

Battle for Berrima Inc. Companyreplied by email ☐Thu Jun 29 2017

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Name: Battle for Berrima Inc. Company

Organisation: Battle for Berrima Inc. (President)

Govt. Agency: No

Email: battleforberrima@gmail.com

Address:

P.O. Box 7500

Berrima, NSW

2577

Content:

The following three reports commissioned by Battle for Berrima Inc.
form our official submission to the Hume Coal Project and EIS:

- Written Submission
- Cultural Landscape Assessment
- Statement of Heritage Impact

IP Address: 14-200-8-178.static.tpgi.com.au - 14.200.8.178

Submission: Online Submission from company Battle for Berrima
Inc. (org_object)

[https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?
action=view_activity&id=214320](https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_activity&id=214320)

Submission for Job: #7172 Hume Coal Project

https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_job&id=7172

Site: #3137 Hume Coal Mine

https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_site&id=3137

25 June 2017



Submission on Behalf of Battle for Berrima – Hume Coal Proposal and E.I.S.



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1. Introduction and Executive Summary

This submission was prepared by Perica and Associates Urban Planning Pty Ltd, in association with Battle for Berrima Inc. ("B4B"), a non-aligned community organisation incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, as a submission objecting to the "Hume Coal" Proposal and associated Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS").

This submission should be read in conjunction with a separate submission from others, outlines in this submission.

After a full, balanced and objective consideration of the proposal from a number of perspectives, it is clear the proposal should be refused. The key reasons to support this conclusion are:

- (a) There are significant and adverse environmental impacts arising from the proposal, including impacts on groundwater, contamination of ground and surface water, scenic impacts, heritage impacts on Berrima Township and region, subsidence, air quality, flora and fauna impacts, Aboriginal impacts, safety impacts from road and rail conflicts and potential downstream adverse impacts related to the increased use of the rail freight line;
- (b) The proposal will have adverse impacts on the social fabric of Berrima town, arising from a temporary spike in workers and distortions to organic and sustainable growth and demand;
- (c) The proposal will have adverse economic impacts on Berrima and region, due to a direct impact on attractiveness for tourism to the town (and region), as well as wider adverse economic impacts from diversion of crucial water resources;
- (d) The economic "benefits" of the proposal are minor, temporary and not directed to appropriate sustainable development for the region and State, while such overall "benefits" are significantly outweighed by the wide range of dis-benefits;
- (e) The proposal compromises the sustainable economic growth of Berrima and the Southern Highlands region, which should concentrate on sustainable complementary growth and diversity, building on unique and

key assets related to the scenic qualities, tourism and agriculture of the area;

- (f) The proposal will result in significant increased greenhouse gas emissions, in light of recent data showing that in 2015 NSW increased greenhouse gas emissions, despite State, national and international desires to arrest growth in greenhouse gas emissions;
- (g) The proposal does not achieve rational and orderly development nor sustainable development, both of which are key Objects of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
- (h) There are numerous uncertainties related to the proposal, including reliance on another consent and other parties, a lack of security and certainty regarding water licenses, the unknown and untested proposed "pine and feather" mining, subsidence (including to the National Highway); the degree of contamination; the ability for the rail line to cope with significant increases in load and use; the coal industry and feasibility generally (given world-wide trends away from coal and unknown impacts arising from other proposals); whether royalties will be realised; ability to mitigate against harm, the lack of a biodiversity offset package; the lack of a VPA and a questionable ability to rectify and make-good the land. These uncertainties are significant and warrant a "precautionary principle" to be applied, and the proposal not to be supported;
- (i) There is significant opposition to the proposal and granting consent in light of such opposition, as well as the numerous impacts and uncertainties of the proposal (even using the applicant's assumptions), are such that granting consent would not be in the public interest;
- (j) The proposal is the antithesis of what is socially, economically and environmentally appropriate for the area and region. Growth should provide support for existing business, opportunities that enhance the scenic qualities unique to the region, tourism, education and service industries. Future growth and opportunities should be directed to complementary, sustainable industries that create diversity to the area and region, not ones that cause significant adverse impacts, work against the qualities and assets of the area, provide arguable and temporary benefits for other markets and leave a long-lasting negative legacy for future generations.

2. Other Related Submissions

Battle for Berrima (B4B) has also co-commissioned the following study:

Statement of Potential Heritage Impact, Ms Colleen Morris, June 2017.

This report assesses the cultural landscape, significance of items and the area as a whole and prepares a draft Statement of Heritage Impact of the proposal. The report finds “A substantial area will be transformed from a pastoral landscape into an industrial landscape with buildings, stockpiling of coal, coal-loading, and a railway extension. Here the cultural landscape will be irrevocably changed.”, and “this proposal is located in undulating land overlooked by a number of viewing points across the landscape from hills and highpoints and the Hume Motorway. Views across what is now a rural landscape will be negatively impacted”. The report concludes “the proposal will impact on the cultural significance of the rare and substantially intact Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter cultural landscape to an unacceptable extent”.

B4B is also aware a number of other reports or studies have been commissioned by others, including:

1. ***Coal in the Southern Highlands Economy***, Australia Institute, March 2015

This report was commissioned by the Southern Highlands Coal Action Group and opens: “Mining has a long history in the Southern Highlands, but plays a small role in its economy today”. Agriculture is stated to employ 6 times that of mining and the main employment industry is services and this is likely to be negatively affected due to groundwater resources. The report poses issues and questions about benefits derived from mining generally and in the southern highlands specifically. It concludes “By any measure, coal mining’s current and potential contribution to the Southern Highlands economy is minor”.

2. ***Hume Project: Sutton Forest Coal Exploration Licence EL 349 Groundwater Study***, Southern Highlands Coal Action Group, Pells Consulting, The University of New South Wales, Department of Environment and Civil Engineering, Water Research Laboratory, September 2013, December 2013, April 2014

This report assesses the impact on groundwater (prior to release of the EIS. The contents and approach are relevant, despite pre-dating the current EIS. The report estimates the drawdown, concludes it will be significant and

require compensation (which is accepted by the proposal) and realisation of the water licenses is “doubtful”. This remains the case.

3. Berrima – An Overview

3.1 Economy and Tourism

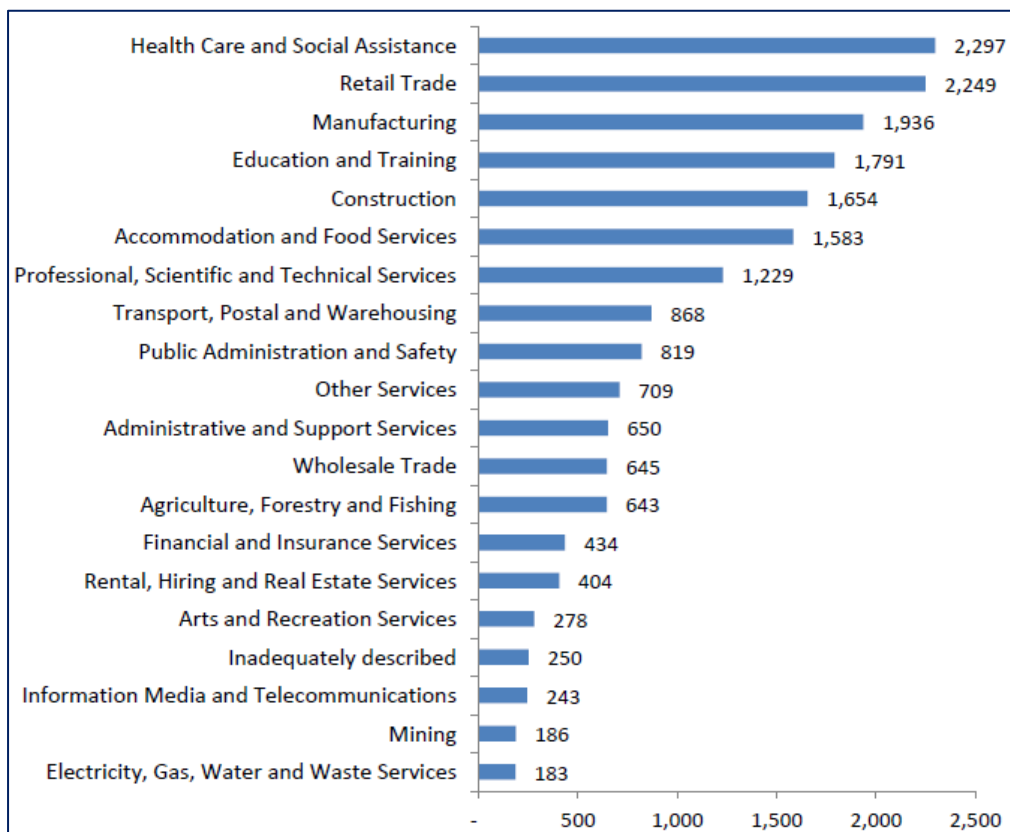


Figure 1 – Employment industries in the Southern Highlands (source: *Coal in the Southern Highlands Economy*, Australia Institute, March 2015)

2016 Census details have not been released yet, although there are some high level statistics until 2015 compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (“ABS”). As shown above, the Mining industry is a small employer, and will remain so if the proposal goes ahead, even if the figures in the EIS are realised despite ongoing modernisation and technology seeking to reduce recurrent labour costs in repetitive tasks.

Tourism is not separately tracked in ABS data. However, accommodation, food services and retailing accounts for 21% of the employment in the Moss Vale – Berrima Statistical Division (2011), SA2, compared to 0.8% for mining. Agriculture, forestry and fishing accounted for 3% of employment in 2011 (Source: ABS). There were 3

businesses operating in Mining in 2011 and this has declined to zero in 2015, so the total contribution to employment numbers is expected to be little changed if the proposal is approved.

The southern highlands is home to many businesses, operated by people living locally. There is a vibrant tourist economy, encompassing hotels of international standard, 5 star accommodation, bed and breakfasts, guest houses and farm stays. These business depend on both clean water and the attractiveness of the landscape and image of the area for business. There are over 1000 accommodation facilities in the southern highlands catering for tourists and over 50 accommodation places in Berrima alone (source B4B).

The high level figures tracked by ABS show there is relative stability in the businesses across various sectors in the Southern Highlands (although mining has reduced). The figures show a variety of industries exist and many are dependent on clean water.

3.2 Heritage

There are 65 heritage items listed in Berrima within Wingecarribee LEP 2010. Eight (8) heritage items are listed in the proposed project area. An extraordinarily high 16 properties are listed on the State Heritage Register, being items which are significant to the State of NSW.

The township is listed as a Heritage Conservation Area in WLEP 2010. In Berrima Village Development Control Plan, this Conservation Area is broken into 10 precincts.

The surrounding area is also listed as a Heritage Landscape in WLEP 2010.

Berrima is widely recognised as the best preserved example of a Georgian village on the Australian mainland.

A fortunate series of events created Berrima, as 1831 to the 1860s was a time of promise and growth, which came to an abrupt end when the railway bypassed the village in 1867. For the next hundred years there was little or no development in the village (source: Destination NSW: Berrimavillage .com.au).

Berrima Precinct Boundaries
Precinct Number

- Precinct 1 - Market Place
- Precinct 2 - Surveyor General
- Precinct 3 - Breen and Taylor Inns
- Precinct 4 - Goal and Courthouse
- Precinct 5 - Central Oxley Street
- Precinct 6 - Harper's Mansion
- Precinct 7 - West Oxley Street
- Precinct 8 - Northern Entry
- Precinct 9 - Southern Entry
- Precinct 10 - Sutton Street

Precincts of the Berrima Conservation Area

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Berrima Town has obvious heritage significance. It is a unique town with highly intact areas dating from the Colonial period, which is internationally rare. It is understood a nomination for the whole town's listing under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 has been made. The heritage significance and intactness of Berrima town, and the scenic surrounding area, contribute to its attraction to tourism, with over 50 accommodation places in Berrima. The attraction is recognised by the State, with the Historic Town logo on Highway street signs (apart from the local sign below).



The Statement of Potential Heritage Impact of the proposal by Colleen Morris finds the Berrima township and surrounding landscape has “historic significance at State level”. Given the nature of the place, and the State and local statutory listings, this is hard to dispute.

3.3 Demography and Social Infrastructure

ABS data shows that the population in Berrima-Moss Vale increased from 4,467 to 4631 between 2011 and 2015 (an increase of 4% over 4 years or around 1% per annum). This is similar to the overall growth in Australia and higher than trends in other regional areas, given most growth is concentrated in cities. There was an increase in both 0-14 year olds as a percentage of the population and those aged over 55. This indicates not just retirees, but families moving the region.

The trend can be expected to continue if not increase, given rising property prices in Sydney and the locational advantages of Berrima (80mins from Sydney, 100mins from Canberra and 50mins from Wollongong).

There is limited social infrastructure in the Berrima Town. There is one public school, Berrima Public School, which is a primary school (K-Year 6) which is at capacity. No out-of-area places are being taken. The school has 138 students, and combined year

3-4 and 5-6 classes. Recent enrolments (17 Kindergarten and 19 Year 1) show continued demand. The nearest public high school is at Moss Vale. Other public schools exist at Bowral, Moss Vale and Mittagong, although are understood to be in high demand.

There are renowned private schools in the area: Chavalier College and Oxley College in Burradoo; Frensham in Mittagong; St. Pauls International College in Moss Vale and Southern Highlands Christian School in Bowral.

There is a TAFE facility at Moss Vale and a University of Wollongong Campus at Wollongong. The nearest major university is in Wollongong.

Education is an important local and export industry and is no doubt supported by the clean, pristine and scenic qualities of the area.

There are no Childcare places at Berrima.

The nearest major public hospital to Berrima is at Bowral, around 8km away (which has a joined private hospital).

There is a general lack of emergency services at Berrima, although there are Police (Bowral), SES (Mittagong), Fire (Bowral, Moss Vale, Mittagong) and ambulance services (Bowral) in the region.

A key issue will be the temporary spike and impact on services for a short duration, for construction and operational workers. For construction workers, the EIS estimates 90% (373 people) will be from out of area, but will demand local services, despite the proposed temporary on-site accommodation.

4. Strategic Context

4.1 Regional Diversity, Growth and Employment

There is a Council target of 8,000-10,000 jobs in the region by 2031 (2031 Community Strategic Plan), based on wider State estimates for growth and more importantly the expected impact of automation and technology.

The strategic direction for sustainable growth led and initiated by the Council while having regard to wider strategic directions is to encourage growth in 10 industries, with associated aspirational goals:

- 1 Water (300 jobs)

- 2 Food (2,040 jobs)
- 3 Shelter (250 jobs)
- 4 Energy (300 jobs)
- 5 Transport (160 jobs)
- 6 Technology (400 jobs)
- 7 Art (300 jobs)
- 8 Recreation (250 jobs)
- 9 Business, including tourism (5,500 jobs)
- 10 Learning (500 jobs)

There are important implications of this for the Hume Coal proposal:

- (a) The jobs to be provided, apart from being temporary, are very minor in a strategic context;
- (b) The industries of choice for the area, based on sustainable growth, have a dependence on clean water, water resources generally, scenic qualities and the clean image of the area;
- (c) The “jobs gained” need to be considered against the potential jobs lost, particularly by diverting precious groundwater resources;
- (d) Business and tourism are a key drivers for employment and at a strategic level, these are compromised by the proposal (with employment targets well over 10-fold that provided by the temporary employment from the proposal);
- (e) Coal forms no part of the strategic employment growth for the area.

It is interesting to note the Council's 2031 strategy recommends to “*Develop and implement a comprehensive Tourism Strategy for the Southern Highlands, based on the unique Southern Highlands brand of climate, horticulture, recreation, landscape and heritage*”. This is an understandable and somewhat obvious aspiration, knowing the attributes of the area.

At a practical level, it is understood weddings and conferences are seeing increased attention and investment, again due to the scenic (and heritage) qualities of the area and the rural landscape. The attractiveness of the area is important in current investment decisions.

4.2 Water Supply

The area is a pristine water catchment area and contains a pristine natural underground water aquifer (where there is protection from porous covering Hawkesbury Sandstone containing ferrous and salts). This water supply is for the use of the surrounding agricultural land and its people in surrounding towns and the villages

(Berrima, Exeter, Sutton Forest, Moss Vale, Bowral Bundanoon, Burrawang, Fitzroy Falls, Belmore falls, Medway, Penrose, Robertson and Canyonleigh).

With global warming and the cyclical draughts (as well as population growth), it is a likely future water supply for the Sydney Basin and Southern Illawarra districts. Careful decision-making is warranted in this strategic context.

4.3 Scenic Qualities

A strategic difference for the region is its rolling hills, rural landscape, scenic qualities and quaint towns containing many heritage assets. This creates a “green and clean” image, which is a strategic advantage for business and general growth in the area. Coal extraction, large mounds of waste, dust and long coal trains conflict with this natural strategic quality.

As stated on the NSW Government website (Destination NSW):

Discover the rural delights of the beautiful Southern Highlands, from cool-climate wines and fresh seasonal produce to gorgeous gardens, spectacular waterfalls and wonderful national parks. Enjoy idyllic walks in the fresh country air, visit cellar doors for wine tasting, and explore colonial heritage.

Getting to this picturesque region in Country NSW is easy. The drive from Sydney to Bowral is 90 minutes and under two hours from Canberra. You can travel by train, too. Perfect for day trips, weekend escapes and longer sojourns, you'll find many things to do and tours throughout the year

4.4 Carbon Emissions

Due to the well-established science behind global warming and greenhouse gas emissions, responsible countries are taking serious steps to arrest an increase in carbon emissions. 195 countries have signed the Paris Climate Agreement (ratified by 148 countries).

In a worrying statistic, Australia saw an increase in carbon emissions in the year to March 2015 by 1.5% in electricity generation emissions (accounting for one third of emissions) – source; Sydney Morning Herald, reference to Dr Hugh Saddler from Pitt and Sherry.

With changes to land clearing rules, there is a worrying strategic direction for increased carbon emissions and greenhouse gas for NSW. Continued coal extraction for “old technology” electricity production (while acknowledging coking coal

components in the proposal) is contrary to responsible strategic directions in tackling climate change.

4.5 Coal Industry

There are a number of factors that weigh against extracting coal direct to foreign markets into the future:

- (a) The need to arrest carbon emissions;
- (b) Decreased global demand;
- (c) Significant increases in renewable energy investment;
- (d) Changes in prices and therefore uncertain feasibility;
- (e) The impact of China on demand, and basic economics that assumptions based on continued growth are history-bound to fail;
- (f) The impact of other large scale proposals on coal price and feasibility (e.g. Adani); and
- (g) The likely realisation (hopefully) at some point in the near future of the benefits of value-adding to Australia's finite resources, rather than exporting raw materials, or worse allowing foreign companies to own finite resources, key infrastructure and directly export to their country of origin.

4.6 Technology

The Committee for Economic Development Australia (CEDA) in its major research report for 2015, "Australia's Future Workforce?" states there is a high probability that 40% of Australia's workforce, more than five million people, could be replaced by automation within the next 10 to 20 years.

Key industry targets of automation and decreasing labour are those that:

- (a) Have large-scale yet repetitive processes;
- (b) Involve large upfront investment, with consequent need to provide a return for capital as soon as possible; and
- (c) Pose some safety threats to humans.

Coal mining fits these criteria arguably more than most others. The increased size of machinery and automation is a key economic driver. These strategic directions

mitigate against employment realisation in the medium-long term, particularly for a mining technique that is new and untested/unknown.

5. Proposal and Key Uncertainties

The Proposed Hume Coal Project is estimated to produce 50 million tonnes (mT) of excavated coal from its underground mine over an area of 50.5 sq. kilometres of underground tunnelling, using a “Pine and Feather” technique untested in Australia and directly resulting from concerns with subsidence and water contamination. Of the 50 Mt, 39mT or 78% will be saleable (55% metallurgical and 45% thermal). The remaining 22% will be unsaleable, stored and injected back into the mine. The expected mine life is 23 years.

The multinational firm POSCO intends to move the coal along the existing Moss Vale Unanderra rail line to the Port Kembla on the east coast of NSW, with a proposed extension that involves other parties (including a rail section owned by a separate company, BORAL, and involves a separate SSD application). A separate “Part 5” approval is also contingent for electricity supply.

The above-ground storage area appears approximately 800m long and 6 storeys high.

The proposal will cause significant impacts on the groundwater level, which triggers compensation. 93 groundwater wells will be affected. Not all the water needed for the proposal has been secured (only around 60%, using the applicant’s figures).

This submission argues that the proposal should be refused based on known information.

However, despite numerous well-considered reasons to not support the proposal on known information, it is submitted there are many uncertain matters, such that the proposal should not be considered or approved based on these uncertain matters alone.

There are numerous and serious uncertainties regarding the proposal, including those summarised below:

(a) Reliance on another consent and other parties:

The proposal relies on consent for another separate application (the rail line extension), which also includes a portion of rail owned by another private entity. The

linking of any consents may be feasible, but difficult to administer and guarantee. The reliance on other privately-owned parties, whom may change ownership over time, poses uncertainties that warrant greater certainty prior to investing public resources in what may be a dubious outcome or realisation.

(b) Uncertain securing of water licenses:

This is a very important uncertainty, for two main reasons. Firstly, the water is needed for the use, and the quantum is significant. Without the water allocation the project cannot be realised. The licenses secured only represent 60% of need, based on the applicant's figures.

Secondly, the local opposition to the mine may render realisation of the securing licenses untenable. This is a real possibility and warrants not proceeding until the matter is certain (apart from the concerns that water is best allocated to more suitable uses in the region that secure lasting and sustainable employment, without the negative impacts).

(c) The unknown and untested proposed “pine and feather” mining technique:

This technique has not been used in this country. It is understood from others in the industry that it has been tried in America, although is no longer used due to safety concerns.

What is known is that the untested technique in Australia is being adopted due to concerns regarding contamination of groundwater and subsidence. These are significant issues and there is no guarantee the technique will be successful.

The notion of securing the roof of a mine by columns (either by coal or concrete) as excavation occurs around it, is dubious at best.

The geological conditions are unique, including a porous roof sediment of Hawkesbury sandstone (generally east of the Highway). Cracking will occur and this also places in doubt overall watertable impacts.

All of this is apart from the fact that having an approach which takes a small percentage (around a quarter) of a valuable resource is not recovery of resources in itself, and only expands the footprint of the untested operations by 4-fold due to the smaller percentage recovered.

(d) The real impacts on the water table:

A key assumption is the watertable will be recharged due to making the partially excavated caverns watertight. This seems an important assumption, yet hard to guarantee.

The dynamic nature of a changed geological stratum is such that the real groundwater impacts cannot be known, either as groundwater quantum needed, lost or able to be re-charged.

(e) The degree of contamination to groundwater and surface water:

Coal dust contains manganese, sulphates, cadmium, lead, pyrites, methylmercury, toxic isotopes and other contaminating chemicals.

The Hawkesbury sandstone, where over the coal layer, is porous and contains ferrous and is generally acidic (which is what makes sandstone red on oxidation). To compensate an alkaline will be used to neutralise acidity. The science of the salinity of water from the geological layers and the impacts of the mining approach deserves extreme caution.

22% of the excavated material is not saleable and will be stored and then (conveniently) placed back into the mine, with chemicals which will react with the “recharged” water.

The wider leaching of contaminated water into the groundwater resource is not known.

The assumption that the storage and treatment of mine workings and the treatment of all sewerage on site not leading to any surface or groundwater contamination seems heroic.

The lack of surface water discharges also relies on historical rainwater data, which is questionable given clear changes in climate and impacts on future rainfall (if more, then surface water contamination arises, if less then recharging of the groundwater and increased demand for precious clean groundwater arises).

(f) Subsidence (including to the National Highway):

The mine is assumed to lead to subsidence of “less than 20mm”. This is for an untested technique.

The stakes or consequences are high, with a National Highway traversing the mine surface. The consequences of wrongful assumptions warrants extreme caution, as the

costs and implications of any significant subsidence to the Highway would be catastrophic.

(g) The ability for the rail line to cope with significant increases in load and use:

The analysis has concentrated on the 10km rail extension, as opposed to the ability and capacity of the existing 70km track in meeting the increased frequency and load of the 50mT proposed to be excavated. The track dates from 1932 and an expected 3000 rail movements per year (estimate) adds strain to the system and a rail gauge which is understood to not be ideal for heavy coal loads.

There was an accident on 31 August 2015 at the level crossing on the Pacific Highway and Nolan Street Unanderra, a B9162 derailment on 28 July 2004 and a rail accident on 23 April 2017 where a freight train lost its ability to brake (source: Danny Pullicin).

This gives rise to safety issues and concerns, particularly with 170 additional train movements a week and increased time delays to traffic of 24 minutes a day, using the applicant's own figures. The State is trying to decommission level crossings, not seek increased conflict.

(h) The coal industry and feasibility generally:

As outlined in the previous Section of this report, the future for the coal industry is not bright, and some uncertainties around realisation of projected benefits exist.

(i) Whether royalties will be realised:

This is linked to the dynamic nature of the coal industry, fluctuating prices, changing demand and competitive supply pressures. This is reflected in recent media articles about the "Adani" mine where a "royalty holiday" is being sought by the operator to address feasibility issues.

The lack of economic feasibility for the Adani mine gave rise to the lack of realisation of benefits, including taxes. This is applicable for the proposal, using a locally-untested technique and only extracting one-quarter of the resource, which is not cost-effective. This will either lead to a similar exemption to be sought from costs, like the Adani proposal, or increased extraction, with vastly magnified impacts. Both scenarios are obviously concerning and all risks point to the down-side.

This is further magnified by an industry on the wane due to global factors, with the flow of capital to coal reducing and that to renewable energy increasing, and rightly so.

(j) Ability to mitigate against harm:

This is a real and relevant issue for the area, noting the nearby Berrima Colliery closed in 2013 following a court case which found the mine was polluting local waterways and that its expansion should not proceed. This was despite the apparent proud record of Australian companies and Australian environmental regulation, which is supposed to be “world class”. If another mine in the same area was found to pollute local waterways, what confidence is there this will not occur again? Isn’t there even more uncertainty on relying on a new and untested technique in Australia?

(k) Ability to rectify and make-good the land:

On May 11 2017, the NSW (acting) Auditor General found the system and approach to bonds for rehabilitation of mines was inadequate. The report concludes:

The Department's [of Industry, Skills and Regional Development] policy is that each mine's security deposit should cover the full costs of rehabilitation for that mine. The security deposits the Department holds are not likely to be sufficient to cover the full costs of each mine's rehabilitation in the event of a default. The rates and allowances in the current cost calculation tool have not been updated since 2013 and some activities required for effective rehabilitation are not covered, or not covered adequately.

Security deposits also do not include sufficient contingency given the substantial risks and uncertainties associated with mine rehabilitation and closure, particularly in the absence of a detailed closure plan. This risk is exacerbated by the limited independent verification of mining company claims about the size of the outstanding rehabilitation task, which remains the case despite recent improvements to monitoring and review procedures and practices.

There is also no financial assurance held over the risk of significant unexpected environmental degradation in the long-term after a mine is deemed to be rehabilitated and the security deposit is returned. A security deposit is not an appropriate vehicle for covering this risk

As the Guardian Newspaper reported (www.theguardian.com):

With old mines being sold for as low as one dollar and some mining companies such as Peabody recently facing bankruptcy, whether mine rehabilitation costs will be adequately covered is a very contemporary issue.

“Not only are the bonds held inadequate, but the standard of rehabilitation is low and, as the auditor general found, the outcomes are vague and the rehabilitation assessment process is ill-defined” – quote from Auditor-General.

So, the collection of funds for rehabilitation is likely to be inadequate. If increased, this affects viability (and possibly realisation of royalties).

In the case of a mine whose footprint is 4-fold due to the untested technique adopted, the ramifications and costs if and when contamination of groundwater occurs could be catastrophic.

(l) The realisation of a Suitable Biodiversity Offset:

The applicant's own analysis states that a total of 101 ecosystem credits and 582 species credits will be required to compensate the damage to flora and fauna from proposed clearing. This is a large amount and requires a careful calibration, and an appropriate and deliverable offset, even if it is accepted (as the sustainable approach is to avoid harm).

The details of such an offset are not provided. Rather, the applicant proposes to establish such an offset within 12 months of approval. At that stage (post-approval), the options and negotiation position of the State is clearly severely compromised. The proposed approach should be dismissed and mitigation measures should be clear and realisable with the proposal.

(m) Whether infrastructure upgrades will be achieved, without a VPA:

There is reference to an intended VPA in the EIS. No VPA is provided with the DA, nor a legally binding offer, which would ordinarily be part of an exhibited DA package. Without a VPA and the range of commitments from the applicant, there is no guarantee any benefits will be realised.

6. Precautionary Principle

All the above uncertainties in the previous Section are significant and warrant a “precautionary” principle to be applied, and the proposal to be refused.

In simple terms, the precautionary principle is: if the effects of a product or action are unknown, then the product or action should not be used or taken.

It is reasonable to apply a precautionary principle when considering the impacts which are long-lasting and when the sustainability credentials of a proposal are questionable or dubious.

It is also reasonable and appropriate to apply a precautionary principle when the benefits or impacts are uncertain. This is certainly the case with the Hume Coal proposal. The previous Section of this submission outlines 13 key areas of uncertainty, relating to:

- Reliance on another consent and other parties:
- Uncertain securing of water licenses:
- The unknown and untested proposed “pine and feather” mining technique:
- The real impacts on the water table
- The degree of contamination to groundwater and surface water:
- Subsidence (including to the National Highway):
- The ability for the rail line to cope with significant increases in load and use:
- The coal industry and feasibility generally:
- Whether royalties will be realised:
- Ability to mitigate against harm:
- Ability to rectify and make-good the land:
- The realisation of a Suitable Biodiversity Offset; and
- Whether infrastructure upgrades will be achieved, without a VPA.

These significant uncertainties alone warrant the refusal of the application. Despite this, the known impacts and assumptions used by the applicant also warrants refusal of the proposal.

7. Sustainability Considerations – “Triple Bottom Line”

The Department of Planning and Environment adopts a “triple bottom line” to assessment of coal proposal (and all mining proposals), as advised to a community information session on 26 April 2016.

These lines are outlined below and broadly reflect the tenements of sustainability.

7.1 Social Considerations

The following main concerns regarding social considerations are held:

(a) The impact on housing within Berrima is under-estimated;

The Social Impact Assessment with the EIS (Attachment R) assumes that all construction workers will be housed in the temporary “Construction Accommodation Village” (CAV).

This is questionable, as the village needs to be constructed, taking many workers (expected over 12 months) and workers cannot be forced to stay at the village, which

is expected to be very basic. The workers during construction and those who do not wish to reside at the CAV will have an impact on existing housing, including artificially inflating rent, despite assumptions to the contrary in the EIS.

In terms of the operational workers (also temporary, although of longer duration, to an estimated maximum of 300 workers), the EIS appropriately adopts an approach which looks at the housing in proximity to the mine (within 45 minutes), due to WHS concerns about safety from travel distances and tiredness, due to long shifts.

The EIS provides statistics on workers in the mining industry in 2011. However, as ABS data shows, there were 3 companies operating in mining in 2011 and in 2015 there were none. Relying on non-existent workers is a flaw.

There is an estimate that 50-70% of workers will be local. These are likely to be mostly non-trained, due to the nature of the specialist industry and the unique proposed methodology. However, it is accepted there may be skilled workers who worked at the former colliery. If the local workers are mostly unskilled, the assumptions are also considered flawed as unskilled workers need 6-9 months training by the applicant's own figures. This raises several issues: the market forces acting against unproductive training; safety aspects for an untested technique; and the ratio of skilled workers when more than half of the workforce are expected to be trained! It is more likely the multinational company would look to import workers under working visas, no doubt arguing the specialist and unique skills for a mining technique not used before in Australia.

In looking at workers who may buy or rent in the area, the EIS also appropriately considers availability, affordability, liveability and accessibility.

Then, assumptions are made on likely destinations for workers. For Berrima, the assumption is an extremely low 2%, despite the proximity and clear liveability benefits compared to New Berrima. This is considered flawed, for several reasons: the amenity of Berrima is considered high (despite a lack of general shopping and GPs), having a public primary school, general store and nearby facilities, but also due to its very high scenic amenity and overall attractiveness.

While affordability in Berrima is ranked low, this is based on median sales figures. The rental figures should be given far greater weight than median sales prices, and these are generally comparable to other areas, certainly for those on skilled mining wages. The assumption of 2% of residing workers is artificially low. Instead, due to the proximity (very high) and amenity, particularly compared to New Berrima, it is likely there will be very high demand for housing at Berrima. This will inflate housing and rent artificially

for a short period, with negative longer term consequences on resulting speculation, as seen in other mining towns.

(b) Impacts from workers in the fabric of the town;

The EIS assumes there will be no impacts from construction workers on the Berrima town as the temporary village contains a gym, hall and recreation facility. However, the CAV will be a “dry zone”, is expected to be basic (especially given its’ intended 36 month lifespan) and it is surely reasonable to assume workers will seek recreation, alcohol and an “escape” from the compound.

The opposite assumption is reasonably made to that of the EIS: workers will seek to drink and escape the CAV, and the most likely destination is low-key hotel and drinking facilities in nearby Berrima (the nearest pub). There are likely to be negative social impacts arising from temporary workers who have no social ties to the local community, despite conclusions to the contrary in the EIS.

(c) Impacts on stretched social services, which will be temporary and not sustained;

The local school is at capacity and there is a general lack of emergency services in Berrima. The increased demand from workers likely seeking accommodation in the village or use of its’ services will see a temporary peak. This is likely to require Government investment, for growth which is temporary and unsustainable.

Instead, uses and employment types which have permanent employment and are wholly based on a local workforce, as well as complementing the scenic and heritage qualities of the area, would work to aid sustainable investment in social infrastructure.

It is noted there is no VPA with the proposal, and in any event the impacts on Berrima are considered underestimated.

(d) Safety Concerns from use the railway;

As previously outlined, there have been accidents on the existing rail line, which includes level crossings (TfNSW, as they are actively trying to eliminate level crossings throughout the State, not increase them). Single rail head-lighting signals are partly obscured with vegetation on highways and by overhead rail powerlines, causing safety issues that will be magnified.

The existing rail line may not be suitable for the increased use and load, while the potential coal dust from carriages (notwithstanding an intention they be covered) may cause dust issues along the line. There are sections of the rail which are unfenced, including close to existing schools.

The applicant's own estimate of 24 minute delays per day is likely to lead to risk-taking once implications of delays are understood by people leading busy lifestyles, and potentially for emergency vehicles. Delays appear not to have been factored in economic modelling (despite this being common-place in Cost:Benefit analysis).

(e) Coal dust and impacts on health;

The proximity of the mine and stockpile on site to Berrima and south-westerly winds, particularly in winter, gives rise to concerns regarding coal dust, also from the loading operations into and from rail carriages. When coal is loaded or unloaded to/from carriages the dust is exposed to air.

Coal dust contains many chemicals including manganese, sulphates, cadmium, lead, pyrites, methylmercury and isotopes, which have toxic qualities. These can react with microorganisms in the food chain and local vegetation and accumulate over time within the eco system and the human food, with adverse health consequences.

(f) A negative legacy for future generations

The proposal will leave a large hole, subsidence, reduced valuable water, likely contamination, a degraded landscape, impacts on flora and fauna and a scar on the environment for future generations. This is at the expense of more suitable forms of employment and growth, which may be sustainable and leave a positive legacy to future generations.

The long-lasting impact on the spiritual guardians of the land, the indigenous Gandaragara people, needs careful consideration.

7.2 Economic Considerations

The following main concerns regarding economic considerations are held by B4B:

(a) Impact upon existing businesses

There are three main components to this:

- The impact on existing business who use water that will be “bought out”;
- The impact on the scenic qualities, image and attractiveness of the area and region, which affects visitation and patronage (not modelled or accounted for); and
- Unnatural and unsustainable short-term impacts that may warrant speculative investment, to the longer term disadvantage of existing businesses.

It is noted that of the 71 properties affected, some of these bore will not regain normal (today's) water volumes/pressure for up to 70 years.

These impacts appear not to be modelled in the Economic Analysis by BAEconomics, which merely states.

A portion of the land that would be disturbed by the project is currently used for livestock production. The net benefits arising from the project would therefore be offset by a small reduction in agricultural value added in the local region.

This appears to be a very narrow view of analysing costs and benefits, markedly skewed to enhancing perceived benefits. It appears contrary to modern approaches by NSW Treasury which seek to identify all costs and benefits, and against the key principle of Cost:Benefit analysis.

Delays arising from the proposal rail line and level crossings also appear not to have been factored in economic modelling, despite the opposite (improved travel times) commonly being used as a measurable and quantifiable benefit.

(b) Impact on alternative businesses using water rights

The impact on other more suitable businesses who may make use of water which is lost is a real impact. Water is a finite resource, the life of the mine is long and the quantum of water sought to be used is huge.

(c) Opportunity costs not accounted for

The alternative investment and use of water rights, and indeed an alternative mine proposal, would have greater economic and long term benefits.

The modelling of rural water use has been estimated, although not other businesses who may have used such water in the future.

The mine essentially involves the least value-adding model possible, whereby a foreign-owned company retrieves an Australian resource, directly transports it to a port and ships it overseas for value-adding by another country. Profits are lost to an otherwise local public (or family) company and there is no value-adding by use or local manufacture of steel from the valuable local coking coal. This is particularly so, using the applicant's argument that high-grade coking coal is relatively rare. It is also noted the region has a very strong manufacturing sector (confirmed by ABS statistics) and this opportunity to locally value-add to a primary resource will be lost.

The economic model delivers the least benefit possible to the State. This is an opportunity cost which is real and should be modelled (at least in terms of other options common for CBR analysis), yet has not.

(d) Artificial and temporary impact on housing

As previously outlined, the assumptions regarding demand on local housing in Berrima is considered to be significantly underestimated. There are expected to be short-term distortions in the housing market (such as occurred in other towns with new mining activity), which sees significant speculation, yet longer-term disadvantage and loss. Examples may include low quality and unsafe overcrowding of rental properties and illegal boarding houses. This may be magnified given we are currently experiencing a very low interest rate environment, which only has one way to move, exposing speculative investment.

(e) Questionable benefits and jobs

The economic analysis includes questionable value-adding from jobs, although this is at least differentiated. As stated in the submission by the Australia Institute referred to in Section 2:

Empirical data on how mining affects other industries suggests that some industries important to the Southern Highlands, especially agriculture and manufacturing, can be negatively affected. Other research by The Australia Institute has shown that mining creates almost no jobs in other parts of the economy.

Despite this, Hume Coal claim:

1200 jobs are estimated to be created if a mine was given approval in the future. These include direct and flow-on jobs.

No source is provided for this estimate, which contradicts the experience of other areas of NSW and Queensland. If there has been any actual calculation behind this claim, it is likely to be based on “multiplier” models, which have been dismissed by the ABS as “biased” and by the Productivity Commission as being regularly “abused”.

The fact is that coal is a small employer, which has a minimal effect on employment in the wider economy, but can negatively affect important regional employers.

While this may be based on preliminary figures, the points are salient. As previously stated, there is a real issue that workers may not even be local, but sought from the company's country of origin, or countries with lower wages, further significantly

diminishing the assumptions regarding local employment. This is apart from the likely effects of increased automation to reduce actual jobs, also previously outlined.

The assumptions regarding taxes as a benefit also cannot be guaranteed. As seen in many other examples of overseas investment in large local infrastructure projects (e.g. offshore gas), accounting is manipulated to accrue losses against any locally-registered company to divest profits to offshore entities where taxes are lower. Large companies have resources to enable tax structures which support their bottom line, particularly large multi-national companies, much to the chagrin of many counties with higher relative tax rates where multi-nationals operate, yet are not based.

(f) Lack of benefits to the Region and State

There are very few benefits to the State. Royalties are relatively low (and are not an “extra” as the resource is being removed, and longer term holding may give greater return). In a fickle and declining market for coal, there is no compelling timing imperative.

(g) Long-term costs not accounted for

The longer-term rehabilitation costs and negative environmental and social costs have not been accounted for in the economic modelling. In the NSW Treasury approach to Cost:Benefit analysis, all costs and disbenefits should be costed (although it is recognised it is difficult to monetarise social and environmental impacts, which NSW Treasury regularly grapples with).

As stated recently by the NSW Auditor-General, the rehabilitation fund and cost-recovery for mines is inadequate. Increasing this may help recover costs though will affect viability and place increased pressure on reducing royalties (as has occurred in Queensland) or saving costs in monitoring, compliance and mitigation, which is an area that adds business costs, yet no return.

The mine can never be properly rehabilitated and the risks to groundwater contamination far outweigh any temporary benefit in royalties

7.3 Environmental Considerations

The following main concerns regarding environmental considerations are held by B4B:

(a) Impacts on groundwater:

This area is addressed by others with expertise in the field. The EIS itself acknowledges significant impacts, and this needs to be considered against other uses which complement the sustainable long-term growth of the region and State.

(b) Impacts arising from contamination:

This too is an area where others may have greater expertise. However, assuming that a process which extracts a known contaminating resource, and seeks to store such material on site close to clean water streams, then re-inject substantial portions (over 20%) back into an area to be filled with water, while treating all sewerage on site with causing any contamination to either ground or surface water, and loading 50mT into steel bins would no cause contamination defies logic.

(c) Scenic impacts:

The proposal will result in a stockpile of material estimated at 800m long and 6 storeys high in a scenic rural landscape, in the vicinity of heritage items and businesses which are based and reliant on scenic qualities and cleanliness.



Submission – Hume Coal – Battle for Berrima



It is noted the regionally attractive Zen Oasis restaurant (shown above), using high quality and organic produce, is to the immediate north of the surface workings. This business has recently invested significant funds in sustainable infrastructure perfectly suited to the region.

Zen Oasis was set up in 2004. For those concerned with global warming, Zen Oasis chose a vegetarian restaurant as the 1st phase. They have been working on the Zen Harmony Garden for 13 years very quietly. It is greatly appreciated by the local and wider community.

The 2nd phase commenced in 2012. They try to encourage people to contemplate and appreciate the deeper meaning of each celebration in the year through their Art work in the field.

Their vision, in essence, is to provide a Zen space for humanity, to contemplate who we are and where we should go.

Last year, they submitted a development application for a multi-function centre. The ancient Zen principle will be embedded in the agriculture with art landscaping. This celebrates the beautiful setting and landscape of the area.

Further information on Zen Oasis and feedback from users can be found on the internet. A business owner provided B4B the following comments (noting English is not a first language):

I think it will be very to be realised that the noise, visual impact and air pollution will put Zen Oasis in a very difficult situation. Again, this is from my personnel observation with the information I have got from them. Thanks for BfB's good heart and hard work. Universe Bless you!

Zen Oasis' setting and attractiveness, as well as the wider attractiveness and setting of Berrima and the district, will be adversely affected by the proposal.

The landscape and heritage impacts are further elaborated upon in a separate submission by Ms Colleen Morris.

