

ARCHAEOLOGY – HERITAGE – MEDIATION – ARBITRATION

244 CLEVELAND STREET, SURRY HILLS

APPENDIX B TO ACHAR

Technical Report

Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment

PREPARED BY
REPORT TO
LGA
VERSION NO
DATE

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OCP ARCHITECTS ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL
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INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Education (DoE) propose to redevelop the former Cleveland Street Primary School (also known as the Cleveland Street Intensive English High School) into a new inner city comprehensive high school with 1,200 places. Due to limited availability of land in high density areas, DoE proposes to construct one of the State's flagship high-rise public schools on the site.

DoE are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in respect of the proposal and this Aboriginal archaeological assessment has been commissioned to inform the EIS.

This assessment includes an Aboriginal history of the former Cleveland Street Public School, the results of a site inspection, a review of the environmental and archaeological background of the study area and the Aboriginal heritage significance of the subject area. This report has been written in accordance with the Office of Environment & Heritage's *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW*.

The study area is within a traditional Aboriginal ceremonial and hunting ground and contains Aboriginal significance values and archaeological potential.

This report makes the following recommendations:

1. In accordance with the SEARS and prior to any redevelopment of the site Aboriginal community consultation should be undertaken in accordance with OEH's Aboriginal *Cultural Heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* and an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report (ACHAR) prepared, detailing the results of the consultation. This report should be appended to the ACHAR.
2. Once the above consultation has been undertaken, archaeological testing to determine the nature and extent of any archaeological deposit should be undertaken in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, prior to any redevelopment which disturbs the ground surface.
3. If archaeological objects are uncovered a program of archaeological salvage should be undertaken, in association with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, prior to any redevelopment which disturbs the ground surface.



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

LOCATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Department of Education (DoE) propose to redevelop the former Cleveland Street Primary School (also known as the Cleveland Street Intensive English High School) into a new inner city comprehensive high school with 1,200 places. Due to limited availability of land in high density areas, DoE proposes to construct one of the State's flagship high-rise public schools on the site.

This report supports State Significant Development SSD 7610 to be submitted to the Minister for Planning & Environment pursuant to Section 78A(8A) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*.

OCP Architects on behalf of the DoE have commissioned Comber Consultants to prepare this Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) to inform the Environmental Impact Statement and to ensure the best practice management of Aboriginal cultural heritage. This report also addresses The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) as detailed below:

"9. Aboriginal Heritage

- Address Aboriginal cultural heritage in accordance with the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011) and *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*.
- The EIS must demonstrate attempts to avoid any impact upon cultural heritage values and identify any conservation outcomes. Where impacts are unavoidable, the EIS must outline measures proposed to mitigate impacts."
- This report has been prepared in accordance with OEH's *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*. Aboriginal consultation has been undertaken in accordance with OEH's *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*.

1.2 Location

The former Cleveland Street Public School, 244 Cleveland Street, Surry Hills is located immediately south-east of the Sydney Central Business District (Figure 1) in the Local Government Area of the City of Sydney. It is located on the north west corner of Cleveland and Chalmers Streets, and is bound by Prince Alfred Park to the north and east (Figure 2). The site comprises three parcels of land, known as Lot 1 DP 797483, Lot 1 DP 797484 and Lot 8 DP 821649.

