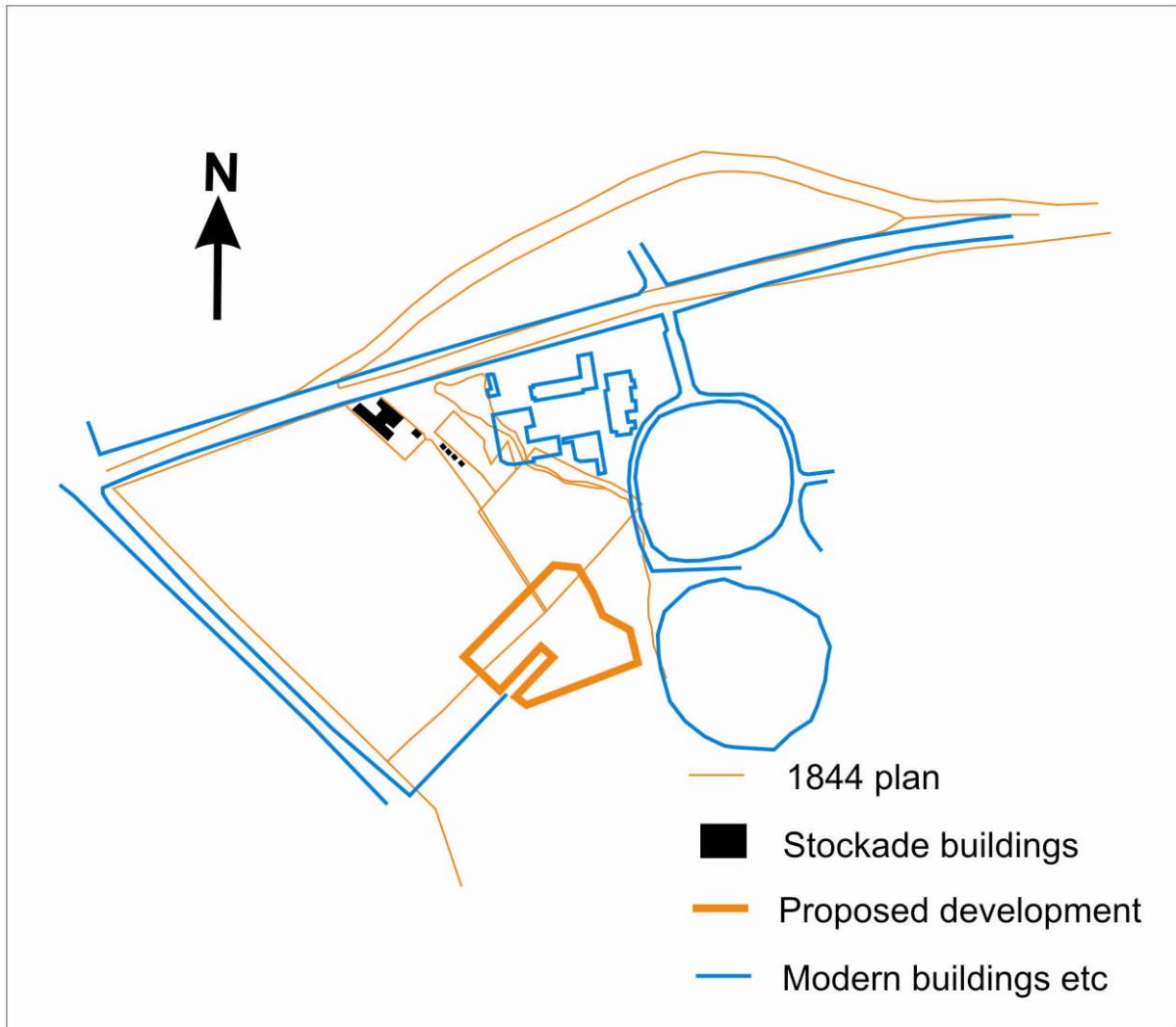
Archaeological work undertaken on Macquarie-period convict barracks and penal buildings include:

- The Windsor Barracks (1820) was converted into a hospital by 1823.<sup>64</sup> This was the subject of an archaeological investigation in 2003 which found fragmentary remains of the barracks including footings, privy, washhouse and paths and drains. Part of the original barracks survives within the current building on the site. Remains have been covered over and kept within the new development.<sup>65</sup>

<sup>64</sup> [http://www.hawkesburyhistory.org.au/members/macq\\_miller.html](http://www.hawkesburyhistory.org.au/members/macq_miller.html).