(d) Heritage impacts and Aboriginal Impacts;

The heritage impacts of the proposal are addressed in a separate submission by Ms Colleen Morris.

As previously stated, there are 65 heritage items listed in Berrima within Wingecarribee LEP 2010. Eight (8) heritage items are listed in the proposed project area. An extraordinarily high 16 properties are listed on the State Heritage Register, being items which are significant to the State of NSW. The township is listed as a Heritage Conservation Area. In Berrima Village Development Control Plan, this Conservation Area is broken into 10 precincts.

Berrima is widely recognised as the best preserved example of a Georgian village on the Australian mainland. A fortunate series of events created Berrima, as 1831 to the 1860s was a time of promise, growth and investment, which came to an abrupt end when the railway bypassed the village in 1867. For the next hundred years there was

Submission – Hume Coal – Battle for Berrima

little or no development in the village (source: Destination NSW: Berrimavillage.com.au).

The following photos illustrate some of the highly significant State and local heritage items in Berrima:



Submission – Hume Coal – Battle for Berrima



In terms of Aboriginal impacts, while the matter has been addressed in the EIS, there are 39 potentially affected sites. It is noted the Gandangara indigenous people are the spiritual guardians of the Southern Highlands and the impacts of the proposal should be carefully considered after full and appropriate consultation with the range of indigenous groups with an interest in the area.

(e) Subsidence:

The EIS claims subsidence will be limited to 20mm of less. This must be questioned and interrogated, given the type of mining proposed is untested in Australia, and a National Highway runs over the proposed mine.

The consequences of assumptions being wrong are severe to catastrophic.

(f) Flora and Fauna impacts:

While not an area of specific expertise, it is noted the proposal results in the removal of 8.3 Hectares of Broad-leafed Peppermint trees and Red Stringybark open forest and trees. This includes potential habitat for koala, Southern Myotis and Squirrel Glider.

The applicant's own analysis states that a total of 101 ecosystem credits and 582 species credits will be required to compensate the damage to flora and fauna from proposed clearing. This is a large amount and requires a careful calibration, and an appropriate and deliverable offset, even if it is accepted (as the sustainable approach is to avoid harm).

The details of such an offset are not provided. Rather, the applicant proposes to establish such an offset within 12 months of approval. At that stage, the available options and negotiation position of the State is clearly severely compromised. The proposed approach should be dismissed and mitigation measures should be clear and realisable with the proposal.

(g) Noise Impacts:

The applicant's own analysis demonstrates noise impacts on residences which exceed the threshold and trigger voluntary mitigation (8 properties) or voluntary acquisition (2 properties). This is a further adverse impact that diminishes the quality of life for residents and businesses in the area and adds to concerns with the proposal.

(h) Greenhouse gas emissions:

On 31 May 2017, the Sydney Morning Herald stated that NSW Greenhouse gas emissions had increased by 5% in 2015. If true, this is very concerning. A key contributor to greenhouse gas emissions is coal-fired power stations (accepting that not all coal is for that purpose).

The Australian Government has committed to the Paris Climate Agreement. Clearly, NSW will need to work hard to reduce emissions and responsibly contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, especially in the context of vegetation clearing laws.

The EIS states the greenhouse gas emissions, totalling 1.79 million tonnes of CO₂ will be “minimal” and “minor”. In this context, it would be alarming to know what “major” would be. The conclusion, as often occurs to minimise the figure discussed, is based on a percentage of the total (being 0.07% of the State annual total). However, this is a large and significant amount from one source.

Further, while the approach of direct and indirect accounting for GGE includes 3 steps (direct and indirect), it is not clear if all greenhouse gases are accounted for in the estimate (e.g. emissions from use in subsequent manufacturing processes of steel). The estimate is not likely to be an under-estimate.

(i) Traffic Impacts:

The main concerns relate to the difficulty in accessing the site when approaching from the north (and needing to cross the Hume Highway) and the delays and safety impacts from level crossings which will see increased rail usage by coal-laden trains.

8 Public Interest (S 79C(1)(e))

The proposal is not in the public interest, for several reasons:

- (a) An independent survey conducted by an independent and respected firm (Galaxy Research) of residents in the Wingecarribee Council area found that:
 - i. **Nearly 6 in 10 (59%)** Wingecarribee Shire residents oppose the Hume Coal proposal, including **almost 5 in 10 (47%)** who strongly oppose it;
 - ii. **Fewer than 1 in 5 (18%)** Wingecarribee Shire residents support the Hume Coal proposal;
 - iii. **More than 7 in 10** Wingecarribee Shire residents are worried about the impact of the mine on groundwater (**76%**) and catchment water supply and purity (**73%**);
 - iv. **Over two thirds** of Wingecarribee Shire residents (**69%**) are worried about the impact of the mine on flora and fauna in the Southern Highlands;
 - v. **More than 6 in 10** Wingecarribee Shire residents (**67%**) are worried about the airborne dust levels in the Southern Highlands;
 - vi. **Two thirds** of Wingecarribee Shire residents (**66%**) are worried about the impact of the mine on existing local industries including agriculture, equine, tourism and local food production;
 - vii. **Over half** of Wingecarribee Shire residents (**56%**) are worried about the impact of the mine on the culture and lifestyle of the Southern Highlands communities; and

- viii. **Nearly two thirds** of Wingecarribee Shire residents (**61%**) believe that if the Hume Coal mine is approved it will make it more likely similar underground coal mines will be approved in the Southern Highlands.
- (b) Battle for Berrima has coordinated 'Coal Free Community Surveys' in the villages of:
Berrima;
Medway;
Burrawang; and
Exeter.

'Coal Free Community Surveys' are an initiative of Lock the Gate and more than 350 communities across Australia have declared themselves coal free,

Berrima Results

- A total of **299 houses** were targeted for the Berrima survey
- Of these **252 households** were successfully contacted.
- **227 households or 90%** said they did want their neighbourhood coal free

Medway Results

- A total of **54 houses** were targeted for the Medway survey
- Of these **44 households** were successfully contacted
- **37 households or 84%** said they did want their neighbourhood coal free

Burrawang

- Total of **141 houses** targeted for Burrawang Survey
- Total of **102 households** successfully contacted
- **92 households or 90%** said they did want their neighbourhood coal free

Exeter

- Total of **189 households** targeted for Exeter Survey
- Total of **152 households** successfully contacted
- **128 households or 84%** said they did want their neighbourhood coal free

NSW Parliament Petition

A petition with more than 16,000 signatures calling on the Baird Government to protect the Southern Highlands and Sydney's water catchment from destructive coal mining was debated on the floor of the NSW Legislative Assembly in August 2016.

The petition was sparked by the announcement by the Korean-owned Hume Coal to develop a massive underground coal mine beneath the Southern Highlands and on the outskirts of the nationally significant historic settlement of Berrima.

The petition signed by more than 16,000 people calls on the NSW Parliament to act and protect the Sydney Water Catchment and the Sydney Water Catchment from the impact of underground coal mining activities now and in the future.

Local MP and NSW Minister Pru Goward sponsored this debate and tabled our petition after it was formally presented.

The petition was coordinated by Battle for Berrima and demonstrates the extraordinary depth of democratic opposition to coal mining in the Southern Highlands.

The proposal is not considered a good precedent for the area.

There is significant opposition to the proposal and granting consent in light of such opposition, as well as the numerous impacts and uncertainties of the proposal, are such that granting consent would not be in the public interest.

9 Solution – Need for Sustainable, Complementary Diversity

The “solution” for future development in the Southern highlands involves uses and proposals which sustainably provide ongoing employment, value-add, leave a lasting positive legacy and capitalise on the unique characteristics of the region, specifically its’ scenic qualities, rural setting and heritage qualities. This is recognised by the Council in its 2031 Strategic Plan.

The proposal is not part of the solution for the region: it is the opposite of what is appropriate for the area and region.

10 Conclusion

The proposal by Hume Coal should be refused.

It is contrary to core Objects of the EPA Act 1979 which seek to promote rational and orderly development of land, and sustainable development. The proposal represents unsustainable development, having adverse social, economic and environmental impacts. These impacts are neither mitigated nor outweighed by any benefits, which are relatively minor. In economic terms, the opportunity costs are not appropriately

accounted for, and a finite resource is being utilised with minimal, if any, added benefits to the economy.

Apart from real and considerable impacts using the applicant's own assumptions, the proposal has many and significant uncertainties, which in themselves warrant refusal based on a "precautionary principle", appropriately applied in determining the acceptability of this proposal.

The Southern Highlands needs sustainable, complementary support for existing businesses, and support for opportunities that enhance the scenic qualities and heritage assets unique to the region. Future growth and opportunities should be directed to complementary, sustainable industries that create diversity to the area and region, not ones that cause significant adverse impacts, work against the qualities and assets of the area, provide arguable and temporary benefits for other markets and leave a long-lasting negative legacy for future generations. Complementary diversity is needed and is not being provided by the proposal.

Berrima is an asset and heritage jewel for the region and State and Battle for Berrima are understandably and appropriately opposed to the proposal by Hume Coal.

The Planning Assessment Commission should ask: Is the proposal in the interests of the State and the Region? The answer, after sober and considered reflection, should be a resounding "No".



Jason Perica, B.Sci. (ARCH), M.U.R.P.
Director

Cultural Landscape Assessment

Berrima, Sutton Forest, Exeter Area



Colleen Morris M. Herit.Cons. (USyd) M.ICOMOS
landscape heritage consultant

Prepared in association with Christine Hay B.L.Arch. UNSW, M. Herit. Cons.,USyd

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary Statement of Significance

The cultural landscape of Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter is of historic significance at a State level as a place of early exploration beyond the limits of the Cumberland Plain in 1798, and of early settlement and pastoralism from 1819 onwards, the evidence of which is legible today.

There is a direct relationship between early settlement and the area's natural significance demonstrated by the close connection of the settlement pattern with the terrain of the Wingecarribee River, particularly with the siting of Berrima as the intended country town, and the containment of many early large land holdings within the valleys of its tributary the Medway Rivulet, the focus of which is Mt Gingenbullen with its landmark character. The rural landscapes in the vicinity of Mt Gingenbullen are significant as cultural landscapes, which reflect historic associations and aesthetic qualities that reach back to the first Aboriginal people who lived in the area– the process of European settlement and dispossession documented through Louisa Atkinson's accounts of Aboriginal life on their occupied land.

The rich and varied cultural landscape, shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region and its remnant stands of endangered woodlands, is of aesthetic significance at a State level. The evidence of these associations through early grant boundaries and roads, town layouts, remnant woodland, cleared grazing lands and the placement of homesteads, makes a substantial contribution to the overarching spatial arrangements and visual qualities of the cultural landscape. The attachment to the area by the early explorers and settlers, and the valuing of it, particularly for farming and grazing, is still associated with the area. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description of the 'finest prospect' from the top of Mt Gingenbullen can still be appreciated. The early impressions of a rich and beautiful pastoral landscape

remain, with mature avenue plantings and gardens signaling the location of country homesteads and their outbuildings.

Important early convict built roads and the underlying early European responses to the landscape are remarkably intact with new patterns from the twentieth century subtly accommodated within the pre-existing landscape. The area is significant for its association with convictism, a convict workforce playing a crucial part in quarrying, the construction of early buildings and roads and as part of the workforce on early estates. These include the Old Argyle Road and the new line of the South Road from the 1830s (Old Hume Highway) surveyed by Major Mitchell, and the remains of its David Lennox bridge.

Berrima is of exceptional significance as one of the few substantially intact villages, dating from the Georgian period, that demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Fine buildings of convict-quarried sandstone, especially the courthouse and gaol, churches and residences contribute to its aesthetic importance. Berrima's original town layout and town limits are remarkably intact and legible, the value of which is reinforced by the high landscape quality, in terms of both mature exotic gardens and streetscape features and its remarkable sense of enclosure with indigenous vegetation in undeveloped surrounds, these components, along with the stock of early buildings combine to provide a sense of timelessness that is Berrima's character and appeal.

The area has strong links with prominent colonial settlers, individuals and families and, from the latter years of the 19th century, a special association with important wealthy Sydney families. For many of these owners farming and grazing were core occupations and equestrian activities, gardening and the landscape have been deep interests. The use of Hillview, Sutton Forest as the governors' summer residence 1882-1957 and the influence of that use still permeate and render the area unique. The physical evidence in the concentration of so many 19th century buildings

ranging from Oldbury, Kenmore Cottage and Newbury, the Berrima Gaol and Courthouse, the Surveyor General Inn, Harper's Mansion, St Francis Xavier's Church and the humble cottages of Berrima, modest farmhouses such as Bonheur on Oldbury Road through to grander houses and gardens including Golden Vale, Comfort Hill, Summerlees, Whitley and Rotherwood at Sutton Forest imbues the area with a high degree of historical importance. Important 20th century houses such as Invergowrie, Rosedale and Mereworth and gardens designed by Paul Sorensen and Claude Crowe added a layer to the already rich cultural landscape. A number of archaeological sites have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the history of the area.

There is a strong feeling of continuity, a sense of stewardship of the landscape and also participation in history among the local community and organisations including the Berrima and District Historical Society, the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust of Australia (NSW). The three historic villages of Berrima, Exeter and Sutton Forest, their churches and cemeteries, the fine gardens and the surrounding rural landscapes - all these combine to create a cultural landscape which is rare in the State of New South Wales and which is highly valued for its historic significance and scenic qualities by visitors from all over Australia.

Principal Recommendations

Berrima and surrounds

The community of Berrima places a high value on living in a small village as evidenced by the community consultation leading to the Wingecarribee LEP 2010, the DCP for Berrima and its surrounds, and the review of the Council's Strategic Plan. The notion of small denotes the size of the population with its sparse settlement pattern rather than just its geographic spread.

The Berrima Landscape Conservation Area (BLCA) should be expanded to allow for the retention of the enclosed and timeless character of Berrima. This would enable putting policies or performance principles in place that would guide the sensitive development of Berrima on its edges. It is recommended that to the north of Berrima the BLCA be expanded to the ridgeline above Greenhills Road. This retention of an undeveloped ridgeline in this location is crucial in conserving the character of Berrima.

Berrima Landscape Conservation Area should be extended to the south along the Old Hume Highway to include the Remembrance Driveway plantings and the area to the east of the freeway to protect the views on the southern entrance to the 'village' and to the north to protect the view over the 'village' from the northern entrance on the Old Hume Highway and from the Hume motorway to the south east between the bridge over the Wingecarribee River and the Medway Road exit from the motorway.

Currently Berrima Conservation Area and Berrima Landscape Conservation Area are included on the Council's Heritage Schedule as part of the LEP. Berrima and its surrounds should be nominated for State Heritage Register listing.

Sutton Forest and Exeter Landscape

It is recommended that representation be made to Wingecarribee Council to list the Sutton Forest and Exeter area as a landscape conservation area on the Wingecarribee LEP to better manage potential impacts and undesirable development within the area. The non-statutory National Trust Landscape Conservation Area boundary (as updated in 2017) is the recommended boundary. The large Atkinson land grant, Mereworth, is included within this boundary. Historically Mereworth relates well to Sutton Forest, reinforcing the connection between Oldbury and Mereworth, some of the earliest grants and should form part of the Sutton Forest and Exeter landscape conservation area.

Parts of the study area the Golden Vale Road and Oldbury Road area that centres on Mt Gingenbullen are worthy of consideration for nomination on the State Heritage Register as a cultural landscape. Although some owners may be averse to this, over the past thirty years there have been repeated threats that would impact the landscape the owners cherish and the benefits of listing would outweigh the perceived negative aspects of listing.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background and Purpose of the Study

This Study was commissioned by the Berrima Residents Association and was funded by two community groups, the Battle for Berrima and Sustainable Southern Highlands Inc, with the support of Wingecarribee Shire Council. The aims of the study were to:

- Prepare a cultural landscape assessment; describe the built, landscape and cultural heritage values of the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter areas in the Southern Highlands of NSW. The study area includes some of the southern environs of Moss Vale.
- Assess the significance of the identified heritage items and landscape taken as a whole.
- Prepare a draft Statement of Heritage Impact based on the cultural landscape assessment; provide a draft assessment of the potential impact of Hume Coal's proposed underground coal mine, as outlined in Hume Coal's preliminary documents, on the area's built heritage and cultural landscape values.

1.2 Study Area and Approach

The area initially identified to be assessed for its cultural landscape values was selected to include the Berrima Conservation Area and the Berrima Landscape Conservation Area, both gazetted in the Wingecarribee LEP, 2010 and much of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area.

During field work the study area was refined to encompass that area indicated in **Drawing 01**. In this report this area is referred to as the Study Area or the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Area.

The approach taken was to undertake a desktop review of previous documents and heritage listings. It is not the intention to replicate all the material contained in previous studies but to extract sufficient information to make an informed assessment of the cultural landscape.

For the aesthetic and social significance component of the study, current tourist brochures, books, magazines, articles and imagery were reviewed.

Fieldwork was undertaken to confirm and supplement previous reports and supplement views and vistas studies. The *Views and Vistas Scenic Landscape Review* prepared by *dem* for Wingecarribee Shire Council in 2009 should be used alongside this document.

1.3 Scope and Limitations

This study was undertaken on a limited budget and builds on previous studies, particularly the Wingecarribee Heritage Study (1993). The budget did not allow for the engagement of an archaeologist or the inclusion of a community consultation workshop. Recommendations for follow-up work and strategies for protecting the identified cultural landscape values are set out in Section 7 of this report. The authors acknowledge that there should be a number of Aboriginal archaeological sites across the study area, particularly at the confluence of streams and rivers. The Aboriginal history was written using documentary sources and some consultation with researchers with expertise in Dharawal and Wodi-Wodi studies.

The aim is to have a broad overview of the study area to understand what it is that is significant about the landscape and what the broader community values about the landscape of the study area.

The historical analysis is necessarily brief. There are many fine studies of Berrima and histories of individual sites and people, which provide greater detail:

National Trust of Australia (NSW) Berrima, Guidelines for Planning and Development, 1977

National Trust Berrima Conservation Study, 1979

Berrima Conservation Study by Lester Firth & Murton Pty Ltd 1979

Wingecarribee Shire Council Development Control Plan No.14, Historic Berrima 1989

Wingecarribee Shire Council Berrima Village Development Control Plan, 2010

Wingecarribee Biodiversity Strategy 2003

1.4 Authorship and Maps

Colleen Morris is the principal author with contributions from Christine Hay.

The maps were prepared by a member of staff at Wingecarribee Shire Council with input from the study consultants.

NB: a rail corridor between New Berrima and Medway is marked as a physical rail line, which no longer exists. This is part of Council's GIS system and denotes the corridor. A track exists to the Cement Works with a short extension to the west but beyond that it was removed c.1988.

1.5 Acknowledgements

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Graham Quint, National Trust of Australia(NSW)

Julie Blyth archivist National Trust of Australia(NSW)

Dr Ian Jack, Honorary Fellow, University of Sydney

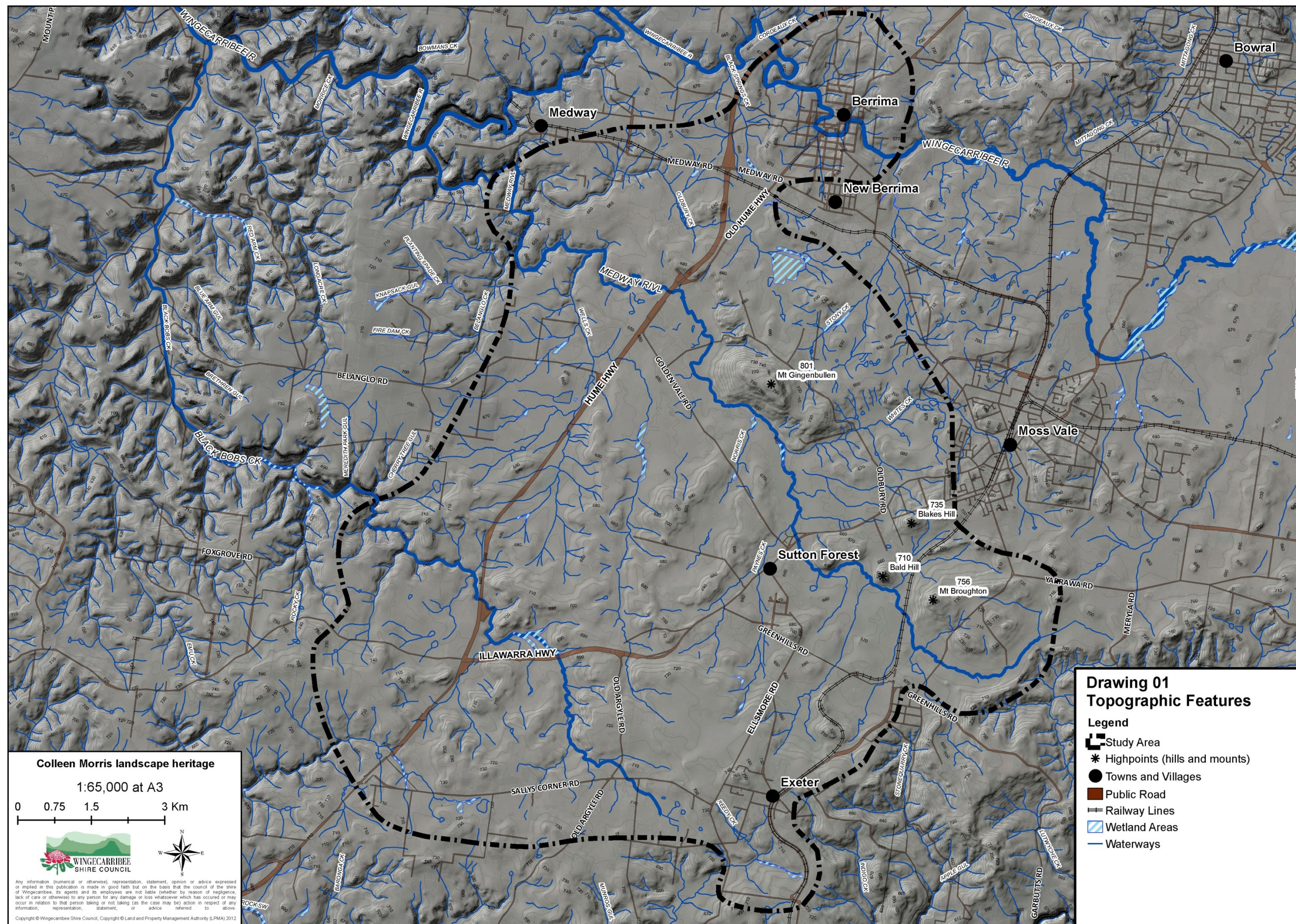
Wingecarribee Shire Council for making their GIS mapping service available for the production of maps for the final report.

Sarah Farnese Heritage Planner, Wingecarribee Shire Council

Ian Perkins, Natural Resource Projects Co-ordinator, Wingecarribee Shire Council

Les Bursill OAM;

Michael Organ, University of Wollongong



2. Cultural Landscapes

2.1 Definition

The simple and broadly accepted definition is that cultural landscapes are the result of the interaction of humans with their environment over many years.

Jane Lennon succinctly expands on what this means in Australia:

Cultural landscapes are physical areas with natural features modified by human activity resulting in patterns of evidence layered in the landscape. These layers, along with the natural features, give a place its distinctive spatial, historical, aesthetic, symbolic and memorable character. Australian cultural landscapes range from the designed landscapes of public gardens and private estates to public lands reserved as national parks or conservation reserves, and rural farmlands and Aboriginal lands.¹

Respect for community identity and sense of place are crucial in ensuring community support to protect cultural landscapes.

2.2 Overview

In 1992, a 'Historic, Cultural Landscape Assessment' was undertaken for Wingecarribee Shire as part of the Heritage Study. In that document Associate Professor Ken Taylor cogently explained the qualities of a cultural landscape. It is worth reiterating part of that study's introductory text:

Cultural landscapes present a record of human activity and human values. In this way they do not simply represent physical changes brought about by human

¹ Jane Lennon 'Cultural Landscape Management Practice, Some Australian Case Studies', Ken Taylor, Archer St Clair and Nora J. Mitchell, *Conserving Cultural Landscapes, Challenges and Directions*, Routledge, London, 2015, p. 219.

intervention. They also represent evidence of material culture manifested in the landscape and thereby reflect human relationships with our surrounds....

*Cultural landscapes are literally an imprint of human history. They can tell us, if we care to read and interpret them, something of the achievements and values of our predecessors. In this way cultural landscapes are symbols of who we are and can **serve to remind us of the past...** It is important therefore that we learn to interpret cultural landscapes as living history and as part of our national identity...²*

A cultural landscape study includes but goes beyond a visual assessment of what is seen in the landscape, rather it analyses its natural and cultural components to describe the historic, aesthetic, scientific and social values of a landscape. A cultural landscape assessment aims to elicit the meaning of the landscape and its importance to the community- both local and state.

² Ken Taylor and Landscan Pty Ltd, 'Historic, Cultural Landscape Assessment for Wingecarribee Shire, NSW,' February 1992 with Supplementary Report, September, 1993

3. Physical Analysis

3.1 Description

The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter cultural landscape (the Study Area), is located towards the southern tip of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (**Figure 3.2**). It occurs on the elevated lands of the Wingecarribee plateau.³ Within the study site, the elevation is generally between 600-750m AHD.

Berrima occurs on a sandstone plateau dissected by creek and river valleys. It includes small creek lines and river flats. The village is located in a valley adjacent to the Wingecarribee River and the central area of the town is set within a deep entrenched meander. The village itself is contained by hills covered in dry sclerophyll forest. From both north and south it is approached through a rural landscape and combined with the remnant native vegetation, this contributes to the sense of timelessness that is part of Berrima's character. The entrance to Berrima from the south on the Old Hume Highway is across relatively flat ground at about 670m, dropping down to 630m at the Wingecarribee River then rising steeply to the north of the village to a rise that levels off at 730m.

Sutton Forest in contrast, has an undulating low-lying landscape of shallow valleys and watercourses. It encompasses the main creeklines of the study site, some of which are long and sinuous. Highpoints feature along its ridgelines, particularly to the east hills are distinctive. The most elevated ridgelines occur to the south, and south-east, of the Study Area. This landscape is associated with Exeter, its top peak at 762m AHD.

The area's most prominent geographical feature, at 801m AHD, is Mount Gingenbullen. This landmark stretches nearly 2.5km in a north-west, south-east alignment. Its flattened top, 1.0km at its widest, undulates at a saddle, a second

³ Ian Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME: A Geographical Interpretation of the Southern Highlands of New South Wales*, U3A – Southern Highlands, Incorporated, 2006, p6.

peak, Judges Hill is at 735m AHD. The slopes to the Mount, that face south-west towards Sutton Forest, are steep and dramatic. Side slopes, while still distinctive in the landscape, are less abrupt.

The lowermost point within the site occurs to the north-west where the Medway Rivulet meets the Wingecarribee River.

The general appearance of the centre of the study area is of a broad, open rolling landscape with remnant areas of eucalypts on ridges and scattered native vegetation dotted around the countryside. Rivers and creeks are marked by more heavily vegetated margins and as Landscan noted in 1992 are 'strongly identifiable against the open pasture as a meandering pattern on the landscape.'

Old South Road through Sutton Forest, is an early route to the southern inland areas and Mitchell's new line of road, around which Berrima was built, was laid out in the 1830s. A feature of many smaller roads and tracks is the roadside tree planting or remnant/regrowth vegetation. Golden Vale Road, with its eucalypts has a particularly special rural character (Figure 3.1).

The weather affecting the Wingecarribee region, and the Study Area, originates from the Southern Tablelands to the west. Its rain however comes mainly from the east, the coast. Typically the patterns are variable, generally however westerly winds predominate, except in summer when easterlies are more prevalent; and temperatures, usually, are lower than the coast, particularly in Winter at night. Frost in the cooler months occurs often in valleys.⁴ The long-term annual mean rainfall is 712.4mm.⁵

The direction of the prevailing winds is from south-west to north-east.

⁴ Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME*, pp18-20, p72.

⁵ http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_068239.shtml



Figure 3.1: The vegetation that flanks Golden Vale Road gives this road a special rural character.

3.1.1. Current land use

The study area is primarily a pastoral landscape and is ranked as Class 3 Agricultural land.⁶ Grazing of beef cattle predominates with both working farms and the use of 'hobby' properties for agistment by their working farm neighbours contributing to the character of the working landscape. These working landscapes are valued for aesthetic reasons as well as practical and contribute to the attraction of the area to tourists.⁷ The 1993 Taylor and Landscan assessment observed that 'paddock and tree patterns, reflecting nineteenth and twentieth century occupation, create the distinctive landscape.'⁸

⁶ Wingecarribee Shire Council, Rural Lands Development Control Plan, as at 13 May 2015, p.7.

⁷ 'Making Hay While the Sun Shines' Sutton Forest 13 December 2016, Photographer Tony Sheffield is representative of the images of the area that Highlife magazine promotes. (<https://www.facebook.com/Highlifemagazinesouthernhighlands>)

⁸ Taylor and Landscan op. cit.

Vineyards are also a notable feature of the area and seven vineyards in the Study Area form part of a Southern Highlands 'Food and Wine cluster.'⁹ Viticulture started at Joadja in the early 1980s and by 2002 the Southern Highlands was designated an official wine region by the Geographical Indications Committee of Australia. An olive oil plantation, at 'Elizagrove', the home of Sutton Forest olives, produces award-winning olive oil and 'Eleuthera Farm' in Exeter has around 3500 trees as well as raising Black Angus cattle. Smaller boutique farms growing berries and trees to support truffle production, for example, are also in the area. A plentiful water supply underpins all these activities. Many of these agricultural activities are closely linked to agri-tourism in the area.

Horse breeding has been an activity of the area since early settlement, notably by members of the Badgery family from the 1830s. However, a proliferation of horse resting and stud farms and training facilities has been part of the landscape from the mid-twentieth century. Internationally famous properties include The Chase, Think Big Stud and Lime Country Thoroughbreds. Hundreds of riders are involved in events and activities across the Southern Highlands. The renowned Berrima Horse Trials are an important aspect of the equestrian pursuits of the area, bringing about 350 competitors to each major event over a weekend. Sutton Farm Equestrian Centre is a world-class facility offering specialist tuition and agistment.

Although outside the study area, forestry has long been practiced in the Southern Highlands and today there are around 3,500 hectares of commercial pine plantations with timber being processed at a local mill. Also outside the study area, coal mining has taken place in the past at Medway and small shale quarries are still active.

Horticulture has long played an important role and the area was formerly known for its major nurseries. These, particularly nurseries run by Paul Sorensen at the

⁹ <http://southernhighlandsfoodandwineclusters.com.au/sutton-forest-cluster/>

Old Rectory in Berrima and the Berrima Bridge Nursery of Claude Crowe supplied wealthy clients with plants for their extensive gardens and hedgerows. The nursery stock used by Sorensen and sold by Crowe from the 1950s to the 1980s contributed to the plant palette seen across the Highlands today. While the nurseries have gone, the trees and gardens have remained, many of them part of the significant heritage of Berrima and Sutton Forest. Other more recent gardens such as Red Cow Farm, open to the public on a regular basis, have been developed and continue this legacy. Today the study area is known as a place to visit to see beautiful gardens, many of which are opened regularly in support of charitable and community causes.

The landscape with its fine buildings in beautiful gardens, many of them of heritage significance, is a backdrop used for weddings, major functions and holiday accommodation. Similarly, the towns, particularly Berrima, attract weddings and tourists. This is an important source of revenue and jobs in the area. The attraction of the area for this use is frequently showcased in the popular glossy magazine *Highlife*, with a recent issue stating that ‘the past 20 years has seen a boom in businesses promoting the region as a wedding destination.’¹⁰ Southern Highlands Wines, for example is a 33 hectare winery and wedding venue and Peppers Mt Broughton ‘set on a country estate in the rolling green hills of the Southern Highlands’ caters for holidays, conferences and weddings. A Wingecarribee Tourism snapshot indicates that the LGA hosts approximately 1.3million visitors per year.¹¹

3.1.2 Zoning under the Wingecarribee Local Environment Plan (LEP) 2010

Much of the study area is what Wingecarribee Shire Council has defined as E3 Environmental Management

¹⁰ *Highlife*, June/July 2016, p.100

¹¹ This is four year annual average to the year ending September 2014, <http://www.destinationnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Wingecarribee-LGA-profile-1.pdf>

The objectives of the zone are:

- To protect, manage and restore areas with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values.
- To provide for a limited range of development that does not have an adverse impact on those values.
- To encourage the retention of the remaining evidence of significant historic and social values expressed in existing landscape and land use patterns.
- To minimise the proliferation of buildings and other structures in those sensitive landscape areas.
- To provide for a restricted range of development and land use activities that provide for rural settlement, sustainable agriculture, other types of economic and employment activity, recreation and community amenity in identified drinking water catchment areas.
- To protect significant agricultural resources (soil, water and vegetation) in recognition of their value to Wingecarribee's longer term economic sustainability.

Much of the study area is what Wingecarribee Shire Council has defined as E3 zoned land:

The primary purpose of the E3 zoned land is to protect, manage and restore areas of the Shire with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values. Development is permitted, provided it does not have an adverse effect on those values.¹²

3.2 Geology and Soils

The geology of the Study Area's cultural landscape is mapped on the Moss Vale 1:100 000 Geological Sheet (Figure 3.3; Drawing 03). Its dominant and significant feature Mount Gingenbullen is a volcanic remnant of regional 'hot

¹² Wingecarribee LEP 2010; see also Wingecarribee Shire Council 'Rural Lands DCP' op. cit. p.14. <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/uploads/2674/rural-lands-development-control-plan.pdf>

spot' activity from during the Jurassic Period. This igneous landmark is the persistent remains of a lava flow sheet, its basaltic landform resistant to long-term erosional weathering.¹³

Prior to the Jurassic, during the Permian Period, the eastern coast of New South Wales was subject to rifting, a down-warpage of the earth's crust. This caused a large depression, the Sydney Basin, to form (Figure 3.3). It filled with sediment capping off vegetation that became the Permian Illawarra Coal Measures, including the Wongawilli (coal) Seam. In the Triassic Period that followed sediment was deposited by a large, broad, river delta, this material was later transformed into Hawkesbury Sandstone and Wianamatta Group (mainly shale), geology typical of the Sydney Basin. In the middle Triassic the Basin was uplifted to dry land.¹⁴ Further uplift in the late Cretaceous Period impacted the Basin and restructured its topography. Elevation of plateaus such as the Wingecarribee, shifted river and stream patterns, and impacted erosional forces.

The distinctive geological feature of the Study Area is that the top part of the Illawarra Coal Measures, as well as the Triassic Narrabeen Group of sediments, are absent from the geological record. As a result, the Hawkesbury Sandstone, which is the aquifer supplying groundwater across the landscape, lies directly above the Wollondilli (coal) Seam. This contrasts with the geology of the central part of the Sydney Basin as it occurs near Wollongong, south of Sydney, where the Triassic Narrabeen Group of sandstone and claystones lie between the Illawarra Coal Measures and the Hawkesbury Sandstone.

Hawkesbury Sandstone, though characteristic of the Basin, is not majorly

¹³ Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME*, op. cit. pp12-13.

Trigg, S.J. and Campbell, L.M. 2009. *Moss Vale 1:100 000 Geological Sheet* 8928, First edition. Geological Survey of New South Wales, Maitland.

¹⁴ The Australian Museum, The Australian Museum Website, The Sydney Basin, updated 2 June, 2009 <http://australianmuseum.net.au/the-sydney-basin> accessed 10/1/2016
Leon Costermans, *Native Trees and Shrubs of South-Eastern Australia*, Lansdowne, Sydney, 1994, p10.

represented at the surface in the Study Area, except in the mid to lower reaches of Black Bobs Creek and the Medway Rivulet, where they join the Wingecarribee River.

Wianamatta shales, Ashfield and Bringelly Formations, however, are prevalent as outcrops in the Study Area, in the vicinity of Sutton Forest, as a series of small patches strewn across its lower ridges, hills and slopes. In contrast, larger areas of weathered basalt, form a distinctive band along the high southern ridgeline, this parent material is associated with the upper catchment of the Medway Rivulet and Black Bob's Creek, and the area of Exeter. This formation, laid down in the Cretaceous Period, has extensive soil development.

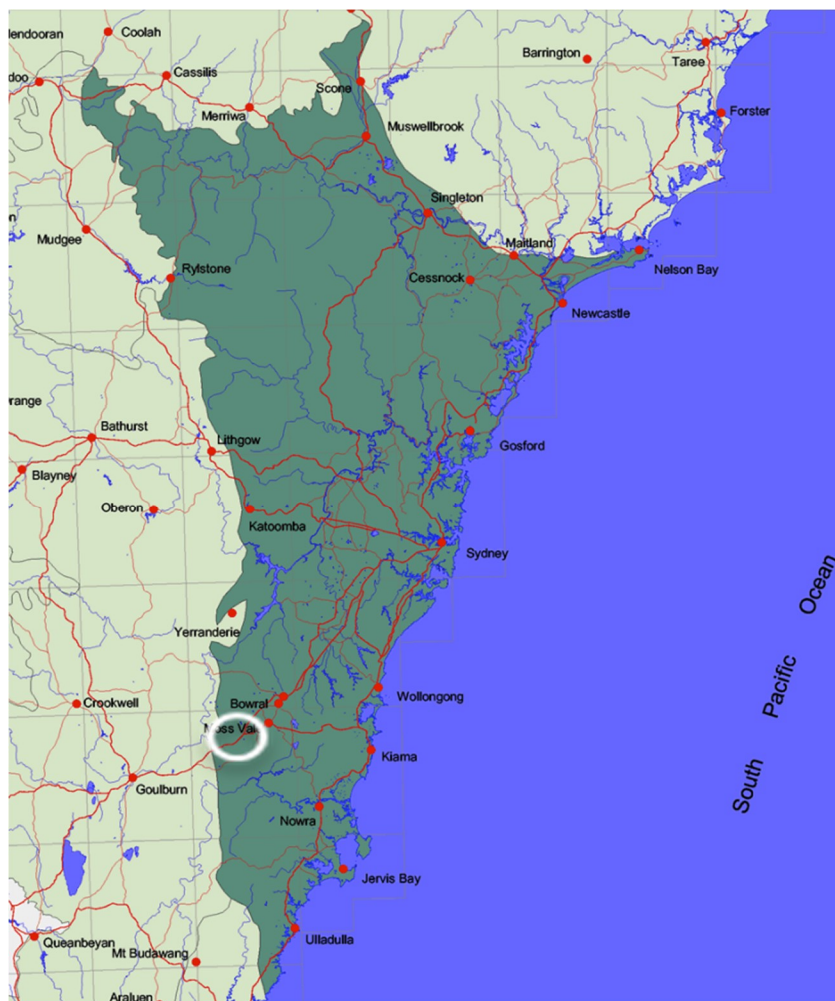


Figure 3.2 : The Sydney Basin Bioregion. The white circle indicates the Study Area.
 (Source: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/nature/sydneyBasin.pdf> accessed 08/01/2017)

During recent millennia, 1.8 Ma, in the Quaternary Period, residual unconsolidated clayey sands were deposited over the Study Area landscape. These have developed some podzolic soil profiles. This is the most extensive geology across all areas of the cultural landscape.

Also in the Quaternary, talus slope deposits accumulated in a wide ring around Mount Gingenbullen. Derived from its basaltic geology, it consists of colluvial lenses of clay, and silty sands layers.

The most recent Quaternary deposits are those of sand and silt found alongside streams and rivers. These formations are evident in the Medway Rivulet system of creeklines.¹⁵

The soils in the Study Area demonstrate a strong link to parent geology. The volcanic derived soils called kraznozems, approximately 1m deep, were established under rainforest and similar vegetation. The most extensive soils across the site, the red/yellow shale podzols, are contrasting-textural loamy soils, 0.3 to 1.2m deep. They reflect development under a dryer vegetation canopy cover.¹⁶

¹⁵ Moss Vale 100K Geological Map, 2010.

http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/image/0003/341427/MossVale_100k_Geological_Sheet_8928_Preliminary_2010.jpg accessed 10/01/2017)

¹⁶ Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME*, , op. cit. p15.

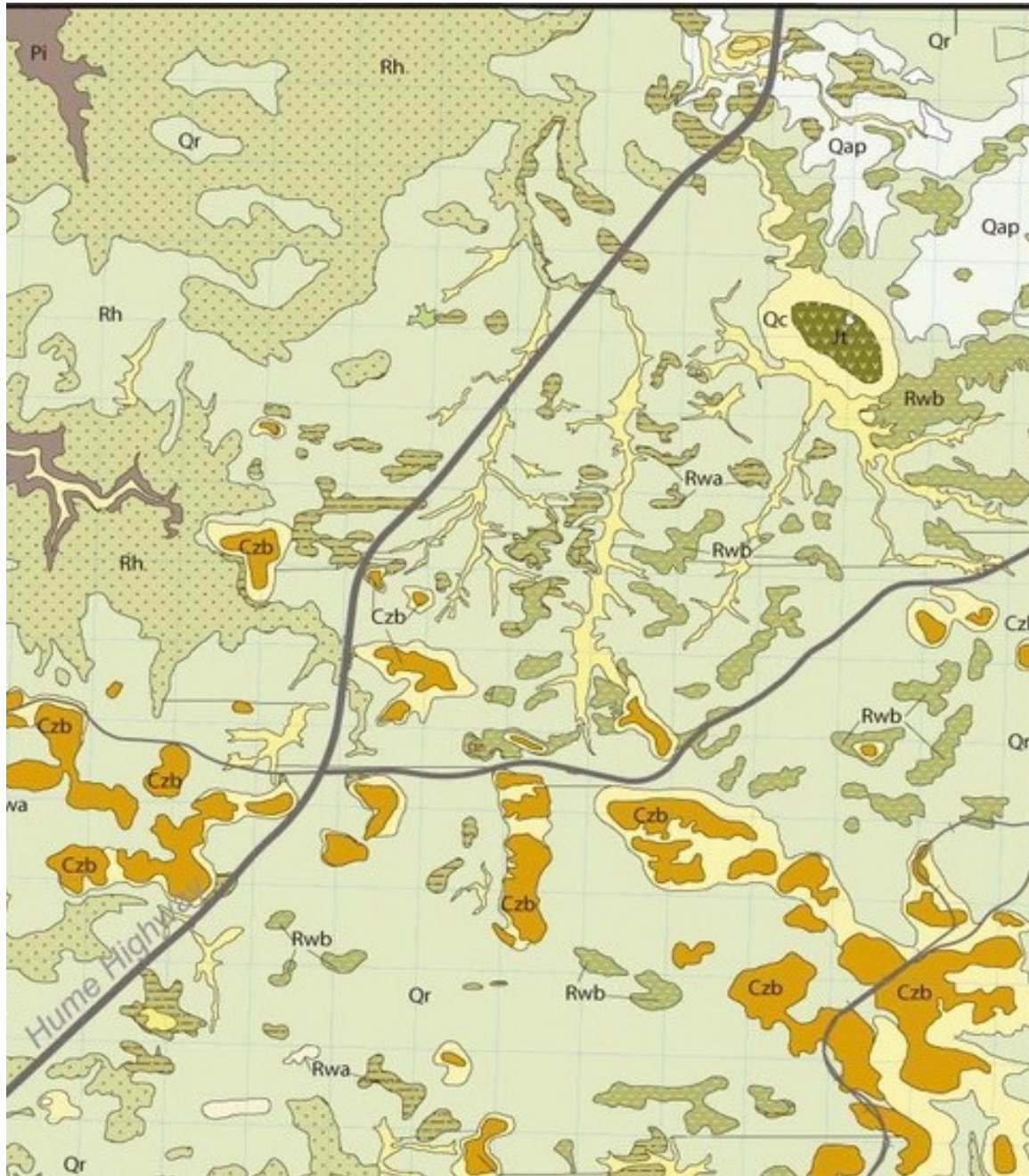


Figure 3.3: Study Area geology. Its lithology is listed as most recent to earliest deposits.