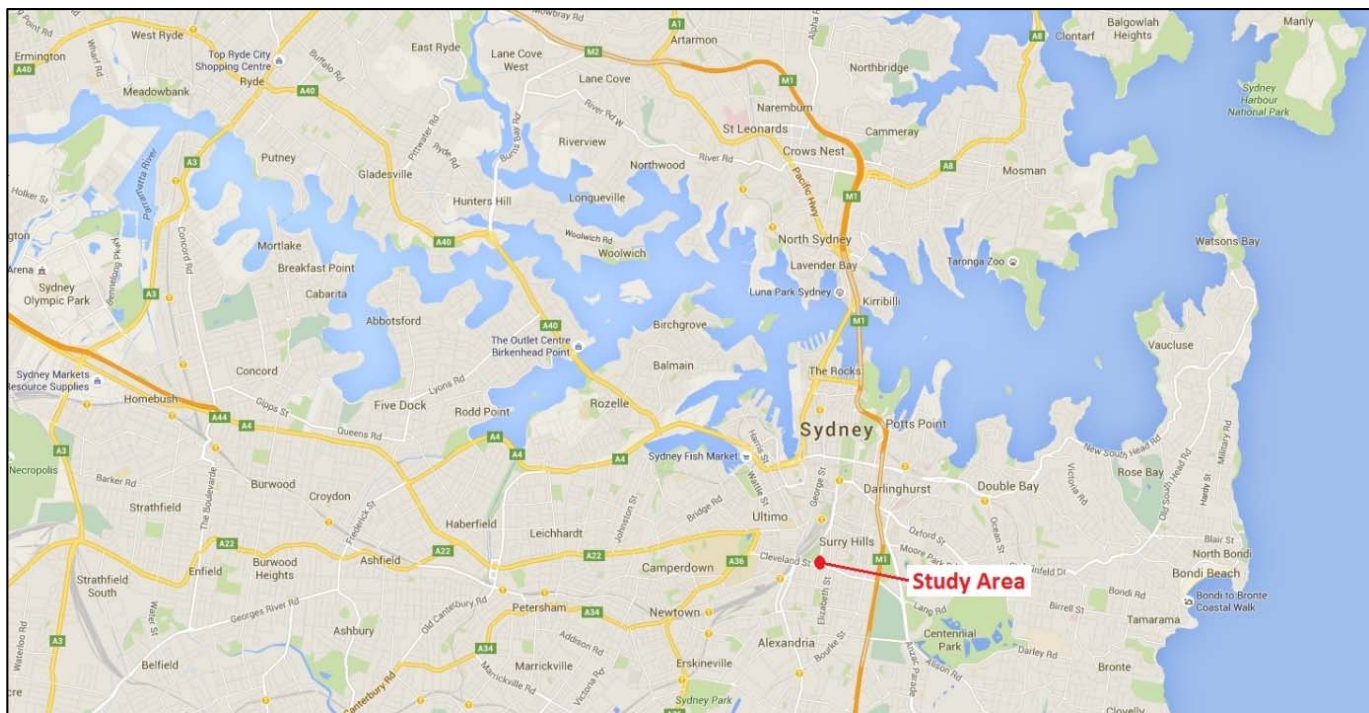


Figure 1: Study area, Surry Hills, south-east of the Sydney Central Business District (Google Maps).

