

19 Historic heritage

19.1 Assessment objectives

The DGRs that relate specifically to historic heritage are:

Historic heritage (including archaeology):

Where impacts to State or locally significant historic heritage items are proposed, the EA must include a statement of heritage impact (including significance assessment) and outline proposed mitigation and management measures (including an evaluation of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures).

19.2 Assessment method

EMM's historic heritage impact assessment is provided in Appendix Q and summarised below.

The primary aims of the assessment were to:

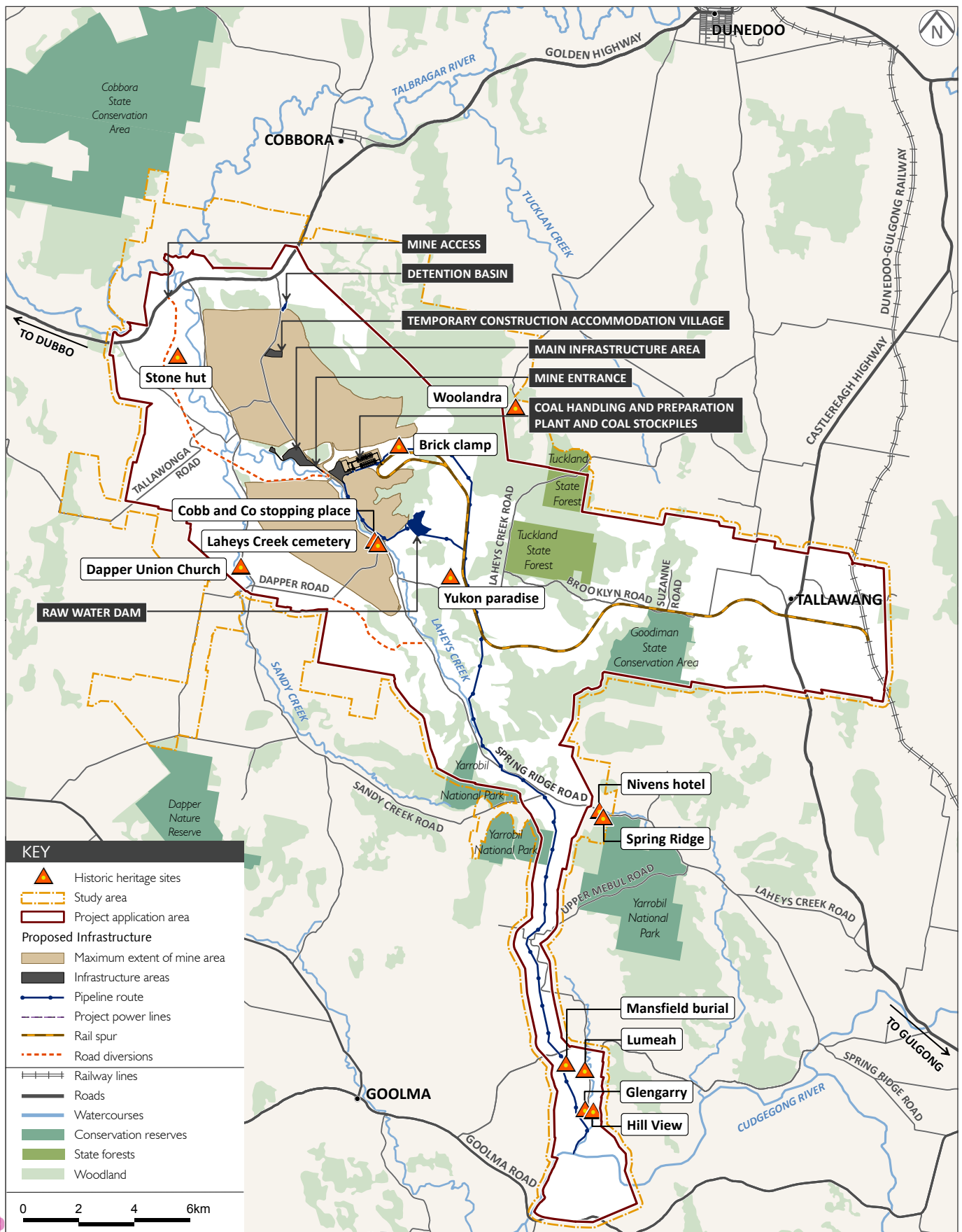
- assess the significance of historic items in the study area;
- assess the potential impacts of the Project on items of historic heritage in the study area; and
- determine management measures for historic heritage items potentially impacted by the Project.