- Qa (yellow) Stream and rivers deposits of sand and silt
- Qc (pale yellow) Talus slope deposits, colluvial lenses of clay, silty sands layers.
- Qr (pale green) Residual deposits of unconsolidated clayey sands some podzolic soil profiles.
- Czb (orange) Weathered alkaline olivine basalt. Extensive soil development
- Jt (dark green) Tholeiitic basalt (volcanic origins)
- Rwb (black-dashed green) Bringelly Shale
- Rwa (white-dashed green) Ashfield Shale
- Rh (dotted green) Hawkesbury Sandstone
- Pi (brown) coal measures

(Source: Moss Vale 100K geological map

http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/image/0003/341427/MossVale_100k_Geological_Sheet_8928_Preliminary_2010.jpg accessed 10/01/2017)

3.3 Catchments

The Study Area is part of the Sydney Water Catchment Area as local streams feed the Wingecarribee River below Berrima, which in turn flows into the Wollondilly River that empties into Warragamba Dam.

The Medway Rivulet sub-catchment is largely within the Study Area boundary (Refer to Drawing Catchments and Sub-Catchments). This creekline, and to a lesser degree Black Bobs Creek, both tributaries of the Wingecarribee River, have shaped the landform of the Study Area, the streams and crests of the extensive Medway Rivulet creekline system particularly have a pronounced north-south tendency. They compose the landform and natural landscape character of the site's undulating countryside.

Smaller drainage areas within the Medway system consist of the catchments of Oldbury Creek, Wells Creek, Norris Creek and Payne Creek. Part catchments include those of Black Bobs Creek and Whites Creek. All these watercourses, and other besides include innumerable secondary creeklines, intermittent streams, and waterholes. These all form part of the broader Warragamba Dam and Hawkesbury-Nepean catchments.

3.4 Vegetation

3.4.1 Native Vegetation

Most of the WLGA was originally sclerophyll forest, evolved to withstand dry conditions and nutrient deficiencies. Bowie's Pre-1750 vegetation map sourced from Tindall, 2004, indicates that the study site was covered by wet sclerophyll forest.¹⁷ Detailed evidence, now supports that this forest is the ecological community, Southern Highland Shale Forest and Woodland (SHSFW).¹⁸ The upper-storey of this forest consists mostly of *Eucalyptus spp.*, it occurs only on

¹⁷ Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME*, , op. cit. pp24-25.

¹⁸ Greg Stone, Website Southern Highland Shale Forest and Woodland, 2016 <https://shsfw.wordpress.com> website accessed 13/01/2017.

Wianamatta shale derived clay soils within the Southern Highlands, and where climatic and topographical conditions provide an annual rainfall of 1400 – 900mm, and elevations of 600-800m. Based on existing remnant vegetation this community covered the Study Area (Figure 3.5). It is listed as an endangered ecological community under the Threatened Species Conservation Act.¹⁹ Snow Gums, *Eucalyptus pauciflora*, near Golden Vale Road, Sutton Forest, indicate that the SHSFW plant community occurs in this area in its typical form (Figure 3.4).



Figure 3.4 *Eucalyptus pauciflora* on Newbury Farm near Golden Vale Road.

¹⁹ Bowie, *WINGECARRIBEE, OUR HOME*, op. cit. p27.

The short dry form, is found around Berrima and Medway. Its third form, tall wet form, is not represented in the Study Area.²⁰ It is conjectured that the volcanic derived soil within the Study Area once supported rainforest vegetation.

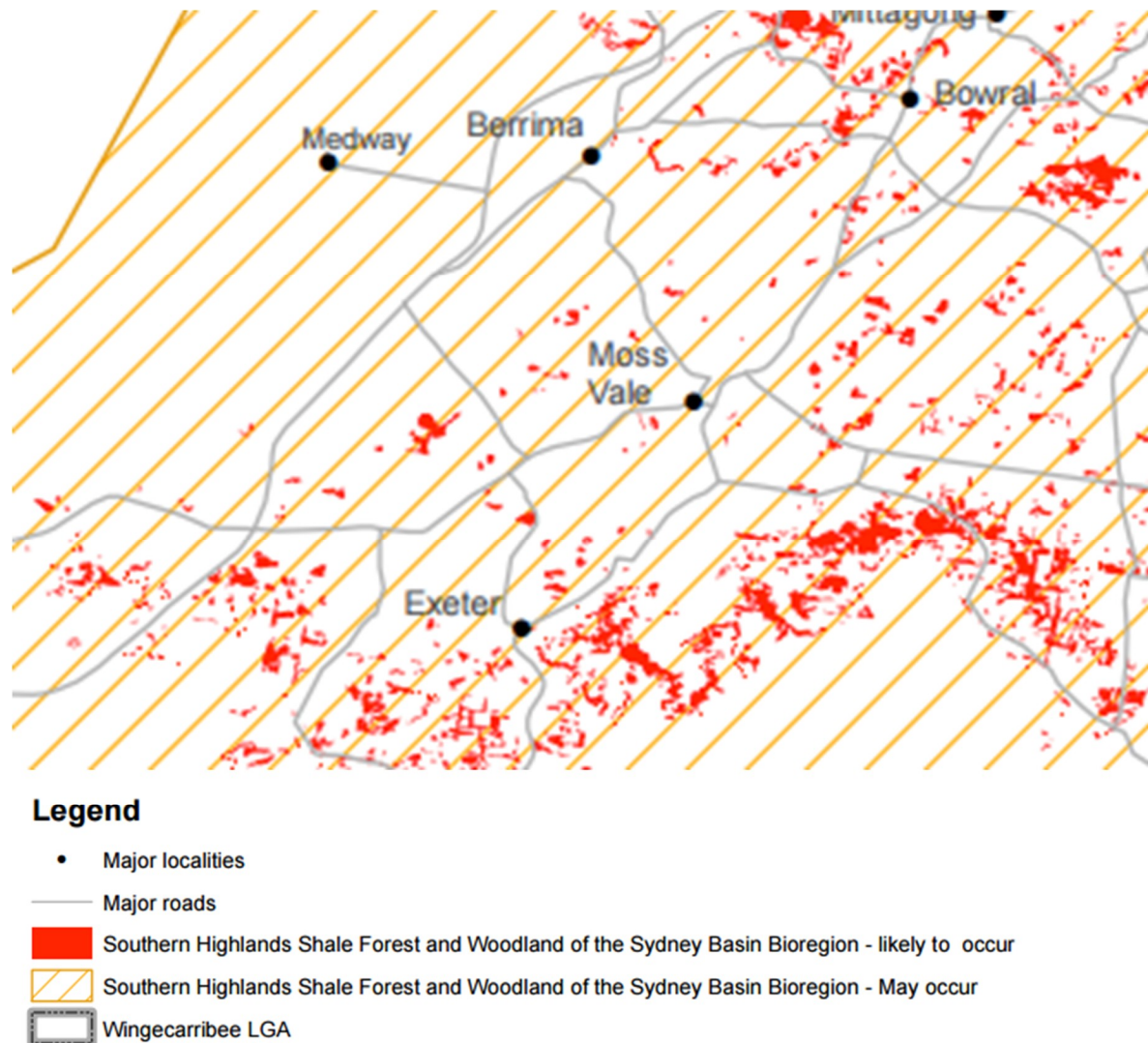


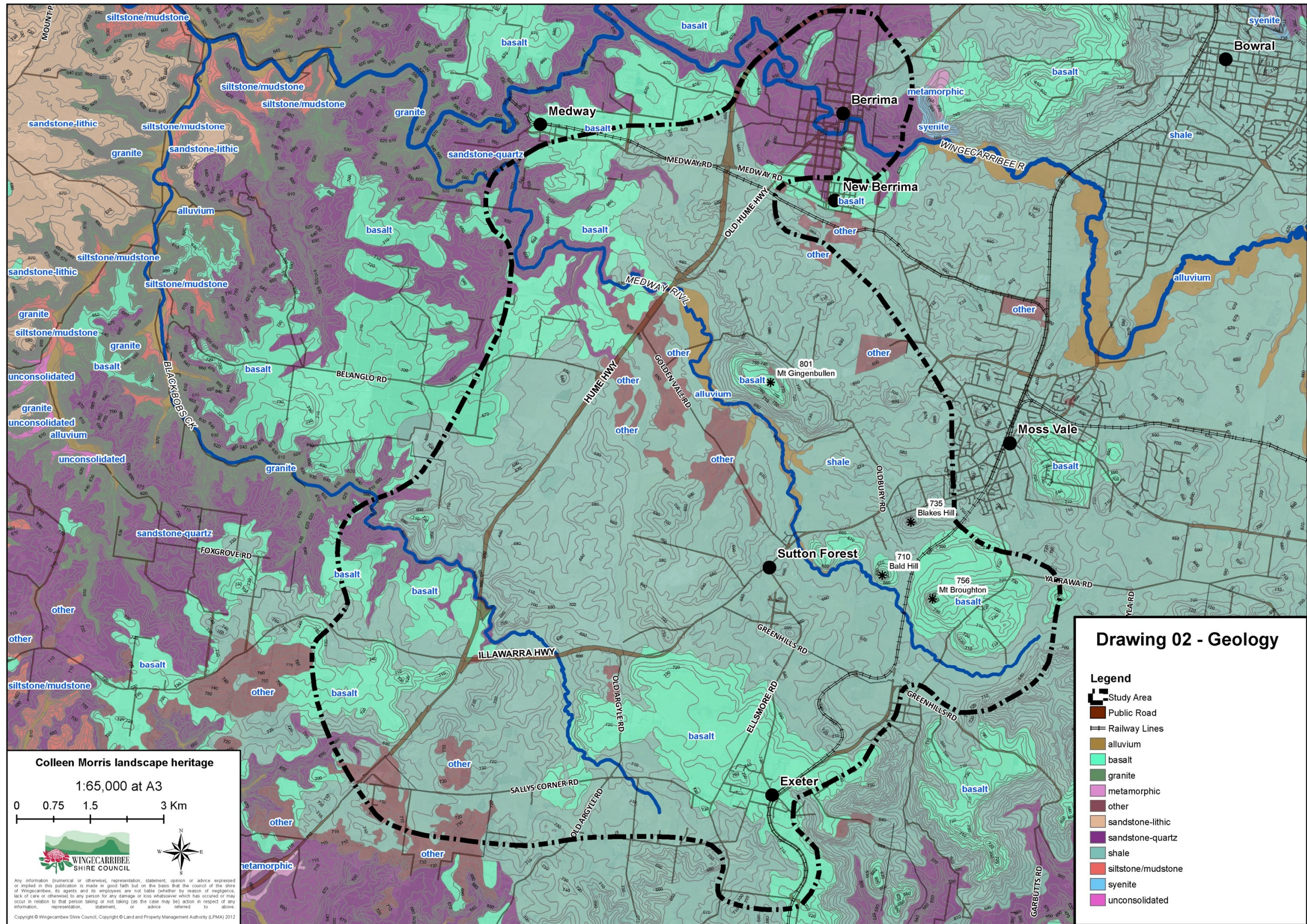
Figure 3.5: Section of map titled *Southern Highlands Shale Forest and Woodland of the Sydney Basin Bioregion* illustrating this remnant in the Study Area.

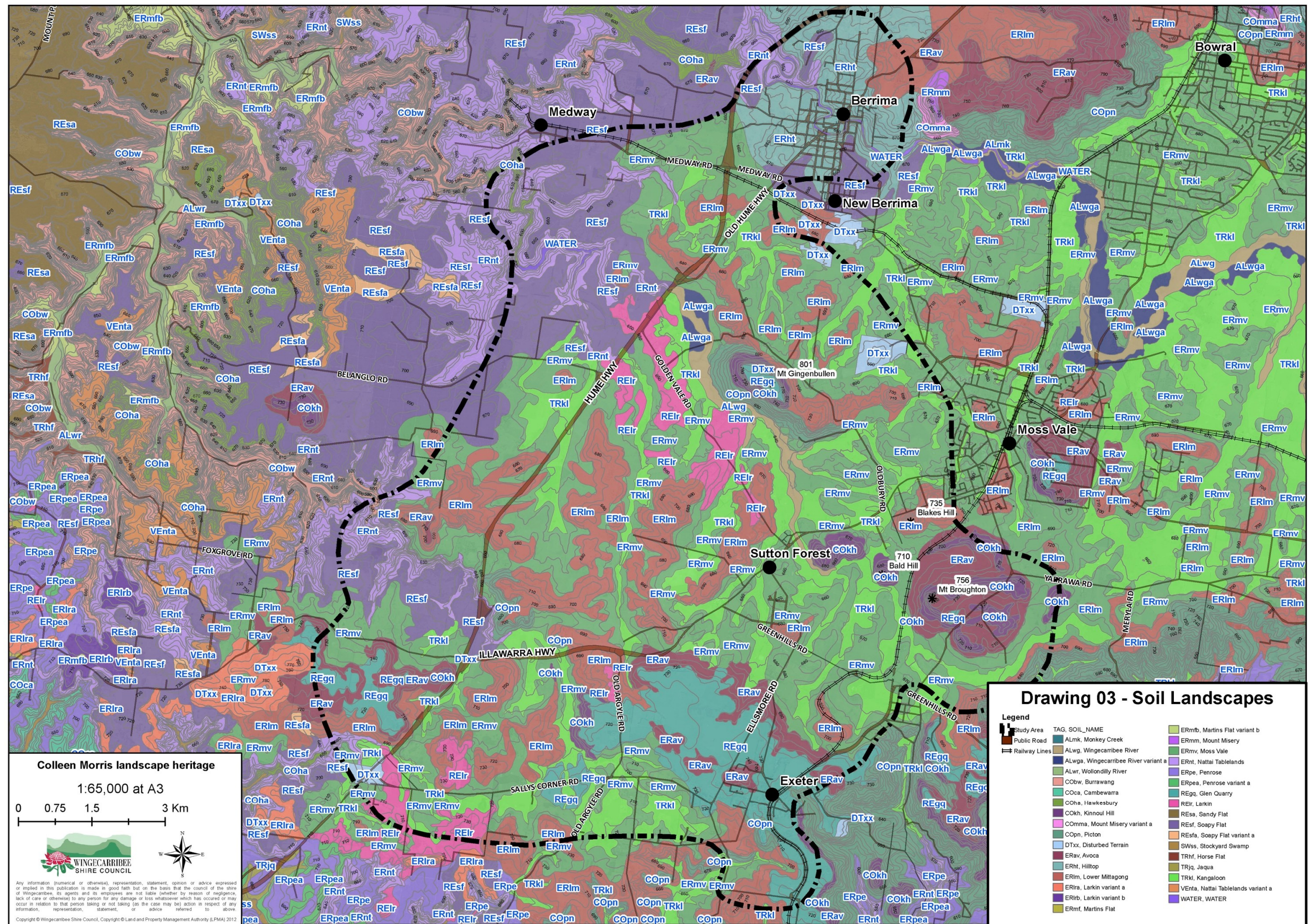
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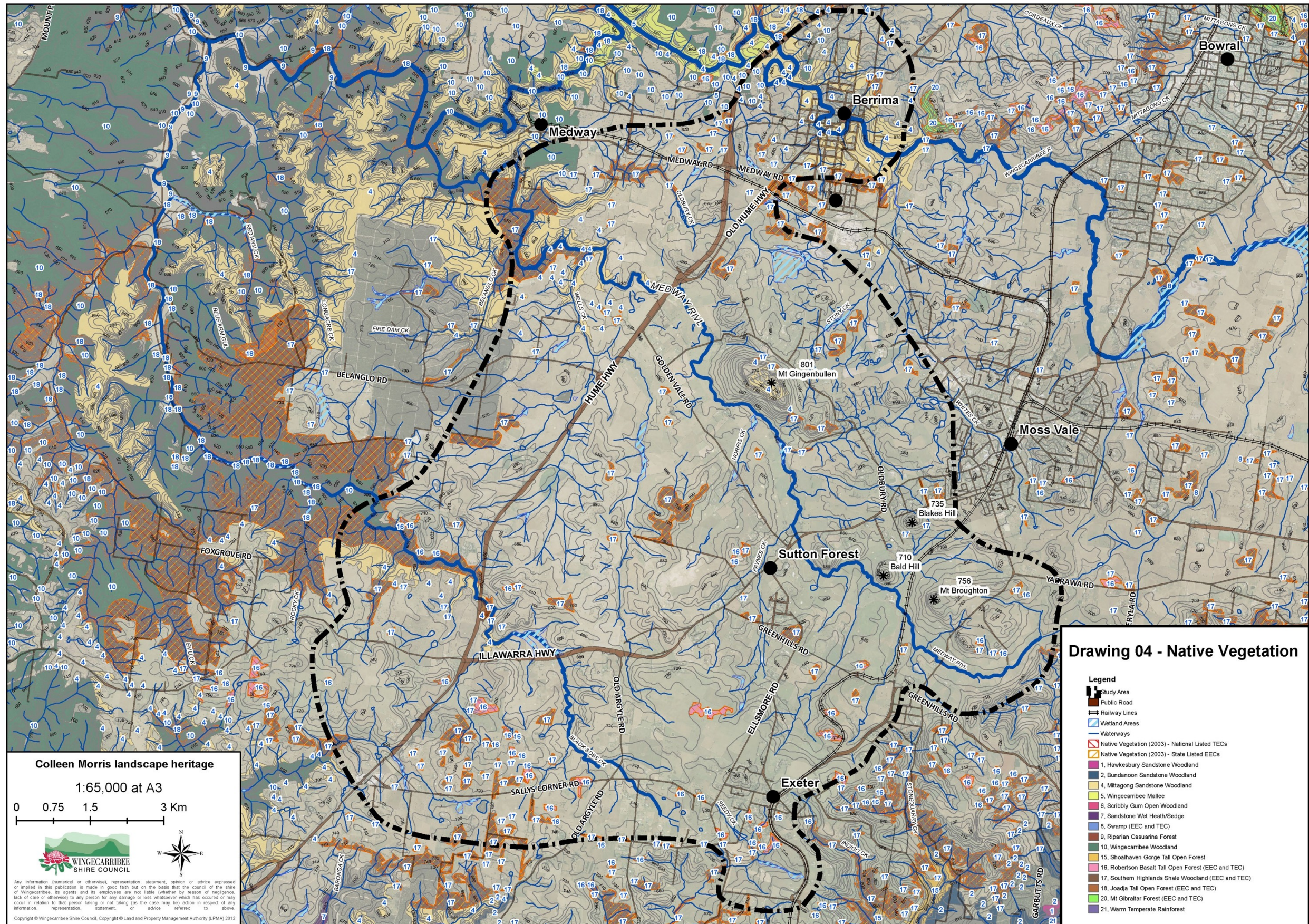
<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/communities/maps/pubs/62-map.pdf> accessed 13/01/2017)

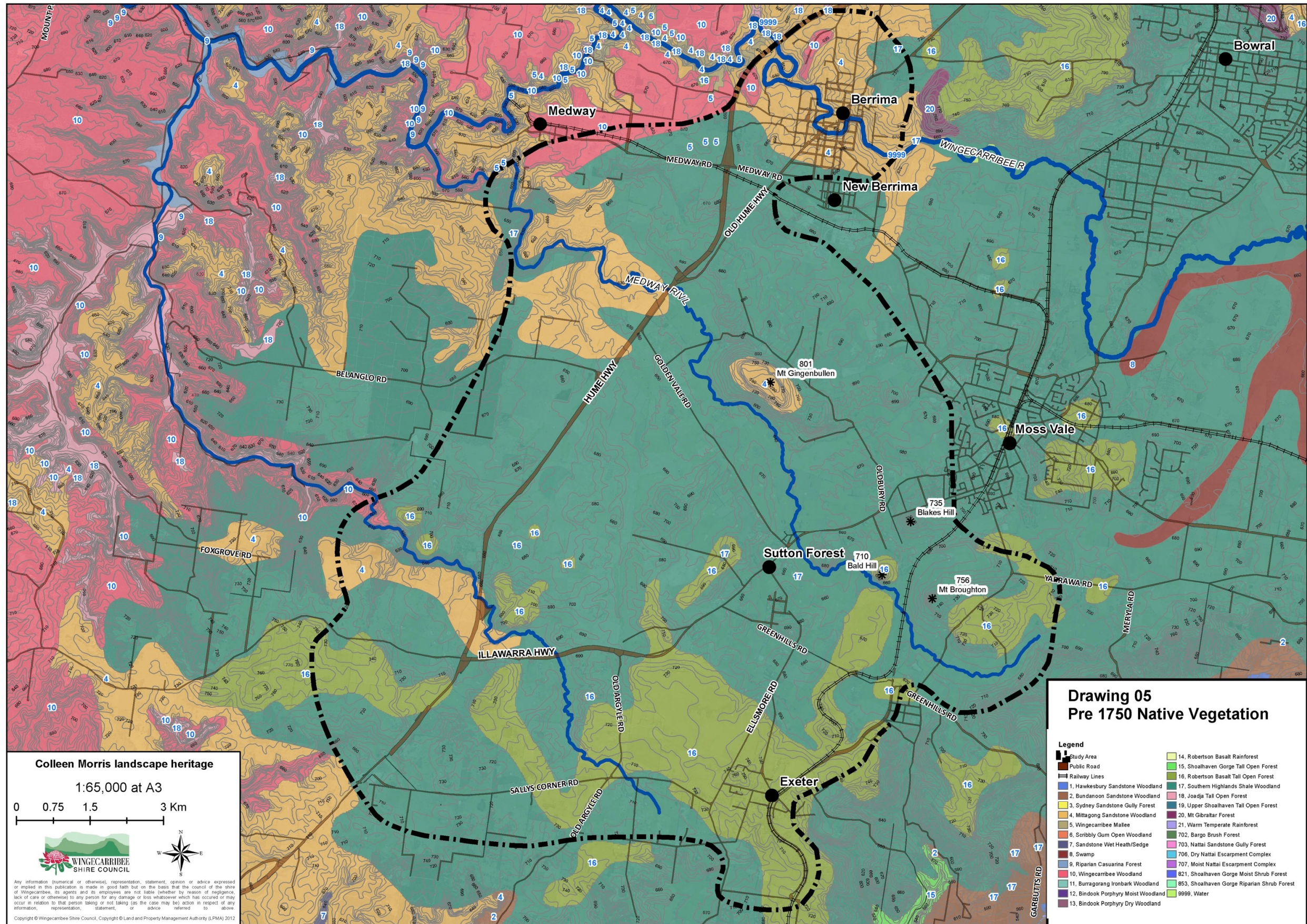
~ Greg Stone, Website Southern Highland Shale Forest and Woodland, 2016
<https://shsfw.wordpress.com> website accessed 13/01/2017.

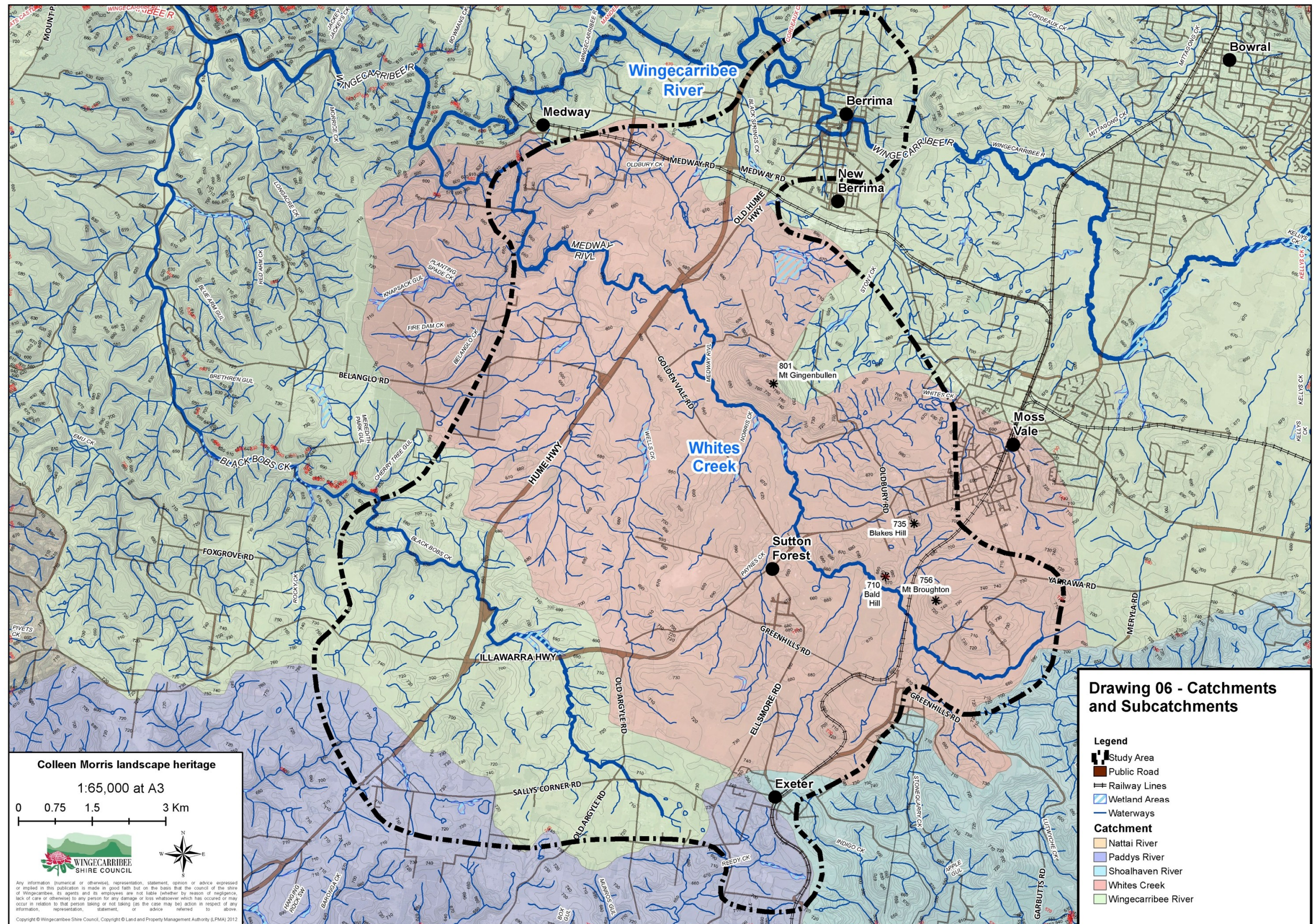
The Drawings for native vegetation and pre-1750 vegetation are derived from the original work undertaken in 2003 for the Wingecarribee Shire Biodiversity Strategy <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/services/environment/reports-and-resources/wingecarribee-biodiversity-strategy>











3.4.2 Vegetation of the towns and pastoral landscape

Pastoral properties within the Study Area, many dating from the 1820s, are extensive with distinctive groups of exotic plantings around homestead sites and the avenues that lead to them. Pines, elms, poplars and deciduous trees predominate as grand scale trees. Stately old stone pines, a signature early colonial choice of species, grace the grounds of Eling Forest first settled by John Morrice in the late 1830s. From early settlement one of the attractions of the area was its climate, which is more typical of Europe or North America. This enabled some settlers to attempt to create more 'English' country gardens and to plant conifers and deciduous trees in the broader landscape. Early homesteads were sited away from roads on better alluvial soils with accessible water nearby and surrounded by simple gardens, many of which have become increasingly complex and ornamented in the twentieth century. Now mature the gardens encircle the houses with a protective belt of greenery, signaling the location of substantial colonial homesteads in the landscape.

The paddocks cleared during early European occupation are substantially retained, resulting in a pastoral landscape still used for grazing, crops and hay-making. On less fertile soils of slopes and rises pockets of remnant vegetation were retained, allowing grazing underneath the canopies of endemic woodland species.

Large gardens established in the early twentieth century boasted increasingly rare shrubs and trees which were often underplanted with drifts of bulbs. These now appear as deeply shaded oases in the summer months. The planting of conifers also gave towns a distinctive character. Sir Henry Parkes planted a Federation Oak Tree in March 1890 in the Market Place in Berrima during his tour of NSW. The tree now form the centrepiece of the War Memorial Garden in which ANZAC Day service are held. When Berrima marked the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria's accession the trees planted in the Market Place in 1897 were Monterey pine, *Pinus radiata* and deodar, *Cedrus deodara*, both popular plantings

at the time. Windbreak hedgerows of hawthorn, used early in the nineteenth century and pines planted in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are linear elements in the landscape. Leylandi cypress hedges are a more recent and often controversial addition in the landscape, replacing the older use of *Pinus radiata*. The height and solid form of Leylandii hedges sever views over the landform.

Gardens and views in many of the properties are entwined. In the Conservation Management Plan for Hillview, Joanna Capon observed, *Spectacular views are a (natural) external feature to many of the major gardens of the district and the interplay between the natural and man-made environments appears consistent throughout the area.*²¹

²¹ Paul Davies Pty Ltd 'Hillview Conservation Management Plan', November 2000, p.72

3.5 Views

The natural landscape character of the Study Area can be appreciated from its many superior viewpoints. Chief is the outlook from Mount Gingenbullen, which affords views in all directions along its extensive, flattened, length. These views, particularly to the west, provide a local and regional perspective of the focus area, visible below as the gentle slopes of Medway Rivulet; its catchment of numerous pastoral valleys drained by watercourses lined with trees, and, on the horizon, distant mountain ranges.

The Study Area is traversed by the Old Hume Highway, which follows the alignment of the Great South Road where it has not been paralleled in part by the Hume Motorway. Views from the Old Hume Highway today recall the days of earliest settlement in Berrima and the District.

The landscape character is also presented to visitors coming into the Study Area from the Hume Motorway as they travel south looking south-east toward the Old Hume Highway before exiting at Medway Road and as they travel north and exit the Motorway at Mereworth Road. These visitors who enter Berrima from the south, driving north along the Old Hume Highway, have extensive views across pastures and along the Remembrance Driveway, planted with pines and other exotic trees as a memorial to fallen servicemen in all conflicts. These views should be protected and included in a southern extension of the present Berrima Landscape Conservation Area (BLCA).

Similarly visitors entering Berrima from the north drive along the Old Hume Highway on a raised plateau at about 730m before descending steeply into the basin in which Berrima is nestled on the banks of the Wingecarribee River at about 630m. The present BLCA is not developed north of the village and the Highway; it is important that the views looking south from the Highway 730m be protected by a northerly extension of the BLCA.

Views to the north from Gingenbullen are of the highest quality. Spectacular scenery from Oldbury Road, just before and during its mountainside descent, afford breathtaking 180 degree panoramic views. From this superior position the vale of Oldbury Creek, a subsidiary of Medway Rivulet, the gorges of the Wingecarribee River and Wollondilly River, and the far ranges of the Kanangra-Boyd National Park are on dramatic display (Figures 3.6 ; 3.7; 3.8).

From Oldbury Road looking north-east, the shape of Mt Gibraltar, another volcanic feature, can be defined in the distance. Private properties on Mt Gingenbullen also share in the large-scale scenic exhibition of superior high quality views over the landscape. (Figures 3.9; 3.10; 3.11 and 3.12).

Other superior views to the south and east of the Study Area, though not from as high a standpoint as Mt Gingenbullen, occur on the rideglines near Exeter, where several catchment watersheds meet. From Sally's Corner Road there is a long view to the north and north-east over the low-lying crests of (upper) Black Bob's Creek and Medway Rivulet. Part enclosure by hillocks dressed with stands of remnant mature vegetation and scattered trees provide interest to the foreground. This scenic variety, together with vistas towards Mt Gingenbullen– in this instance it can be glimpsed 8km away– is typical of the Study Area (Figure 3.13).



Figure 3.6: Panoramic view from Oldbury Road over Oldbury to western views toward Canyonleigh, the Wollondilly River catchment and distant ranges (View 1)



Figure 3.7: Panoramic view looking to the north from Oldbury Road. (View2)



Figure 3.8: The view from Oldbury Road looking north- north-east over the paddocks of Oldbury with their layered hawthorn hedges (View 3).



Figure 3.9: View from Mt Gingenbullen, looking east towards Mt Gibraltar (View 4).



Figure 3.10: The vista looking south from Whitley over Medway Rivulet valley towards Exeter, the shape of Mt Broughton is visible through the mist (View 5).



Figure 3.11: The view from private land on the saddle between Mt Gingenbullen and Judge's Hill, looking down on Swanton and White's Creek where it joins with Medway Rivulet and south-west over Norris Creek, a subsidiary of Medway Rivulet (View 6).



Figure 3.12: Expansive views from Edenderry, 254 Oldbury Road over the pastoral landscape of White's Creek catchment to the south-east (View 7).



Figure 3.13 (above) Looking from Sally's Corner Road to the north, north-east over Moore's Flat and the upper reaches of Black Bob's Creek to a distant glimpse of Mt Gingenbullen (behind electricity tower) (View 8).



Figure 3.14: Cattle yard on Sally's Corner Road, Moore's Flat.

From Ellsmore Road, near a highpoint (762m) at Exeter, district views to the west can be enjoyed over the gently rolling landscape (Figure 3.15). This crest begins the watershed between Black Bob’s Creek and Medway Rivulet valleys. Werai Road, Exeter also follows a ridgeline, its views, however, are funneled towards the north, and gradually encompass the expansive river flats of the upper Medway Rivulet vale.



Figure 3.15: View from Ellsmore Road, looking west over Medway Rivulet valley and to distant ranges (View 9).

This upper Medway Rivulet vale, to the east of the Study Area includes numerous highpoints and hills. Amongst these, Blake’s Hill, Bald Hill and Mt Broughton form identifiable landmarks. This cluster, and those hills where properties such as Hillview and Summerlees sit atop, form a spatial arrangement characteristic of the natural landscape that is locally identifiable, especially from Werai Road and the Illawarra Highway.

The gentle slopes and flatter valley floor that occur central to the Study Area, and to the west, are enclosed by low ridgelines and hills. These rises are clothed with vegetation, though sometimes sparse and often bare. Extensive broad pastureland dominates the middleground views into these areas, particularly close to the waterways of Oldbury Creek, Wells Creek and the main creekline of

Medway Rivulet. Long views across this wide landscape typically feature the form of Mt Gingenbullen. From the lowest point in the Study Area, along Medway Road, the scenic quality of the landscape displays the characteristic features of the catchment, namely that of Gingenbullen juxtaposed with the pastoral landscape (Figure 3.19).

From the Hume Highway, where it bridges Medway Road, broad views of the surrounding rural landscape and historic properties are showcased (Figures 3.20, 3.21). Along the Old Hume Highway where the traffic pace is slower, the topography provides scenes of high scenic quality. It is in this setting, and long this route, that the cultural landscape of the district can be appreciated (Figures 3.23, 3.24). Significant vistas over valleys towards Mt Gingenbullen to the south-east, and south, delight the eye (Figure 3.25). A variety of perspectives achieved from highpoints along this byway, affords views to the western distant ranges promoting a sense of spatial depth for the viewer (Figure 3.24), while those vistas to the south-west demonstrate the swampy nature of many of the lower creek areas.



Figure 3.16: Looking from the entrance drive to Cherry Tree Hill wines across to the north in the flatter part of the Study Area to the north of the Hume Highway (View 10).



Figure 3.17: Looking north from the approach to 11972 Hume Highway toward Medway Rivulet and Mereworth. (View 11)



Figure 3.18: The view to the west from Old Hume Highway after one leaves the freeway to enter Berrima from the south (View 12).



Figure 3.19: Looking south-west from Medway Road between the Old Hume Highway and the Freeway toward Paul Sorensen's Remembrance Driveway plantings and Mt Gingenbullen in the background. Note new boundary planting to Mereworth (View 13).



Figure 3.20: Looking over Mereworth from the Hume Highway heading south (View 14)



Figure 3.21: Looking South East over Medway Road from the Hume Highway (View 14a)



Figure 3.22: The view from the Hume Highway heading north and looking toward Mereworth in the distance on the left (View 14b).



Figure 3.23: View from the Old Hume Highway in the vicinity of Oldbury Creek looking east toward Mt Gingenbullen (View 15)



Figure 3.24: Panoramic views to the south and west can be appreciated from the Old Hume Highway from this elevated location. This photo looking to the west takes in Mereworth estate, pine plantations and the Blue Mountains in the distance (View 16).



Figure 3.25: Medway Rivulet valley from Old Hume Highway looking east toward Golden Valley Road. Oldbury is in this view catchment. (View 17).



Figure 3.26: Panoramic views from Mereworth Road to the south and west. Views to the north, behind the photographer, are enclosed by the road cutting (View 18)



Figure 3.27: View from Mereworth Road looking south-east to Mt Gingenbullen (View 18a)

The cultural landscape of the Study Area can also be witnessed from its eastern boundaries. Views capture the 'hills' of this margin and their spatial cluster. The vistas across the landform, particularly from close to the corner of Yarrawa Road and Mt Broughton Road, capture these hills and the steeply undulating topography of the Study Area edge, a contrast to the broad alluvial flats at its centre (Figure 3.34).

Views from roadways and properties within a 2km+ range of Mt Gingenbullen receive the greatest sense of its form and landscape dominance. The thoroughfares that can claim this distinction include Golden Vale Road, Illawarra Highway and Oldbury Road where it traverses the creek flats (Figures 3.28, 3.29). Properties that sit on slopes a short distance beyond the creeks surrounding Gingenbullen have uninterrupted views of the landmark –Roscoe Park and Newbury Farm are two examples that enjoy outstanding, superior vistas over the district and towards Mt Gingenbullen (Figures 3.35; 3.38, 3.39, 3.40).

The distinctive views and vistas described in this section, observable from roads, laneways and public places (Figures 3.25, 3.26, 3.27, 3.32, 3.33, 3.36,3.37,) and from private properties are valued by the local community and visitors to the area.²² Without doubt it is the remnant volcanic feature of Mt Gingenbullen that animates this countryside, the catchment of Medway Rivulet, the vessel in which to appreciate it. Equally broad views across the landscape to the ranges in the west or views to Mt Broughton and Blakes Hill in the east are also of high aesthetic appeal. These factors, together with the detail of its remnant tree communities, extensive landholdings and pastoral slopes, and its landscape of highpoints and hills, alluvial flats and wide-ranging and distant views, collectively form a view structure that is historically and aesthetically significant, unique to the cultural landscape of Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Study Area.

²² dem, *Views and Vistas, Scenic Landscape Review*, Wingecarribee Shire Council, 2009



Figure 3.28: Looking at the south-eastern end of Judges Hill and Mt Gingenbullen from Oldbury Road. Note the creeklines that wrap the landform at its base. Similar views can be enjoyed from Illawarra Highway (19).



Figure 3.29: The view toward Mt Gingenbullen from Golden Vale Road (View 20).



Figure 3.30: Golden Vale aerial photograph 1940 (from Sir Philip Goldfinch album, courtesy National Trust Archives)



Figure 3.31: Golden Vale, a more recent photograph from Mt Gingenbullen, no date courtesy National Trust Archives)



Figure 3.32: The approach along Old Hume Highway toward Berrima from the south is flanked by Remembrance Driveway plantings. This concentrates views along the road (View 21).



Figure 3.33: The view from the ridgeline from the Old Hume Highway to the north Greenhills Road, Berrima. This ridge contributes to the sense of enclosure that Berrima has (View 22).



Figure 3.34: Looking south west from near the intersection of Yarrawa Road and Mt Broughton Road towards Blakes Hill (LHS) and Mt Gingenbullen (View 23).

Views include glimpses to distant hills and across the landscape. Here there is mixed cleared land with scattered hawthorns and boundary planting and windrows on ridgelines.



Figure 3.35: The extensive and spectacular view looking from Roscoe Park toward the Hume Highway and Berrima, framed by endangered Southern Highlands Shale woodland on the left and Mt Gingenbullen on the right (View 24).



Figure 3.36: View across the landscape from the end of School Lane, Exeter, one of the eastern margins of the Study Area (25).



Figure 3.37: Views east across Black Bob's Creek near Hoddle's Cross Roads (View 26).