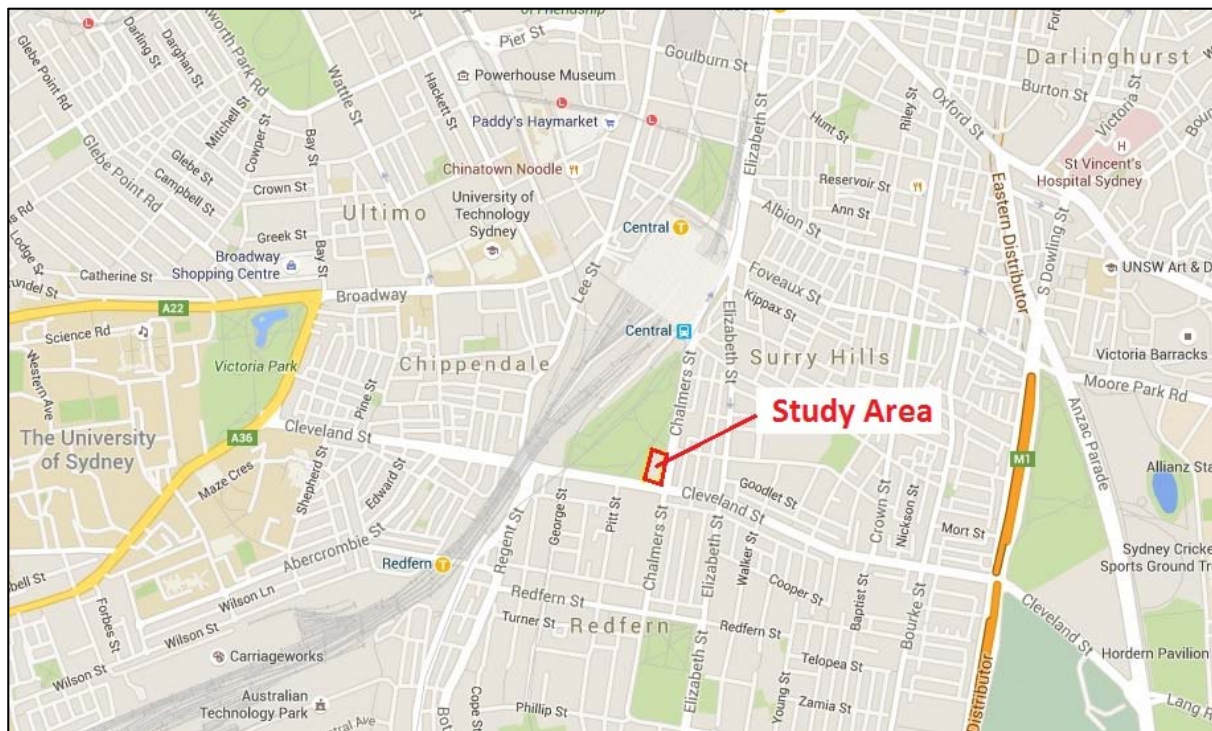


Figure 2: Study area edged in red (Google Maps).