The DGRs list two best practice heritage publications to guide the historic heritage assessment, *The Australian International Council on Monuments and Sites, Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (also known as the *Burra Charter*, Australian ICOMOS 1999); and the *NSW Heritage Manual* (Heritage Office 2006). The following OEH best practice guidelines were also used during the assessment:

- *Statements of Heritage Impact Guidelines* (Heritage Office 2006);
- *Investigating Heritage Significance* (Heritage Office 2004); and
- *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* (Heritage Branch Department of Planning 2009).

The study area for the historic heritage assessment is the PAA and some additional land outside of the PAA that CHC owns (Figure 19.1).

Desktop analysis and a field survey were used to identify the historic heritage items within the study area. Historical information about the area was sourced from the Gulgong Historical Society Research Centre and the State Library of NSW. Based on the desktop analysis, areas potentially containing items of historical significance were surveyed between 10 and 14 October 2011. Items of potential historic significance were assessed against the NSW heritage significance criteria.



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Figure 19.1

19.3 Existing environment

19.3.1 European settlement of the area

The study area was explored periodically in the early 1800s by official European explorers such as George Evans (1813–1815) and John Oxley (1817). Unofficial exploration by graziers searching for pasture for their sheep and cattle also occurred. During the early nineteenth century, few structures were built and none are known to have survived. In 1846, the population of the region was 572, with 22,000 cattle and 130,500 sheep. Agriculture such as wheat cropping became more viable in the 1850s as the railway linked towns to the markets in Sydney. The number of permanent residents in the area increased as a result.

A gold rush south-east of the study area in 1870 dramatically increased the population of the area and created the town of Gulgong. The rush brought up to 20,000 miners to the area by 1872. These large populations did not last and by 1881 the population of Gulgong had dropped to 1,212.

In the 19th century, the main towns in the area were Cobbora, Dunedoo, Laheys Creek and Tucklan. Most were settled by graziers or farmers. Cobbora, proclaimed a town in 1886, was considered the regional centre throughout the 19th century until the railway was built to Dunedoo in 1910. Once the railway bypassed the town, Cobbora went into decline through the rest of the 20th century. Essential services, such as schools and post offices, were consolidated in the larger towns of Dunedoo and Gulgong and former towns, such as Cobbora, Laheys Creek and Tucklan, became localities.

19.3.2 Historic sites and structures

Items of potential historic significance identified in the field survey were assessed against the Heritage Manual and Burra Charter guidelines as specified by the DGRs. The following seven criteria are used to assess the heritage significance of historic items:

- f) an item is important in the course or pattern of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural history (Historical Significance);
- g) an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons of importance in NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural history (Associative Significance);
- h) an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area) (Aesthetic Significance);
- i) an item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (Social Significance);
- j) an item has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural history (Research Significance);
- k) an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural history (Rarity); and
- l) an item is important in demonstrating the principle characteristics of a class of NSW's (or the local area's), cultural or natural places or environments (Representativeness).

The desktop analysis and field survey did not identify any items of Commonwealth or NSW State heritage significance within the study area. A total of 13 items of local heritage significance were identified based on the criteria listed above (see Figure 19.1). The items of local significance are:

- Laheys Creek cemetery, which contains four graves. It is linked to one of the earliest families in the district and is locally significant under criteria a, b, d, e and g. It is in good condition;
- Dapper Union Church, which was established circa 1910 and was the church attended by many local farming families. It was built using bricks from the local area and is locally significant under criteria a, d, f and g. It is in fair condition with some cracks along the walls;
- the archaeological site of a potential Cobb and Co stopping place, which may offer information on horse drawn transport in the local area. It is locally significant under criteria e. It is in fair condition;
- a two-roomed stone hut, which is an uncommon example of local building techniques using sandstone. It is locally significant under criteria c and f. It is in fair condition with mesh wire to hold it together in places;
- the archaeological site of a brick clamp, which has the potential to offer insights into brick making in rural areas. It is locally significant under criteria a, e and f. It is in fair condition;
- the Mansfield burial, which is a small ring of stones under a tree. It provides an example of burial practices in rural areas and is locally significant under criteria a. It is in good condition; and
- Nivens hotel, which is a representative example of a hotel from the 19th century. It can provide information on recreation practices and is locally significant under criteria a, b, f and g. It is in good condition.

And the following houses:

- Yukon Paradise, which is a 1920s house locally significant under criteria f and g. It is in fair condition;
- Spring Ridge, which is a good example of a 1930s Californian bungalow with unusual and extant interior fittings. It is locally significant under criteria a, c and f. It is in good condition;
- Glengarry, which is an intact 1920s house locally significant under criteria f and g. It is in good condition;
- Lumeah, which is a good example of a 1910 house with exterior decorative detailing. It is locally significant under criteria f and g. It is in fair condition;
- Hill View, which is a good example of a 1930s bungalow, locally significant under criteria g. It is in good condition; and
- Woolandra, which is an intact example of a 1910 house, locally significant under criteria f and g. It is in good condition.