<sup>65</sup> *Heritage News* (Spring 2003), NSW Heritage Office, p. 15-16, [http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/heritagensw/newsletter\\_vol10no2.pdf](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/heritagensw/newsletter_vol10no2.pdf).

- Hyde Park Barracks was the subject of archaeological investigation in the 1980s as part of the refurbishment of the building into a museum. This building, designed by Francis Greenway, and its archaeology are of State heritage significance.
- Parramatta convict hospital was the subject of an excavation program by Casey & Lowe during 2005 and 2006. This work found the buried remains of the second convict hospital (1792-1818) and third convict hospital (1818-1844). The remains of the Parramatta convict hospital are one of 25 sites listed on the SHR for their archaeological values. This site has been the subject of a major *in situ* conservation program and will be displayed and interpreted within the new Parramatta Justice Precinct. These remains are of State heritage significance.



**Figure 3.2:** The 1844 plan of stockade overlaid with the modern roadways and buildings and indicating the proposed location of the development.



**Figure 3.3:** Modern aerial of Stage 1 site.

## **4.0 Heritage Significance**

### **4.1 Heritage Significance Criteria**

#### **4.1.1 Basis of Assessment of Heritage Significance**

To identify the heritage significance of an archaeological site it is necessary to discuss and assess the significance of the study area. This process will allow for the analysis of the site's manifold values. These criteria are part of the system of assessment that is centred on the *Burra Charter* of Australia ICOMOS. The Burra Charter principles are important to the assessment, conservation and management of sites and relics. The assessment of heritage significance is enshrined through legislation in the NSW *Heritage Act* 1977 and implemented through the *NSW Heritage Manual* and the *Archaeological Assessment Guidelines*.<sup>66</sup>

The various nature of heritage values and the degree of this value will be appraised according to the following criteria:<sup>67</sup>

#### **4.1.2 Nature of Significance Criteria**

Criterion (a): *Historic Significance - (evolution)*

an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (b): *Associative Significance - (association)*

an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, or importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (c): *Aesthetic Significance - (scenic qualities / creative accomplishments)*

an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (d): *Social Significance - (contemporary community esteem)*

an item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (e): *Technical/Research Significance - (archaeological, educational, research potential and scientific values)*

an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (f): *Rarity*

an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (g): *Representativeness*

an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places of cultural or natural environments (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

<sup>66</sup> NSW Heritage Office 1996:25-27.

<sup>67</sup> NSW Heritage Office 2001.

To be assessed as having heritage significance an item must:

- meet at least one of the one of the seven significance criteria
- retain the integrity of its key attributes

Items may also be ranked according to their heritage significance as having:

- Local Significance
- State Significance

#### **4.1.3 Research Potential**

*Research potential is the most relevant criterion for assessing archaeological sites. However, assessing research potential for archaeological sites can be difficult as the nature or extent of features is sometimes unknown, therefore judgements must be formed on the basis of expected or potential attributes. One benefit of a detailed archaeological assessment is that the element of judgement can be made more rigorous by historical or other research.<sup>68</sup>*

#### **Assessment of Research Potential**

Once the archaeological potential of a site has been determined, research themes and likely research questions identified, as addressed through archaeological investigation and analysis, the following inclusion guidelines should be applied:

*Does the site:*

- (a) *contribute knowledge which no other resource can?*
- (b) *contribute knowledge which no other site can?*
- (c) *is the knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive problems relating to Australian History, or does it contribute to other major research questions?<sup>69</sup>*

If the answer to these questions is yes then the site will have archaeological research potential.

## **4.2 Discussion of Heritage Significance**

*Criterion (a): Historic Significance - (evolution)*

*an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

Grose Farm and the convict barracks were associated with early agriculture in the colony, both as part of an early grant to Lieutenant-Governor Francis Grose, its brief association with the Female Orphan School, and then as an arm of the penal infrastructure to manage convicts on a government farm. During the Macquarie-period it operated as an experimental agricultural farm and for training men and boys in farming techniques, as well as providing fodder for government horses and oxen stabled at the Carters' Barracks, the site of which is near Belmore Park, Central Station. The number of convicts accommodated at the barracks reached its peak in 1821 when there were 141 in residence. During the 1820s the numbers were much smaller, generally

<sup>68</sup> NSW Heritage Office 1996:26.