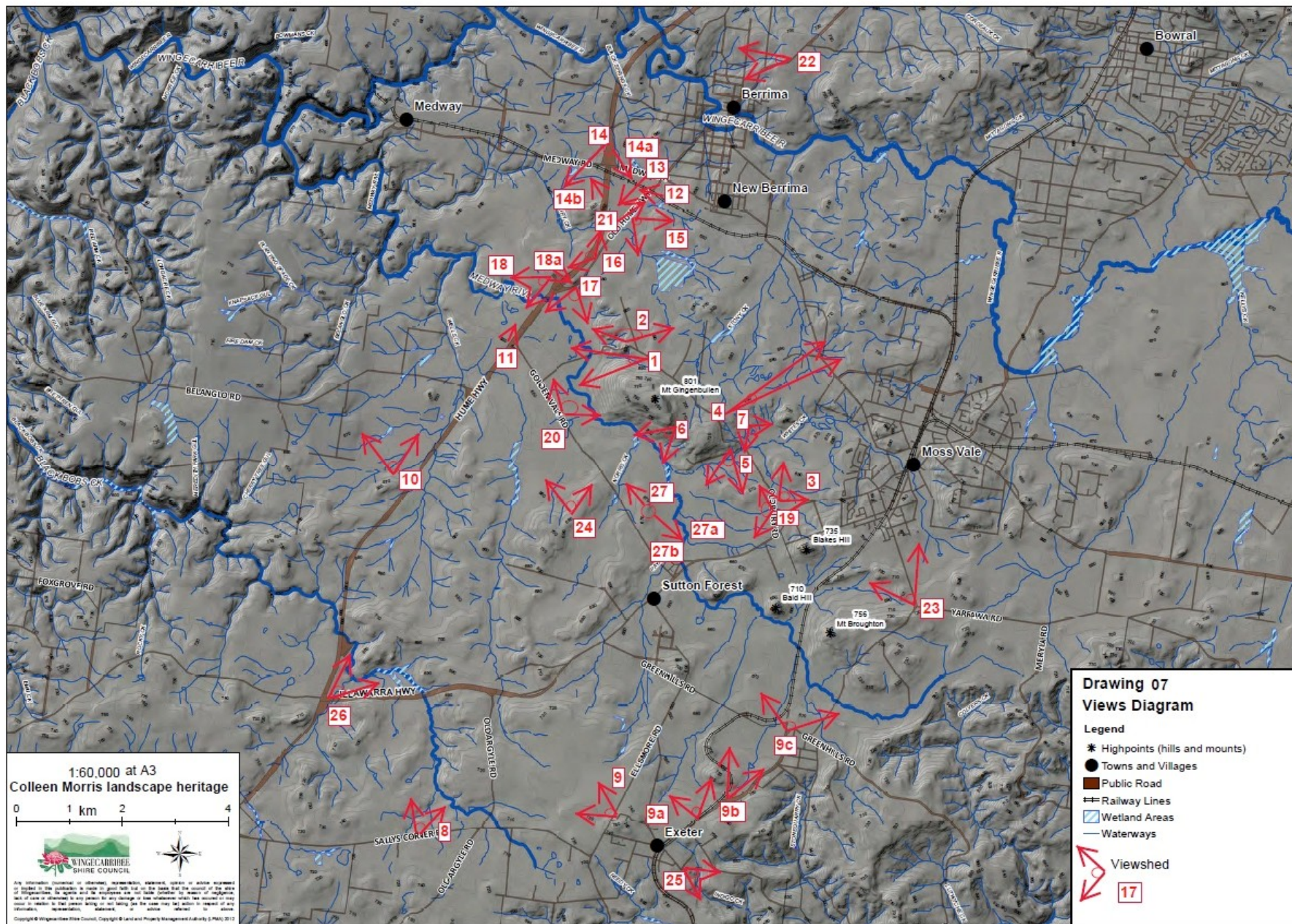
Figure 3.38: Panoramic views from the high point of Newbury Farm toward Mt Gingenbullen and Judges Hill include views toward Swanton, one of the older houses in the Sutton Forest area and originally part of Oldbury Estate. Whites Creek and Medway Rivulet converge in this photograph (View 27).



Figure 3.39: Looking east from the high point on Newbury Farm centre in the distance is Blakes Hill (View 27a).



Figure 3.40: Looking in a southeast and easterly direction from the high point on Newbury Farm (View 27b).



Cultural Landscape Assessment Berrima, Sutton Forest, Exeter
Colleen Morris, landscape heritage consultant, in association with Christine Hay, May 2017

4 Historical Overview

4.1 Aboriginal background

The Southern Highlands is considered to be Gundungurra Land, a territory that went from the Cox's River and Warragamba in the north almost to Goulburn in the south—it includes Bowral, Mittagong, Moss Vale, Berrima, Hill Top, Colo Vale, and Penrose.²³ Within that area the group that lived in the Berrima and Sutton Forest area were known as the Bong Bong by Europeans and at times the Sutton Forest or Throsby's tribe although an old resident in 1907 insisted that it was Bung Bung, not Bong Bong.²⁴ According to historical accounts, this group lived on what is now the commonly recognised boundary with Dharawal land. Research by linguist Dr Claire Bower indicates that the Bong Bong people moved between the Shoalhaven and the Southern Highlands via Meryla and Kangaroo Valley and spoke Wodi-Wodi, a dialect of Dharawal.²⁵ They had greater connections to the east than with the Gundungurra clans in the Nattai and Burragorang Valley. This accords with Tindale's findings, which were that the Wodi-Wodi occupied an area that extended to Picton, Moss Vale and Marulan to the west.²⁶

²³<http://www.nntt.gov.au/searchRegApps/NativeTitleRegisters/ILUA%20Register/2014/NI2014.001/NI2014-001%20Gundungurra%20ILUA%20map.pdf> accessed 16.1.16

²⁴ <http://www.bongbongcommon.org.au/aboriginal-heritage/> accessed 4.12.16; Charles Nicholson of Newbury letter to *The Wollondilly Press* Wed 6 Feb, 1907 p.3; Surveyor Meehan recorded the name as Boom-buong.

²⁵ Narelle A. Bower and Claire L. Bower, 'Who were the Bong Bong Aborigines?' p.14 unpublished manuscript. Sue Wesson in Murni Dhungang Jirrar, Living in the Illawarra states that the Dharawal language was spoken in an area that extended to Moss Vale in the west. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/illawarraAboriginalResourceUse.pdf>

²⁶ Norman B. Tindale, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*. Australian National University Press, Canberra, 1974.

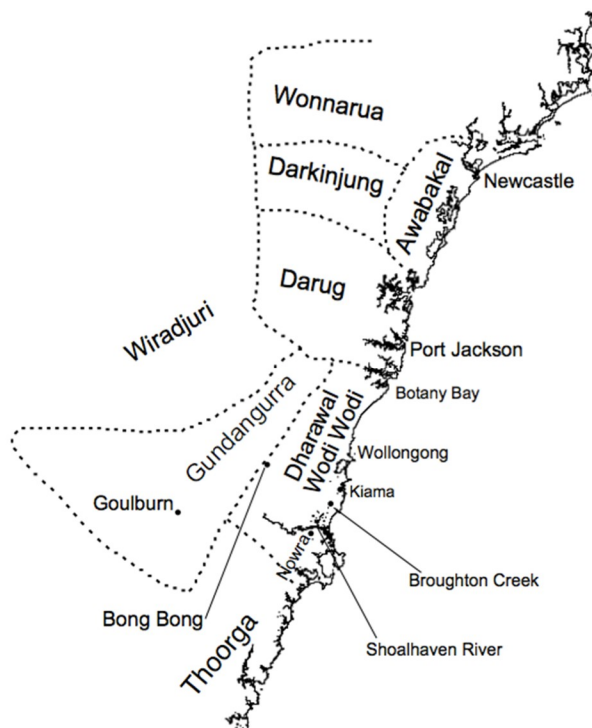


Figure 4.1: The territory of language groups as defined by S. Wesson(ed) *A History of Aboriginal People of the Illawarra 1770 to 1970*, 2005.

The first white people to explore the Southern Highlands were guided by Dharawal aborigines, who brought them down from the Camden area through Bargo Brush and Mittagong to Bong Bong. The early explorers, notably Dr Charles Throsby, Hamilton Hume and Quaker missionary James Backhouse, who travelled with Dharawal guides between the Bong Bong and Shoalhaven, met aborigines they knew from Five Islands, Bong Bong and the Shoalhaven.²⁷

The first recorded use of the term 'Winge Karribee' was by Governor Macquarie in 1816 referring to John Oxley's cattle station. Neither John Oxley nor his family lived in the area at that time. Aboriginal linguist Frances Bodkin is of the opinion that the Gundungurra word for Wingecarribee was 'Winge Karrabee Karrabee'.²⁸

²⁷ Narelle A. Bower and Claire L. Bower, 'Who were the Bong Bong Aborigines?' p.14 unpublished manuscript.

²⁸ Philip Morton 'Highlands history: Indigenous peoples once thrived in the district', *Southern Highland News* 9 February 2015.

However, people did not usually identify themselves by the name of the language but rather by the clan within which they lived.²⁹ All the place names to the east of the Highlands are Dharawal words. Louisa Atkinson wrote that the local tribe spoke the same dialect as the Shoalhaven people, recognising that the two were distinct and the Quaker James Backhouse referred to three tribes from Shoal Haven, Bong Bong and Kangaroo Ground (Kangaroo Valley).³⁰ Mount Gingenbullen (Gin Gen Bullen) at Sutton Forest was reported to have been named after a Shoalhaven aboriginal man who was among those who cleared the land between Berrima Road and Gingen Bullen, it was said, for John Morrice.³¹ John and William Morrice were tenants in common of 1,000 acres, with the property split between them into Eling Forest and Comfort Hill.

For Aboriginal people landforms and landscape features are understood to embody the Dreaming ancestors whose being and action were visible in the landscape. 'Through their embodiment in the environment, the Dreaming Ancestors were the providers of the plants and animals the people utilised for food and protection'.³² Prominent features such as Mount Gingenbullen are locations, which would carry special meaning.

*The culture is in the trees, in the bush, in the waters, mountains, the animals and the birds. It's all there for the teaching.*³³

Early European occupation of the area came at the same time as what has been referred to as 'an extensive native outbreak', which was actually sparked by a variety of factors, including the failure of the British to recognise Aboriginal

²⁹ Mike Donaldson, Les Bursill and Mary Jacobs, *A History of Aboriginal Illawarra Volume 1, Before Colonisation*, Dharawal Publications, Yowie Bay, 2016, p.2.

³⁰ Rev. Backhouse 1836, quoted in Michael Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900*, Research Online, University of Wollongong, 1993.

³¹ 'Shoalhaven Blacks Encampment' *The Nowra Leader*, Friday 4 July 1930, p.7.

³² Karen Stokes, 'Stone, Sources and Social Networks, Tracing Movement and Exchange Across Dharawal Country, Southeastern Australia', University of Sydney PhD thesis, 2015, p.21 The study area for this thesis extended into the Sutton Forest and Berrima area.

³³ Elder Merv Penrith quoted in Mike Donaldson, Les Bursill and Mary Jacobs, *A History of Aboriginal Illawarra Volume 1, Before Colonisation*, Dharawal Publications, Yowie Bay, 2016, p.6.

rights to the use and ownership of the land; rights to carry out their traditional activities, including hunting and gathering. Governor Macquarie's war against the Aborigines of New South Wales during that year is well documented, resulting in horrific events such as the Appin massacre of 16 April 1816, some 50 miles to the north-east.³⁴ Despatches outlining actions against the Aboriginal clans, including the Appin massacre, along the Grose and Nepean Rivers and across to Five Islands on the coast at present day Port Kembla, indicate that these incidents occurred at a very considerable distance from the Mt Gingenbullen area.³⁵ Although shooting, poisoning, kidnapping, harassment and assault by settlers was not uncommon as they moved beyond the reaches of established settlement, there is no evidence that this occurred in the Southern Highlands. A reported claim that a burial ground related to an early nineteenth century massacre is in the immediate vicinity of the Sutton Forest Inn or on Mount Gingenbullen was not substantiated during the course of this study. The evidence put forward to support such claims uses phrases from Louisa Atkinson's published accounts out of context and extrapolates from the incidents of 1816.³⁶

From early European accounts there were active connections between the people of the Illawarra on the coast and Bong Bong area inland. Evidence across NSW indicates that often established aboriginal tracks formed the basis for more formal European roads. James Atkinson of Oldbury recorded that the Budjong tribe lived between Sutton Forest, Kangaroo Ground [Kangaroo Valley] and the

³⁴ Michael Organ *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850*, University of Wollongong, 1990,

³⁵ For a cogent summary of the incidents of 1816 see Michael Organ *Illawarra Aborigines-An introductory History*, 1997, p.10
<http://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1022&context=asdpapers>

³⁶ Chris Illert 'Three Sisters Dreaming,' *Shoalhaven Chronograph* Special Supplement, 2003;

banks of the Shoalhaven River, although the Budjong are usually associated with Lake Illawarra on the coast.³⁷

Observers recorded a number of corroborees and there was one clash, known as the 'Battle of Fairy Meadow' of circa 1830, recalled in 1897 and 1898 by Martin Lynch, who had witnessed the battle as a boy. The Bong Bong people and an Illawarra clan (now referred to by some as Elouera) clashed over the taking of a young woman by 'Dr Ellis' of the Illawarra and his people were the victors in the fight with many men from either side killed.³⁸ Dr Ellis, a 'kooradjie' [koradji], was so called for his expertise; he supplied Dharawal and Wodi Wodi names for plants to William Macarthur in the mid 1850s.³⁹

Strong connections across country and their relationship with artefact sites were the subject of detailed analysis by Karen Stokes, who used the term Dharawal for her entire study area which included Bong Bong land. Aboriginal people moved from the coast to the inland and exchanged hatchets and other tools through established networks. She discovered that there was no evidence that the first fifty years of colonisation changed this social network pattern. She found that the pattern of social networks is related to the physical landscape. 'As derived from both archaeological provenancing, and historical evidence, this presence in the Dharawal cultural landscape extends from well before and continued well beyond 1788.'⁴⁰

³⁷ Michael Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900*, Research Online, University of Wollongong, 1993, p.75. The Budjong people were from the west of Lake Illawarra; present day Kanahooka was named after their chief.
<http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library/onlineresources/suburbprofiles/Pages/Kanahooka.aspx>

³⁸ <http://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1595&context=ihsbulletin>

³⁹ Garriock Duncan, 'Dr Ellis and the Native Timbers of NSW', Les Bursill (ed.) *Doryanthes*, Vol.6, Number 2, May 2013. Born about 1810 Ellis was recorded as receiving blankets at Berrima in 1836 and 1844 and then in the late 1850s at Wollongong.

⁴⁰ Stokes, op. cit., p.111



Figure 4.2: Stokes's research showing coastal plain (blue) and inland (red) hatchet findspots with number of artefacts, from each location.

Author and naturalist Louisa Atkinson of Oldbury wrote of corroborees, aboriginal people working in the Oldbury kitchen and referred to the impact of smallpox contracted from Europeans.⁴¹ Axe heads have been found at a property on Oldbury Road. At Oldbury just above the house on a natural terrace of the mountain there was a great Aboriginal tumulus (burial mound) with carved funeral trees.⁴² In 1853 the *Illustrated Sydney News* published Louisa's drawing of the grave mound with the trees. A second drawing of artefacts was not published. She described the mound as being approximately one hundred feet long and possibly fifty feet in height. Atkinson wrote that it was upwards of thirty years since an old man was buried there but it was believed it held other

⁴¹ 'A Voice from the Country, Recollections of the Aborigines (from the *Sydney Mail*, September 12th)' SMH 22 September 1863, p.3.

⁴² Elizabeth Lawson, *The Natural Art of Louisa Atkinson*, State Library of NSW Press, 1995, pp.23-25.

remains.⁴³ A further article on the same subject published in 1863 stated that the last burial was 44 years prior, implying a date of c.1819, which was before James Atkinson occupied his grant. This mound is no longer evident.⁴⁴ In 1828 Louisa's father James Atkinson had written that the numbers of aboriginal people in the area had greatly decreased since he had arrived. Initially the local tribe had consisted of about 50 men, women and children and in 8 years their number had reduced to 18.⁴⁵



Figure 4.3: Louisa Atkinson's sketch of the Aboriginal grave-mound and carved trees at Oldbury (reprinted in Elizabeth Lawson, *The Natural Art of Louisa Atkinson*, p.45)

Unpublished research by Narelle and Claire Bown concluded that post-

⁴³ Louisa Atkinson: The Native Arts, No.1, *Illustrated Sydney News*, 26 November 1853.

⁴⁴ In Kim Leever's thesis he states that anthropologist R J Lampert who investigated the area in 1994 was informed that a mound had been bulldozed down the slope to form a dam. There was no evidence remaining of carved trees.

⁴⁵ Michael Organ op. cit. p.75

colonisation the aboriginal people of the Southern Highlands comprised bands of 10-20 people, who were seen by the white settlers 'walking along the route between Bong Bong and at various points between Bong Bong and the coast. They did not stay for long periods, but moved regularly between Bong Bong and the Shoalhaven.' Billy Blue, the last 'king' of the Bong Bong tribe, died at Sutton Forest in 1868 and is buried in the Church of England burial ground.⁴⁶

In general as European land use expanded Aboriginal people found their hunting grounds diminished and they were pushed to the margins of their traditional lands or assimilated to European life. European management practices and access to waterholes, rivers and creeks, severed by new fencelines defining European ownership, greatly reduced the ability of indigenous people to sustain traditional livelihoods.

Louisa Atkinson, who had grown up with Aboriginal people, questioned their treatment and wrote:

*....Many tribes are now extinct, their voices are silenced; but that very silence pleads eloquently for the living - they went down untaught, except in evil - wasted by disease introduced by civilised sins, - the "place that once knew them knows them no more for ever" - their very graves are generally unknown. But thousands live, the echoes of thousand feet sound in the far interior, the young and the old are there;...*⁴⁷

In 2006 one researcher concluded that 'there is no identified community of Gundungurra people in the Wingecarribee area today' although this was written in a hope that people descended from the local Gundungurra would come forward.⁴⁸ However, within the Wingecarribee Council area there is the evidence of 570 recorded aboriginal sites within the landscape and others since discovered including historical quarry sites and groove stones at Comfort Hill.⁴⁹

⁴⁶ Bower and Bower op.cit.

⁴⁷ Louisa Atkinson, 'A Voice from the Country', *SMH*, Monday 9 November 1863, p.2.

⁴⁸ Kim Leever's 'First Contact/frontier expansion in the Wingecarribee area between 1798-1821: Exploration and analysis.' PhD Thesis, School of History and Politics, University of Wollongong, 2006 p.5.

⁴⁹ Ibid, p.8; information from local sources.

These sites hold potential for researchers to better understand how Aboriginal people lived on country.

4.2 European Exploration and Settlement

The most regularly quoted phrase pertaining to the landscape of the Study Area comes from one of the earliest European explorations into the area. Describing the view from 'Mount Pleasant' (Mount Gingenbullen) and recorded by John Price on 19 March, 1798, its expressiveness strikes a chord with visitors and the local community, reflecting their own responses to this landscape:

We came into the most beautiful country, being nothing but fine meadows with ponds of water in them: fine green hills, but very thin of timber. We got to the top of this hill, where we had the most delightful prospect of the country, and in my opinion one of the finest in the known world. It certainly must be a pleasure to any man to view so fine a country.

Governor Hunter had ordered the expedition and John Price, who had come to Sydney as Hunter's servant, kept a journal. Its guide was John Wilson, who had lived among the Aboriginal people and knew the country around Sydney. Price further noted that the country to the south was 'most beautiful,' to the east it was mountainous but to the north there were 'fine green hills'.⁵⁰ Price often refers to 'meadow' country in his journal, which accords with descriptions of Aboriginal fire-sticking farming management practices. A plaque in front of the Sutton Forest Inn commemorates the 1798 journey.

In 1814 Hamilton Hume led a party from Appin to the Bong Bong flats and along the Wingecarribee River to where Berrima is today, enabling Surveyor General

⁵⁰Journey into the interior of the country New South Wales, 24 January-2 February 1798 and 2nd Journey, 9 March-2 April 1798, by John Price, Banks Collection: Section 7, Governors of New South Wales, Manuscript, Series 38.21
http://www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/archive/discover_collections/history_nation/exploration/early/interior/price.html accessed 19 January, 2017.

John Oxley to form a 'cattle camp' by 1816 although other settlers were not allowed into the area. In 1816 Sr Charles Throsby reportedly found a track up from the Illawarra to the Highlands and in 1817 Throsby, with Hume and two Dharawal men travelled from Glenfield near Liverpool to Bong Bong where Throsby subsequently began grazing cattle. In 1818, with orders from Governor Macquarie to find a path to Jervis Bay, a party led by Throsby, and Meehan with Joseph Wild set out again and reached Marulan where the group split into two. Throsby went via Bundanoon and Fitzroy Falls through Kangaroo Valley to Jervis Bay and Meehan reached the Goulburn Plains.

In 1819 Governor Macquarie ordered a working party under Charles Throsby to construct a cart road south from Stonequarry south. In the same year Governor Macquarie rewarded Throsby for his efforts in opening up the southern highlands with a grant of 1,000 acres. Macquarie permitted Throsby and nine others to settle in the County of Camden. Six settlers were allowed to take up land but only five went out and they all settled at Sutton Forest; of those Charles Wright with his wife and family is the most notable and his grant later became part of Hillview, the country residence of successive governors of NSW from 1882.⁵¹

In 1820, with the road to Cookbundoon near Goulburn completed, Governor Macquarie toured the country discovered by Charles Throsby to the south-west of the Cowpastures, passing through the 'very long barren scrubby' Bargo brush and Mittagong and crossed the Wingecarribee River where he described the country opening up into rich pasturage. He considered Throsby's property pretty and 'park-like' and 4 miles to the south west of Throsby Park he found the situation of the new settlers,

⁵¹ James Jervis, *The Wingecarribee and the Southern Highlands District, being an outline history of the Berrima District to the coming of the railway, 1867*, p.3.

*particularly beautiful and rich, resembling a fine extensive pleasure grounds in England. I longed much to have Mrs. M and dear Lachlan with me to participate in the pleasure I felt on beholding so beautiful a landscape.*⁵²

Despite the beauty of the place Surveyor Oxley observed that the settlers were 'miserable and badly placed but the fault was their own as the land in the vicinity was good.'⁵³

On his return journey from Lake Bathurst Macquarie left the recently made road to explore the country to the east and found
*fine open forest of about ten miles long, containing rich good land well adapted for tillage and grazing, and abounding in excellent timber, sufficiently well watered by ponds. This rich beautiful tract of forest land, at the recommendation of Commissr. Bigge, I named Sutton Forest in honor of the right Honble. Chas. Manners Sutton, the present speaker of the House of Commons, a man of eminence and character.*⁵⁴

4.2.1 Early land grants

Of the earliest settlers at Sutton Forest recommended by Throsby and who came in 1821, three received land grants: Benjamin Crew (Crier on the grant) , John Robinson 60acres and Charles Wright.⁵⁵ Throsby also recommended John Waite and Joseph Wilde. These settlers occupied their own grants- the larger landholders generally had employees or tenant farmers.

In 1821 Governor Macquarie ordered Oxley to survey farms from Bargo south to the Cookbundoon River and survey work was undertaken by surveyor William Harper. Robert Hoddle, surveyed Throsby's grant. Among the earliest land

⁵² Lachlan Macquarie, *Journals of his tours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land 1810-1822*, Published by the Trustees of the Public Library of New South Wales, 1956, p.147.

⁵³ James Jervis, op. cit. p.16.

⁵⁴ Ibid. pp.163-164.

⁵⁵ Edward Higginbotham 'The Historical Archaeology of Rural Settlement in the South Western Districts of New South Wales,' Volume1. PhD thesis, University of Sydney, 1992 p.128.

grants in the Southern Highlands were Charles Throsby, 1000 acres (Throsby Park, Moss Vale), James Atkinson 800 acres, (Oldbury, Berrima/ Sutton Forest) with a further 700 acres 'Mereworth' and in 1822 his grant was increased to a total of 2,000 acres. Later the 'Mereworth' grant became part of Oldbury Estate and Atkinson's brother John took the name of Mereworth for his grant.⁵⁶

John Nicholson was granted 700 acres, (Newbury, Sutton Forest); William Hutchinson 700 acres (west of Throsby Park) and William Chippendale (west of the Wingecarribee River. Browley was granted to John Waite in 1822 and includes a barn built in the 1830s. In 1822 between 40 and 50 small settlers were granted land in the Sutton Forest area. Among those was John Larken (or Larkin) granted 60 acres. Other early land grants were to John Oxley 2,300 acres in 1823 (Wingecarribee, Bowral), James Badgery 500 acres (Spring Grove, Exeter later called 'Ivy Hall' after the house on the property). Henry Badgery was granted 1920 acres in 1832, 'Vine Lodge' and later acquired much more land, making him a major pioneer of the district. Other old properties are Kenmore Cottage, which is part of the Newbury Estate, and Swanton. Swanton, the place where Louisa Calvert (Atkinson) lived at the time of her death in 1872, includes an old cottage from c.1835 and was originally part of the Oldbury estate.

⁵⁶ Brian H Fletcher Introduction to facsimile of *An Account of the State of Agriculture and Grazing in New South Wales* (1826), Sydney University Press, 1975, p.10.

An Account of the State of Agriculture and Grazing in New South Wales, now considered to be a seminal early publication, Atkinson had enclosed the principal part of his land and effected many great and extensive improvements, converting 'a wild and worthless wilderness into a cultivated and worthwhile farm.' He had built a house and outbuildings, brought 150 acres under cultivation, had amassed an extensive stock of cattle, sheep and horses.⁵⁸ Ploughing competitions among the locals were initiated on Atkinson's farm.



Figure 4.5 Oldbury Farm painted by Louisa Calvert (nee Atkinson) between 1855 and 1872 (State Library of NSW MLPXA 4499).

⁵⁸ Ibid.



Figure 4.6: Oldbury in December 2016.

Wheat, barley, rye, peas, potatoes and turnips were grown in the 1830s and early in 1847 it was reported that Sutton Forest was one of the finest wheat growing districts of the colony.⁵⁹ Dairying increasingly became more important, particularly after the opening up of the railway in 1867 when it became the most important focus of primary production.

In his detailed examination of rural settlement in the area Higginbotham notes two important processes– the first is the amalgamation of land grants into a small number of holdings and the second is the rapid increase in the number of tenants between the 1820s and 1840s.⁶⁰ This indicates that large landholders engaged in a system of tenant farming on at least parts of their properties. Some of the owners of large holdings did not live on them but put managers in to run

⁵⁹ James Jervis, op. cit. pp 23-25.

⁶⁰ Higginbotham op. cit. p. 146.

the estates and used the estate as a part-time country residence, a situation that continues into the present. Other owners, like harbourmaster John Nicholson of Newbury, eventually retired to live on their country estate.

Benjamin Carter was John Nicholson's overseer in the 1830s and Newbury gained a reputation for being well run with high quality produce. Carter's son Edward, who was responsible for starting the shale oil industry at Joadja, built the substantial stone house, Golden Vale on the Golden Valley property c.1868. This was an estate of some 700 acres that eventually grew to almost 2100 acres. It is now approximately 300 acres and is a National Trust property. Edward Carter's multiple holdings in the Southern Highlands also included Evandale, Sutton Forest.

Higginbotham found that rather than choosing highpoints with a view over the countryside, the early grantees chose a site with a nearby water source for their houses. His study revealed that while water was an important factor in determining the location of grants of land, it was not immediately apparent how important this relationship was to the precise location of the house and farm sites. 'All historic settlement from the 1820s to 1850s period, including many later sites as well, are located near permanent watercourses and/or beside roads. Only in a small number of cases was the communication route given more importance.'⁶¹ Even then, he found there was water available nearby. This aspect of siting contributes a colonial spatial characteristic to this landscape.

Most houses were built on the first available land above the flood plain and there is little evidence to suggest that any of the earliest buildings were built on flood prone land. Higginbotham's survey indicated that while the location of the early houses and farm buildings was determined by water, cultivation was in their immediate vicinity. Orchards could be planted on higher ground and grazing

⁶¹ Higginbotham op. cit. p.168.

occurred at a greater distance from the house. This land use, with cultivation lines faintly visible in some areas left a distinctive pattern on the landscape.⁶²

A visitor to Sutton Forest in 1832 wrote that ‘The whole country in the immediate neighbourhood is covered with beautiful, gently rising hillocks, with finely-grassed meadows and paddocks in the valleys and flats between.’⁶³

Samuel Mossman and Thomas Banister travelled from Melbourne to Sydney via the inland route in 1852. They noted Mr Badgery’s properties Vine Lodge and Ivy Hall were well enclosed and much of them under cultivation. Mr Nicholson [Newbury] had a ‘most comfortable house, with an excellent garden and a good deal of land under cultivation.’⁶⁴

By the 1880s the fertile agricultural soils were settled, leaving large tracts of poorer sandstone soils as bush, which was a good source of native timber. From the 1830s until the end of the second World War timber-getting from native forests supplied sawmills in the Camden, Moss Vale and Goulburn districts. They supplied sawn timber for building, round timber for props for coal mining pits and firewood.⁶⁵

In 1882 Mount Broughton Estate was subdivided into villa sites and in 1887 Oldbury Estate was subdivided and the lots put up for auction sale (Figure 4.7).

⁶² Ibid, p.169.

⁶³ Paul Davies Pty Ltd ‘Hillview Conservation Management Plan’, November 2000, p.8

⁶⁴ Samuel Mossman and Thomas Bannister, *Australia, Visited and Revisited*, Ure Smith, Sydney in association with the National Trust of Australia(NSW), 1974, p.197

⁶⁵ Managing the State Forests, Plan of Management for Moss Vale Management Area, Forestry Commission, 1986, p.4.



Figure 4.7: Tayt & Fowler. & Whitelocke, Nelson P. & John Sands (Firm). & Richardson & Wrench. (1887). Oldbury Estate Sutton Forest for auction sale at Hanrahan's Hotel, Moss Vale, on Saturday 26th Nov.br 1887.
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-229906880>

The sale of the Oldbury subdivision lots provided a further layer of patterning in the landscape, still evident today although single buyers purchased multiple lots.

The very small lots were consolidated and most comprise Whitley estate. Edward Carter purchased all of the lots south of Medway Rivulet, adding them to his Golden Vale Estate.

4.3.1 Berrima

The early town of Bong Bong was not a great success and between 1828 and 1829 a new route for the main road was surveyed to avoid the Mittagong Range, bypassing Bong Bong and Sutton Forest. In 1830 a site for the new major town for the County of Camden, Berrima, was chosen where the route crossed the Wingecarribee River for it was here that the deep gorge provided a convenient location to build a bridge over the River. Surveyor Robert Hoddle was instructed to mark out the town, the plan of which was prepared in the Surveyor General's office and approved on 31 May 1831.

The construction of Mitchell's New Line of road was approved in June 1832 and a convict workforce was mobilised. The road required the construction of three new bridges; over the Wingecarribee River at Berrima, across the Medway Rivulet and Black Bob's Creek. David Lennox was given charge of their design and construction. Of these only the stone abutments and retaining walls of the bridge over Black Bob's Creek remain.⁶⁶ The sites of convict stockades and camps have been identified at Berrima and Black Bob's Creek.

In 1832 the first lot in Berrima was marked out. The magistrate carried out most functions of government and required a courthouse and a lockup gaol. Tenders for a new gaol and new courthouse were called; a tender for the courthouse was called again in 1836. Convict-quarried stone was used to construct the buildings. The first hotel licence for the Berrima Inn was issued in 1834 and in 1835 the Surveyor-General Inn, built by James Harper, was licensed, giving rise to the accolade that it is Australia's oldest continuously licensed premises. The same

⁶⁶ Linda Emery 'The Bridge over Black Bob's Creek, Sutton Forest, NSW, Conservation Plan, prepared for Wingecarribee Council, 1995.

year a license was granted for the Black Horse Inn located on the road south of Berrima on a 600acre property called Spring Hill.⁶⁷

By 1835 many allotments had been sold but the streets had not been cleared and few houses had been built. The Post Office was moved from Bong Bong to Berrima in 1837, the gaol opened in 1839 and the first court of Petty Sessions was held in 1840. Sandstone Barracks to house the military were built overlooking the Market Place. On the southern side of the Wingecaribbee River a convict stockade housed prison gangs working on the Great South Road.

The census return of 1841 revealed that 37 houses had been erected and there were 7 under construction. Work was completed on the courthouse in the same year. There were 4 inns that catered to the increasingly large numbers of passing traffic of travellers and wagons on the Great South Road. However, the 1840s marked a financial recession across NSW. Speculators had bought up the first housing lots sold thus tying up land in a few hands, leading to only a few settlers building houses before growth halted in the 1840s.

When construction of the Great Southern Road through Berrima was completed the convict road gangs and supervising military, who contributed to the economy of the town, departed. After 1840s the major Court proceedings moved from Berrima to Goulburn and Goulburn became the favoured location for the opening up of the southern regions. And Berrima, in common with all towns in eastern NSW, suffered a population exodus with the onset of the goldrushes of the 1850s.

In 1849 the Church of England church was consecrated. The Anglican minister Reverend James Hassall purchased land for a rectory in 1854 and had the stone rectory, now known as the Old Rectory, built.

⁶⁷ James Jervis *A History of the Berrima District 1798-1973*, Library of Australian History, 1986, pp. 30-36

Archbishop Polding laid the foundation stone for the Catholic church on the site of the old convict stockade in 1849 and St Francis Xavier's Church, initially named St Scholastica's Church, was completed in 1851. Polding had selected the smallest of the church designs by prominent English architect Augustus Pugin. Of all the churches built to Pugin's designs in Australia, it is the 'most perfectly preserved.'⁶⁸

Berrima School of Arts was inaugurated in 1867 and Berrima Public School was completed in 1869. However in 1867-69 the railway line bypassed Berrima and development was concentrated around Mittagong, Bowral and Moss Vale, the latter two founded in 1861. Prior to the railway opening, agricultural produce being transported to Sydney and goods returning to the district used the Great South Road. With goods and people shifting onto the railway the growth of Berrima stagnated and then slowly declined. In the long-term this led to its relative intactness of the character of the early town.

⁶⁸ Brian Andrews, *Creating a Gothic Paradise, Pugin at the Antipodes*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, 2002, p.178.

4.3.2 Sutton Forest Village

There have been at least four different areas to which the name 'Sutton Forest' has been referred to over the years⁶⁹:

- the whole district from Throsby's Estate at Bong Bong (Throsby Park) to south west of Paddy's River.
- the area near the banks of the Medway Rivulet, originally part of Nicholson's grant. This area was established as a private village by John Nicholson and contained the first church in the district, built in 1829, which at the time was the only church south of Camden. The 1861 Edmund Blackett All Saint's Church is a replacement church. From about 1826 the private village housed a Church of England school until a public school was opened in 1871. John Nicholson of Newbury died in 1863 but in the final years of his life a subdivision plan, which showed buildings on allotments in a 'village' around the church and cemetery, was produced. This subdivision is still appreciable today.⁷⁰
- a third area to the east of the current village centre was reserved in the 1850s but was not developed as a village.
- the present day village of Sutton Forest on the intersection of the Illawarra Highway and Bundanoon Road. This 'village' consists of four prominent properties: the Everything Store, constructed in the 1850s on the site of an earlier building, the Scottish Shop occupying a building dating from 1902 on the site of an 1870s butchers shop. Barnsley Brothers Butchery had operated in the building from about 1895 and prior to that, the Sutton Forest Meat Company (Badgery Brothers) operated from the site. The Post Office was built in 1882 and the Sutton Forest Inn, previously the Royal Hotel built in the 1930s is adjacent to

⁶⁹ Chris & Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd, Summerlees Garden Recording prepared for The Australian Garden History Society (Southern Highlands Branch) unpublished

⁷⁰ SLNSW M2 811.319/Sutton Forest/1862/1

the site of an earlier Royal Hotel built in 1859 and demolished in 1936 after its replacement was built.⁷¹ A plaque to the first official party of British explorers from 1798 is outside the Sutton Forest Inn was unveiled on the 150th anniversary of the journey in 1948.

There is an old village hall to the south of the village centre, its cornerstone unveiled in 1926 by Rodney Dangar and St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church built in 1870 on the site of a the Catholic School (1856)

Other early inns in Sutton Forest were The Harp (originally Bindagundra) built in 1834 on the 1822 grant to John Sewell and the Red Cow Inn, first licenced in 1834 on a grant to George Sewell.⁷² The Red Cow Inn is on the property now known as Sutton Farm.

4.3.3 The summer 'Hill Station' retreat

In 1868 after the Great Southern Railway line provided easier access to the area, Throsby Park was leased to the Governor of NSW, the Earl of Belmore. Lady Belmore preferred the cooler healthy climate of the Southern Highlands. This attracted the upper echelons of Sydney society to the area and the prominent families of Sydney began creating country retreats with substantial gardens in a locality, which had the imprimatur of the governor. One writer for the *Illustrated Sydney News* was of the opinion that the 'secret lies in the foliage of the trees, that impacts a certain English look totally wanting in most Australian landscapes.'⁷³

Belmore's successor, Sir Hercules Robinson (1872-79) also used the Southern Highlands as a country retreat, often staying there privately. Lord Loftus, appointed governor in 1879 put pressure on the government to purchase a

⁷¹ Shylie Brown, *Life Behind the Bar, Inns and Hotels in the Southern Highlands 1824 to 1924*, p.99

⁷² Chris & Charlotte Webb Pty Ltd op. cit. Appendix 3.

⁷³ Hillview SHR Listing

permanent summer residence and a house 'Prospect' at Sutton Forest was acquired in 1882.

Enlargements to 'Prospect' were completed in 1883 and the property was renamed 'Hillview.' A writer of a newspaper article commented that *Sutton Forest neighbourhood is a beautiful spot, and nowhere could a more fitting country residence for our Governors be obtained...Standing upon Hillview an artist would see on every side of him a picture from Nature that would afford delight.*⁷⁴

Until Hillview could be occupied nearby Mount Valdemar built in 1878 (later corrupted to Valdimar or Valdimah, called Shrublands for a time and now known as 'Bunya Hill') was leased for Lord Loftus from Anton Tange, who owned a tea importation company and was the Consul for Denmark in Sydney.⁷⁵ Large country retreats built near Hillview were Whitley erected between 1887 and 1892, Rotherwood (c.1890), The Chase (1880s), Cardrona (c.1910) and Highfield (1901). Hillview remained as the governor's summer residence until 1957.



Figure 4.9: An aerial view of Hillview c.1960s.

⁷⁴ 'Moss Vale and Sutton Forest', *The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser* 22 March, 1884, p.544

⁷⁵ <http://www.danesinaustralia.com/tange.html>

4.3.4 Badgery Family

The name Badgery is synonymous with the Exeter and Sutton Forest area. Members of the family were important early pastoralists associated with Badgery's Creek, Exeter and the Monaro. James Badgery (1768-1827) was known for his prowess as a horse and cattle breeder. He is believed to have cared for Sir Joseph Banks' horses at his Chelsea Estate, 'Spring Grove' and Badgery said to have had cattle in the area as early as 1819. The holdings of his son Henry Badgery (1803-1880), centered on Vine Lodge by the 1880s the Badgery family members held around 10,000 acres in the Sutton Forest area.⁷⁶ One of Henry's sons, Henry Septimus Badgery (1840-1917) became an auctioneer, stock and station agent in Sutton Forest in 1864 before becoming a politician in 1878. Following retirement from parliament he concentrated on his role as managing director of Pitt, Son and Badgery, a leading stock and station agent of the period.⁷⁷

From the 1860s to the early 1900s Henry Badgery and his sons owned a number of properties including Clover Hill ('Hawthorn'), Summerlees ('Montreal'), Munro Park (The Grange'), Boscobel ('Elsinore'), Montrose ('Marathon'), Rosedale, Underwood, Greenhills and Red Court (Redcourt).

4.3.5 Exeter Village

The beginnings of 'village' life began on the Badgery properties. Badgery had chosen that covered the elevated land in the south-east corner of the Study Area. This is on richer soils compared to the lower slopes of the valleys. By 1841 there were 11 households with a total of 79 people on family properties.⁷⁸ When the railway line was constructed it was said that Henry Badgery (1803-1880) simply flagged down a train. By the late 1880s, the Badgerys were experiencing some financial difficulties and the Badgery Estates were gradually subdivided. The

⁷⁶ <http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/badgery-henry-1528> accessed 24 January 2017.

⁷⁷ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/badgery-henry-septimus-47>

⁷⁸ Linda Emery, *Exploring Exeter*, first published 1998, 2009, p.10

village stands on the Vine Lodge property. The village began around the new railway station stop established in 1878 and known as Badgery's Siding. In 1890 a name change to Exeter was approved. When the village school was opened by Frank Badgery in 1891 he unfurled a Union Jack presented by Exeter's namesake cathedral city in England.⁷⁹ Sales of the subdivided lots were slow but by 1895 the village included the railway station, school, a church- St Aidan's constructed in 1895, a post office and a general store and bakery.⁸⁰

⁷⁹ Exter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area, History, National Trust of Australia, NSW 27.7.1998.

⁸⁰ Linda Emery op. cit. p.12.

4.4 Development in the 20th and 21st century

4.4.1 Berrima

Development in Berrima stood still in the early twentieth century, a continuation of the factors behind its demise as a major town in the 19th century. Some wooden buildings were scavenged for timber and others burnt down leading to a disproportionate number of brick and stone buildings for an early colonial town. Historian Linda Emery has written that:

Berrima became something of a backwater which indirectly ensured the survival of many of its Georgian and Victorian buildings, making it one of the most intact townships of its type in New South Wales. During the 1960s an increased awareness of the value of colonial heritage led to the classification by the National Trust of many buildings in Berrima. More than 60 items of heritage significance in Berrima are now listed on the State Heritage Inventory, underlining the importance of the town as a largely intact 19th century settlement.⁸¹

In 1963 an 'existing parcels rule' extinguished the right to build a dwelling on the original 1931 Hoddle and later lots, thus sterilizing development south of the Wingecarribee River in Berrima.

By the 1970s the town's colonial character brought a new industry to Berrima—tourism. In 1977 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) produced *Berrima, Guidelines for Planning and Landscape*, and in 1979, it published the Berrima Conservation Study and has been involved in a number of studies of Berrima since. Those studies assisted in identifying how to manage its history and keep attracting visitors. A recent accommodation website posting states:

Berrima ... is widely recognized as the best preserved example of a Georgian village on the Australian mainland. Today, Berrima is a delightful combination of quiet

⁸¹ Linda Emery, 'The Welcome Inn Berrima NSW, Historical Report', prepared for Matt McKeon Allscope Project Services, 2009, p.4

charm and historic romance, with world class dining, celebrated architecture and history, noted wineries and a beautiful starting point for a Southern Highlands holiday.⁸²

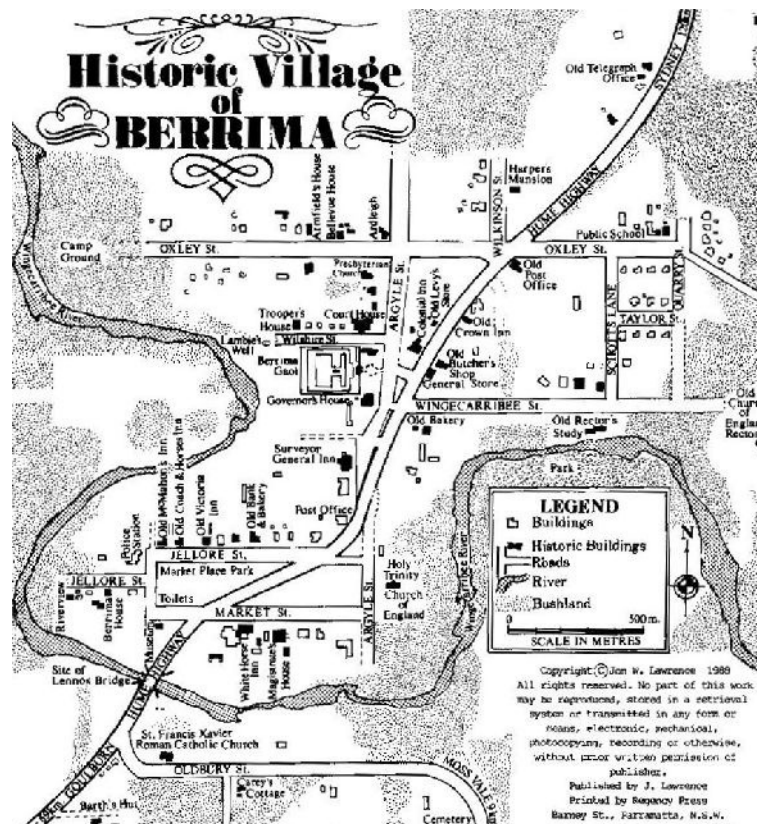


Figure 4.10: A tourist map of Berrima 1989

The largest development in the area came in the 1920s when Southern Portland Cement Ltd opened their kiln at New Berrima in 1929. Coal leases were taken up at an old mine– the Loch Catherine Mine at Medway and a dam built across the Wingecarribee River. Shale was readily available on the site chosen part way between Moss Vale and Berrima and limestone came from Marulan. The chosen site for the Cement Works at New Berrima was once the site of a timber sawmill. To house its employees the company decided to develop adjacent land for its employees rather than encourage workers to buy into Berrima due to the poor state of housing. 1928 the small settlement of New Berrima was founded by

⁸² <http://www.raglanhouse.com.au/tourism>

private lands sale. The Berrima Cement Works has been in continuous operation since.⁸³ New Berrima and the Cement Works is outside the Study Area.