The condition of an item was based on the visual assessment criteria of good, fair and poor. An item in good condition was largely intact with no visible structural damage. An item in fair condition showed some wear and tear structural issues. An item in poor condition showed considerable structural damage.

Two items, Spring Ridge house and Nivens hotel are listed on the Mid-Western Regional Council LEP and in the NSW State Heritage Inventory as items of local heritage significance. No items in the study area are listed on the Wellington Council or Warrumbungle Shire Council LEPs. Woolandra and Spring Ridge house are tenanted and on CHC land. The houses Glengarry, Lumeah and Hill View and Nivens hotel are all tenanted and on private land. All other items are on CHC land.

19.4 Environmental management

To appropriately protect historic heritage items, each historic heritage item will be managed in accordance with its significance and proximity to project activities (see Table 19.1 for item specific management measures). These management measures will be contained in a historic heritage management plan. The following general management measures will be applied:

- avoidance, which minimises harm to identified heritage items by ensuring activities do not occur near a heritage item;
- archival recording in accordance with OEH best practice guidelines, which preserves the technical, environmental, historical and aesthetic information about heritage items;
- preparation of a conservation management plan (CMP), which provides more detail on an item and helps to retain its heritage value during development;
- upslope drainage controls, which direct runoff away from heritage items;
- fencing, to protect items from damage during construction or operational activities; and/or
- monitoring, which will include vibration and blast overpressure monitoring (as described in Section 16.4.4) and regular condition inspections to guide maintenance requirements.

CHC is investigating the commissioning of an oral history report for the study area which will be completed as part of the heritage management plan.

19.5 Impacts

The impacts to historic heritage after implementing the management measures outlined in Section 19.4 are described below. Specific management measures and impacts for each historic heritage item are summarised in Table 19.1.

As is shown in Table 19.1, the Project will have no impact on four of the identified heritage items. These items are located away from the Project impact areas. The remaining nine heritage items are located near the Project and will be protected by applying the management measures described above. These measures will conserve or appropriately manage items of historical significance so that their contribution to the historical record is preserved. As such no residual impacts to heritage within the study area will result from the Project.

19.6 Monitoring

Monitoring historic heritage items will involve archival recording to provide a baseline assessment of their condition. Once the baseline condition has been established the historic heritage items in the Project area will be regularly inspected to identify any change to their baseline condition and determine the effectiveness of management measures. If the condition of an item has deteriorated as a result of mine activities, it will be rectified in a manner appropriate to the historical significance of the item.

If suspected historic heritage items are found during development activities, all works within 10 m will cease until an archaeologist has assessed the area and formulated an appropriate management response.

The proposed monitoring system will let CHC proactively manage historic heritage and appropriately conserve historic heritage during the life of the Project.

Table 19.1 Summary of potential impacts and management measures

Item	Ownership	Nature of impact	Management measures	Benefit of management measures
Laheys Creek cemetery	CHC	Potential runoff due to proximity to emplacement areas for Mining Area B	Include in CMP Archival recording Fencing Upslope drainage controls	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities Historical information is recorded
Dapper Union Church	Trustees	Possible impacts from mine activities	Include in CMP Archival recording Monitoring Provide access for visitors	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities Historical information is recorded Access is retained
Potential Cobb and Co stopping place	CHC	Potential runoff due to proximity to emplacement areas for Mining Area B	Upslope drainage controls	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities Historical information is recorded
Stone Hut	CHC	No impacts	Basic photography only archival recording	Item is protected
Brick clamp	CHC	No impacts	Fencing Archaeological salvage only if a direct impact will occur Basic photograph only archival recording	Item is protected
Mansfield grave	Private	Pipeline construction may impact on the heritage curtilage* of the item	Avoid Temporary fencing if necessary	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities
Nivens hotel	Private	No impacts	No measures required	Item is protected
Yukon Paradise	CHC	Dilapidation if tenants or a non-residential use cannot be found	Archival recording and removal if tenancy is not possible	Retention of historical information
Spring Ridge	CHC	No impacts, however, management required due to the heritage significance of the item	Include in CMP Archival recording Monitoring	Item is protected Historical information is recorded

Table 19.1 **Summary of potential impacts and management measures (Cont'd)**

Item	Ownership	Nature of impact	Management measures	Benefit of management measures
Glengarry	Private	Pipeline construction may impact on the heritage curtilage of the item	Avoid	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities
Lumeah	Private	Pipeline construction may impact on the heritage curtilage of the item	Avoid	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities
Hill View	Private	Pipeline construction may impact on the heritage curtilage of the item	Avoid	Item is protected from potential damage from mine activities
Woolandra	CHC	No impacts	No measures required	Item is protected

Note: * curtilage is the area of land occupied by a dwelling.