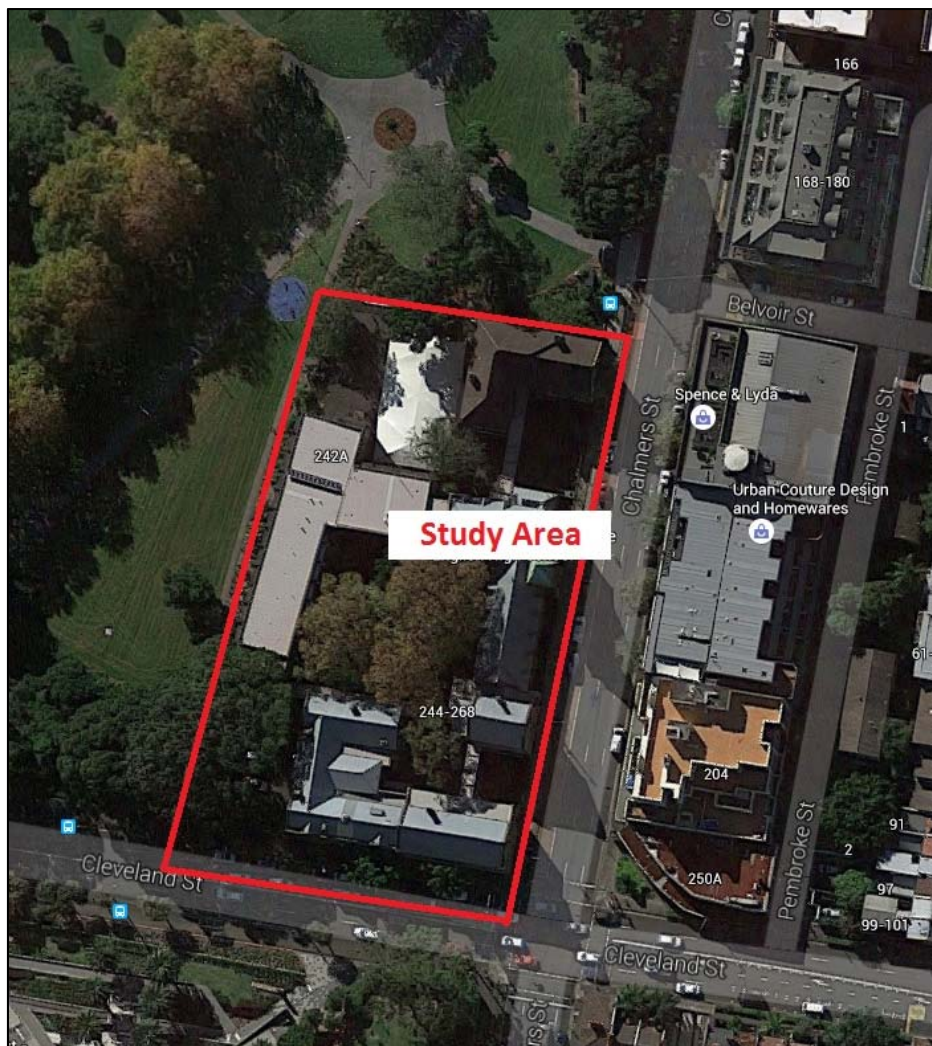


Figure 3: Study area edged in red (Google Maps).

2.0 LEGISLATION

NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE ACT 1974

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

HERITAGE ACT 1977

SYDNEY LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN

2.0 LEGISLATION

2.1 National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974

The *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) provides statutory protection for all Aboriginal “objects”. The NPW Act is administered by the Office of Environment & Heritage. Section 90 of the NPW Act details the provisions for the issue of a written consent to impact upon an Aboriginal object. An object is defined as:

***"Aboriginal object"** means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.*

However, as this project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* as detailed below, it will not be necessary to apply for an AHIP for this project.

2.2 Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act). Section 89J of the EPA Act (see below) does not require that a State significant development seek approval under the NPW Act as.

Section 89J of the EPA Act states the following:

89J Approvals etc legislation that does not apply

The following authorisations are not required for State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division (and accordingly the provisions of any Act that prohibit an activity without such as authority do not apply):

- (a) the concurrence under Part 3 of the *Coastal Protection Act 1979* of the Minister administering that Part of that Act,
- (b) a permit under section 201, 205 or 219 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
- (c) an approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977*
- (d) an Aboriginal heritage impact permit under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
- (e) an authorisation referred to in section 12 of the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* (or under any Act repealed by that Act) to clear native vegetation or State protected land,
- (f) a bush fire safety authority under section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*,
- (g) a water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.
- (2) Division 8 of Part 6 of the *Heritage Act 1977* does not apply to prevent or interfere with the carrying out of State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division.
- (3) A reference in this section to State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division includes a reference to any investigative or other activities that are required to be carried out for the purpose of complying with any environmental assessment requirements under this Part in connection with a development application for any such development.

The EPA Act is administered by the Department of Planning and Environment who will provide the consent for this project and for any impact on Aboriginal objects. Section 89J(d) does not require the consent of the Office of Environment & Heritage.

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD 7610) were issued on 18th May 2016, and require:

9. Aboriginal Heritage

- Address Aboriginal cultural heritage in accordance with the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011) and *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*.
- The EIS must demonstrate attempts to avoid any impact upon cultural heritage values and identify any conservation outcomes. Where impacts are unavoidable, the EIS must outline measures proposed to mitigate impacts.

This report satisfies the requirement to address Aboriginal cultural heritage issues in accordance with the *Guide to*

Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW and will consider the impact upon cultural heritage values of the project.

Aboriginal consultation is being undertaken in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* and will be presented in a separate Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR).

2.3 Heritage Act 1977

State Heritage Register

s31 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* provides for the establishment and maintenance of the State Heritage Register by the Heritage Council. s32 allows the Minister to direct the listing of an item which is of State heritage significance and sets out the procedure for listing an item. Aboriginal places can be listed on the State heritage register if they are considered to be of State heritage significance. Such places can include Mission sites and cemeteries.

The former Cleveland Street Public School is not listed on the State Heritage Register, although due to the State heritage significance of this site for its Aboriginal heritage values, as detailed in this report, consideration could be given to nominating the site for State Heritage Register listing.

NSW Department of Education and Communities Conservation Register 2011

s170 of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* requires that Government agencies maintain a register of all heritage assets owned or maintained by that agency. s170A requires that the Government agency maintain and manage all heritage places listed on the s170 register under its control.

The former Cleveland Street Public School is listed on the NSW Department of Education and Communities' Conservation Register as Item Number 4640111.