4.4.2 Mining and Forestry

The Wingecarribee LGA has a history of mining. Outside the Study Area, Joadja is of great importance for shale-oil and the remains of the Fitzroy blast furnace at Mittagong is of historical importance. Shale oil mining at Joadja ceased in 1903. The Heritage Study (1991) notes that none of the industry was a major economic success and importantly 'mining does not lie easily with the public image of the Southern Highlands.'

Outside the Study Area, coal has been mined since the late nineteenth century at the Medway colliery west of Berrima. The small underground mine most recently owned by Boral was closed by the NSW government following adverse findings of ground water pollution and contamination of water entering the Sydney catchment via the Wingecarribee River. Until its closure Boral's underground black coalmine in the Southern Highlands of NSW was believed to be the smallest commercial coalmine still operating in Australia.⁸⁴ Mining exploration began in Sutton Forest in 1956 and between 1956 and the 1970s exploration leases were granted to four companies.

Southern Blue Metal Quarries Ltd., associated with Southern Portland Cement, established a blue metal quarry at Gingen Bullen c. 1927 and built a branch from, and concurrently with, the Southern Portland Cement line to serve it. The quarry ceased production and the line was dismantled in 1942.⁸⁵

⁸³ Leonie Knapman, Bob Strode (ed), *The Story of Cement, Blue Circle Southern, Berrima, 75years*, BCSC, New Berrima, 2004

⁸⁴ <http://mininglink.com.au/mines-in/NSW>

⁸⁵ H H Matthews, H.H. *The Railways of Berrima* Australian Railway Historical Society Bulletin, February, 1959 pp.21-24.

In 1919 the Forestry Commission started a radiata plantation pine project in the Moss Vale area. This initiative was aimed at reducing a reliance on imported timbers, and providing exotic conifers close to the Sydney market. Today these are the Penrose and Belanglo State Forests, which provide softwood timber and recreational opportunities. Following the dedication of the Nepean and Warragamba catchments after WWII, and the creation of the Morton National Park and Blue Mountains National Park, commercial harvesting of native timber became inaccessible.⁸⁶ Belanglo State Forest is a mixture of pine plantation and native forests.

4.4.3 Sutton Forest, Exeter and early tourism

Like Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter as towns showed little growth until later in the twentieth century and that contributes their charm for tourists. An article in 1912 described the district as ‘one of the most healthful and charming rural settlements in Australia’ adding that visitors besieged it during the summer for both its climate and scenery:⁸⁷

*...these undulating tracts of country, interspersed with excellent macadamised roads, adorned with many beautiful residences, owned by city magnates, farmhouses, orchards, and cultivated fields, now make up a natural panorama of more than ordinary effect.*⁸⁸

Exeter, celebrated as a ‘typical English village’ in the 1920s, attracted holiday makers between the wars. Elements in the landscape had matured and were admired. An article from 1935 depicted a ‘Sutton Forest Pastoral’ at Oldbury ‘with its famous avenue of elms and poplars, interspersed with hawthorn. From the porch of “Oldbury” in the old days the avenue could be traced running right

⁸⁶ Managing the State Forests, op, cit. p.6.

⁸⁷ Moss Vale, Sutton Forest and Exeter, The Sun, Sydney thurs 20 Jun., 1912, p.10

⁸⁸ Ibid.

through to the main southern road a mile distant. At the furthest end of the avenue was the Three Legs of Man Inn, one of the landmarks of the district.’⁸⁹

4.4.4 Farming, vineyards, horticulture and gardens

Although mixed farming was common, the twentieth century saw a growth in stud farms and dairying decreased. Aberdeen-Angus cattle were growing in popularity, and Reid’s stud at Evandale drew attention in the 1940s. In the 1950s Mr Telford Simpson’s Newbury Southdown (sheep) stud was frequently cited in newspaper articles. Newbury Pastoral Company continues to raise cattle. Horse stud farms also became prevalent and remain so today. In the late twentieth century vineyards were increasingly planted and are linked to the healthy tourist industry of the area.

Nurserymen moved into the district in the 1890s and Yates seed and bulb farms at Exeter, in particular, became famous. By 1906 Yates held 500 acres in Exeter, 200 of which were used for agriculture, the remainder mostly used for grazing.⁹⁰ They were followed by Frederick and John Searl of Searl and Sons, who purchased 30 acres adjoining Yates. Anderson & Co became a presence during the WWII years. Their seed farm and cool climate nursery at Berrima was managed by Paul Sorensen and in 1939 Sorensen leased The Rectory at Berrima where he set up a nursery, which he ceased in about 1944 following his sons’ deaths. Paul Sorensen was one of the most well known landscape designers in NSW at the time and his work for Cecil Hoskins at ‘Invergowrie’, constructed in 1936 at Exeter was praised. Sorensen’s landscape design from 1962 at ‘Mereworth’ was completed before the house and is considered among his most accomplished. Among his less well-known commissions were landscaping at Southern Portland Cement Ltd at New Berrima and the Remembrance Driveway plantations, south of Berrima.

⁸⁹ *SMH*, Sat. 20 July, 1935, p.11. The Three Legs of Man Inn, also known as the Kentish Arms was John Atkinson’s original ‘Mereworth.’ It was demolished in 1918.

⁹⁰ Linda Emery, *Exploring Exeter*, first published 1998, 2009 edition, p.16

One of Anderson's employees at Berrima, Claude Crowe left to established his own nursery with his wife Isobel in Jellore Street, Berrima in 1943. The Berrima Bridge Nursery became the most influential source of plants and horticultural and design information in the Southern Highlands. For more than 50 years the Crowes ran the nursery, advised on design and what to plant and the best situation for the chosen species.

Gardens surrounding country estates became increasingly complex and wealthy owners sought to create more formal or elaborate settings for their houses. When Sir Philip Goldfinch (1884-1943) purchased Golden Vale in 1938 he 'dramatically expanded the garden.'⁹¹ The Hon. Geoffrey Keighley and his wife Karin, the final owners of Golden Vale before it was gifted to the National Trust, continued to develop the garden for their enjoyment.⁹²



Figure 4.11: A panorama of Golden Vale in 1938 at the time of the purchase by Sir Philip Goldfinch. (courtesy of National Trust of Australia NSW Archives)

New country houses of the first part of the twentieth century such as 'Invergowrie' and 'Rosedale', designed by Professor Leslie Wilkinson for H Beresford Grant in 1937 were contemporary re-imaginings of the perfect country estate. The older estates held their appeal and descriptions in sale brochures often included the garden and landscape. 'Cardrona' Sutton Forest 'set in 63 acres of park-like grounds' and in the 'immediate vicinity of the State Vice-

⁹¹ Peter Watts, Golden Vale Homestead, Conservation Management and Museum Plan, February 2016.

⁹² Information contained in a letter from Mrs Karin Keighley to the Australian Garden History Society, Southern Highlands Branch.

Regal Residence and surrounded by homes of prominent business and professional men' on was put up for auction in 1950. Included in the notice were, *Remarks: The approach to the home is through a well grown avenue of elm trees. Grounds are most attractive laid out with gardens, lawns etc. Some beautiful specimens of ornamental trees and shrubs. "Cardrona" presents an outstanding opportunity to acquire a home and small property of distinction, admirably suited for a small stud in the dress circle of this most favoured district.*⁹³

In 1966, Cardrona's owners, Sir Cecil and Lady Hoskins opened the garden for inspection. Garden inspections in the area attracted many visitors. When the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) was formed in 1981, its first branch in NSW was based in the Southern Highlands.

In 1988, Tim North, the secretary of the AGHS and early publisher of its journal published *Gardens of the Southern Highlands, New South Wales 1828-1988*. A survey of the magazine *Highlife* and real estate websites indicates that the interest in impressive gardens has, if any thing, increased- Comfort Hill, Highfield, Whitley, The Chase, Oldbury, Summerlees, Mereworth, Invergowrie, Rotherwood, Golden Vale and Harpers Mansion are among the fine gardens of the area. 'Red Cow Farm' is an extraordinary garden created around an historic cottage.

⁹³ *The Southern Mail* (Bowral), Fri Nov 3 1950, p,3.



Figure 4.12: The Rotherwood gates and gate lodge

The Rotherwood gates and gate lodge backed by mature conifers signal the entrance to a late nineteenth century gentlemen's country estate. Built for Christopher Bennett, the proprietor of the *Sydney Evening News* c.1890, Rotherwood was an extensive private estate. The Bennetts hosted garden fetes and the owners in the 1930s, the socially prominent Mr and Mrs Rodney R. Dangar, held garden parties, which were reported in the press. These were often fund-raising events for local charities.

4.4.5 An appreciation of the cultural landscape

The Wingecarribee Heritage Study team analysed the Sutton Forest/Exeter landscape unit(p.82) and little has changed in the ensuing 25 years to alter the following statement:

The overall character is that of a rich and varied cultural landscape shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region. Spatial organisation is large scale in relation to the rest of Wingecarribee. Variety in the landscape is a result of the range of tree species and the importance placed on the plantings by landholders. There is a high degree of a sense of stewardship of the landscape.

This stewardship is evident in a poster produced in the 1980s-90s when a new proposal for extraction was mooted for Mt Gingenbullen: 'Save the Mountain, Why undermine the heritage of Moss Vale.' Implored the poster's message. 'ACT! Save the beauty of Moss Vale...Moss Vale is not a mining town'. The poster listed eleven historic buildings under threat: Oldbury (1826), Golden Vale (1884), Shrublands, Church (1878), Hill View (1879), Highfield (1901), Whitley (1882), Newbury (1830), Browley Barn (1830), The Chase, Summerlees(1875).⁹⁴

More old buildings concentrated around Mount Gingenbullen could have been added to the list above and some early sites have been overlooked in previous heritage surveys. Exeter and Sutton Forest have retained an essentially rural character with an exceptional collection of estates dating from the 1820s onwards. In recognition of the significance of the area, in 1998 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) approved a listing for the Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area.

Peter Watts, the former Director of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, in the recently completed Golden Vale Conservation Management and Museum Plan assessed 'the general setting of the property in a valley on the Medway Rivulet and near the foot of Mount Gingenbullen including views to and from the property' as of exceptional significance ie: an aspect of the property considered of national significance which should be conserved in accordance with national and state legislation.⁹⁵

In June/July 2016 *Highlife* magazine published their 20th birthday issue. One article was the 'top 20 sales in 20 years.' Of those 20 sales, eight are in the study area. A survey of advertisements over the years indicates that a sense of history and the beauty of the rural landscape are deeply appreciated. The advertisement

⁹⁴ The dates quoted on the poster are not entirely accurate.

⁹⁵ Peter Watts, op. cit.

for 'The Harp' in 2005, for example states that it was 'situated on 5 acres amidst the grand estates of Sutton Forest...after 170years it has been sympathetically restored... landscaped garden with potager and large pony paddock... Outstanding rural views–rare opportunity to acquire historic property.'⁹⁶

Jenny Ferguson of Whitley has written about developing her garden and the pleasure of living in such an environment. The book is illustrated with photographs of views over the surrounding landscape. 'Beauty is so important' she says and she writes that 'contentment may also be found living with beauty.'⁹⁷ Like many of the residents of the area, many of whom see themselves as custodians, Jenny speaks passionately about the landscape around Whitley.⁹⁸

Exeter and Sutton Forest have retained an essentially rural character with an exceptional collection of estates dating from the 1820s onwards. In recognition of the significance of the area, in 1998 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) approved a listing for the Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area.

Berrima had its beginnings only a decade after Sutton Forest/Exeter and its development was intertwined with the people and properties in the northern part of Sutton Forest– particularly the estates of John and James Atkinson (Oldbury and Mereworth) and the Morrice brothers (Eling Forest and Comfort Hill). As the the nineteenth century progressed the presence of the gaol in Berrima set it socially somewhat apart from Sutton Forest. Berrima has retained a relatively undeveloped character - it is a convict era Georgian village that demonstrates development through to the close of the Victorian era (although with some later infill), a living time capsule, surrounded by natural vegetation and a largely rural landscape. The quality of the natural environment and

⁹⁶ Margaret McCauley Real Estate, 'The Harp' Sutton Forest, *Highlife* op. cit. Aug/sept 2005, p.13

⁹⁷ Jenny Ferguson, *A year in my garden, flowers, food, family and friends*, Hardie Grant Books, Melbourne, 2009

⁹⁸ Jenny Ferguson, interviewed 15 December, 2016.

plantings within the town enhance the collection of largely intact early buildings. Its original town layout is remarkably intact and legible.

Adjacent to the Study Area the Cement Works complex of New Berrima is visible but, with the exception of its tallest towers, relatively low key, the massing of its elements broken up and there is carefully planned landscaping between the Cement Works and its surroundings. The treatment of the massing of industrial buildings of the Berrima Cement Works in the landscape is in stark contrast to some of the warehouse complexes that have been constructed between Moss Vale and New Berrima, a zone that is beyond the Study Area.

The community attitudes to the landscape of the Study area are reflected in the zoning objectives embodied in the Wingecarribee Shire Councils' LEP and DCPs, which have been noted in Section 3.1.2.

In addition, the Council's Wingecarribee 2031 +Community Strategic Plan in its introduction states:

Wingecarribee Shire is predominantly rural in character with agricultural lands separating towns and villages characterised by unique landscape and aesthetic appeal.

The vision for 2031 is that Wingecarribee will be:

A healthy and productive community, learning and living in harmony, proud of our heriutage a nuturing our environment.

It includes the following expectation for future development across the Study:

Goal 3.2 Wingecarribee has maintained a distinct character of separate towns and villages

3.2.1 Retain the rural landscape between towns and villages

3.2.2 Retain and make more distinctive the special qualities that make each town or village unique

3.2.3 Ensure growth of topwns and villages does not compromise separation distance between those towns and villages

The 2031+ plan recognises Wingecarribee as a special place in a heritage context:

Goal 3.5 Wingecarribee is recognised as a place of significant heritage conservation

3.5.1 Identify and promote buildings, places, trees, gardens, landscapes and other areas of significant cultural heritage value

3.5.2 Ensure that the unique heritae qualities of towns, villages and special areas are protected

3.5.3 Recognise where the Shire's cultural heritage contributes to ist character and manage change appropriately to reinforce local distinctiveness

5 Places

5.1 Heritage Places

The study area includes 21 items that are listed as of State significance on the State Heritage Register.

The Berrima Conservation Area C148 and Berrima Landscape Conservation Area C1843 form part of the Heritage Schedule of the Wingecarribee LEP.

The Statement of Significance for the Berrima Conservation Area is:

Berrima is significant as one of the few intact villages in the State which demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Its original layout and town limits are largely intact and the surviving stock of residential, commercial and administrative buildings along with churches and major buildings associated with the Gaol, provide evidence of the role of Berrima as an early administrative centre and a town which served generations of travellers on the South Road. The town is also significant as a collection of largely intact early buildings which are predominantly Georgian in style, the value of which is reinforced by the high quality of the surrounding natural environment and plantings within the town. The heritage attributes of Berrima are recognised by visitors from all parts of Australia who enjoy the character and history of the town which has become a cultural tourism attraction.

Before the Wingecarribee LEP(WLEP) 2010 was put into place the Berrima Landscape Conservation Area(BLCA) existed as the Berrima Visual Catchment Area (in the WLEP 1989) and was created to provide for a planning scheme to protect the surrounding landscape from over development. The current boundaries along the northern and southern entrances to the villages along the Old Hume Highway are quite limited in area, e.g. the Landscape Area ceases to exist along Apple St, where the boundaries of the BLCA and the BCA actually coincide. The Berrima community in 2007 requested Council to extend the

boundaries of the BLCA and expect that Council will consider this in the forthcoming review of the WLEP 2010. Extending the boundaries of the BLCA to the north and south to take in the areas along the entrances to the village is further discussed in Chapter 7 (Recommendations) of this study.

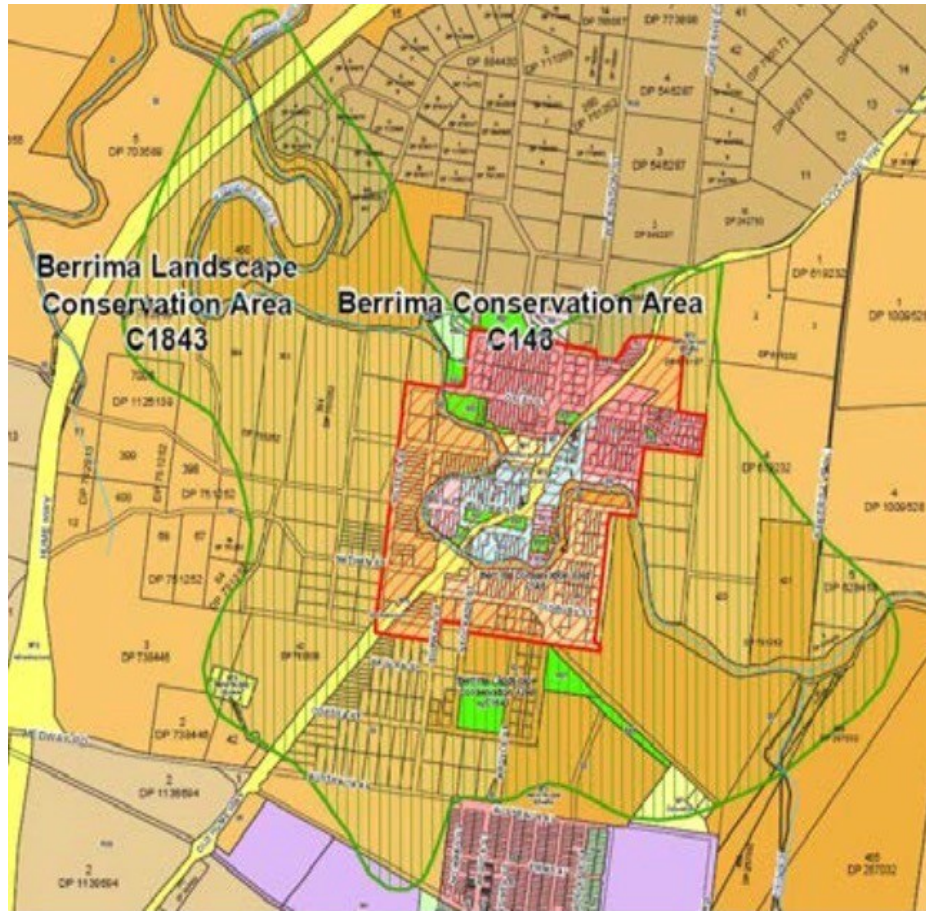


Figure 5.1 Berrima Conservation Area and Landscape Conservation Area

In June 2016, Wingecarribee Shire Council accepted a recommendation from its Heritage Committee to nominate Berrima Village and surrounds as an item on the State Heritage Register (SHR).⁹⁹ In response the Berrima Residents Association is currently preparing an SHR nomination.

⁹⁹ Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council Wednesday 8 June 2016. Item 2. HC21/6 MN 275/16

The following table presents the statutory heritage items in the Study Area that are listed on the NSW State Heritage Inventory and Wingecarribee LEP and items of State significance that are listed on the State Heritage Register.

Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010	Current version for 5 August 2016 to date (accessed 6 December 2016 at 03:47)								
Schedule 5 Environmental heritage (Clause 5.10)									
KEY to TERMS and ACRONYMS In table.	SHI = State heritage Inventory	SoS = Statement of significance	AoS = Assessment of Significance	State = listed on state heritage register.					
Suburb	Item name	Address	Property description	Significance	Item No	SHI Item type	SHI group or collection	SHI category	Comments (relevant to landscape heritage study)
Berrima	Berrima Internment Group	Argyle Street	Part Lots 7026-7028, DP 1026280; Lot 7316, DP 1178372; Part Lot 450, DP 751252; Lot 2, DP 833835	State					PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Superintendent's House	Argyle Street	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I107				
Berrima	Berrima	Corner Argyle	Lot 7304, DP	State	I109				

	Correctional Centre (formerly Gaol)	and Wilshire Streets	1146099		I110				
					I484				
Berrima	Stone Cottage	Corner Argyle and Wilshire Streets	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I236				
Berrima	Church of the Holy Trinity	5–13 Argyle Street	Lot 10, Sec 3, DP 758098; Lots 101–104, DP 1004483; Part Lot 2, Sec 3, DP 758098	State	I147				
Berrima	Sovereign Cottage	8 Argyle Street	Lot B, DP 181309	Local	I214				
Berrima	Cottage	10 Argyle Street	Lot A, DP 181309	Local	I143				
Berrima	Finlayson Memorial Presbyterian Church	12 Argyle Street (corner Oxley Street and Argyle Street)	Lot 2, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I146				
Berrima	Ardleigh Cottage	14 Argyle Street (corner Argyle and Oxley Streets)	Lot 16, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I211				
Berrima	Berrima Cemetery	Berrima Road	Lot 312, DP 751252; Lot 311, DP 999883	Local	I122				

Berrima	The First Bank	12 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 871727	State	I129				
Berrima	Munday Cottage (former Jellore Cottage)	16 Jellore Street	Lot 6, Sec 2, DP 758098	State	I237				
Berrima	Berrima House	19 Jellore Street	Lot 3, Sec 5, DP 758098	State	I131				
Berrima	Former Victoria Inn	20–22 Jellore Street	Lot 104, DP 717120; Lot 3, Sec 2, DP 758098	State	I128				
Berrima	Riverview Cottage	23 Jellore Street	Lot 6, Sec 5, DP 758098	State	I130				
Berrima	Former Coach and Horses Inn	24 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 780565	State	I133				
Berrima	McMahons Inn (former Berrima Inn)	26 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 643496	State	I132				
Berrima	Nurse's Cottage	Market Place	Lot B, DP 378459	State	I228				
Berrima	White Horse Inn	3 Market Place	Lot A, DP 378459	State	I123				
Berrima	Magistrate's House	5–7 Market Place	Lot 51, DP 1021473	State	I125				
Berrima	Lennox Bridge stonework	Market Place Reserve	518–30	Local	I474				
Berrima	The Gunyah	Odessa Street	Lot 201, DP	Local	I251				

			751252						
Berrima	Slab cottage	7–9 Oldbury Street	Lot 1, DP 806686	Local	I230				
Berrima	“The Old Rose Cottage”	3444 Old Hume Highway	Lots 53-54, DP 751252	Local	I1382				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Remembrance Driveway Trees	Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 225190; Lot 1, DP 399452; Lot 1, DP	Local	I485				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Former Crown Inn	Old Hume Highway	402230	Local	I141				
Berrima	Former Levy's Store	Old Hume Highway	Lot 3, DP 1102396; Lot 7017, DP 93056	Local	I137				
Berrima	Former Taylor's Butcher Shop	Old Hume Highway (adjoins Pound Green)	Lot 3, DP 1102396; Lot 7017, DP 93056	Local	I216				
Berrima	Glebe Cottage	Old Hume	Lot 1, DP	Local	I177				

		Highway	875157						
Berrima	"Mereworth" house and garden	Old Hume Highway	Lot 100, DP 839316; Lot 200, DP 839314	Local	I351				
Berrima	Market Place	Old Hume Highway Public Reserve	518–30	Local	I233	Landscape	Parks, Gardens and Trees	Urban Park	a social and recreational facility for visitors and for the local community from the earliest period of settlement through to the present. It is significant as surviving evidence of the earliest layout of Berrima. It is also important as a townscape element and the trees and open spaces contribute

									to the setting of the town as a whole
Berrima	St Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church	Corner Old Hume Highway and Oldbury Street	Lots 1 and 2, Sec 44, DP 758098	State	I120				
Berrima	Sandstone and timber cottage	Corner Old Hume Highway and Raglan Street)	Lot 7, Sec 40, DP 758098	Local	I239				
Berrima	Bramber Cottage (former Post Office)	7 Old Hume Highway (corner Oxley Street)	Lot 20, DP 552150	Local	I218				
Berrima	Harper's Cottage	8 Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 791464	Local	I134				
Berrima	Woodley Cottage (or Telegraph Office)	12–16 Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 724201; Lot 1, DP 538751	Local	I208				
Berrima	Former Cobb and Co timber buildings	13 Old Hume Highway (rear of General Store)	Lot 100, DP 805720	Local	I210				
					I344				
Berrima	Former Bakery	17–19 Old Hume Highway (corner	Lot 1, DP 568701	Local	I142				

		Wingecarribee Street)							
Berrima	Old Breens Inn (former Colonial Inn)	24 Old Hume Highway	Lot 4, Sec 15, DP 758098; Lot 1, DP 741287	Local	I140				
Berrima	Surveyor General Inn	26 Old Hume Highway	Lot 14, Sec 2, DP 758098	Local	I139				
Berrima	Berrima Post Office	30 Old Hume Highway	SP 75992	State	I138				
Berrima	Brick house	35 Old Hume Highway	Lots 3 and 4, Sec 33, DP 758098	Local	I232				
Berrima	Sandstock and timber house	35 Old Hume Highway	Lot 43, Sec 33, DP 758098	Local	I231				
Berrima	Berrima Glen Cottage (former Simon's Cottage)	Old Mandemar Road	Lot 346, DP 751252	Local	I127				
Berrima	Greenwood House (former Taylor's Farmhouse)	Old Mandemar Road	Lot 7, DP 788363	Local	I126				
Berrima	Bellevue House	Oxley Street	Lots 13 and 14, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I118				
Berrima	Berrima Public School and residence	Oxley Street	Lots 1–3, Sec 31, DP 758098; Lot 1,	Local	I114				

			DP 782713						
Berrima	Parsley Cottage	14 Oxley Street	Lot 150, DP 1022425	Local	I117				
Berrima	Armfield Cottage	22 Oxley Street	Lot 12, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I115				
Berrima	“Oaklea” cottage	24 Oxley Street	Lot 11, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I250				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Cottage	31 Oxley Street	Lot 5, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I116				
Berrima	The Old Rectory	Corner Quarry and Wingecarribee Streets	Lots 8–12, DP 80581	Local	I105				
Berrima	Makin Cottages	Stockade Street	Lot 4, DP 711365	State	I227				
Berrima	Hillside Cottage	Corner Wilkinson and Oxley Streets	Lots 6, 7 and 11, Sec 36, DP 758098	Local	I209				
Berrima	Harper’s Mansion	9 Wilkinson Street	Lot 5, DP 258420	State	I113				
Berrima	Police Sergeant’s Residence	Wilshire Street	Lot 5, DP 823508	Local	I112				

Berrima	Bull's Head Drinking Fountain	Wilshire Street, on outside wall of Gaol	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I111				
Berrima	Berrima Court House	Corner Wilshire and Argyle Streets	Lot 18, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I108				
Berrima	Former Rectory	5 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 2, DP 600090	Local	I104				
Berrima	Former Warden's Cottage	10 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 1, DP 196369	Local	I220				
Berrima	Pickering Cottage	12 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 34, DP 1063847	Local	I219				
Berrima	Love In The Mist Cottage	15 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 161, DP 525573	Local	I222				
Berrima	German Dam	Wingecarribee River at end of Oxley Street		Local	I179				
Berrima	Lambie's Well	Adjacent to Wingecarribee River at end of Wilshire Street		Local	I234				
Exeter	"Cherrydell"	Bundanoon	Lot 2, DP	Local	I372				

	house and garden (formerly part of "Invergowrie")	Road	522290		I591				
Exeter	"Invergowrie" house and garden	Bundanoon Road	Lot 1, DP 522290; Lot 2, Sec 7, DP 58913	Local	I372				
					I591				
Exeter	"Redcourt" house	Bundanoon Road	Lots 6 and 7, DP 3371	Local	I594				
Exeter	Exeter School of Arts Hall	Exeter Road	Pt Lot 4, Sec C, DP 3170	Local	I593				
					I1341				
Exeter	St Aiden's Church and Memorial Hall	Exeter Road	Lots 9 and 10, Sec 5, DP 3373; Lot 1, DP 952304	Local	I375				
					I376				
Exeter	Badgery Memorial, Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road	Lot 2, DP 1171097	Local	I1229				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	Exeter Public School - 1907 classroom, former residence and trees.	School Lane	Lots 1-2, DP 795381	Local	I1346				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning

									Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road	Lots 1-2, DP 1171097	Local	I1233				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	War Memorial Gates, Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road		Local	I1238				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	"Vine Lodge" house, grounds and outbuildings	Exeter Road	Lot 1, DP 596495	Local	I354				
					I204				
					I355				
Exeter	Exeter Railway Station, signal box and cottage	Main Southern Line	Lots 1 and 2, DP 852888	State	I607				
					I610				
Exeter	Romsey Cottage and garden	Ringwood Road	Lot 131, DP 790655	Local	I592				
Moss Vale	"Cardrona" (former	Corner Argyle Street and	Lots 1 and 2, DP 1081472	Local	I352				"

	Eagleroo) grounds	Kater Road							
Moss Vale	“Peppers” (former Mt Broughton) house, grounds and outbuildings	Kater Road	Lot 1, DP 236285	Local	I488 I486 I487 I489				
Moss Vale	“Bonheur” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 5, DP 979138	Local	1049				
Moss Vale	“Browley” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 4, DP 215782; Lot 10, DP 10658; Lots 1 and 2, DP 1123580; Lot 1, DP 74651; Lot 1, DP 1095023	Local	I056				
Moss Vale	“Highfield” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 1, DP 58837; Lot 1, DP 59375; Lot 1, DP 59165;	Local	I246 I247 I054				
Moss Vale	“Oldbury” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 1, DP 98673; Lot 3, DP 1046976; Lot 1, DP 559345; Lot 30, DP 654489; Lots 191 and 192, DP 1010278	State	I353 I057 I164				

Moss Vale	“Whitley” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 2, DP 123550	State	I361				landmark due to its position on Judge’s Hill contiguous with Mt Gingenbulle n, outstanding garden setting fashioned on the English pleasure ground model including hedges, trees, forest, lily pond, summer house and a commanding view of the surrounding countryside.
Sutton Forest	“Eccleston Park” house and outbuildings	Canyonleigh Road	Lots 7 and 9, DP 805624	Local	I017				
Sutton Forest	Charlie Grey’s Cottage	Conflict Street	Lots 9 and 10, Sec 3, DP 758938	Local	I014				
Sutton Forest	“Boscobel”	Exeter Road	Lots 1 and 2,	Local	I013				

	house, grounds and outbuildings		Sec 9, DP 758938; Lots 1–19, Sec 8, DP 758938; Lot 1, DP 1094302; Lot 1, DP 63523						
Sutton Forest	Everything Store, former Butcher Shop (A Little Piece of Scotland) and General Store	Corner Exeter Road and Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 722533; Lot 1, DP 984053	Local	I490				
Sutton Forest	“Bunya Hill” house, grounds and outbuildings	Golden Vale Road	Lot 1, DP 995642; Lot 1, DP 130301	Local	I018				
Sutton Forest	“Golden Vale” house, grounds and outbuildings	Golden Vale Road	Lot 1, DP 1118652	State	I003	Landscape	Farming and Grazing	Home stead Compl ex	Granted 1842, 16.190 ha (40000 acres), approx 200 acres remain, landmark in Mt Gingenbullen landscape setting, associated with early settlement, it was sited between Oldbury and Newbury farms
					I005				
					I001				
					I002				
Sutton Forest	“Montrose” house and grounds	Greenhills Road	Lot 2, DP 620221	Local	I006				

Sutton Forest	Black Bob's Bridge	Black Bob's Creek, Hume Highway	Lot 5, DP 614690	Local	I019				
Sutton Forest	"Black Horse" farm house, grounds and outbuildings (former Black Horse Inn)	Hume Highway	Lot 105, DP 1087612	Local	I020				
Sutton Forest	"Comfort Hill" house, grounds and outbuildings	Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 744544	Local	I357				
					I356				
					I021				
Sutton Forest	"Eling Forest Winery" house, grounds and outbuildings	Hume Highway	Lot 2, DP 806934	Local	I004				
					I009				
					I010				
Sutton Forest	Red Cow Farm	Illawarra Highway							NOT LISTED. CK for more information. Notes from website for property - c 1820 grant to ex-convict George Sewell, built gentleman's cottage, named after the red

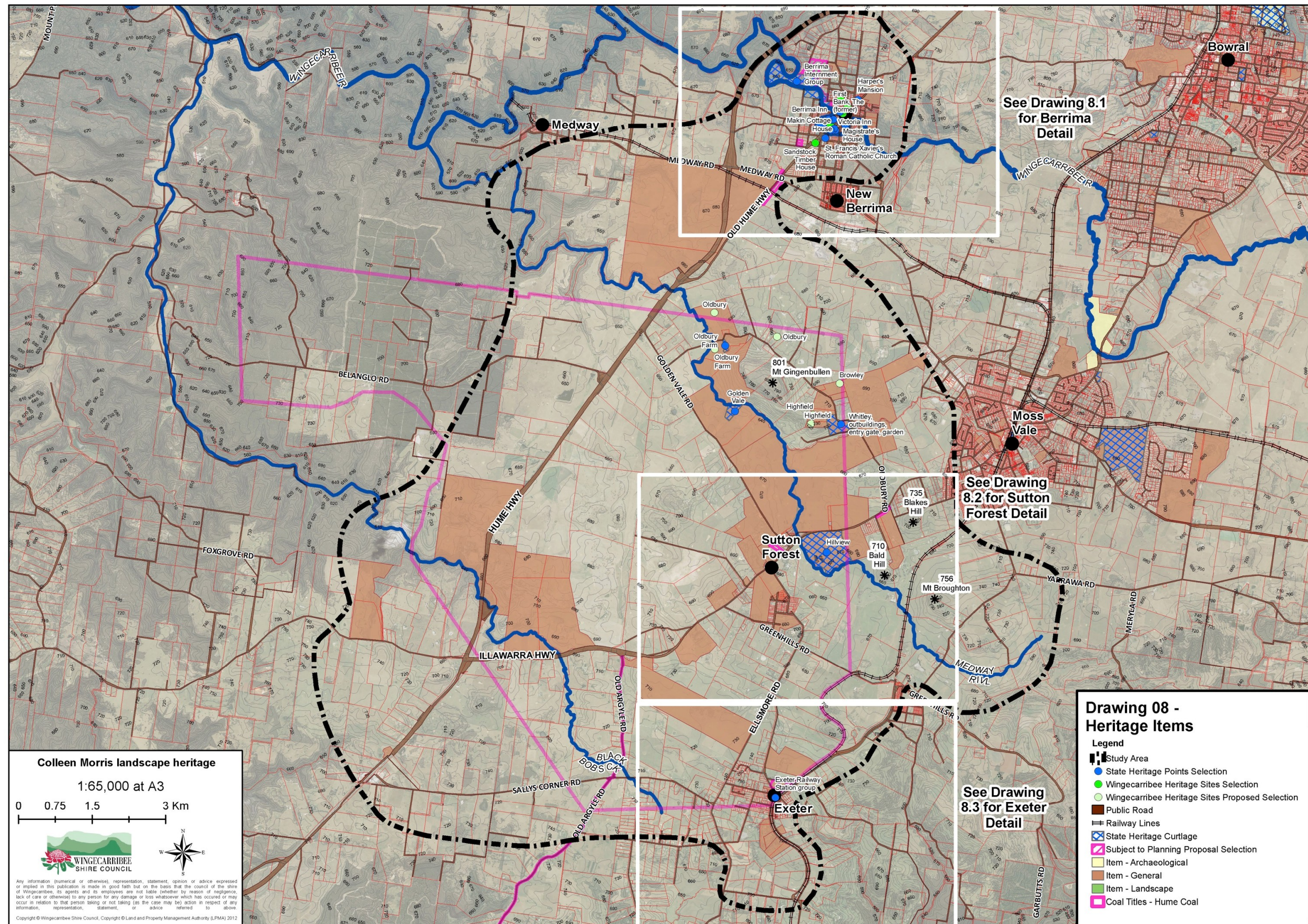
									Hereford cows in the surrounding paddocks.
Sutton Forest	Remembrance Drive Plantings	Illawarra Highway	Lots A and B, DP 415370	Local	I1691				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Sutton Forest	Sutton Forest Public School - 1879 classroom and toilets, and 1912 classroom.	7366 Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 794882	Local	I030				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Sutton Forest	All Saints Anglican Church, hall and cemetery	Illawarra Highway	Lots 1 and 2, DP 999587	Local	I026				
					I022				
					I025				
					I350				
Sutton Forest	"Clover Hill" house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 56241	Local	I203				
Sutton Forest	Cottage	Illawarra Highway	Lots 8 and 9, DP 32	Local	I028				

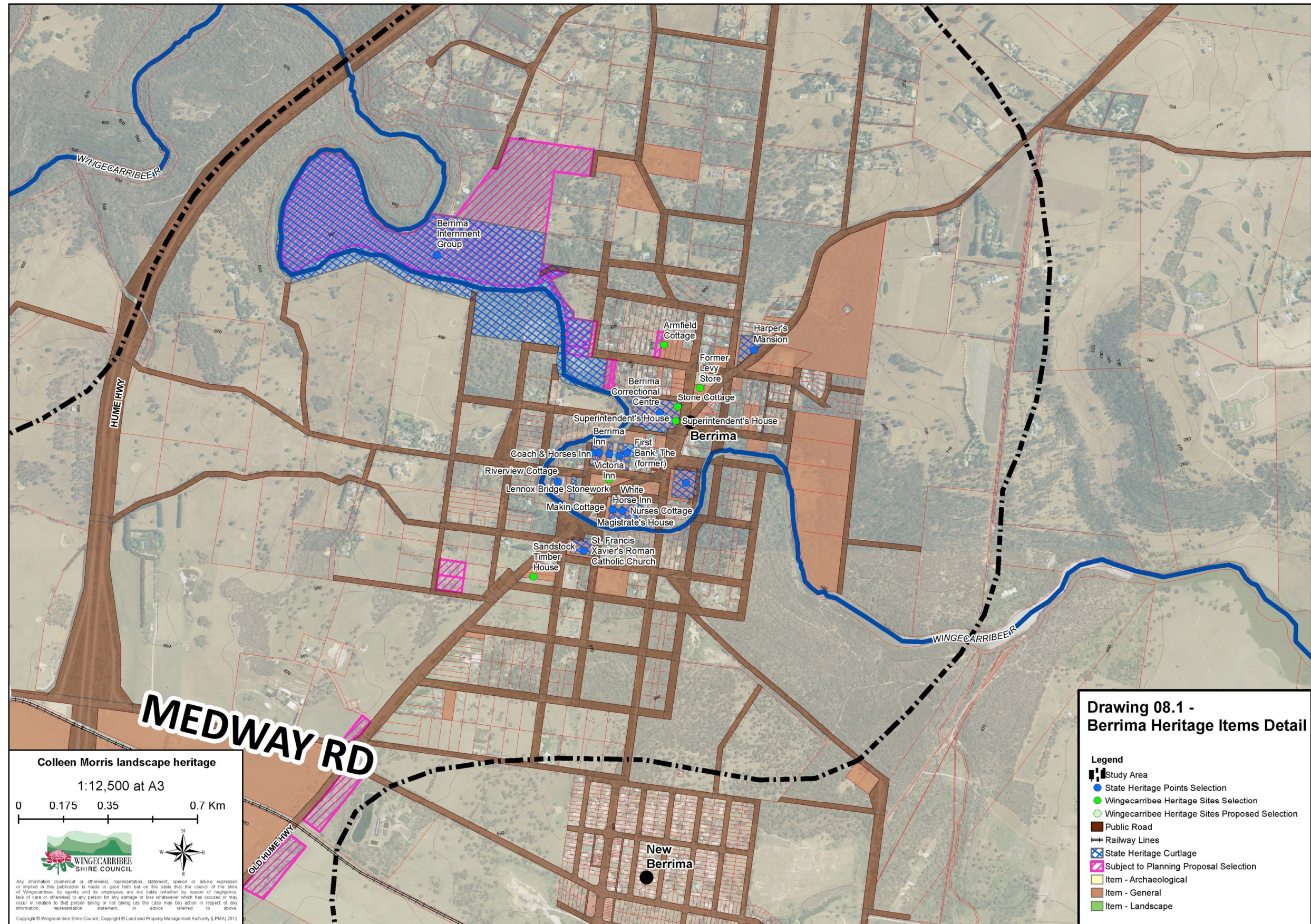
Sutton Forest	“Hillview” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 12, DP 260417	State	I008				Vice Regal country residence for Governors of NSW between 1882 and 1957. Sixteen Governors used it over a period of 75 years, Grounds: Charles Moore, The residence at the highest point of the 60.4 hectare rural property.
					I007				
					I358				
					I359				
Sutton Forest	“Rosedale” house and grounds	Illawarra Highway	Lot 2, DP 250747; Lot 6, DP 250743; Lots 7 and 8, DP 11147	Local	I031				
Sutton Forest	“Rotherwood” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 1068950	Local	I033				
					I032				
Sutton Forest	“Spring Grove Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 2, DP 250746; Lot 2, DP 1127380	Local	I492				
Sutton Forest	St Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church and cemetery	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 513739	Local	I034				
					I349				
					I023				