<sup>69</sup> Bickford, A. & S. Sullivan 1984:23.

between 22 and 29 at both Grose Farm and Longbottom Farm at Concord. This fall off in numbers presumably relates to the different practices under Governors Darling and Brisbane of assigning convicts to private individuals rather than undertaking any significant public agriculture. This shift in the administration of convicts was a response to the recommendations of the Bigge Inquiry.

Little is known about the layout and design of the Grose Farm barracks, presumably because they are not by Francis Greenway or John Watts, both of whom were responsible for a number of major public buildings and penal infrastructure during this period. The suggestion that one of the two major architects of the time did not design this building, as it is not identified by them or Governor Macquarie as such, suggests the barracks is one of a group of buildings built off a fairly common plan by Lawless. Further research needs to clarify this issue. To date no detailed plan for this barracks is known to exist.

The barrack accommodation of convict boys in NSW was mainly limited to the Carters' Barracks but they were also accommodated and employed at Grose Farm during the peak years of its operation.

*Criterion (b): Associative Significance – (association)*

*an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, or importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

The site is associated with the important Macquarie-period operation of the penal colony and was one of a group of penal institutions which he established to accommodate a major influx of convicts from 1818 and resulted in the construction of Hyde Park Barracks, the Carter's Barracks and Grose Farm barracks within a short period of time. These were all part of the Macquarie building program which was designed to both employ convicts and provide essential infrastructure to the colony.

*Criterion (c): Aesthetic Significance - (scenic qualities / creative accomplishments)*

*an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

This criterion is not considered relevant to this assessment. It is possible that the nature of the archaeological remains may be such that they will have aesthetic significance. This is not known at this stage.

*Criterion (d): Social Significance - (contemporary community esteem)*

*an item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

No assessment of social significance has been undertaken for this research. It is likely that remains of the government farm and its infrastructure of barrack accommodation will have significance to those members of the community interested in the colonial and convict heritage of Sydney and New South Wales.

*Criterion (e): Technical/Research Significance - (archaeological, educational, research potential and scientific values)  
an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

The main remains associated with Grose Farm (c1818-c1832+) consisted of the convict barracks which were brick and timber accommodation buildings, with huts, a dam with ponds and airing sheds, fenced garden area along the creekline and fenced paddocks. The convict barracks appear to have been built by c. 1818/19 which is around the time of the completion of Hyde Park Barracks in June 1819. As indicated in Section 2.1 above, the 'farm buildings were erected and the old houses on site enlarged to sleep 160 men and boys'. This may possibly suggest there were earlier buildings on the site, presumably associated with the operation of the original farm established by Francis Grose or the subsequent resident to whom he sold his lease. The farm buildings and barracks were still present in 1844 when they appear to be incorrectly identified as a 'stockade' and possibly when the university acquired the land in the 1850s. As most convict infrastructure eventually became redundant in the years following the cessation of transportation (1841), any continued use of these buildings is uncertain.

The remains of Grose Farm and barracks have the potential to contribute to a range of questions associated the management of the penal colony during the Macquarie period:

- The nature and management of agricultural practices on a government farm, including cultivation methods, soil preparation and range of crops cultivated. With specific input into aspects relating to spatial and landscape analysis of a government farm and how this was influenced by various agricultural and land management practices.
- The nature of convict accommodation for male convicts and how they were managed within the penal system. This type of information and analysis feeds into how aspects of the penal system operated in the construction of male gender identities.
- How does this establishment further our understanding of the Macquarie-period building and infrastructure program and Macquarie's approach to the management of male convicts within the penal system?
  - The nature of the floor plan of the barracks, and how it conforms to other known barrack plans and where it fits in with these institutions. Is it the same as the plans adopted by Lawless and seen at Parramatta and Windsor? Is it the same as the one built at Emu Plains?
  - Type of construction materials used.
- Material culture analysis of artefacts associated with the occupation of the Government Farm may provide evidence for analysis and interpretation relating to the above questions as well as other issues of consumerism, consumption practices, procurement practices within the penal settlement etc.

*Criterion (f): Rarity  
an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

Grose Farm is one a few government farms established which includes Toongabbie (1791-c1804), Castle Hill (1801-1804), Emu Plains (1819/20-1832) and Longbottom Farm. Prior to the Macquarie building program there was one other male convict barrack established at Castle Hill Farm (1801-1804). From 1818-1820 a series of male convict barracks were built at Hyde Park, the Brickfields (Carters' Barracks), Grose Farm, Parramatta, Windsor, and Emu Plains. Convict boys appear to be mostly accommodated at the Carters' Barracks and Grose Farm unless assigned to landowners.