The Aboriginal heritage values of the site should be included on the inventory form.

2.4 The Sydney Local Environmental Plan (SLEP) 2012

The "Former Cleveland Street Public School, buildings including interiors, grounds and fence plinth" is listed in the Environmental Schedule of the SLEP, Item No. I1477 (City of Sydney 2012:218) and is protected by the provisions of s5.10 Heritage Conservation. In addition s5.10 protects Aboriginal heritage as detailed below.

The objectives of the SLEP are to conserve the heritage of the City of Sydney including Aboriginal objects and places. Development consent is required to demolish or move an Aboriginal object as detailed below:

(1) Objectives

The objectives of this clause are as follows:

- (a) to conserve the environmental heritage of the City of Sydney,
- (b) to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and heritage conservation areas, including associated fabric, settings and views,
- (c) to conserve archaeological sites,
- (d) to conserve Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance

Requirement for consent

Development consent is required for any of the following:

- (a) demolishing or moving any of the following or altering the exterior of any of the following (including, in the case of a building, making changes to its detail, fabric, finish or appearance):
 - (i) a heritage item,
 - (ii) an Aboriginal object,
 - (iii) a building, work, relic or tree within a heritage conservation area,
- (b) altering a heritage item that is a building by making structural changes to its interior or by making changes to anything inside the item that is specified in Schedule 5 in relation to the item,
- (c) disturbing or excavating an archaeological site while knowing, or having reasonable cause to suspect, that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed,
- (d) disturbing or excavating an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,

- (e) erecting a building on land:
 - (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
 - (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,
- (f) subdividing land:
 - (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
 - (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance.

Aboriginal places of heritage significance

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development in an Aboriginal place of heritage significance:

- (a) consider the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the place and any Aboriginal object known or reasonably likely to be located at the place by means of an adequate investigation and assessment (which may involve consideration of a heritage impact statement), and
- (b) notify the local Aboriginal communities, in writing or in such other manner as may be appropriate, about the application and take into consideration any response received within 28 days after the notice is sent.

The inventory form for the SLEP listing should be amended to include the Aboriginal heritage values. As detailed above these values must be considered prior to any redevelopment of the site and consultation should be undertaken with the City of Sydney prior to redevelopment

3.0 METHODOLOGY

METHODOLOGY
EFFECTVE SURVEY COVERAGE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

This project was conducted in three stages, being background research, field survey and report preparation, as detailed below.

Stage 1: Background Research

Prior to the field component of this project, a search of the Office of Environment and Heritage's Aboriginal Heritage Management Information System (AHIMS) of the Office of Environment and Heritage was consulted. A copy of the AHIMS Extensive search is attached at Appendix A. Site data, associated documents and archaeological survey reports held by them were reviewed. Primary and secondary historical research, and environmental research relating to Aboriginal land use was undertaken to allow a history of Aboriginal occupation of the study area to be developed. Such research enabled the potential nature of sites and site patterning in the region, and facilitated the predictive statement. It also provided an archaeological and environmental context to make a significance assessment.

Stage 2: Site Inspection

A site inspection was undertaken on Thursday 30th June 2016 with the following people:

- Ms Alandra Tasire, Archaeologist, Comber Consultants.
- Mr David Nutley, Archaeologist, Comber Consultants.

The entire study area and Prince Alfred Park were inspected on foot.

Stage 3: Report Preparation

Further archaeological research was conducted where necessary to clarify the results of the survey. This report was then compiled and provided to OCP Architects.

3.2 Effective Survey Coverage

Ground surface visibility refers to the amount of bare ground visible during the field survey. The visibility of some site types, such as open artefact scatters, is dependent upon ground visibility and exposure. OEH guidelines suggest that this information be presented in a table which quantifies and details the local detectability (OEH Code of Practice 2010:19).

The study area is comprised of buildings, asphalt, concrete and garden areas. No natural ground surfaces were visible.

Therefore, as ground visibility was nil the recommended table was not used.