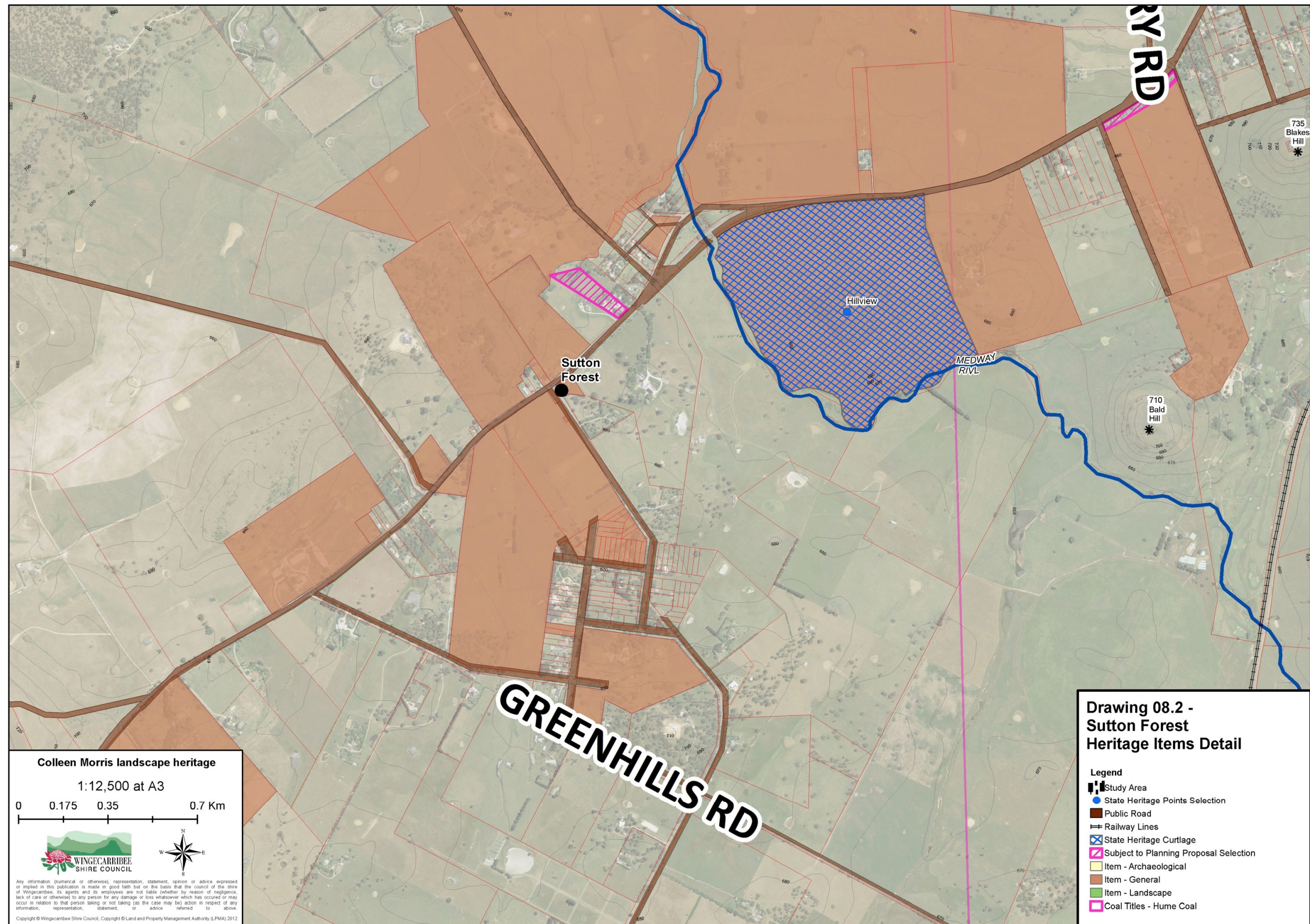
Sutton Forest	“Sutton Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings (former Red Cow Inn)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 783660	Local	I035				
Sutton Forest	Sutton Forest Inn (former Royal Hotel)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 64663	Local	I1187				
Sutton Forest	“The Harp” (former “Bindagundra” house, grounds and outbuildings)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 1028147	Local	I027				
Sutton Forest	“The Pines” slab cottage	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 160149	Local	I029				
Sutton Forest	Former Post Office	Corner Illawarra Highway and Exeter Road	Lot 1, DP 334187; Lot 83, DP 665633	Local	I016				
Sutton Forest	“Summerlees” house and grounds	219 Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 58843	Local	I362				
					I037				
Sutton Forest	“Newbury Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings	7300 Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 301672; Lot 1, DP 176414; Lot 32, DP 665400	Local	I202				Three large grants of land were made in the area surveyed by James Meehan as part of the

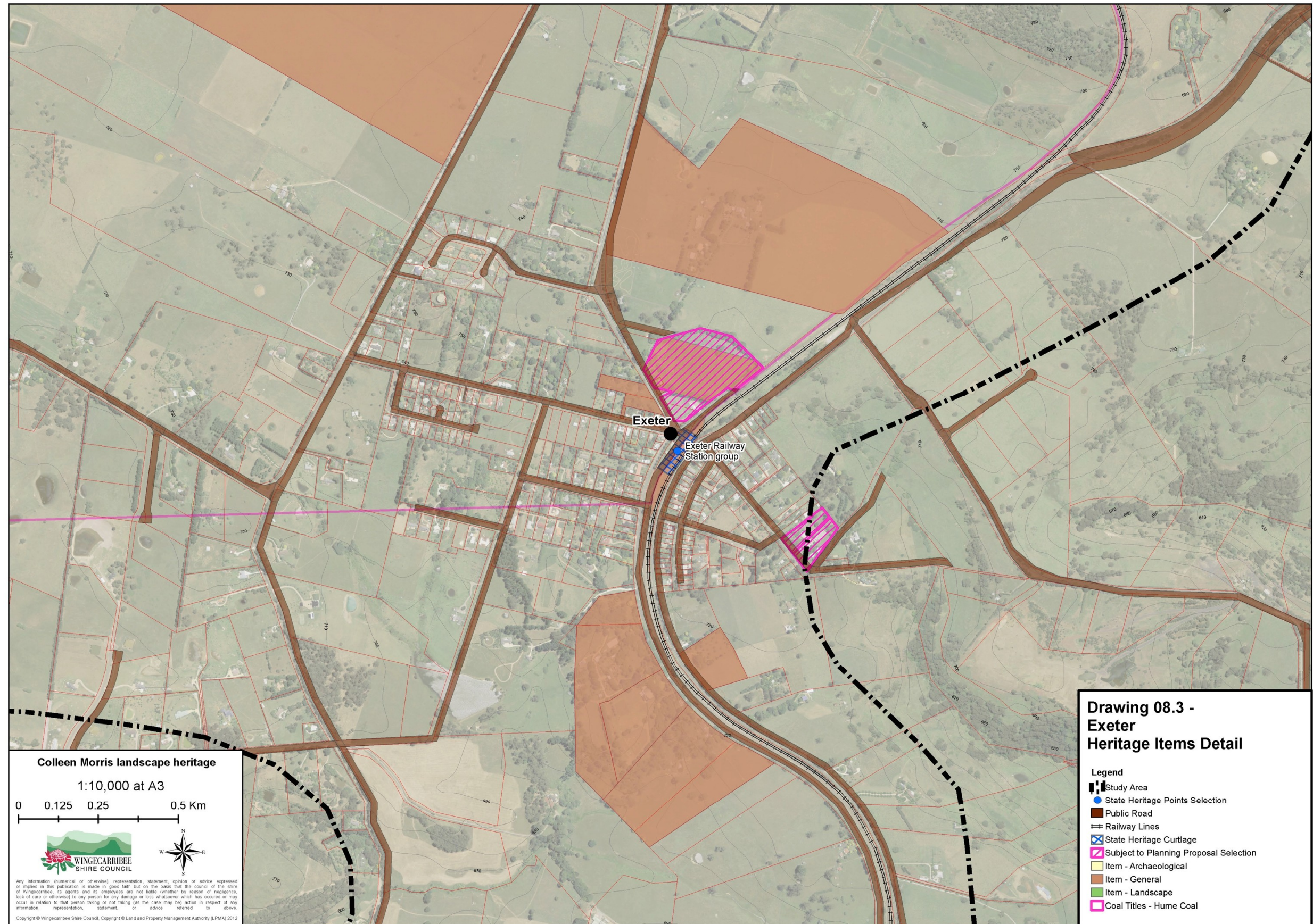
									initial settlement of Sutton Forest. One was made to John Nicholson (700 acres to be called Newbury),
					I036				
Sutton Forest	Old Argle Road	Old Argyle Road (from Illawarra Highway, Sutton Forest, to Paddys River Penrose)		Local	1030				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Part 2 Heritage conservation areas									
Suburb	Item name								
Berrima	Berrima Conservation Area	C148							
Berrima	Berrima Landscape	C1843							

	Conservation Area								
Part 3 Archaeological sites									
Suburb	Item name	Address	Property description	Significance	Item No				
Berrima	Berrima Internment Group	Argyle Street	Part Lots 7026-7028, DP 1026280; Lot 7316, DP 1178372; Part Lot 450, DP 751252; Lot 2, DP 833835	State	A1882				PROPOSED LISTING. Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'









5.2 Non-statutory heritage listings

5.2.1 National Trust of Australia(NSW)

The study area including two National Trust properties, Harper's Mansion at Berrima and Golden Vale, Sutton Forest. The National Trust identified Berrima as significant in the late 1960s and was involved in a number of studies of the town.

The following are the National Trust listed properties of the Study Area:

ID	Locality	Address	Item Name
6300	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET	GATEHOUSE AND WALLS OF FORMER GAOL (PART OF BERRIMA TRAINING CENTRE GROUP, CARD 2 OF 3)
1426	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET	SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE, FORMERLY GAOL GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE
1460	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET	8, 10A ARGYLE STREET COTTAGES GROUP, comprising TWO COTTAGES (ARGYLE STREET COTTAGES GROUP - CARD 1 OF 3)
1417	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET 10A	PHILOMEL COTTAGE (PART OF ARGYLE STREET COTTAGES GROUP - CARD 3 OF 3)
1418	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET 8	SOVEREIGN COTTAGE (PART OF ARGYLE STREET COTTAGES GROUP - CARD 2 OF 3)
1459	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET 12, WEST SIDE	FINLAYSON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FORMERLY NUNS' DAY SCHOOL, FORMER MASONIC HALL AND SCHOOL OF ARTS
1461	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET 5-13, CORNER HUME HIGHWAY	HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH
1421	BERRIMA	BERRIMA ROAD 583-585	GENERAL CEMETERY

1462	BERRIMA	BERRIMA VILLAGE	BERRIMA VILLAGE URBAN CONSERVATION AREA: The complete township and its attendant visual catchment area as defined on the boundary map.
1448	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 26	SURVEYOR-GENERAL INN
1449	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 7	FORMER POST OFFICE
1452	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 8	COTTAGE
1455	BERRIMA	HUME HIGHWAY	BERRIMA GALLERY, FORMERLY COURTHOPE, FORMER TAYLOR'S HOTEL
1450	BERRIMA	HUME HIGHWAY, EAST SIDE	COTTAGE
1458	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 17	FORMER BAKERY GROUP, comprising FORMER BAKERY and HOUSE (FORMER BAKERY GROUP - CARD 1 OF 1)
1451	BERRIMA	HUME HIGHWAY, WEST SIDE	COTTAGE
1453	BERRIMA	ARGYLE ST 15, OLD HUME HIGHWAY, WEST SIDE	TIMBER COTTAGE, FORMERLY LEVY'S STORE
1442	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET 23	RIVERVIEW, FORMERLY SCHOOL
1447	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET, CORNER BRYAN STREET	HOUSE, FORMERLY MCMAHON'S INN, FORMER BERRIMA INN
1444	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET 12, NORTH SIDE	HOUSE, FORMERLY FIRST BANK IN BERRIMA
1446	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET 19	BERRIMA HOUSE

1443	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET 20-22	22 RESIDENCE FORMERLY VICTORIA INN, FORMER ARLINGTON INN
1445	BERRIMA	JELLORE STREET 24	FORMER COACH & HORSES INN
1424	BERRIMA	OLD MANDEMAR ROAD 60	TAYLOR FARMHOUSE
1422	BERRIMA	MANDEMAR ROAD, WEST SIDE	COTTAGE
1423	BERRIMA	OLD MANDEMAR ROAD	SIMONS COTTAGE
1440	BERRIMA	MARKET PLACE 3	WHITE HORSE INN MOTEL
1441	BERRIMA	MARKET PLACE	SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGES
1416	BERRIMA	BERRIMA MARKET PLACE 7	BALLYNAHINCH, FORMERLY MAGISTRATE'S HOUSE (ALSO CALLED CARTHONA)
1439	BERRIMA	ODESSA STREET 2, SOUTH SIDE	SLAB HOUSE
6408	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 12-16	WOODLEY COTTAGE (FORMER TELEGRAPH OFFICE)
1454	BERRIMA	OLD HUME HIGHWAY 24	COLONIAL INN RESTAURANT, FORMERLY BREEN'S INN
1437	BERRIMA	OLDBURY STREET 7-9	SLAB COTTAGE
1438	BERRIMA	OLDBURY STREET	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1432	BERRIMA	OXLEY STREET	BERRIMA PUBLIC SCHOOL
1434	BERRIMA	OXLEY STREET 31	BRICK COTTAGE

1436	BERRIMA	OXLEY STREET 14 (originally listed as 15 owner says 14)	PARSLEY COTTAGE, FORMERLY LAUREL HOUSE
1435	BERRIMA	OXLEY STREET 18-20	BELLEVUE HOUSE +BELLE VUE
1433	BERRIMA	OXLEY STREET	ARMFIELD COTTAGE
1412	BERRIMA	QUARRY STREET	FORMER RECTORY
1431	BERRIMA	WILKINSON STREET 9	HARPER'S MANSION, FORMERLY HARPER'S HILL
1410	BERRIMA	WILSHIRE STREET	COTTAGE
1430	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET	BERRIMA TRAINING CENTRE GROUP, comprising GATEHOUSE AND WALLS OF FORMER GAOL and BULL'S HEAD FOUNTAIN ON OUTSIDE WALL (BERRIMA TRAINING CENTRE GROUP - CARD 1 OF 3)
1428	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET	BULL'S HEAD FOUNTAIN ON OUTSIDE WALL (PART OF BERRIMA TRAINING CENTRE GROUP - CARD 3 OF 3)
1427	BERRIMA	ARGYLE STREET CNR WILTSHIRE STREET	MUSEUM, BERRIMA COURTHOUSE FORMER
1425	BERRIMA	WINGECARRIBEE STREET 5	HOUSE, FORMER RECTOR'S STUDY

6301	BERRIMA	BERRIMA MEMORIAL PARK 1914-1918 LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA	BERRIMA MEMORIAL PARK 1914-1918 LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA, comprising THE RESERVE ACROSS THE RIVER FROM THE GAOL, THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIVER UP TO THE SCOUT CAMP, THE CRICKET GROUND AND RECREATION AREA SOUTH OF THE RIVER, THE AREA IMMEDIATELY NORTH CLASSIFIED AS A QUARRY RESERVE, THE AREA ENCLOSED BY THE TIGHT MEANDER OF THE RIVER DIRECTLY WEST AND THE ENTIRE AREA ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RIVER AS IT MEANDERS AWAY FROM THE VILLAGE TO THE AREA KNOWN AS WALLABY ROCKS.
2220	EXETER		INVERGOWRIE
2219	EXETER	BUNDANOON ROAD, OPPOSITE THE VINE LODGE SIGN, APPROXIMATELY 300 m NORTH OF EXETER RAILWAYSTATION	WHARE-TAU

2218	EXETER SUTTON FOREST	EXETER/SUTTON FOREST LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA	EXETER/SUTTON FOREST LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA: Comprising the plateau in the Southern Highlands which is essentially the area named Sutton Forest by Governor Macquarie in 1820, and which is bounded to the east by the edge of the plateau which drops to sandstone gorges, to the north by the southern perimeter of the town of Moss Vale, to the west by the western boundaries of the properties originally forming part of "Sutton Forest", and to the south by the environs of the town of Bundanoon
2221	EXETER	SUTTON FOREST ROAD	VINE LODGE, with outbuildings, park and driveways
2224 2222 2223	EXETER	SUTTON FOREST ROAD, WEST SIDE, APPROXIMATELY 100 m NORTH OF MIDDLE ROAD CORNER	ST. AIDAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP, comprising ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, and CHURCH HALL, INCLUDING GROUNDS AND DRIVE TO MIDDLE ROAD (ST AIDAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP - CARD 1 OF 3)
4165	MOSS VALE	OLDBURY ROAD	WHITLEY, INCLUDING OUTBUILDINGS, ENTRANCE GATES AND GARDEN
4166	MOSS VALE	OLDBURY ROAD	OLDBURY
4167	MOSS VALE	OLDBURY ROAD	HIGHFIELD, INCLUDING HIGHFIELD LODGE, GATES AND PICKET FENCE (1901)
4168	MOSS VALE	OLDBURY ROAD	BROWLEY AND OUTBUILDINGS
4169	MOSS VALE	OLDBURY ROAD	BONHEUR, FORMERLY COTMORE
6208	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	BINDAGUNDRA (now The Harp Inn)

6302	SUTTON FOREST	HUME HIGHWAY	COMFORT HILL, INCLUDING OUTBUILDINGS, TREES, STONE WALLS AND POND
6303	SUTTON FOREST	150 m EAST OF ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, ON OLD SECTION OF ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, WESTERN SIDE, 200 m SOUTH OF MEDWAY RIVULET	ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CEMETERY
5192	SUTTON FOREST	BUNDANOON ROAD	MONTROSE
5195	SUTTON FOREST	BUNDANOON ROAD	BOSCOBEL
5193	SUTTON FOREST	EXETER ROAD, CORNER ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	BARNESLEY'S EVERYTHING STORE, FORMERLY BUTCHER'S SHOP
5194	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE EXETER ROAD	BARNESLEY'S GENERAL STORE
5196	SUTTON FOREST	CANYONLEIGH ROAD, 1.6 km FROM CROSS ROADS	ECCLESTONE PARK, FORMERLY WOMBAT FARM
5191	SUTTON FOREST	CONFLICT STREET, OFF EXETER ROAD	CHARLIE GREY'S COTTAGE
5190	SUTTON FOREST	GOLDEN VALE ROAD	MOUNT VALDIMAH (now Bunya Hill)
5197	SUTTON FOREST	GOLDEN VALE ROAD	GOLDEN VALE #

5189	SUTTON FOREST	HUME HIGHWAY, 11 km FROM BERRIMA, 25.6 km FROM MOSS VALE	ELING GRANGE, FORMERLY ELING FOREST, INCLUDING STONE COTTAGE
5198	SUTTON FOREST	HUME HIGHWAY, SOUTH OF THE CROSS ROADS	BLACK HORSE FARM
5199	SUTTON FOREST	HUME HIGHWAY, ABOUT 0.8 km NORTH OF THE CROSS ROADS	BLACK BOB'S BRIDGE
5184	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	FORMERLY WINSTON & SUTTON INN, FORMER RED COW INN
5186	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	THE PINES
5203	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	HILLVIEW, FORMERLY PROSPECT
5205	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	FORMER POST OFFICE
5206	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	ROTHERWOOD GATE LODGE
5207	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, SOUTH OF SUTTON FOREST	ROSEDALE
5208	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	FORMER PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS
5209	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, SOUTH OF SUTTON FOREST	ROTHERWOOD

5210	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, SOUTH SIDE, ABOUT 500 m WEST OF BUNDANOON ROAD	FORMER ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, INCLUDING CEMETERY AND TREES
5211	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, NORTH OF SUTTON FOREST	SUMMERLEES
5188	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, WEST SIDE, APPROX 200 m SOUTH OF MEDWAY RIVULET	ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH (PART OF ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP - CARD 2 OF 3)
5201 5202	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, WEST SIDE, APPROX 200 m SOUTH OF MEDWAY RIVULET	ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP, comprising CHURCH and HALL (ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP - CARD 1 OF 3) CARD 3 OF 3)
5204	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, NEXT TO MEDWAY RIVER	COTTAGE
5185	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, SOUTH SIDE, 500 m WEST OF BUNDANOON ROAD	ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CEMETERY
5212	SUTTON FOREST	ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY	KENMORE, PART NEWBURY FARM

National Trust Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area

In 1998 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) approved the listing for the Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area. That area contains 43 National Trust listed sites. The boundaries of the area were reviewed in February 2017 to better respond to the landscape catchments, early land grants and significant local items highlighted by Wingecarribee Shire Council's LEP.

The assessment of rarity and integrity is of particular interest:

Rarity

The Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area's combination of early settlement (1820s), superb "English-style" landscaping, remnant Ribbon Gum lined country lanes, largely intact land settlement and land grant patterns, range of period and style architecture (from the 1820 Georgian "Oldbury", the Celtic style 1890s St Aidan's Church listed on the RAIA's List of Significant Twentieth Century Buildings to the 1937 Professor Leslie Wilkinson designed "Rosedale"), the Area's link with sixteen Governors of New South Wales, its two historic townships of Exeter and Sutton Forest with their very low key general stores and post offices - all these combine to create a landscape which is arguably unique in the State of New South Wales.

Integrity

The outstanding quality of the Exeter/ Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area is its intactness and integrity. There has been exceptionally little of cultural heritage value destroyed or compromised within the area. Those buildings of heritage significance from the very early days of settlement which have been lost (e.g. the original Ivy Hall) were lost through accidental fire or demolished by their original owners when new and grander residences were built to replace them. It is remarkable that when passing through the townships of both Sutton Forest and Exeter, their appearance has remained virtually unchanged from photographs depicting them at the last change of a century. While there have been subdivisions for new housing west of Exeter, the siting of this development has not impacted adversely on the Landscape Conservation Area's key vistas and most historic precincts.

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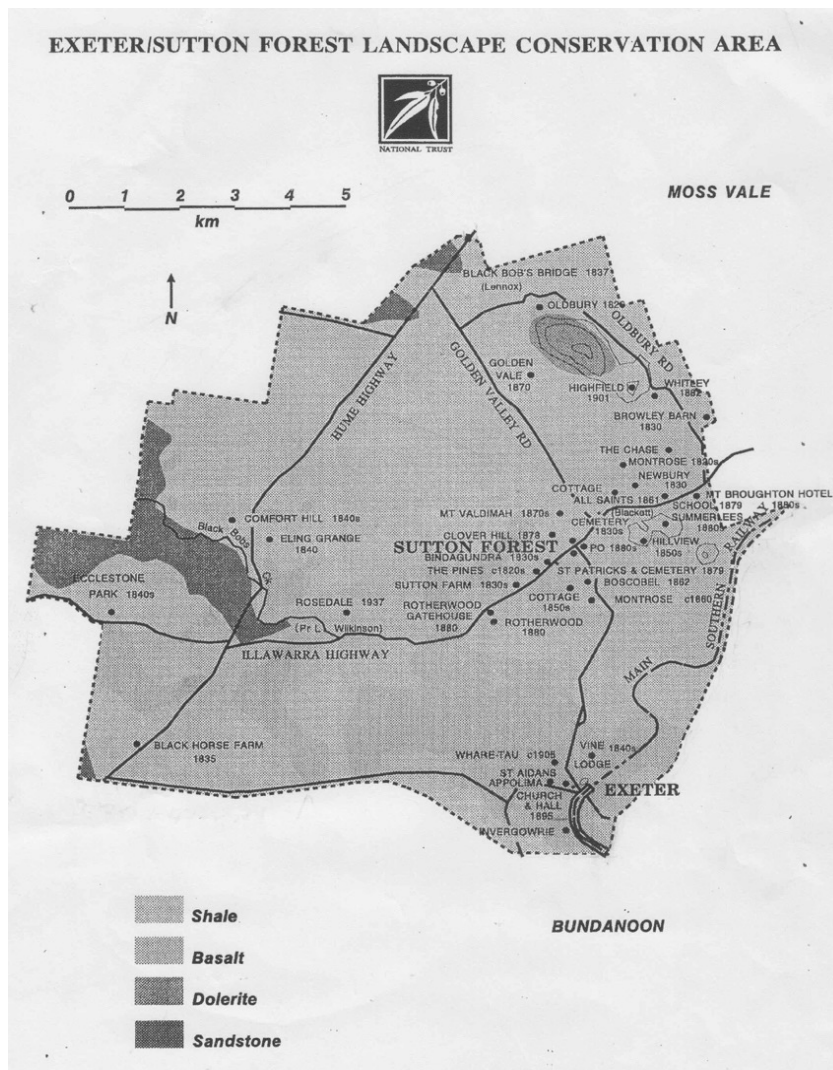


Figure 5.2 The National Trust map that accompanied the 1998 listing.

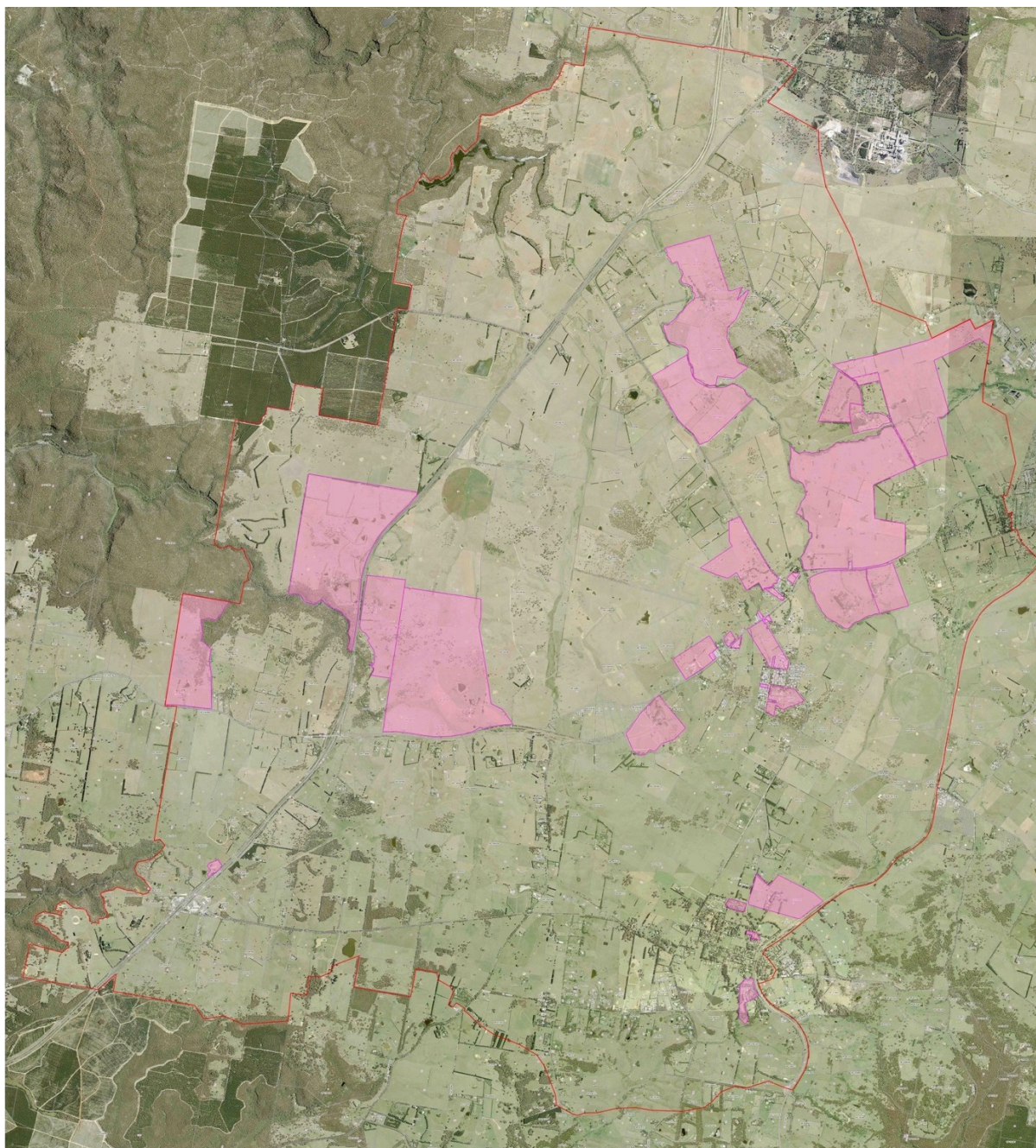
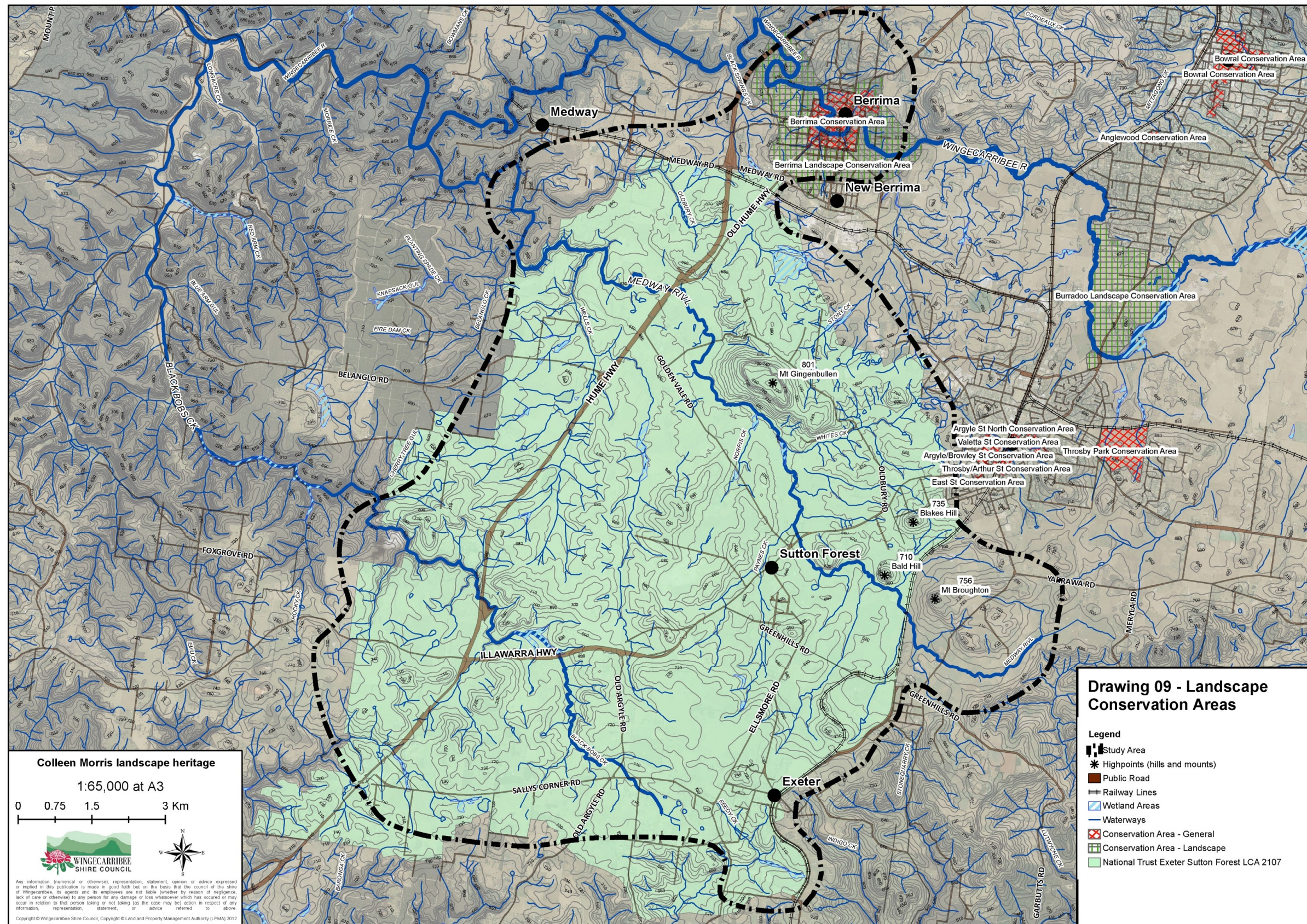


Figure 5.3: National Trust Sutton Forest/Exeter Landscape Conservation Area updated 2017



5.2.2 Register of the National Estate (now archived)

Berrima

Berrima was listed on the Register of the National Estate in 1980. The area covered was 'about 700ha, comprising the complete township of Berrima, including all land up to the ridge lines as seen from the bridge over the Wingecarribee River.'

The RNE Statement of Significance:

A valid, intact historic village of great urban and regional significance, the value of which is reinforced by the high quality of the surrounding natural environment. Major Mitchell selected the site for Berrima in 1830, later that year Robert Hoddle, surveyor, was instructed to prepare plans for the town. These were approved by Governor Bourke in 1831.

The individual sites listed were Berrima Courthouse; Berrima Training Centre Group; Bulls Head Fountain on Outside Wall, Wilshire St; Colonial Inn Restaurant (now Eschalot); Gatehouse and Walls of Gaol (former); Harpers Mansion; Joadja Complex; Public School; St Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

Sutton Forest

Bindagundra, Illawarra Highway, Golden Vale and Outbuildings, Oldbury, Oldbury Garden, Rotherwood Gate Lodge, Gates and Surrounds, Rotherwood Homestead and Outbuildings.

Exeter

Whare-Tau

5.2.3 Australian Institute of Architects

St Aidan's Church, Sutton Forest, the Comfort Hill group, Mount Broughton, Whitley, Rotherwood, the Royal Hotel Sutton Forest and Rosedale are all listed on the Australian Institute of Architect's List of Significant Architecture in NSW

5.2.4 Register of War Memorials in NSW

The Remembrance Driveway, Berrima, Steel Industry of Australia,
established 1956

'The war memorial is a series of tree plantings and, more recently rest stops dedicated to VC winners, from Sydney to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. More information about the Remembrance Driveway may be found at <http://www.remembrancedriveway.org.au/> These memorial stones are set in garden areas at different parts of the Driveway in the Southern Highlands, and each has a bronze plaque attached. Many of the plaques have the sponsoring company's crest as well as the dedicatory text. These memorial stones are on the old Hume Highway just south of Berrima and the Illawarra Highway between Moss Vale and Sutton Forest.'

Inscription:

This section of the Remembrance Driveway created and maintained by the Steel Industry of Australia. A living memorial to the men and women who served in World War II and in the Korean Campaign.

Berrima War Memorial Area Berrima Park, cnr Old Hume Hwy & Jellore St
Berrima NSW 2577

Description:

A triangular area surrounded by a white picket fence. Inside the area is a large square stone with a flag pole on each side along with several wooden seats. There is a row of rosemary around the inside of the fence, and a very large oak tree planted by Sir Henry Parkes.

Exeter War Memorial Gates Exeter Playing Fields, Highland Way Exeter
and Exeter War Memorial, a large sandstone with brass plaque and 5 Exeter Elms, Highland Way (the five elms have been recently removed due to ill health).

6 Assessment of Significance

6.1 Comparative analysis of similar cultural landscapes in NSW

6.1.1 Towns and Villages

Berrima Conservation Area (Wingecarribee LEP 2010)

Berrima was intended to be the county centre for the area and the original Hoddle Plan therefore was for a substantial settlement. What we have today is a very small settlement (which is designated as a village because of its current size) with almost the same population now as in the early 1840s because it did not develop as expected. Other colonial towns of the era (Windsor, NSW, Longford and Richmond in Tasmania) did grow and as a result have lost the intactness of the first settlement form the colonial period. This resulted in Berrima being somewhat frozen in time.

Berrima is significant as one of the few intact villages in the State, which demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Its original Georgian layout and town limits are largely intact and the surviving stock of residential, commercial and administrative buildings along with churches and major buildings associated with the Gaol, provide evidence of the role of Berrima as an early administrative centre and a town which served generations of travellers on the South Road. The town is also significant as a collection of largely intact early buildings, which are predominantly Georgian in style, the value of which is reinforced by the high quality of the surrounding natural environment and plantings within the town. The undeveloped nature of the surrounds of Berrima provides an important rural curtilage for the village, again contributing to the town's sense of timelessness. The heritage attributes of Berrima are recognised by visitors from all parts of Australia who enjoy the character and history of the

town, which has become a cultural tourism attraction.¹⁰⁰

Berrima was nominated to the State Heritage Register in 2003 but its nomination was deferred. In 2016 Wingecarribee Shire Council resolved that it nominate Berrima and its surrounds for SHR listing again. Berrima includes 85 items listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI), 16 items of which are listed on the SHR.

Braidwood and its setting (SHR 01749)

Braidwood in New South Wales is an excellent example of a surviving Georgian period planned town dating from the late 1830s. The layout reflects Governor Darling's desire for planned towns and the imposition of the English county system in the colony of New South Wales. 'The surviving historic elements in the surrounding landscape strengthen the town's significance.'¹⁰¹ There is a clear separation between the town and the surrounding rural landscape. The town buildings reflect key phases of development, commencing with the initial phase in the 1840s with contributions in the late 19th century following the gold rushes. The town of Braidwood and its immediate surrounds were listed on the New South Wales Heritage Register in April 2006 to preserve its character and setting.

Braidwood includes 167 items on the SHI, 4 of which have an SHR listing.

Hartley Historic Site (SHR 00993), managed by NPWS

'Hartley is historically highly significant for its close association with early settlement west of the Blue Mountains, for its role as an early government administrative centre and for its having been a wayside service centre over a lengthy period.' A courthouse was erected in 1837 and the town plan was gazetted a year later. The village is much smaller than Berrima but has an

¹⁰⁰ www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=2680148

¹⁰¹ Refer to the SHR Listing for comprehensive assessment

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?id=5054706>

extremely high level of intactness and it contains a rich range of building forms, materials and architectural styles. 'Having been recognised for many years as a place of historical importance, Hartley has significant social associations among the travelling public. Hartley contains good examples of the work of important colonial era architects, Mortimer Lewis and Edmund Blacket. Owing to the form, materials, styles and alignments of its various buildings and its rural setting above the River Lett, Hartley with its pervasive mid nineteenth century character has significant aesthetic qualities.'¹⁰²

Hartley includes 21 items on the SHI, 3 of which have an SHR listing.

Hill End Historic Site (SHR 00993) managed by NPWS

The historic site consists of approximately 130ha of land within the village of Hill End, including two outlying areas of land: Valentine's Mine and the Roasting Pits. The town was established in 1851 following the discovery of gold. In 1859, with the imposition of an urban plan for Hill End, the town grew in a more orderly fashion and by the height of the second, larger rush in 1872, it was the largest inland settlement in the colony of New South Wales.¹⁰³

The town dwindled after the gold leases were substantially exhausted but artsits were attracted to it in the 1940s and interest further increased following the discovery of Beaufoy Merlins 1870s photos. The town was gazetted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act in the 1967.

Hill End includes 32 items on the SHI, 3 of which have SHR listing.

Tilba Conservation Area, comprising Tilba Tilba and Central Tilba NSW

Dairy farming was introduced to the Tilba area in the 1830s and 40s. The area developed after the discovery of gold and later coal mining, which ceased in

¹⁰²<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?id=5014092>

¹⁰³<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?id=5051460>

1910 and development in the town ceased. There are 24 items listed on the State Heritage Inventory(SHI). The SHI Statement of Significance:

'The Tilba Conservation Area is of local, state and national heritage significance. Its significance springs from the sum total of its built form, its landscape and the clustered homogenous nature of the villages and farm buildings, all of which contribute to this high heritage value. In 1974 the National Trust recognised the uniqueness of the village by classifying the entire township, saying:

"The village derives its main significance... from the unique relationship between its clearly defined, tightly clustered urban form and the dominating, almost overwhelming scale of the surrounding landscape..."¹⁰⁴

Tilba Tilba includes 23 items and Central Tilba, 35 items on the SHI.

Morpeth

Situated on the south bank of the Hunter River, Edward Close founded Morpeth as a private town with a grid layout by in 1821 and the Anglican Church, sited prominently on a ridge, played an important role in the life of the town. By 1835 Morpeth was the largest inland port in NSW. Morpeth reached the height of its success in the 1860s with the establishment of a branch railway, school, School of Arts, a Municipal Council and Morpeth Common. The river port lost its status late in the 19th century when the Morpeth Bridge was built and also due to the gradual silting up of the river. Like the majority of comparative towns, development stagnated in the 20th century until the 1980s and the arrival of tourism and the attraction of living in a 'heritage' town.

Morpeth includes 40 items on the SHI, 5 of which have SHR listing

¹⁰⁴ www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1550409

Conclusion

All of the towns discussed had their heyday in the 19th century and then development stagnated. Of the comparative examples, Morpeth is the exception as a private town. Although commenced relatively early, significant development occurred during the mid-19th century. Tilba Conservation Area and Hill End are later developments. Braidwood has particular aesthetic appeal in that the surrounding rolling landscape is highly appreciable from the town itself. Berrima is more contained in its setting. The following attribute was included in the Statement of Significance for Braidwood:

‘In NSW, colonial towns that retain significant historic form and fabric to the extent that Braidwood does, are rare.’

In comparison with Braidwood, Berrima arguably has a similar extent of significant historic form and fabric.

The nucleus of administrative buildings at Hartley is architecturally a good comparison to Berrima; Mortimer Lewis designed the courthouses at both Hartley and Berrima. Berrima’s Gaol, also by Lewis, has functioned since 1839, albeit not continuously. In comparison with Hartley Historic Site, which has a small number of buildings, Berrima contains by far the greatest number of individual items listed on the State Heritage Register.

6.1.2 Rural Cultural Landscape

In 1998, the National Trust of Australia (NSW) endorsed a listing for the Sutton Forest/Exeter Landscape Conservation Area. It states:

The most distinctive feature of this Landscape is the exceptional collection of historic country estates with intact landholdings, landscaping and residences and associated buildings dating from the 1826 Georgian-style Oldbury and the second Badgery ‘Vine Lodge (1840s) to the Vice-Regal Residence ‘Hillview’ (1850s) and

the very grand 1936 Tudor-style 'Invergowrie' with its huge Paul Sorensen designed grounds.

The listing added that 43 properties within the Landscape Conservation Area were already classified and listed on the Register of the National Trust.

The Hillview Conservation Management Plan noted:

*There are a number of estates in the Southern Highlands, most of which predate Hillview that are of a comparable size and stature. Their relationship to each other and with Hillview is an important element reflecting the social fabric of Sutton Forest.*¹⁰⁵

As a 'hill station' summer retreat, the area can be compared to the Blue Mountains and in particular, Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine. Both attracted early tourism for their fresh air and healthy climate in the summer. Wynstay, commenced in 1875, at Mount Wilson is the earliest development. Mount Wilson was developed almost solely as a mountain retreat—its geology and isolated location means it has retained a distinctive character within a clearly delineated area. In aesthetic terms the appreciation of the rugged and dramatic scenery of the Blue Mountains is associated with the 'sublime' whereas that of the Sutton Forest and Exter area is 'picturesque', which gives rise to the comparison with the landscapes of England.

As a collection of country houses and gardens for the wealthy from Sydney, and the social connections between the houses, the two are comparative, although the gardens of each are quite different. The Berrima/Sutton Forest/Exeter area has an early colonial settlement history with the attendant aspects of convictism and early agricultural and pastoral pursuits, which underpins the later 'hill station' layer of its character. The association of the area with the Governor's

¹⁰⁵ Paul Davies op.cit.p.68.

summer residence effectively for 90 years (1868-1958) is an additional distinguishing feature.

The areas around Bathurst and Goulburn were settled in a similar period to Sutton Forest/ Exeter. They too, have areas of residences with adjacent outbuildings in pastoral settings and with links with an era of convict labour. Tirranaville near Goulburn is one such example. However the concentration of early estates and the subsequent overlay of late 19th century country retreats with important gardens is not as intense. This intensity combined with the pastoral landscape interspersed with topographically interesting hills, such as Mount Gingenbullen sets the study area apart.