*Criterion (g): Representativeness*

*an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places of cultural or natural environments (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).*

This criterion is not considered relevant to this site.



To be assessed as having heritage significance an item must:

- meet at least one of the one of the seven significance criteria
- retain the integrity of its key attributes

Items may also be ranked according to their heritage significance as having:

- Local Significance
- State Significance

#### **4.3 Research Potential**

*Research potential is the most relevant criterion for assessing archaeological sites. However, assessing research potential for archaeological sites can be difficult as the nature or extent of features is sometimes unknown, therefore judgements must be formed on the basis of expected or potential attributes. One benefit of a detailed archaeological assessment is that the element of judgement can be made more rigorous by historical or other research.<sup>70</sup>*

##### **Assessment of Research Potential**

Once the archaeological potential of a site has been determined, research themes and likely research questions identified, as addressed through archaeological investigation and analysis, the following inclusion guidelines should be applied:

*Does the site:*

- (a) *contribute knowledge which no other resource can?*
- (b) *contribute knowledge which no other site can?*
- (c) *is the knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive problems relating to Australian History, or does it contribute to other major research questions?*<sup>71</sup>

If the answer to these questions is yes then the site will have archaeological research potential. These questions are dealt with in the above discussion of significance, especially criteria (e) and (f).

<sup>70</sup> NSW Heritage Office 1996:26.

<sup>71</sup> Bickford, A. & S. Sullivan 1984:23.

#### **4.4 Statement of Heritage Significance**

The proposed new building site is partly within land occupied by Grose Farm, a public farm established by Governor Macquarie c1819 which operated until c1832. The potential buried remains of the farm include the brick and timber structures of a convict barracks, huts, a dam with ponds and airing sheds, a fenced garden area along the creekline and fenced paddocks. The barracks provided accommodation for convict men and boys. The barracks were built as part of the Macquarie building program. The farm reputedly provided vocational skills to men and boy convicts to assist their reform and to produce a skilled labour force. These potential remains of the farm relate to the administration of the penal colony during the Macquarie period and would provide information about a little known institution. Archaeological investigation, analysis and recording of these remains can contribute to a range of archaeological research questions relating to public agriculture, convict accommodation and treatment, the Macquarie building program, gender and material culture analysis and other areas of substantive research. These potential remains of the farm and barracks, based on comparison with similar farms and barrack buildings and sites, are considered to be a rare resource and to have State heritage significance. The Stage 1 study area does not overlap with any known buildings or structures from the convict period.

## **5.0 Results and Recommendations**

The following recommendations are made to the client and it is advised that they should be adopted as a basis for the planning and management of the archaeological resource within the study area.

These recommendations are premised upon:

- i) The legal requirements of the Relics provisions of the S139 *Heritage Act 1977* (amended) where it is:  
*A person must not disturb or excavate any land knowing or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance or excavation is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.*
- ii) The Australia ICOMOS *Burra Charter* for the conservation of places of heritage significance.
- iii) The historical research, assessment of archaeological potential and the statement of archaeological and heritage significance included in this report.

### **5.1 Results**

1. The overall study area assessed in this report has the potential to contain remains of Grose Farm, a government farm established by Governor Macquarie c1819 which had barrack accommodation for 160 men and boys. The farm provided fodder for the horse and oxen at the Carters' Barracks as well as training in agricultural practices for the convict boys and men. Operation of the public farm ceased c1832. The buildings were still present in 1844 and may have been demolished when the land was acquired for the construction of the University in the 1850s. Any such remains are considered to have State heritage significance.
2. The area to be affected by the proposed Stage 1 building is outside the area where early plans show the convict buildings were concentrated. The Stage 1 building area was probably cleared farmland in the convict period.
3. This result should be revisited if the nature of the development changes, particularly if impacts extend further north.

### **5.2 Recommendations**

1. Based on the conclusion that the proposed Stage 1 development is some way south of the buildings associated with the convict-period use of the land, and that the development site was cleared farmland in this period, no archaeological testing or preliminary investigation is seen as being necessary.
2. The finding of any suspected relics during the development should be reported to the archaeologist.

## **6.0 Bibliography**

### **6.1 Bibliography**

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