4.0 ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION

4.0 CONSULTATION

Aboriginal culture is dynamic and continuous. It includes the tangible and intangible and links people over time to their community and land. It is important to recognise that Aboriginal people have the right to protect, preserve and promote their cultural heritage.

In recognition of that right the SEARS require that Aboriginal consultation be undertaken in accordance with OEH's *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*. That consultation has been undertaken and is detailed in an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) and this technical report has been appended to the ACHAR.

As a result of that consultation following are the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs):

- Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Darug Land Observatoins
- Murramarang
- Gulaga
- Biamanga
- Cullendulla
- DuncanSuey & Associates
- Goobah Developments
- Didge Ngunawal
- Darug Cultural Heritage Assessments

Consultation was undertaken with the above organisations for the purposes of this report. All RAPs were given the opportunity to inspect the site at a meeting on 15th February 2017.

A copy of this technical report and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report has been forwarded to all RAPs.

5.0 ABORIGINAL HISTORY

THE DARUG

THE GADI (CADI) CLAN OF THE DARUG

ABORIGINAL OCCUPATION

EUROPEAN CONTACT

SYDNEY TRIBES AND CLANS

LANGUAGE AND BOUNDARIES

FOOD AND SUBSISTENCE

5.0 ABORIGINAL HISTORY

5.1 The Darug

The study area (Figure 4) is located in the traditional land of the coastal Darug.

Research by R.H. Mathews, a pioneer linguist and anthropologist, in the early twentieth-century revealed that the Darug inhabited an area adjoining the 'Thurawal' (Dharawal) to the south and Gundungurra and Wiradjuri to the west. Their territory extended along the coast to the Hawkesbury River and inland to Windsor, Penrith and Campbelltown; then from the mouth of the Hawkesbury River to Mount Victoria (Mathews 1901a:140; Mathews 1901b:155). Three distinct Darug groups are known and located regionally as the coastal, hinterland and mountain Darug (Attenbrow 2002:23).

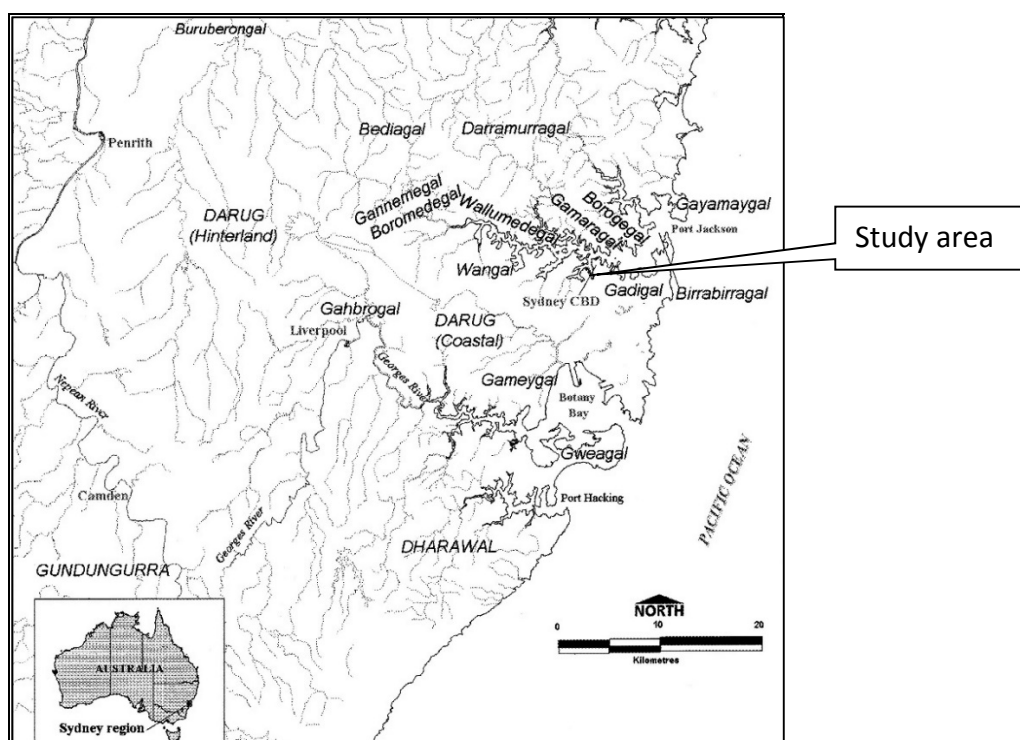


Figure 4: Location of language groups Dharawal, Gundungurra and Darug. summarised by Attenbrow (2002:34).