The Hunter Valley was also settled as part of the second main wave of settlement to occur in Australia between 1820 and 1850, which was driven by new government policies structured towards the agricultural development of the colony and the use of convict labour under the superintendence of private settlers. The National Trust has listed seventeen Landscape Conservation Areas for their scenic, agricultural, historic and nature conservation significance. Individually these conservation areas do not have the aggregation of significant individual sites that the study area contains.

A study commissioned by the Heritage Council of NSW, 'Hunter Estates, A Comparative Heritage Study of pre 1850s Homestead Complexes in the Hunter Region', covered a larger area of the historically defined Hunter River Valley and 12 local government areas. The study found that there was propensity for the main settler to be a new free immigrant to Australia and that 'the reliance on convict labour throughout the district and in particular on the Hunter Estates in large numbers is rare in NSW and a highly significant aspect of the history of NSW.'

Conclusion

Although other places in NSW have elements in common with the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Study Area, none has the complete range of attributes that the study area encompasses. This results in a complex picture, which is a distinctive part of rural Australia. This area is associated with early European settlement beyond the Cumberland Plain with a convict workforce playing a crucial part in the construction of early buildings and roads. At Eling Forest, for example assigned convicts built the first stone cottage and it served as teacher's residence and school once the homestead was completed in 1840. The area's close proximity to Sydney ensured its continued attraction and the personal investment of many of its residents who have sought a country lifestyle since the nineteenth century. The use of Hillview as the governors' summer residence and the influence of that use still permeate and arguably render the area unique. Its underlying early European response to the landscape is remarkably intact with new patterns from the twentieth century accommodated within the pre-existing landscape. 'There is a strong feeling of continuity and also participation in history.'¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁶ Landscan op. cit., p.46.

6.2 Historic Significance

Criterion (a):

An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history

The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Study Area is of historic significance at a State level as a place of early exploration beyond the limits of the Cumberland Plain in 1798 and early settlement and pastoralism from 1819 onwards, the evidence of which is legible in the landscape today. Louisa Atkinson's accounts of Aboriginal life on their occupied land, especially at Mt Gingenbullen, illustrate the process of European settlement and dispossession.

The underlying early European response to the landscape is remarkably intact with new patterns from the twentieth century subtly accommodated within the pre-existing landscape. The use of Hillview, Sutton Forest, as the governors' summer residence 1879-1957 and the influence of that use still permeate and render the area unique. The physical evidence in the concentration of so many 19th century buildings ranging from Oldbury, Swanton, Kenmore Cottage and Newbury, the Berrima Gaol and Courthouse, the Surveyor General Inn, Harper's Mansion, St Francis Xavier's Church and the humble cottages of Berrima, modest farmhouses such as Bonheur on Oldbury Road through to grander houses including Golden Vale, Comfort Hill, Whitley and Rotherwood at Sutton Forest imbues the area with a high degree of historical importance. Important 20th century houses such as Invergowrie, Rosedale and Mereworth added a layer to the already rich cultural landscape.

The main circulation routes are historically important dating from the 1820s and 1830s onwards. The line of Old South Road through Sutton Forest and the new line of road from the 1830s, surveyed by Major Mitchell and on which Berrima stands, and Old Argyle Road are remnants from the past. The area is significant for its association with convictism with a convict workforce playing a crucial part in quarrying, in the construction of early buildings and roads and as part of the workforce on early estates. The opening of the railway line is of historical

importance in the development of the area and the rise of early twentieth century tourism.

Berrima is of exceptional significance as one of the few substantially intact villages, dating from the Georgian period, that demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Its original town layout and town limits are remarkably intact and legible, and it contains a stock of fine convict-built sandstone buildings, especially the courthouse and gaol, churches and residences. These are indicative of the role of Berrima as an early administrative centre and as a major stopping place for travellers on the South Road.

Criterion (b):

An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history

The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter area has strong links with prominent colonial settlers, individuals and families and a special association with important wealthy Sydney families and sixteen governors of New South Wales between 1879 and 1957. These include early surveyors and road builders Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell and bridge builder David Lennox; James Atkinson of Olbury, his daughter naturalist and journalist Louisa and his brother John of Mereworth; the Badgery family from its earliest days of settlement especially the role they played in the development of the Australian cattle and race horse breeding; early grantee John Nicholson and later the Simpson family of Newbury; the Morrice family, John Morrice of Eling Forest, Ecclestone Park and Browley and William Morrice of Comfort Hill, Walter Morrice of Browley, David Morrice of Eling Forest and Cherry Tree Hill; Sir Cecil Hoskins of Invergowrie and Cardrona; and Edward Carter, Sir Philip Goldfinch and the Keighley family of Golden Vale. Prominent past and present owners include leaders of industry, horse racing (including Etienne De Mestre one time owner of Mt Valdemar), and members of parliament, the banking and legal fraternity. For

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many of these owners farming, grazing, gardening and the landscape has been a deep interest and for some, their preferred work.

6.3 Aesthetic Significance

Criterion (c):

An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW.

The rich and varied cultural landscape of the Study Area, shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region, is of aesthetic significance at a State level. The important formative early decades of settlement of the Sutton Forest, Exeter and Berrima area and evidence of early settlement is still etched in the landscape. This evidence, through grant boundaries, early roads, town layouts, cleared grazing lands and the placement of homesteads, makes a substantial contribution to the visual qualities and spatial arrangements associated with the area. The attachment to, and value of, the area by the early explorers and settlers, particularly for grazing, are still associated with the area. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description of the 'finest prospect' from the top of Mt Gingenbullen can still be appreciated. The early impressions of a rich and beautiful pastoral landscape remain, with mature avenue plantings and gardens signaling the location of country homesteads and their outbuildings.

Its natural significance is based on the area's close connection with the terrain of the Wingecarribee River particularly the containment of many early large land holdings within the valleys of its tributary the Medway Rivulet, the focus of which is Mt Gingenbullen and the landscape beauty this landmark generated. Many early properties were located within range of this volcanic remnant because richer soils and watered lands were in close proximity.

Berrima is significant as a collection of substantially intact early buildings, which are predominantly Georgian in style, the value of which is reinforced by the high landscape quality, in terms of both the village's mature exotic

streetscape features and its remarkable sense of enclosure with indigenous vegetation, all combine to provide a sense of timelessness that is part of Berrima's character and appeal. The undeveloped nature of the surrounds of Berrima provides an important rural curtilage for the village, again contributing to the sense of timelessness.

Churches and cemeteries at Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter are notable State level examples of cemeteries and churches with a high degree of integrity of design and aesthetic value. St Francis Xavier's Church in Berrima is of significance as the most perfectly preserved of all the churches built in Australia to the English architect Pugin's designs.

The villages of Berrima in particular, Exeter and Sutton Forest, the gardens and the rural landscapes of the Sutton Forest/Exeter area are highly valued for their scenic qualities by visitors from all over Australia.

6.4 Social Significance

Criterion (d) An item has strong or special associations with a particular community or cultural group in New South Wales (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

There is a strong feeling of continuity, a sense of stewardship of the landscape and also participation in history among the local community who, across all social stratas, have rallied to support the retention of their heritage. The participation of the community in managing Harper's Mansion for the National Trust saved it from closure and the strong sense of stewardship that precipitated the gifting of Golden Vale to the National Trust are examples.

The Australian Garden History Society has a deep interest in the gardens and landscapes of Berrima and Sutton Forest and has funded conservation studies and garden recordings for a number of gardens and an oral history of one of the gardeners at Mereworth.

The villages of Berrima in particular, Exeter and Sutton Forest, the gardens and the rural landscapes of the Sutton Forest area are highly valued for their historic significance and their scenic qualities by visitors from all over Australia.

6.5 Technical Significance

Criterion (e) An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of New South Wales' cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

Within the Study Area there are a number of archaeological sites, which have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the history of the area. These include aboriginal sites around Mt Gingenbullen and throughout the area eg. indigenous groove stones and quarrying sites at Comfort Hill, agricultural sites including research into the location of the early ploughing fields at Sutton Forest, the convict sites at Berrima and the outbuildings associated with early settlement sites. Mt Gingenbullen includes the site of a documented Aboriginal burial ground, which imbues Gingenbullen with particular importance.

Many inns were established on the Great Southern Road south from Berrima to Sutton Forest and beyond, including the Kentish Arms (Three Legs of Man Inn) in 1836 near the Medway Rivulet, adjacent to Mereworth. These sites have archaeological potential.

The Study Area includes two Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) and Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC): Southern Highlands Shale Woodland and Robertson Basalt Tall Open Forest. The latter is a National Listed TEC and occurs on the Southern Highlands of NSW and can also be found on the Cambewarra area to the south. The conserved areas of these woodlands have potential to contribute to the knowledge of the regeneration of these community types on previously cleared land.

6.6 Rarity and Representativeness

Criterion (f):

An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history.

The built form of the area, village layouts and rural landscapes combine to form a complex and distinctive character, which is not found elsewhere in the State.

Areas of Southern Highlands Shale Woodlands and Robertson Basalt Tall Open Forest are Endangered and Threatened Ecological communities.

The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Study Area's combination of early settlement from the 1820s (eg: Oldbury, Mereworth, Newbury, Spring Grove Exeter, Browley) superb 'English-style' landscaping, remnant Ribbon Gum lined country lanes, largely intact land settlement and land grant patterns, and a range of notable nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings ranging from the 1820s Georgian 'Oldbury,' Berrima Gaol and Courthouse and St Francis Xavier 's Church; to buildings listed on the Australian Institute of Architect's List of Significant Architecture in NSW: the Celtic style 1890s St Aidan's Church, the Comfort Hill group, Mount Broughton, Whitley, Rotherwood, the Royal Hotel Sutton Forest and the 1937 Professor Leslie Wilkinson designed 'Rosedale'; the Area's link with sixteen Governors of New South Wales, its three historic townships of Berrima, Exeter and Sutton Forest - all these combine to create a landscape which is arguably unique in the State of New South Wales.

The rural landscapes in the vicinity of Mt Gingenbullen are recognised as cultural landscapes, which reflect historic associations and aesthetic qualities that reach back to the first Aboriginal people who lived in the area. The qualities found here are not found elsewhere in the State.

Criterion (g):

An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments.

The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Study Area shares characteristics with the wider Wingecarribee Shire. It also shares similarities with colonial settlement to the southwest near Marulan, Goulburn and Lake Bathurst where a number of important early settlers owned land. These relate to early settlement patterns and the use of convict labour to build early houses and establish farms historic themes of changes to the environment, early settlement, agriculture, pastoralism, tourism, and the development of building styles.

6.7 Summary Statement of Significance

The cultural landscape of Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter is of historic significance at a State level as a place of early exploration beyond the limits of the Cumberland Plain in 1798, and of early settlement and pastoralism from 1819 onwards, the evidence of which is legible today.

There is a direct relationship between early settlement and the area's natural significance demonstrated by the close connection of the settlement pattern with the terrain of the Wingecarribee River, particularly with the siting of Berrima as the intended country town, and the containment of many early large land holdings within the valleys of its tributary the Medway Rivulet, the focus of which is Mt Gingenbullen with its landmark character. The rural landscapes in the vicinity of Mt Gingenbullen are significant as cultural landscapes, which reflect historic associations and aesthetic qualities that reach back to the first Aboriginal people who lived in the area– the process of European settlement and dispossession documented through Louisa Atkinson's accounts of Aboriginal life on their occupied land.

The rich and varied cultural landscape, shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region and its remnant stands of endangered woodlands, is of aesthetic significance at a State level. The evidence of these associations through early grant boundaries and roads, town layouts, remnant woodland, cleared grazing lands and the placement of homesteads, makes a substantial contribution to the overarching spatial arrangements and visual qualities of the cultural landscape. The attachment to the area by the early explorers and settlers, and the valuing of it, particularly for farming and grazing, is still associated with the area. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description of the 'finest prospect' from the top of Mt Gingenbullen can still be appreciated. The early impressions of a rich and beautiful pastoral landscape remain, with mature avenue plantings and gardens signaling the location of country homesteads and their outbuildings.

Important early convict built roads and the underlying early European responses to the landscape are remarkably intact with new patterns from the twentieth century subtly accommodated within the pre-existing landscape. The area is significant for its association with convictism, a convict workforce playing a crucial part in quarrying, the construction of early buildings and roads and as part of the workforce on early estates. These include the Old Argyle Road and the new line of the South Road from the 1830s (Old Hume Highway) surveyed by Major Mitchell, and the remains of its David Lennox bridge.

Berrima is of exceptional significance as one of the few substantially intact villages, dating from the Georgian period, that demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Fine buildings of convict-quarried sandstone, especially the courthouse and gaol, churches and residences contribute to its aesthetic importance. Berrima's original town layout and town limits are remarkably intact and legible, the value of which is reinforced by the high landscape quality, in terms of both mature exotic gardens and streetscape features and its remarkable sense of enclosure with indigenous vegetation in undeveloped surrounds, these components, along with the stock of early buildings combine to provide a sense of timelessness that is Berrima's character and appeal.

The area has strong links with prominent colonial settlers, individuals and families and, from the latter years of the 19th century, a special association with important wealthy Sydney families. For many of these owners farming and grazing were core occupations and equestrian activities, gardening and the landscape have been deep interests. The use of Hillview, Sutton Forest as the governors' summer residence 1882-1957 and the influence of that use still permeate and render the area unique. The physical evidence in the concentration of so many 19th century buildings ranging from Oldbury, Kenmore Cottage and Newbury, the Berrima Gaol and Courthouse, the Surveyor General

Inn, Harper's Mansion, St Francis Xavier's Church and the humble cottages of Berrima, modest farmhouses such as Bonheur on Oldbury Road through to grander houses and gardens including Golden Vale, Comfort Hill, Summerlees, Whitley and Rotherwood at Sutton Forest imbues the area with a high degree of historical importance. Important 20th century houses such as Invergowrie, Rosedale and Mereworth and gardens designed by Paul Sorensen and Claude Crowe added a layer to the already rich cultural landscape. A number of archaeological sites have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the history of the area.

There is a strong feeling of continuity, a sense of stewardship of the landscape and also participation in history among the local community and organisations including the Berrima and District Historical Society, the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust of Australia (NSW). The three historic villages of Berrima, Exeter and Sutton Forest, their churches and cemeteries, the fine gardens and the surrounding rural landscapes - all these combine to create a cultural landscape which is rare in the State of New South Wales and which is highly valued for its historic significance and scenic qualities by visitors from all over Australia.

7 Recommendations

*People's spiritual and material well-being depends on their relationship with a particular place. To maintain country as it has always been requires...positive and active intervention by all who live in it...*¹⁰⁷

Although this statement was used to explain Aboriginal attitudes to caring for the land, it is relevant to Australians from other backgrounds, many of who have a deep attachment to the landscape and their cultural environment. This study has reinforced the findings of the 1991 JRC Heritage Study of Wingecarribee Shire. The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter cultural landscape is of exceptional significance.

Sutton Forest and Exeter Landscape

It is recommended that representation be made to Wingecarribee Council to list the Sutton Forest and Exeter area as a landscape conservation area on the Wingecarribee LEP to better manage potential impacts and undesirable development within the area. The non-statutory National Trust Landscape Conservation Area boundary (as updated in 2017) is the recommended boundary. The large Atkinson land grant, Mereworth, is included within this boundary. Historically Mereworth relates well to Sutton Forest, reinforcing the connection between Oldbury and Mereworth, some of the earliest grants and should form part of the Sutton Forest and Exeter landscape conservation area.

Parts of the study area the Golden Vale Road and Oldbury Road area that centres on Mt Gingenbullen are worthy of consideration for nomination on the State Heritage Register as a cultural landscape. Although some owners may be averse to this, over the past thirty years there have been repeated threats that would

¹⁰⁷ Mike Donaldson, Les Bursill and Mary Jacobs, *A History of Aboriginal Illawarra Volume 1, Before Colonisation*, Dharawal Publications, Yowie Bay, 2016 p.12.

impact the landscape the owners cherish and the benefits of listing would outweigh the perceived negative aspects of listing.

Berrima and surrounds

The community of Berrima places a high value on living in a small village as evidenced by the community consultation leading to the Wingecarribee LEP 2010, the DCP for Berrima and its surrounds, and the review of the Council's Strategic Plan. The notion of small denotes the size of the population with its sparse settlement pattern rather than just its geographic spread.

The Berrima Landscape Conservation Area (BLCA) should be expanded to allow for the retention of the enclosed and timeless character of Berrima. This would enable putting policies or performance principles in place that would guide the sensitive development of Berrima on its edges. It is recommended that to the north of Berrima the BLCA be expanded to the ridgeline above Greenhills Road. This retention of an undeveloped ridgeline in this location is crucial in conserving the character of Berrima.

Berrima Landscape Conservation Area should be extended to the south along the Old Hume Highway to include the Remembrance Driveway plantings and the area to the east of the freeway to protect the views on the southern entrance to the 'village' and to the north to protect the view over the 'village' from the northern entrance on the Old Hume Highway and from the Hume motorway to the south east between the bridge over the Wingecarribee River and the Medway Road exit from the motorway.

Currently Berrima Conservation Area and Berrima Landscape Conservation Area are included on the Council's Heritage Schedule as part of the LEP. Berrima and its surrounds should be nominated for State Heritage Register listing. A nomination is currently being prepared.

Further recommendations

There are few places for visitors to pull off the roads and appreciate the scenic beauty of the area. It is recommended that Wingecarribee Shire Council investigate the feasibility of creating some strategic pull-over bays. However, planning for these would require sensitivity and should not be implemented in locations where it would impact the rural character of roads. The aesthetic character of Golden Vale Road and Oldbury Road depends on their small-scale rural road nature with verge vegetation enclosing the roads in places.

Community engagement

It is recommended that funding for community workshops are sought as a means of informing residents and engaging with the community to further the objective of State Heritage Register listing for Berrima and surrounds and heritage listing on the Wingecarribee LEP for the National Trust Sutton Forest and Exeter Landscape Conservation Area.

Interpretation Plan

It is recommended that an interpretation plan of the cultural landscape be put in place. This would include the villages of Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter within the landscape. The initial steps would identify a co-ordinated thematic approach to the interpretation of the place and its significant messages, stories, information and experiences. An interpretation strategy would identify how to reveal and communicate the exceptional values of the area as living heritage to visitors.

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STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

For

Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape

of

Hume Coal Proposal for an underground coal mine

and

Berrima–Rail line extension

Prepared by

Colleen Morris M. Herit. Cons. M. ICOMOS

June 2017

1.0 Introduction

The Berrima Residents Association commissioned the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape Assessment study, which was funded by two community groups, the Battle for Berrima and Sustainable Southern Highlands Inc. The aims of the study were to:

- Prepare a cultural landscape assessment; describe the built, landscape and cultural heritage values of the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter areas in the Southern Highlands of NSW. The study area includes some of the southern environs of Moss Vale.
- Assess the significance of the identified heritage items and landscape taken as a whole.
- Prepare a draft Statement of Heritage Impact: based on the cultural landscape assessment, provide a draft assessment of the potential impact of Hume Coal's proposed underground coal mine, as outlined in Hume Coal's preliminary documents, on the area's built heritage and cultural landscape values.

Following the preparation of the draft Statement of Heritage Impact, the Hume Coal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the Berrima Rail Project Environmental Impact Statement was released. These two EIS raised sufficient concern for the consultant to update the draft Statement of Heritage Impact for the Berrima Residents Association on a voluntary basis.

This report draws on documents:

- Hume Coal Project, Environmental Impact Statement from the Hume Coal project that was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and placed on Exhibition on 31 March 2017, and in particular Appendix T, Statement of Heritage Impact prepared for Hume Coal Pty Limited' by EMM, 23 February 2017
- Berrima Rail Project Environmental Impact Statement prepared by EMM for Hume Coal March 2017
- Cultural Landscape Assessment, Berrima, Sutton Forest, Exeter Area, Colleen Morris in association with Christine Hay, Final Report May 2017
- Hume Coal Preliminary Environmental Assessment prepared by EMM July 2015
- Wingecarribee Shire Council, LEP 2010
- Wingecarribee Shire Council, Rural Lands Development Control Plan, as at 13 May 2015
- Heritage Study of Wingecarribee Shire prepared by JRC Planning, 1991.
- IESC 2017-083 Hume Coal Project (EPBS 2105/7526)- New Development (IESC - Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development)

The Cultural Landscape Assessment, Berrima, Sutton Forest, Exeter Area should be appended to this Statement of Heritage Impact.

1.1 Authorship

Landscape heritage consultant Colleen Morris wrote this report. Colleen Morris has had over twenty years of experience in the assessment of cultural landscapes and conservation management, is a member of the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee and has experience as an expert witness in the NSW Land and Environment Court.

1.2 Background to the Issues

Hume Coal is a subsidiary of POSCO Australia, which is owned by the Korean company POSCO. Hume Coal acquired exploration authorisation 349 (A349) in 2010.

Hume Coal plans to mine coking and industrial coal from the Wongawilli seam 70m to 180m below ground. The proposal is to use untried methods to preserve the long-term stability of the landscape at ground level.

Hume Coal owns the property Mereworth, one of the early land grants of the area, which is heritage listed in its entirety as an item under Schedule 5 of the Wingecarribee LEP 2010, upon which it proposes to establish surface infrastructure for the project, stock-piling of the coal and a new rail loop.

Although mining has been part of the Southern Highlands history for over one hundred years, as the 1991 Heritage Study of Wingecarribee Shire noted 'mining does not lie easily with the public image of the Southern Highlands.' Historically in general the mining operations have been relatively small. The Medway Mine is several orders of magnitude smaller than the Hume proposal ; opening in 1867, it was not mechanised until 1968. Production at Medway has been in the order of 0.2 to 0.25 million tonnes/year compared to the proposed 3.5 million tonnes. The proposed mine is larger than any previously in the Southern Highlands and the location of the above surface infrastructure for this project will be more publicly visible than activities at the nearby Boral Medway Colliery (leased by Delta SBD Ltd in 2009), now 'mothballed'.

There is support for the project from some members of the community but overall there is opposition and Wingecarribee Shire Council is opposed to the project. A Battle for Berrima survey indicated the opposition to the project. From the contacted and surveyed households, 90.3 per cent of Berrima households and 86.1 per cent of Medway households supported a coal-free community.

Hume Coal has purchased a number of properties in the study area including Mereworth and Rosedale, heritage listed items under the Wingecarribee Shire Council LEP. Hume Coal's total landholding within and adjacent to the project area is approximately 1,765ha. The extent of the current project area is shown

in Figure 1. It should be noted that the A349 area extends much further than the current project area. This implies that an extension to the mining area could be sought in the future.

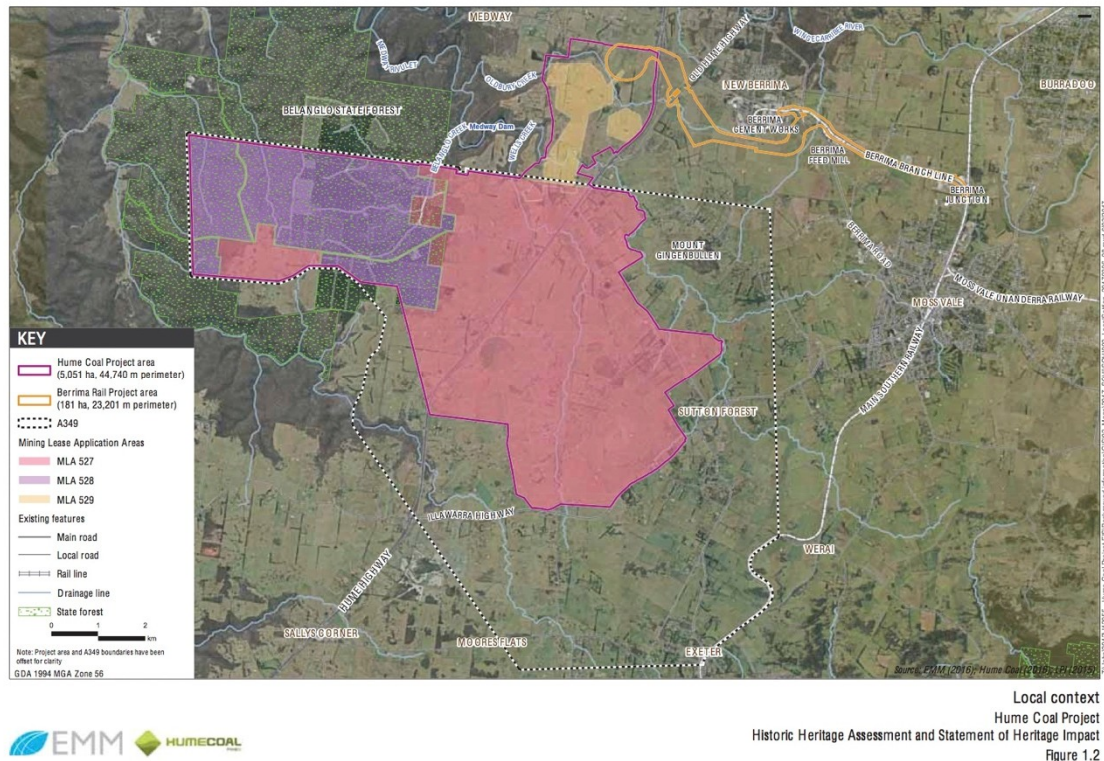


Figure 1: The local context map of the project taken from the Environmental Assessment prepared by EMM February 2017.

2.0 The Hume Coal Proposal

The proposal is to develop and operate an underground coalmine over approximately 22 years. Hume Coal has claimed that the mining methods will have negligible subsidence impacts.

The EIS states that **‘the key aspects of the project are summarised below.**

- Ongoing resource definition activities, along with geotechnical and engineering testing and other fieldwork to enable detailed design.
- Establishment of temporary construction offices and a temporary construction accommodation village.
- Development and operation of an underground coal mine, involving approximately two years of construction and 19 years of mining, followed by closure and rehabilitation occupying up to two years, leading to a total project life of 23 years. Some coal extraction will commence during the second year of construction and hence there will be some overlap between the construction and operational phases.

- Extraction of approximately 50 Mt of run-of-mine (ROM) coal from the Wongawilli Seam, at a rate of up to 3.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa). Low impact mining methods will be used resulting in negligible subsidence impacts.
- Following processing of ROM coal in the coal preparation plant (CPP), production of up to 3 Mtpa of metallurgical and thermal coal for sale to international and domestic markets.
- Construction and operation of associated mine infrastructure, mostly on cleared land, including:
 - one personnel and materials drift access and one conveyor drift access from the surface to the coal seam;
 - ventilation shafts, comprising one upcast ventilation shaft and fans, and up to two downcast shafts installed over the life of the mine, depending on ventilation requirements as the mine progresses;
 - a surface infrastructure area, including administration, bathhouse, washdown and workshop facilities, fuel and lubrication storage, warehouses, laydown areas, and other facilities. The surface infrastructure area will also include the CPP and ROM and product coal stockpiles, and coal reject handling infrastructure and a temporary (emergency) reject stockpile;
 - surface and groundwater management and treatment facilities, including storages, pipelines, pumps and associated infrastructure;
 - overland conveyors;
 - rail load-out facilities;
 - a small explosives magazine;
 - ancillary facilities, including fences, access roads, car parking areas, helipad and communications infrastructure; and
 - environmental management and monitoring equipment.
- Establishment of site access from Mereworth Road, and construction of minor internal roads.
- Relocation of some existing utilities.
- Coal reject emplacement underground in the mined-out voids.
- Peak workforces of approximately 414 full-time equivalent employees

during construction and approximately 300 full-time equivalent employees during operations.

- Decommissioning of mine infrastructure and rehabilitating the area once mining is complete, so that it can support land uses similar to current ones.

Three separate approvals will be required under the EP&A Act for the Hume Coal mine to operate. Hume Coal is therefore seeking:

- development consent for the mine and associated facilities (SSD 7172, the project the subject of this EIS) under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the EP&A Act;
- development consent for the construction and use of a new rail spur and loop (the Berrima Rail Project, the subject of a separate development application (SSD 7171). Separate development consent is being sought for the Hume Coal Project and the Berrima Rail Project because the rail infrastructure will be used by others in addition to Hume Coal. The Rail Project includes:

- construction and operation of a railway bridge over Berrima Road;
- construction and operation of a new rail connection into the Berrima Cement Works from the railway bridge, including realignment of various tracks inside the works to suit the new connection;
- decommissioning of the existing rail connection into the Berrima Cement Works including the Berrima Road level crossing;
- construction and operation of a new rail spur line from the Berrima Branch Line connection to the Hume Coal Project coal loading facility;
- construction of a grade separated crossing (railway bridge) over the Old Hume Highway;
- construction and operation of maintenance sidings, a passing loop and basic provisioning facilities on the western side of the Old Hume Highway, including an associated access road, carparking and buildings;
- construction and operation of the Hume Coal rail loop adjacent to Medway Road; and
- construction and operation of associated signalling, services (including water and sewerage), access tracks, power and other ancillary infrastructure.

Despite the Rail Project being a separate development application to the Hume Coal Project, it cannot be considered in isolation when assessing the heritage impacts of the combined proposals. The cumulative effects of the developments on the cultural landscape are substantial.

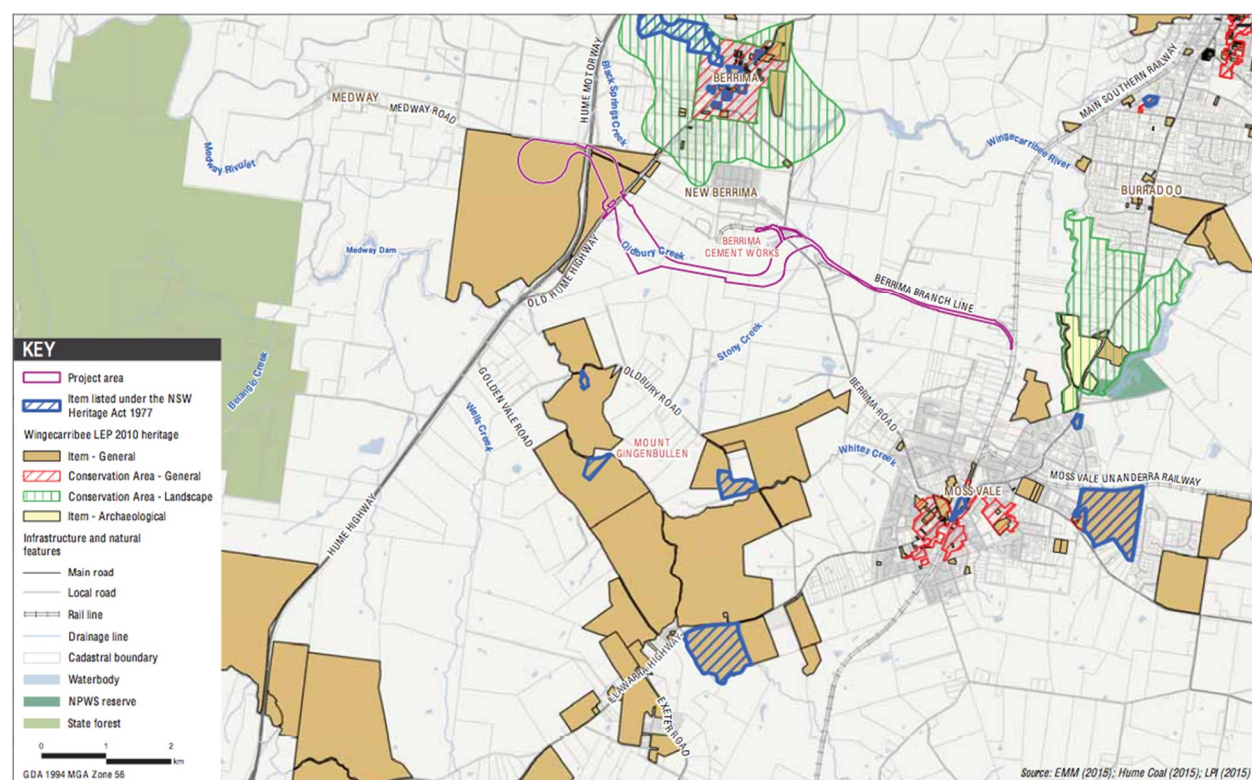
2.1 The consideration of the siting of the mine infrastructure.

The Hume Coal Preliminary EIS presented four options that were considered before deciding on the concept chosen. I agree that of the parameters and options presented, the option chosen would likely provide the least intrusive outcome when heritage alone is not considered.



Indicative surface infrastructure layout

Figure 2: Surface infrastructure concept plan (Figure 1.4 from Hume Coal Project Historic Heritage Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact). NB: The rail line extension and related infrastructure is not included on this plan.



Regional historical heritage context
Berrima Rail Project
Environmental impact statement

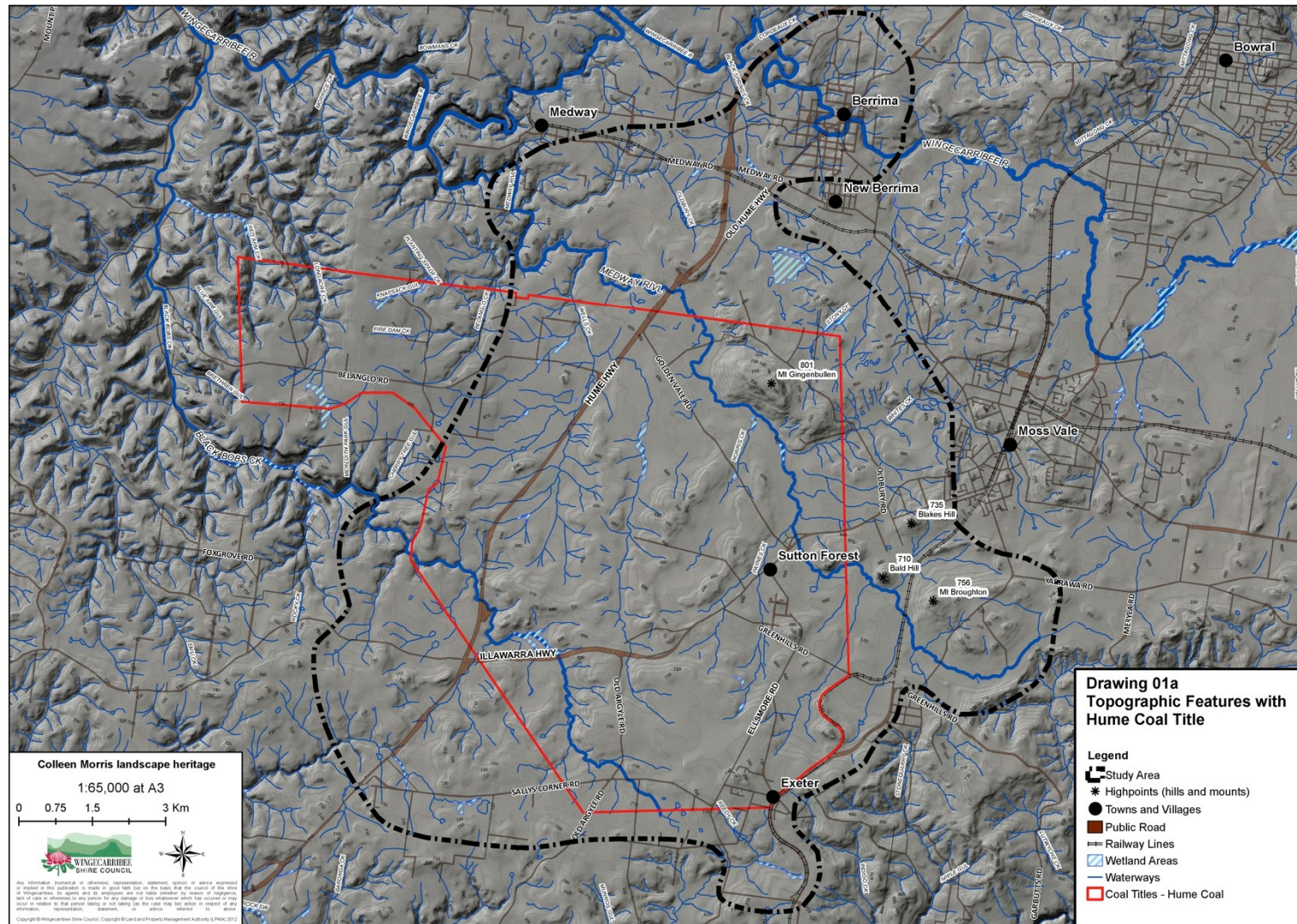
Figure 3: The area for the Rail Project. Figure 11.2 Berrima Rail Project EIS.

3.0 The Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape Assessment Study Area

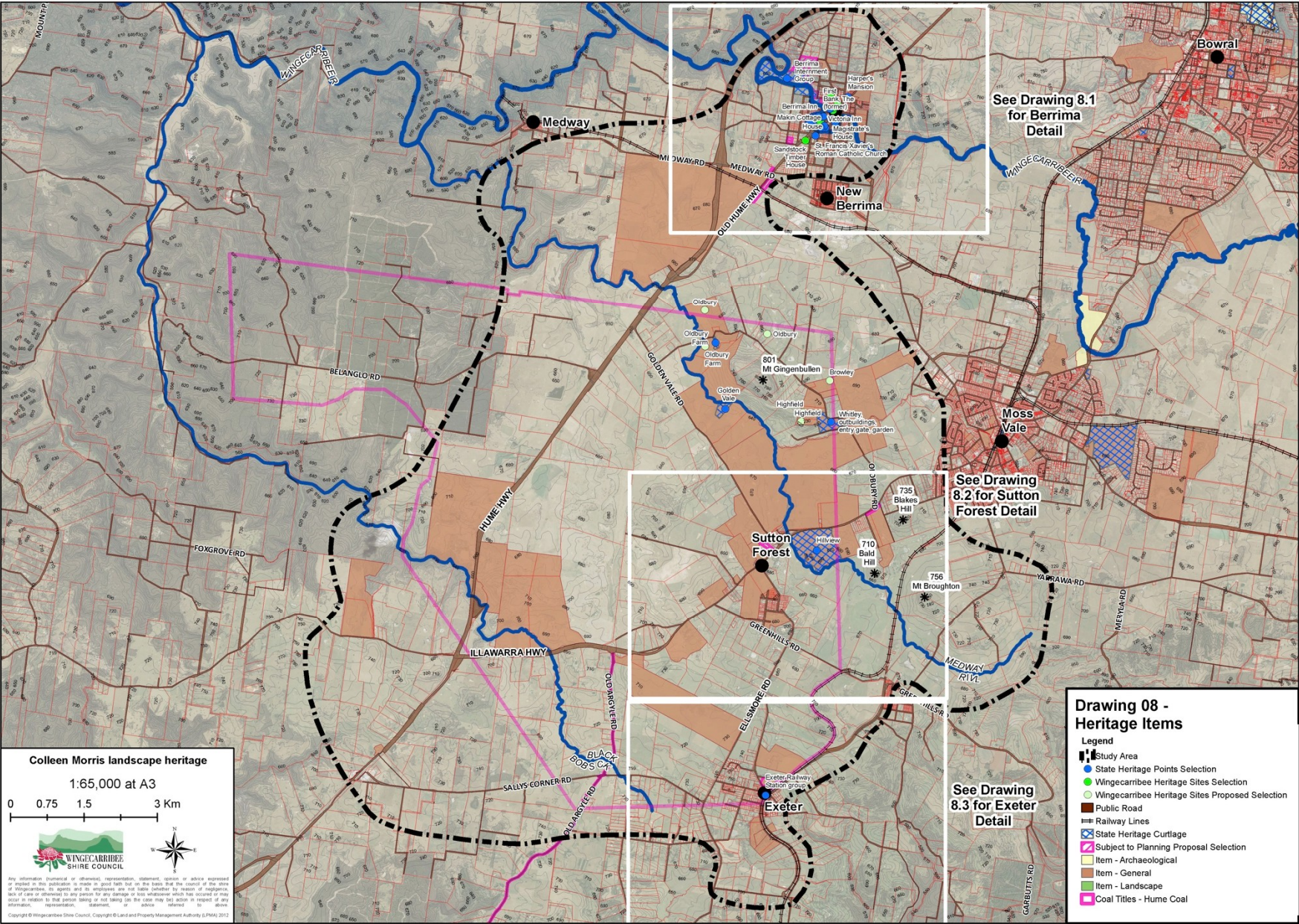
The following map, Drawing 01a, indicates the boundary of the study area in relation with the Hume Coal Title A349. The study area, which includes a substantial part of A349, includes 21 items that are listed as of State significance on the State Heritage Register of NSW. In 1998 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) approved the listing for the Exeter/Sutton Forest Landscape Conservation Area, the boundaries of which were reviewed in February 2017. The National Trust area contains 43 National Trust listed sites. Drawings 08 and 09 from the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape Assessment show heritage-listed properties and conservation areas.

It should be noted that there are substantial omissions from Table 2.2 'Listed heritage items in the vicinity of the project area' in the Hume Coal Project Historic Heritage Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact. A list of statutory heritage items in the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape area follows the maps. heritage items in the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape area

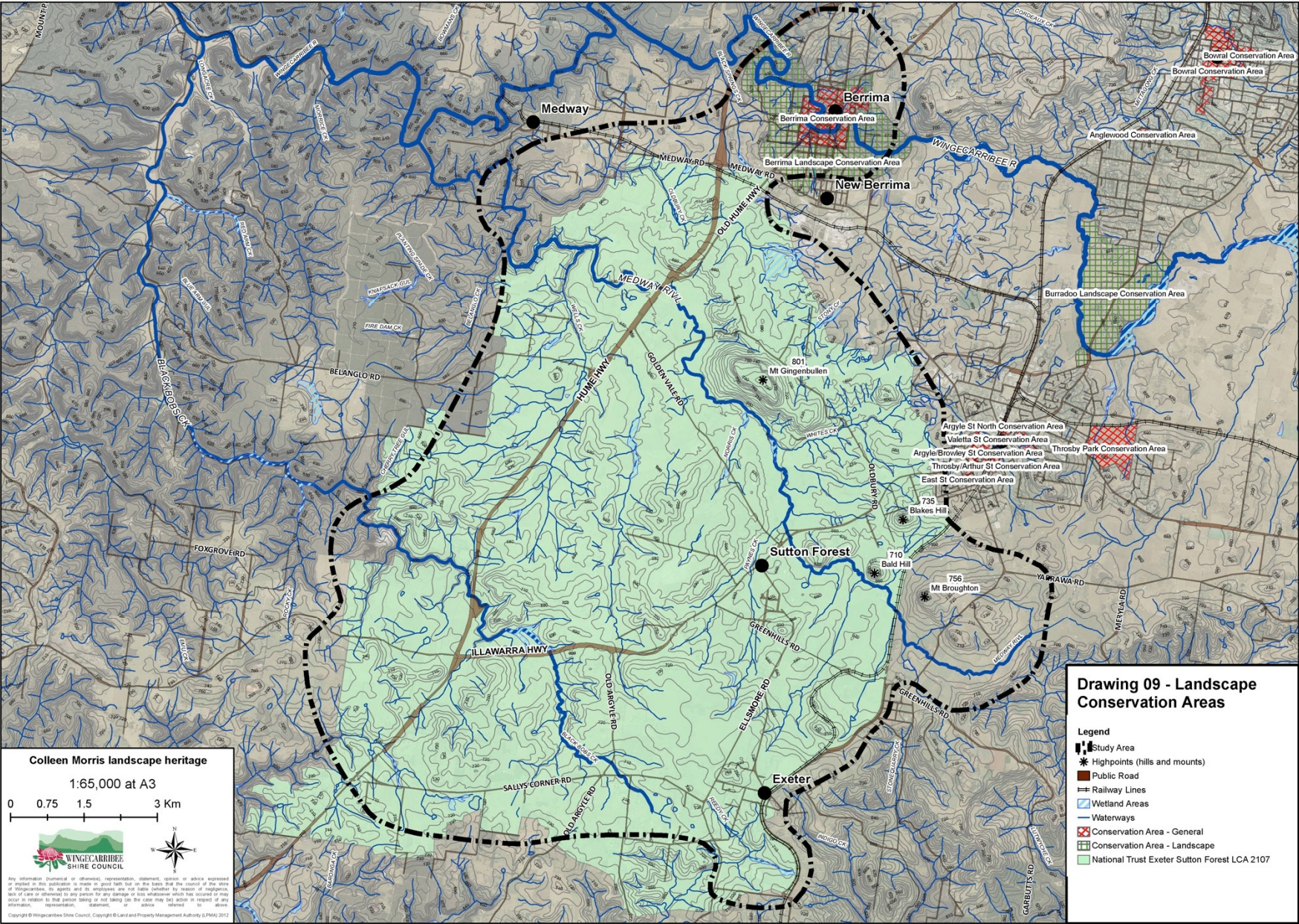
With respect to the Aboriginal history of the area (Hume Coal Appendix S Table 2.3 Point 3), during research for the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape Assessment it was found that there is serious doubt as to the claim of a massacre site on Mt Gingenbullen. The claim is based on a publication in which the author selectively uses source material in a debatable manner. Unfortunately this claim detracts from the real value of the history of the site, which was a genuine Aboriginal burial mound, at Mt Gingenbullen.