5.2 The Gadi (Cadi) Clan of the Darug

The Cadi, were recorded by Phillip (13 Feb 1790) to reside in the area from the entrance of the harbour, along the south shore, to the cove adjoining the settlement. King (in Hunter 1793) recorded the Cadi on the south side [of Port Jackson], extending from the south head to Long Cove [Iron Cove]. To the west adjacent to the Cadi the Wann clan is recorded from Long Cove [Iron Cove] to Rose hill (Attenbrow 2002:24-27).

5.3 Aboriginal Occupation

There is uncertainty surrounding the exact timing of the initial human colonisation of Australia. Recognised dating techniques have provided results for occupation ranging from 68,000 to 40,000 years before the present (BP). Clear archaeological evidence from Lake Mungo indicates people have occupied areas of Australia for over 40 000 years (Mulvaney & Kaminga 1999; Roberts et al. 1990; 1993; 1998; 2001). Occupation in the Blue Mountains and the Sydney region have been dated respectively to 22,000 BP at Wentworth Falls and 14,000 BP at Shaws Creek, K2 (Attenbrow 2002:18).

5.4 European Contact

In 1788 Europeans began the colonisation of the area known as Sydney with the arrival of the first fleet and Governor Phillip. It is from diaries and records from the first European contact, colonisation and later anthropological research that much of our understanding of Aboriginal people in the Sydney area comes from. Due to the consequences of colonisation and lack of systematic recording of Aboriginal lifeways, pre-contact Sydney is inadequately understood.

However, it is well documented that the Aboriginal population was dramatically affected by British colonisation. First, due to sickness when in 1789 a smallpox epidemic took around half of the population and then the continued alienation of people from their land and food sources, other introduced diseases and massacres. Although Aboriginal people were dislocated from their original way of life many remained to live in Sydney in places such as the Mulgoa Valley, Emu Plains, Plumpton, Manly, La Perouse, Salt Pan Creek and Campbelltown (Attenbrow 2010:21-22).

An image engraved of a camp north of the study area at Cockle Bay in 1813 demonstrates people continuing to live in the area (Figure 5) after European settlement.



Figure 5: A native camp near Cockle Bay, New South Wales 1813. Philip Slaeger, engraver; after John Eyre. Engraving reproduction. From Absalom West, Views in New South Wales, 1813-1814 [and] historical account of the colony of New South Wales, 1820-1821. Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907. PX*D 65, plate.

The area presently comprising Central Train Station, Belmore Park and Prince Alfred Park was used as an important meeting point for Aboriginal people throughout the 1790s. Collins records that in December 1793

The natives who lived about Sydney appeared to place the utmost confidence in us, choosing a clear spot between the town and the brickfield for the performance of any of their rites and ceremonies, and for three evenings the town had been amused with one of their spectacles... (Collins 1798: Dec 1793).

The area, including the study area, continued to be used as a ceremonial meeting place for Aboriginal people throughout the following years and as “a place whence they {Aboriginal people} derived so many comforts and so much shelter in bad weather” (Collins 1802:Oct 1796). Figure 6 is a painting from 1850 showing Aboriginal people still camping in the area.