Statement of Heritage Impact of Hume Coal Southern Highlands Proposal on the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape



Statement of Heritage Impact of Hume Coal Southern Highlands Proposal on the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape



Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010	Current version for 5 August 2016 to date (accessed 6 December 2016 at 03:47)								
Schedule 5 Environmental heritage (Clause 5.10)									
KEY to TERMS and ACRONYMS In table.	SHI = State heritage Inventory	SoS = Statement of significance	AoS = Assessment of Significance	State = listed on state heritage register.					
Suburb	Item name	Address	Property description	Significance	Item No	SHI Item type	SHI group or collection	SHI category	Comments (relevant to landscape heritage study)
Berrima	Berrima Internment Group	Argyle Street	Part Lots 7026-7028, DP 1026280; Lot 7316, DP 1178372; Part Lot 450, DP 751252; Lot 2, DP 833835	State					Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Superintendent's House	Argyle Street	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I107				
Berrima	Berrima Correctional Centre (formerly	Corner Argyle and Wilshire Streets	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	State	I109				
					I110				

	Gaol)				I484				
Berrima	Stone Cottage	Corner Argyle and Wilshire Streets	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I236				
Berrima	Church of the Holy Trinity	5–13 Argyle Street	Lot 10, Sec 3, DP 758098; Lots 101–104, DP 1004483; Part Lot 2, Sec 3, DP 758098	State	I147				
Berrima	Sovereign Cottage	8 Argyle Street	Lot B, DP 181309	Local	I214				
Berrima	Cottage	10 Argyle Street	Lot A, DP 181309	Local	I143				
Berrima	Finlayson Memorial Presbyterian Church	12 Argyle Street (corner Oxley Street and Argyle Street)	Lot 2, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I146				
Berrima	Ardleigh Cottage	14 Argyle Street (corner Argyle and Oxley Streets)	Lot 16, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I211				
Berrima	Berrima Cemetery	Berrima Road	Lot 312, DP 751252; Lot 311, DP 999883	Local	I122				
Berrima	The First Bank	12 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 871727	State	I129				
Berrima	Munday Cottage (former Jellore	16 Jellore Street	Lot 6, Sec 2, DP 758098	State	I237				

	Cottage)								
Berrima	Berrima House	19 Jellore Street	Lot 3, Sec 5, DP 758098	State	I131				
Berrima	Former Victoria Inn	20–22 Jellore Street	Lot 104, DP 717120; Lot 3, Sec 2, DP 758098	State	I128				
Berrima	Riverview Cottage	23 Jellore Street	Lot 6, Sec 5, DP 758098	State	I130				
Berrima	Former Coach and Horses Inn	24 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 780565	State	I133				
Berrima	McMahons Inn (former Berrima Inn)	26 Jellore Street	Lot 1, DP 643496	State	I132				
Berrima	Nurse's Cottage	Market Place	Lot B, DP 378459	State	I228				
Berrima	White Horse Inn	3 Market Place	Lot A, DP 378459	State	I123				
Berrima	Magistrate's House	5–7 Market Place	Lot 51, DP 1021473	State	I125				
Berrima	Lennox Bridge stonework	Market Place Reserve	518–30	Local	I474				
Berrima	The Gunyah	Odessa Street	Lot 201, DP 751252	Local	I251				
Berrima	Slab cottage	7–9 Oldbury Street	Lot 1, DP 806686	Local	I230				
Berrima	“The Old Rose Cottage”	3444 Old Hume Highway	Lots 53-54, DP 751252	Local	I1382				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning

									Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Remembrance Driveway Trees	Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 225190; Lot 1, DP 399452; Lot 1, DP	Local	I485				Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Former Crown Inn	Old Hume Highway	402230	Local	I141				
Berrima	Former Levy's Store	Old Hume Highway	Lot 3, DP 1102396; Lot 7017, DP 93056	Local	I137				
Berrima	Former Taylor's Butcher Shop	Old Hume Highway (adjoins Pound Green)	Lot 3, DP 1102396; Lot 7017, DP 93056	Local	I216				
Berrima	Glebe Cottage	Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 875157	Local	I177				
Berrima	"Mereworth" house and garden	Old Hume Highway	Lot 100, DP 839316; Lot 200, DP 839314	Local	I351				
Berrima	Market Place	Old Hume Highway Public Reserve	518-30	Local	I233	Landscape	Parks, Gardens and Trees	Urban Park	a social and recreational facility for visitors and for the local community from the earliest period of settlement

									through to the present. It is significant as surviving evidence of the earliest layout of Berrima. It is also important as a townscape element and the trees and open spaces contribute to the setting of the town as a whole
Berrima	St Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church	Corner Old Hume Highway and Oldbury Street	Lots 1 and 2, Sec 44, DP 758098	State	I120				
Berrima	Sandstone and timber cottage	Corner Old Hume Highway and Raglan Street)	Lot 7, Sec 40, DP 758098	Local	I239				
Berrima	Bramber Cottage (former Post Office)	7 Old Hume Highway (corner Oxley Street)	Lot 20, DP 552150	Local	I218				
Berrima	Harper's Cottage	8 Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 791464	Local	I134				
Berrima	Woodley Cottage (or Telegraph Office)	12–16 Old Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 724201; Lot 1, DP 538751	Local	I208				
Berrima	Former Cobb	13 Old Hume	Lot 100, DP	Local	I210				

	and Co timber buildings	Highway (rear of General Store)	805720		I344				
Berrima	Former Bakery	17–19 Old Hume Highway (corner Wingecaribee Street)	Lot 1, DP 568701	Local	I142				
Berrima	Old Breens Inn (former Colonial Inn)	24 Old Hume Highway	Lot 4, Sec 15, DP 758098; Lot 1, DP 741287	Local	I140				
Berrima	Surveyor General Inn	26 Old Hume Highway	Lot 14, Sec 2, DP 758098	Local	I139				
Berrima	Berrima Post Office	30 Old Hume Highway	SP 75992	State	I138				
Berrima	Brick house	35 Old Hume Highway	Lots 3 and 4, Sec 33, DP 758098	Local	I232				
Berrima	Sandstock and timber house	35 Old Hume Highway	Lot 43, Sec 33, DP 758098	Local	I231				
Berrima	Berrima Glen Cottage (former Simon's Cottage)	Old Mandemar Road	Lot 346, DP 751252	Local	I127				
Berrima	Greenwood House (former Taylor's Farmhouse)	Old Mandemar Road	Lot 7, DP 788363	Local	I126				
Berrima	Bellevue House	Oxley Street	Lots 13 and 14,	Local	I118				

			Sec 37, DP 758098						
Berrima	Berrima Public School and residence	Oxley Street	Lots 1–3, Sec 31, DP 758098; Lot 1, DP 782713	Local	I114				
Berrima	Parsley Cottage	14 Oxley Street	Lot 150, DP 1022425	Local	I117				
Berrima	Armfield Cottage	22 Oxley Street	Lot 12, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I115				
Berrima	“Oaklea” cottage	24 Oxley Street	Lot 11, Sec 37, DP 758098	Local	I250				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Berrima	Cottage	31 Oxley Street	Lot 5, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I116				
Berrima	The Old Rectory	Corner Quarry and Wingecarribee Streets	Lots 8–12, DP 80581	Local	I105				
Berrima	Makin Cottages	Stockade Street	Lot 4, DP 711365	State	I227				
Berrima	Hillside Cottage	Corner Wilkinson and Oxley Streets	Lots 6, 7 and 11, Sec 36, DP 758098	Local	I209				
Berrima	Harper’s Mansion	9 Wilkinson Street	Lot 5, DP 258420	State	I113				
Berrima	Police Sergeant’s	Wilshire Street	Lot 5, DP 823508	Local	I112				

	Residence								
Berrima	Bull's Head Drinking Fountain	Wilshire Street, on outside wall of Gaol	Lot 7304, DP 1146099	Local	I111				
Berrima	Berrima Court House	Corner Wilshire and Argyle Streets	Lot 18, Sec 35, DP 758098	Local	I108				
Berrima	Former Rectory	5 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 2, DP 600090	Local	I104				
Berrima	Former Warden's Cottage	10 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 1, DP 196369	Local	I220				
Berrima	Pickering Cottage	12 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 34, DP 1063847	Local	I219				
Berrima	Love In The Mist Cottage	15 Wingecarribee Street	Lot 161, DP 525573	Local	I222				
Berrima	German Dam	Wingecarribee River at end of Oxley Street		Local	I179				
Berrima	Lambie's Well	Adjacent to Wingecarribee River at end of Wilshire Street		Local	I234				
Exeter	"Cherrydell" house and garden (formerly	Bundanoon Road	Lot 2, DP 522290	Local	I372				
					I591				

	part of “Invergowrie”)								
Exeter	“Invergowrie” house and garden	Bundanoon Road	Lot 1, DP 522290; Lot 2, Sec 7, DP 58913	Local	I372				
					I591				
Exeter	“Redcourt” house	Bundanoon Road	Lots 6 and 7, DP 3371	Local	I594				
Exeter	Exeter School of Arts Hall	Exeter Road	Pt Lot 4, Sec C, DP 3170	Local	I593				
					I1341				
Exeter	St Aiden’s Church and Memorial Hall	Exeter Road	Lots 9 and 10, Sec 5, DP 3373; Lot 1, DP 952304	Local	I375				
					I376				
Exeter	Badgery Memorial, Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road	Lot 2, DP 1171097	Local	I1229				PROPOSED Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	Exeter Public School - 1907 classroom, former residence and trees.	School Lane	Lots 1-2, DP 795381	Local	I1346				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road	Lots 1-2, DP 1171097	Local	I1233				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'

Exeter	War Memorial Gates, Exeter Park	16 Exeter Road		Local	I1238				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Exeter	“Vine Lodge” house, grounds and outbuildings	Exeter Road	Lot 1, DP 596495	Local	I354				
					I204				
					I355				
Exeter	Exeter Railway Station, signal box and cottage	Main Southern Line	Lots 1 and 2, DP 852888	State	I607				
					I610				
Exeter	Romsey Cottage and garden	Ringwood Road	Lot 131, DP 790655	Local	I592				
Moss Vale	“Cardrona” (former Eagleroo) grounds	Corner Argyle Street and Kater Road	Lots 1 and 2, DP 1081472	Local	I352				“
Moss Vale	“Peppers” (former Mt Broughton) house, grounds and outbuildings	Kater Road	Lot 1, DP 236285	Local	I488 I486 I487 I489				
Moss Vale	“Bonheur” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 5, DP 979138	Local	I049				
Moss Vale	“Browley” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 4, DP 215782; Lot 10, DP 10658; Lots 1 and 2,	Local	I056				

			DP 1123580; Lot 1, DP 74651; Lot 1, DP 1095023						
Moss Vale	“Highfield” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 1, DP 58837; Lot 1, DP 59375; Lot 1, DP 59165;	Local	I246 I247 I054				
Moss Vale	“Oldbury” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 1, DP 98673; Lot 3, DP 1046976; Lot 1, DP 559345; Lot 30, DP 654489; Lots 191 and 192, DP 1010278	State	I353 I057 I164				
Moss Vale	“Whitley” house, grounds and outbuildings	Oldbury Road	Lot 2, DP 123550	State	I361				landmark due to its position on Judge’s Hill contiguous with Mt Gingenbullen, outstanding garden setting with a commanding view of the surrounding countryside.
Sutton Forest	“Eccleston Park” house and outbuildings	Canyonleigh Road	Lots 7 and 9, DP 805624	Local	I017				
Sutton Forest	Charlie Grey’s Cottage	Conflict Street	Lots 9 and 10, Sec 3, DP 758938	Local	I014				

Sutton Forest	“Boscobel” house, grounds and outbuildings	Exeter Road	Lots 1 and 2, Sec 9, DP 758938; Lots 1–19, Sec 8, DP 758938; Lot 1, DP 1094302; Lot 1, DP 63523	Local	I013				
Sutton Forest	Everything Store, former Butcher Shop (A Little Piece of Scotland) and General Store	Corner Exeter Road and Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 722533; Lot 1, DP 984053	Local	I490				
Sutton Forest	“Bunya Hill” house, grounds and outbuildings	Golden Vale Road	Lot 1, DP 995642; Lot 1, DP 130301	Local	I018				
Sutton Forest	“Golden Vale” house, grounds and outbuildings	Golden Vale Road	Lot 1, DP 1118652	State	I003	Landscape	Farming and Grazing	Home stead Complex	Granted 1842, 16.190 ha (40000 acres), approx 200 acres remain, landmark in Mt Gingenbullen landscape setting, associated with early settlement, it was sited between Oldbury and Newbury farms
					I005				
					I001				
					I002				
Sutton Forest	“Montrose” house and grounds	Greenhills Road	Lot 2, DP 620221	Local	I006				

Sutton Forest	Black Bob's Bridge	Black Bob's Creek, Hume Highway	Lot 5, DP 614690	Local	I019				
Sutton Forest	"Black Horse" farm house, grounds and outbuildings (former Black Horse Inn)	Hume Highway	Lot 105, DP 1087612	Local	I020				
Sutton Forest	"Comfort Hill" house, grounds and outbuildings	Hume Highway	Lot 1, DP 744544	Local	I357				
					I356				
					I021				
Sutton Forest	"Eling Forest Winery" house, grounds and outbuildings	Hume Highway	Lot 2, DP 806934	Local	I004				
					I009				
					I010				
Sutton Forest	Remembrance Drive Plantings	Illawarra Highway	Lots A and B, DP 415370	Local	I1691				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Sutton Forest	Sutton Forest Public School - 1879 classroom and toilets, and 1912 classroom.	7366 Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 794882	Local	I030				Taken from Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'

Sutton Forest	All Saints Anglican Church, hall and cemetery	Illawarra Highway	Lots 1 and 2, DP 999587	Local	I026				
					I022				
					I025				
					I350				
Sutton Forest	“Clover Hill” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 56241	Local	I203				
Sutton Forest	Cottage	Illawarra Highway	Lots 8 and 9, DP 32	Local	I028				
Sutton Forest	“Hillview” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 12, DP 260417	State	I008				Vice Regal country residence for Governors of NSW between 1882 and 1957. Sixteen Governors used it over a period of 75 years, Grounds: Charles Moore, The residence at the highest point of the 60.4 hectare rural property.
					I007				
					I358				
					I359				
Sutton Forest	“Rosedale” house and grounds	Illawarra Highway	Lot 2, DP 250747; Lot 6, DP 250743; Lots 7 and 8, DP 11147	Local	I031				
Sutton Forest	“Rotherwood”	Illawarra	Lot 1, DP	Local	I033				

	house, grounds and outbuildings	Highway	1068950		I032				
Sutton Forest	“Spring Grove Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings	Illawarra Highway	Lot 2, DP 250746; Lot 2, DP 1127380	Local	I492				
Sutton Forest	St Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church and cemetery	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 513739	Local	I034				
					I349				
					I023				
Sutton Forest	“Sutton Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings (former Red Cow Inn)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 783660	Local	I035				
Sutton Forest	Sutton Forest Inn (former Royal Hotel)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 64663	Local	I1187				
Sutton Forest	“The Harp” (former “Bindagundra” house, grounds and outbuildings)	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 1028147	Local	I027				
Sutton Forest	“The Pines” slab cottage	Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 160149	Local	I029				
Sutton Forest	Former Post Office	Corner Illawarra Highway and Exeter Road	Lot 1, DP 334187; Lot 83, DP 665633	Local	I016				
Sutton Forest	“Summerlees”	219 Illawarra	Lot 1, DP	Local	I362				

	house and grounds	Highway	58843		I037				
Sutton Forest	“Newbury Farm” house, grounds and outbuildings	7300 Illawarra Highway	Lot 1, DP 301672; Lot 1, DP 176414; Lot 32, DP 665400	Local	I202				Three large grants of land were made in the area surveyed by James Meehan as part of the initial settlement of Sutton Forest. One was made to John Nicholson (700 acres to be called Newbury),
					I036				
Sutton Forest	Old Argle Road	Old Argyle Road (from Illawarra Highway, Sutton Forest, to Paddys River Penrose)		Local	1030				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'
Part 2 Heritage conservation areas									

Suburb	Item name								
Berrima	Berrima Conservation Area	C148							
Berrima	Berrima Landscape Conservation Area	C1843							
Part 3 Archaeological sites									
Suburb	Item name	Address	Property description	Significance	Item No				
Berrima	Berrima Internment Group	Argyle Street	Part Lots 7026-7028, DP 1026280; Lot 7316, DP 1178372; Part Lot 450, DP 751252; Lot 2, DP 833835	State	A1882				Wingecarribee Council's 2015 list in 'Planning Proposal to add heritage ITEMS'

3.1 Summary Statement of Significance for the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape

The cultural landscape of Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter is of historic significance at a State level as a place of early exploration beyond the limits of the Cumberland Plain in 1798, and of early settlement and pastoralism from 1819 onwards, the evidence of which is legible today.

There is a direct relationship between early settlement and the area's natural significance demonstrated by the close connection of the settlement pattern with the terrain of the Wingecarribee River, particularly with the siting of Berrima as the intended country town, and the containment of many early large land holdings within the valleys of its tributary the Medway Rivulet, the focus of which is Mt Gingenbullen with its landmark character. The rural landscapes in the vicinity of Mt Gingenbullen are significant as cultural landscapes, which reflect historic associations and aesthetic qualities that reach back to the first Aboriginal people who lived in the area– the process of European settlement and dispossession documented through Louisa Atkinson's accounts of Aboriginal life on their occupied land.

The rich and varied cultural landscape, shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region and its remnant stands of endangered woodlands, is of aesthetic significance at a State level. The evidence of these associations through early grant boundaries and roads, town layouts, remnant woodland, cleared grazing lands and the placement of homesteads, makes a substantial contribution to the overarching spatial arrangements and visual qualities of the cultural landscape. The attachment to the area by the early explorers and settlers, and the valuing of it, particularly for farming and grazing, is still associated with the area. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description of the 'finest prospect' from the top of Mt Gingenbullen can still be appreciated. The early impressions of a rich and beautiful pastoral landscape remain, with mature avenue plantings and gardens signaling the location of country homesteads and their outbuildings.

Important early convict built roads and the underlying early European responses to the landscape are remarkably intact with new patterns from the twentieth century subtly accommodated within the pre-existing landscape. The area is significant for its association with convictism, a convict workforce playing a crucial part in quarrying, the construction of early buildings and roads and as part of the workforce on early estates. These include the Old Argyle Road and the new line of the South Road from the 1830s (Old Hume Highway) surveyed by Major Mitchell, and the remains of its David Lennox bridge.

Berrima is of exceptional significance as one of the few substantially intact villages, dating from the Georgian period, that demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Fine buildings of convict-quarried sandstone, especially the courthouse and gaol, churches and residences contribute to its aesthetic importance. Berrima's original town layout and town limits are remarkably intact and legible, the value of which is reinforced by the high landscape quality, in terms of both mature exotic gardens and streetscape features and its remarkable sense of enclosure with indigenous vegetation in undeveloped surrounds, these components, along with the stock of early buildings combine to provide a sense of timelessness that is Berrima's character and appeal.

The area has strong links with prominent colonial settlers, individuals and families and, from the latter years of the 19th century, a special association with important wealthy Sydney families. For many of these owners farming and grazing were core occupations and equestrian activities, gardening and the landscape have been deep interests. The use of Hillview, Sutton Forest as the governors' summer residence 1882-1957 and the influence of that use still permeate and render the area unique. The physical evidence in the concentration of so many 19th century buildings ranging from Oldbury, Kenmore Cottage and Newbury, the Berrima Gaol and Courthouse, the Surveyor General Inn, Harper's Mansion, St Francis Xavier's Church and the humble cottages of Berrima, modest farmhouses such as Bonheur on Oldbury Road through to grander houses and gardens including Golden Vale,

Comfort Hill, Summerlees, Whitley and Rotherwood at Sutton Forest imbues the area with a high degree of historical importance. Important 20th century houses such as Invergowrie, Rosedale and Mereworth and gardens designed by Paul Sorensen and Claude Crowe added a layer to the already rich cultural landscape. A number of archaeological sites have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the history of the area.

There is a strong feeling of continuity, a sense of stewardship of the landscape and also participation in history among the local community and organisations including the Berrima and District Historical Society, the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust of Australia (NSW). The three historic villages of Berrima, Exeter and Sutton Forest, their churches and cemeteries, the fine gardens and the surrounding rural landscapes - all these combine to create a cultural landscape which is rare in the State of New South Wales and which is highly valued for its historic significance and scenic qualities by visitors from all over Australia.

4.0 Key Heritage Questions

- 4.1 The key heritage question is to what extent will the proposal impact on the Cultural Significance of the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Landscape?
- 4.2 How will it impact the cultural values that enhance the community's way of life and impact on the aesthetic significance of an area that draws thousands of visitors?

5.0 Impact on Landscape Character

- 5.1 Water underpins the vitality of this landscape, which in turn, contributes to its landscape character. One of the most concerning aspects of the proposal is the extent of the ground water drawdown, the uncertainty about the impact on the aquifer, and ultimately the impact on the character of the cultural landscape. The Report by the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and large Coal Mining Development IESC 2017-083 Hume Coal Project (EPBS 2015/7526, 8 May 2017) advises that the Hume Coal Modelling presented in the EIS is inadequate to predict impacts on ground and surface water.
- 5.2 The water drawdown will primarily impact the White's Creek Water catchment and the Wingecarribee catchment but may also impinge on the Paddy's River and Shoalhaven River catchments. The potential for a radical change in water flow through the landscape is unknown and an event such as one of the creeks or rivers drying up would have a substantial negative impact on the landscape both in practical and aesthetic terms. Advice from the IESC is that Hume Coal's assertions that the impacts are only minimal cannot be accepted with confidence.
- 5.3 Modelling by Pells Consulting indicates that there could be significant lowering of groundwater levels over a broad area, possibly in excess of 100m. While a decrease in groundwater does not have an immediate heritage impact, it could over time change the viability of the land for agricultural and pastoral use and this, in turn, will have an effect on the character of the cultural landscape. In drought years when mature trees depend on groundwater, there is no certainty that resource will be sufficient to sustain the long-term health of the landscape.

The advice to decision maker on coal mining project IESC 2017-083 Hume Coal Project (EPBS 2105/7526)- New Development (IESC - Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development) notes the key potential impacts on water resources:

- *Drawdown in landholders' bores, largely within the Hawkesbury Sandstone.*

- *Drawdown of the water table resulting in loss of baseflow and subsequent changes to the flow regime and water quality in waterways.*
- *Drawdown of the water table impacting groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs), including riverine GDEs, terrestrial vegetation and subsurface ecosystems.*
- *Water quality impacts to Oldbury Creek, Medway Rivulet and the Wingecarribee River, and riparian vegetation in these waterways as a result of discharge from site stormwater basins (SBs).*
- *Water quality impacts to aquifers and groundwater fed surface waters as a result of storing rejects in underground voids.*

What is apparent from the IESC advice is that the risks that the project will have significant impacts on water related resources is real because the modelling presented in the EIS is inadequate. The risks associated with the pollution of ground water from putting coal washing rejects back into mine voids must be adequately assessed for its impact on the whole cultural landscape.

- 5.4 The construction of above ground infrastructure will directly impact the northern and north-western part of the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter cultural landscape. The visual and spatial quality of the landscape will be significantly altered. A substantial area will be transformed from a pastoral landscape into an industrial landscape with buildings, stockpiling of coal, coal-loading, and a railway extension. Here the cultural landscape will be irrevocably changed. Although there was a railway extension through this area previously, the new railway loop will be much larger and a more dominant feature in the relatively open landscape in comparison to the single line that terminated at Medway. What is proposed is for a railway line to pass over the old Hume Highway and for railway sheds and associated workings to be introduced in the land between the old Hume Highway and the freeway.
- 5.5 Under the Wingecarribee LEP 2010 zoning much of the Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter Landscape is what Wingecarribee Shire Council has defined as E3 zoned land. The underlying management principles for the E3 zoning is to preserve the rural landscape character of the area and the significant cultural values embodied in the landscape:

The primary purpose of the E3 zoned land is to protect, manage and restore areas of the Shire with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values. Development is permitted, provided it does not have an adverse effect on those values.¹

¹ Wingecarribee LEP 2010 see also Wingecarribee Shire Council 'Rural Lands DCP' p.14. <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/uploads/2674/rural-lands-development-control-plan.pdf>

The Hume Coal Project contravenes the objectives of the Wingecarribee LEP 2010:

- To protect, manage and restore areas with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values.
- To provide for a limited range of development that does not have an adverse impact on those values.
- To encourage the retention of the remaining evidence of significant historic and social values expressed in existing landscape and landuse patterns.
- To minimise the proliferation of buildings and other structures in those sensitive landscapes areas.
- To provide for a restricted range of development and land use activities that provide for rural settlement, sustainable agriculture, other types of economic and employment activity, recreation and community amenity in identified drinking water catchment areas.
- To protect significant agricultural resources (soil, water and vegetation) in recognition of their value to Wingecarribee's longer term economic sustainability.

6.0 Views and Vistas:

Including how does the work impact on views to, and from, adjacent heritage items?

- 6.1 Although the proposal outlines the attempts to site above ground infrastructure with the objective of minimising impact, the structures will be large and will impact views both public and private. It is misleading to assume that because travellers on the Motorway are moving at speeds of up to 110km/hour the impact on views will be low as even glimpsed views that have negative connotations impact on the perceived aesthetic qualities of a landscape.
- 6.2 Views from Medway Road, Old Hume Highway, the Hume Highway (motorway), Mereworth Road, Oldbury Road near Oldbury Estate and properties off Golden Vale Road eg: Roscoe Park will be impacted. As one approaches the Hume Motorway from Golden Vale Road the current view is to the rural landscape of Evandale and this will be greatly altered.
- 6.3 Although new trees have been planted along the boundaries of Hume Coal owned properties, there are three points to consider when assessing the impact of plantings:
- a) The plantings recently undertaken will actually block current public views across the rural landscape. Wingecarribee Shire Council commissioned the dem consultants 'Wingecarribee Views and Vistas Study' (2009). The 2009 study only dealt with recognised tourist roads,

thus omitting some roads that will be impacted by this proposal. New boundary planting is being undertaken along the Old Hume Highway in an area that the study noted as having scenic views. The Rural Lands DCP states:

- *that identified significant views and vistas are maintained throughout the rural areas of the Shire.*

Thus the work to mitigate the impact on views is not in accord with the Rural Lands DCP. The new barrier plantings to screen rail track, train movements and surface infrastructure will destroy the rural views across the Mereworth property from the Old Hume Highway and from Medway Road.

b) Unlike the infrastructure at Tahmoor Colliery, for example, which is located on fairly flat land with no overlooking highpoints, this proposal is located in undulating land overlooked by a number of viewing points across the landscape from hills and highpoints and the Hume Motorway. Views across what is now a rural landscape will be negatively impacted.

c) Plantings around infrastructure may take a considerable number of years to mature sufficiently to ameliorate the negative impact of the proposed structures on views. It should be noted that the impact of Berrima Cement Works was ameliorated through landscaping and tree planting although it can still be seen. However, even during the 1960s when the Cement Works was 25-30 years old, it was still visually very prominent. The Hume Coal proposal is planned to run for 22 years. It is possible that tree planting will only become truly effective towards the end of the project.

- 6.4 The EMM HIS argues that the visual impact on public views across the Mereworth landscape will be low to moderate. This assessment is disingenuous when the proposed layout of both the surface infrastructure of the mine and the railway project is considered. Within the Hume Coal EIS a limited set of viewpoints were included and views from Oldbury Road were not considered. Views from private properties toward the surface infrastructure of the mine were not considered.

The EMM HIS discusses the impact on views from Mereworth house and garden. These will, of course, be adversely impacted.



Figure 6.1 A view from the public road, Oldbury Road, toward the Hume Coal area. Views from this area near the heritage-listed property Oldbury are important as they display the relative intactness of the significant cultural landscape. (See also Figure 3.7 'Cultural Landscape Assessment Berrima, Sutton Forest, Exeter' May 2007) Views over Evandale where surface infrastructure will also be sited are also seen from Oldbury Road and from the junction of Golden Vale Road and the Hume Highway.

- 6.5 The mine infrastructure and the related rail line will need to be lit at night and will impact night views, which will be a negative impact on the rural cultural landscape. Noise attenuation walls will also have a significant impact along Medway Road where residents now enjoy sweeping views across the landscape. The argument that that through tree planting and the introduction of a 4 metre high unbroken noise wall in a sympathetic finish for 950m along the length of Medway Road will render the impact on unencumbered rural views across the landscape to one of moderate impact, rather than high impact, could be considered insensitive to the local residents.²
- 6.6 A maintenance shed 6-8m high and of unstated length is proposed between the Old Hume Highway and the Hume Highway- this will have a visual impact. That the Berrima Rail Project Visual Impact Assessment Report concluded that 'the project will not have significant adverse visual

² Viewpoints 1 and 2 in Berrima Rail Project Visual Impact Assessment Report, Appendix M, p.22

impacts on the locality' is misleading. Views of the Rail Project and its infrastructure will be visible from the Old Hume Highway, from the Hume Motorway and views from Medway Road will be dramatically altered. The mitigation measures will destroy the rural views across the landscape toward Mereworth from the Old Hume Highway and from Medway Road.



Figure 6.2: Looking across toward Mereworth from the Old Hume Highway.

- 6.7 The Hume Coal EIS promotes the argument that as the Cement Works is already a prominent structure in the landscape and has a visual impact, it is acceptable to add more large and visually intrusive structures. Because there is one intrusive element in an otherwise scenic rural landscape does not justify adding worse to bad. It also cites examples of other large structures in the designated Moss Vale industrial zone– this is a totally unacceptable approach to managing intrusion in a landscape recognised for its heritage values.

7.0 Impact on the Streetscape

- 7.1 The introduction of approximately 300 full-time equivalent workers and associated vehicles will potentially have an impact on traffic through Berrima. Heavy vehicles could have an impact and if the project is approved, it should be conditioned that heavy vehicle traffic is confined to the Hume Motorway.

- 7.2 There is a potential for a perceived need to upgrade secondary roads. This will impact the rural character of the cultural landscape. Of particular concern is the potential impact on Golden Vale Road, which may become a cross-country thoroughfare for workers to access the administration area. Other roads that may be impacted by similar traffic are Old Argyle Road and Exeter Road.
- 7.3 The proposal will impact Medway and Mereworth Roads and change the character of the streetscape as travellers leave the Hume Freeway to access Berrima.
- 7.4 The Remembrance Driveway plantations have been listed as an item of local significance. The Railway Project will have a significant impact on the way these plantings are seen and appreciated.

8.0 Impact on Heritage Items

- 8.1 Much of the above ground infrastructure, and coal-loading operations will take place on Mereworth, a heritage listed property known for its prominent homestead estate garden, set in a productive rural landscape setting within an early land 'promise' later converted to a grant, which is of historic significance. At the time of the sale of the property the garden was considered to be one of designer Paul Sorensen's most accomplished works of landscape design.

The significance of heritage items goes beyond their built form. The context of a heritage item is an important aspect of its significance. Likewise external and internal views to and from an item contribute to its significance. While it is proposed the house and garden will be retained and conserved, the mine proposal will have a substantial and, in my opinion, an irrevocable negative impact on the setting of Mereworth house and garden.

The EMM HIS (p. E.2) dismisses the Mereworth grant as a whole and states that 'the significant elements on the property are the house and surrounding garden.' This is despite the extensive research into possible archaeological sites of former buildings and activities on the property as a whole. This demonstrates a contradiction within the EMM HIS of the importance of the landscape context as a whole ie: the entire locally listed item, thus conflicting with the argument that the final homestead and formal landscape design is the only item of significance.

- 8.2 Aesthetic value refers to the sensory and perceptual experience of a place—that is, how we respond to visual and non-visual aspects such as sounds, smells and other factors having a strong impact on human thoughts, feelings and attitudes. Aesthetic qualities may include the concept of beauty and formal aesthetic ideals. It can be expressed, in effect, as to how we *feel* about a landscape. The aesthetic qualities of this

cultural landscape will be negatively impacted by the introduction of a new rail corridor, by the noise from rail movements, surface vehicles, coal conveyors and the loading of rail cars. Dust pollution will also impact how people appreciate the landscape.

- 8.3 An aspect of the aesthetic significance of Berrima is its intactness and sense of timelessness. This will be impacted. As the consultants for the Wingecarribee Shire Heritage Study observed, mining does not lie easily with the public image of the Southern Highlands.
- 8.4 As tourists approach Berrima from the south along the freeway, the above ground coal mine operations will be visible. As they exit the freeway to the south of Berrima, the above ground operations will be seen. This is not the experience one would anticipate when visiting one of the most intact Georgian era towns in Australia. In my opinion it will have a significant negative impact on how the visitor will feel about the town and its surrounding rural landscape setting.
- 8.5 Oldbury Estate is of State significance and is listed on the State Heritage Register. The above ground infrastructure may potentially be seen from higher areas of the property and it will be visible from Oldbury Road as one descends the hill to Oldbury.
- 8.6 The attachment to the area by the early explorers and settlers, and valuing of it, particularly for grazing, is still associated with the area. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description of the 'finest prospect' from the top of Mt Gingenbullen can still be appreciated. The early impressions of a rich and beautiful pastoral landscape remain, with mature avenue plantings and gardens signaling the location of country homesteads and their outbuildings. This aspect of the area's significance, which is of great importance to the local community and contributes to the heritage tourism of the area, will be severely impacted.
- 8.7 A number of heritage properties will potentially be impacted by being mined beneath them. The EMM HIS tacitly accepts that the proposed low impact mining system will lead to 'negligible or imperceptible' subsidence impacts. In my opinion, a technique largely untested in local conditions cannot be considered risk free.
- 9.0 Impact on the Conservation of the Cultural Significance of Berrima village and surrounds and the Sutton Forest and Exeter Cultural Landscape**
- 9.1 The mine proposal is for a large-scale industrial enterprise with surface infrastructure on a local heritage item that sits within an important cultural landscape. This proposal threatens the experience of tourists and visitors who come to the Highlands for its heritage and visual enjoyment, upon which the local economy depends. The income generated through heritage tourism makes a large contribution to the conservation of the

historic properties of the area. Light, noise and coal dust pollution and visual impacts will all negatively impact visitor experience and residents' quality of life.

- 9.2 The tangible evidence of the early settlement pattern in the landscape will be disrupted by the proposal. One of the significant aspects of the area is its strong sense of history, its identifiable early settlement patterns and the concentration historic sites in a highly scenic rural landscape. Although providing a list of items in the vicinity, the Hume Coal HIS excludes any heritage items beyond the footprint of the mine proposal, including those in the mine exploration lease area, from its assessment. This gives an unrealistic impression of the number of heritage-listed places that will be impacted.

The EMM HIS concedes that the cultural landscapes identified as significant by both the National Trust and the 1991 Heritage Study 'still exist today.' The EMM HIS reinforces the intactness of the historic landscape in the project area apart from the introduction of the Motorway, thereby reinforcing its significance:

The earliest available aerial photography dates from 1949 and shows the project area has undergone little development after it was initially cleared...

The land surrounding homesteads has largely been subject to repeated ploughing and used for agriculture for the last 150 years. Now much of the land continues to be used for grazing cattle, cultivation of animal fodder and vineyards.³

Archival research, a review of current aerial photography and field survey support the assertion that the landscape crossing Sutton Forest and Exeter is recognisable and largely intact. Other than the upgrade of the Hume Highway and the introduction of the Hume Motorway at the northern end, the landscapes in this area appear to have undergone little abrupt and significant change. Clearly, change has occurred but at a gradual enough rate that it has been largely unnoticeable to each generation.⁴

...Nevertheless, the present landscape is an important aspect of the identity of the Southern Highlands today.⁵

Despite assessing that the cultural landscape is remarkably intact (my emphasis) and being an important part of the identity of the Southern Highlands, the EMM HIS then asserts that the impact of introducing very large scale mining infrastructure within this intact cultural landscape will

³ 'Hume Coal Project EIS Appendix T- Statement of Heritage Impact', p.78

⁴ Ibid. p.89.

⁵ Hume Coal Project EIS Appendix T- Statement of Heritage Impact' p.89.

be minimal. The method used to come to this conclusion is based on a percentage of landscapes in the proposed infrastructure area and is seriously flawed as it does not into consideration the impacts on the qualitative aspects of the area including the perception of the area as an important rural landscape and the impacts on the 'identity of the Southern Highlands'. It is unclear whether the Rail Project area is included in the percentage estimates, thus raising further questions about its veracity. In my opinion the Hume Coal HIS conclusion that the cultural landscape 'will be minimally impacted' is erroneous.

- 9.3 The description of the location of the mine in the EMM EIS is consistently myopic when it comes to acknowledging its close proximity to Berrima. The reader is led to believe that the industrial area confined to the edge of Moss Vale is one of the most dominating elements of the character of this landscape. Few visitors or tourists travel that route between Moss Vale and Berrima. The proposed railway extension and mine will be only a few kilometres from Berrima and cuts across land proposed to be included in an extension of the Berrima Landscape Conservation Area under the Wingecarribee Local Planning Strategy. Berrima is only 4km to the northeast from the proposed mine surface infrastructure, a fact which the EIS fails to adequately acknowledge.
- 9.4 The EMM HIS is deficient in its assessment of the impact on Berrima, which is one of the best-conserved towns from the colonial period in Australia. Berrima is a significant heritage village that attracts over 200,000 visitors a year. A Landscape Conservation Area, the expansion of which has been proposed, surrounds Berrima. This rural landscape setting is integral to its attraction as a tourist destination.
- 9.5 Berrima has a significant collection of State Heritage Register listed properties concentrated in a small area. Berrima includes 85 items listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI), 16 items of which are listed on the SHR. The EMM HIS is misleading in the quantity of listed heritage items and deficient in its approach to assessing to what extent the appreciation of this heritage resource will be impacted.
- 9.6 In my opinion the construction of the mine and rail extension will deter visitation to Berrima, particularly from visitors approaching from the south along the Hume Motorway. Apart from the remnants at Joadja, this is not an area known for its industrial heritage related tourism. The attraction for both residents and visitors stems from its colonial history. A new large-scale coal mine on its southern doorstep will not sit well with the cultural heritage tourism that Berrima relies upon.
- 9.7 The increased industrial activity in the area could be expected to encourage new industrial growth in an area noted for horse breeding and equestrian training, grazing and beef cattle breeding, and the food clusters that are associated with cultural tourism. This would impact on

the desirability of the area for its traditional uses and may precipitate a shift in land use in the historic cultural landscape to large-scale industrial. The impact on the large wedding industry in the area, which has a relationship with the cultural significance of the villages and landscapes, is unknown.

- 9.8 A new industrial landscape imposed on this significant cultural landscape would change the character which is highly prized by the community as reflected in the planning objectives for the area in the LEP and opposition to the mine by Wingecarribee Council, and the 'vision' of the Wingecarribee Shire as reflected in Council's long term strategic document 'Wingecarribee 2031' and Local Planning Strategy, recently endorsed by Council in 2016.

10. Comments on the Statement of Heritage Impact prepared for Hume Coal Pty Limited' by EMM, 23 February 2017

- 10.1 In the preparation of a Statement of Heritage Impact for a cultural landscape previously identified as significant it would be usually expected that the advice of a consultant skilled in the conservation of heritage landscapes be sought. This does not seem to have been undertaken for the Hume Coal SHI.
- 10.2 The EMM SHI redresses the history of mining in the area, an aspect of history, which the consultants saw as deficient in some histories of the area. However in doing so they have presented an equally unbalanced history to those they have criticised by overemphasising the small-scale mining at Medway, shale mining that ceased over a century ago and quarrying at Mount Gingenbullen that opened in 1927 but was short lived, the quarry and line falling into disuse until the line was finally dismantled in 1942. Only small-scale shale quarries for clay and cement manufacture are still operating– coal production at Medway ceased in 2013 for environmental reasons.
- 10.3 In page E2 Paragraph 3 the HIS states that a 'historic heritage management plan' will be prepared for Mereworth. This is unacceptable in the context of what is proposed for the Mereworth property. The EIS should explain in detail as to how the heritage issues with respect to the introduction of the above ground infrastructure will be managed and provide clear parameters for the conservation of Mereworth.

Conclusion

The cumulative impacts of the mine proposal and rail project are highly adverse and the project presents unacceptable risks to the heritage values of the area.

In my opinion the proposal will impact on the cultural significance of the rare and substantially intact Berrima, Sutton Forest and Exeter cultural landscape to an unacceptable extent. It will impact on the aesthetic significance of the cultural landscape which to quote the EMM HIS 'is an important aspect of the identity of the Southern Highlands today.'

In my opinion this is not an acceptable place to build a mine and associated above ground infrastructure or the associated Rail Project.



Colleen Morris
14 June 2017