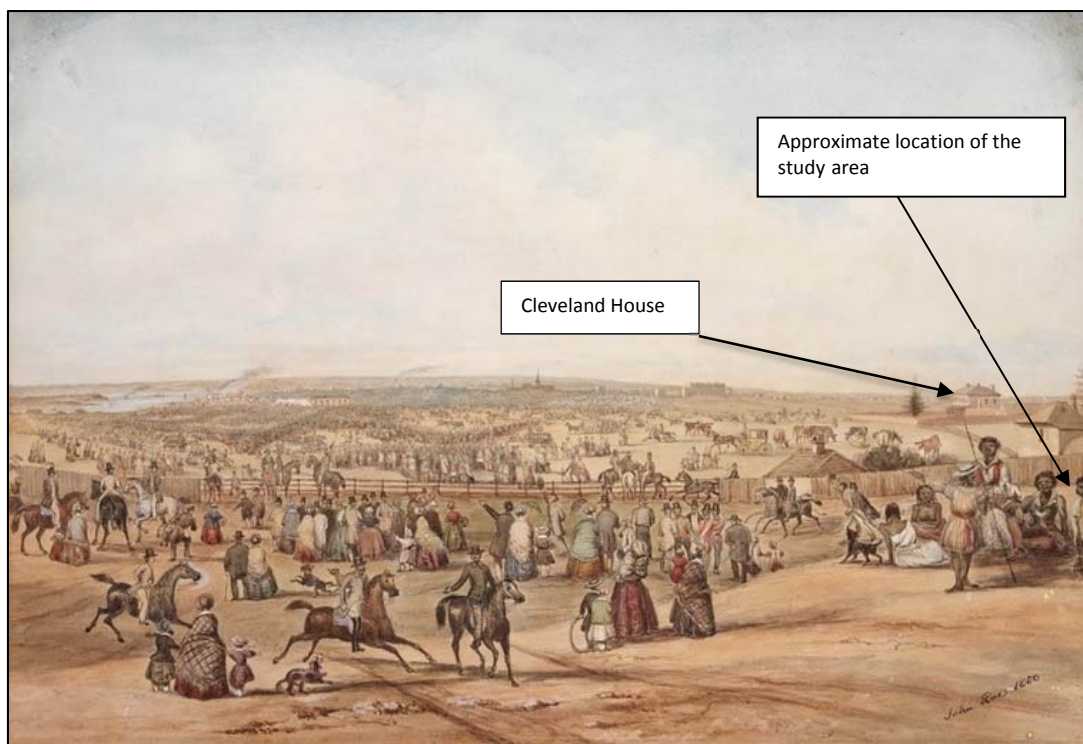


Figure 6: Turning the sod, of the first railway in the Australasian colonies at Redfern, Sydney, N.S.W. 3rd July 1850. John Rae 1813-1900 (Mitchell library ML 244).

A road from Cockle Bay to Botany Bay was noted by the early settlers as an important corridor for trade and movement for Aboriginal people in early Sydney. The area along this corridor between Cockle Bay and Botany Bay is described by Governor Arthur Phillip in 1788 as occupied by wood and beyond that a kind of heath, sandy, and full of swamps and later described by Atkins in 1792 as immense trees, lofty branches, flowering shrubs, blossoms of vivid and beautiful colours (AHMS 2015:13). The study area is located within this corridor.

5.5 Sydney Tribes and Clans

At the time Governor Phillip arrived, it was reported that not less than 1,500 people were seen living around the area of Port Jackson. However, in the more recent estimates, numbers are known to be more significant and are believed to have been between 2,000 and 3,000 people (Attenbrow 2002:21).

The earliest colonial records generally refer to groups of people as 'tribes'. These groups are identified as local descent groups and are referred to as local or territorial 'clans' in modern anthropological terms. Different clan groups were seen hunting, fishing or gathering together. These combined clan land-using groups are referred to as 'bands' and although not from the same clan were more than likely related by marriage (Attenbrow 2002:22).

From 1788 to 1800, thirty individual clans were recorded. However, it is difficult to ascertain the number of clans due to variances in spelling used by the authors of the various records. Some may be describing the same clan and it is quite likely that some were not recorded. Documentary sources provide little detailed information about the boundaries of the traditional 'country' with which Sydney Aboriginal clans identified (Attenbrow 2002:24-29). However, it was understood that clans identified with areas of land. Clans identified with an area of residence and members were named after the area they resided with the suffix '-gal' (man) or '-galleon' (woman) added (Phillip 13 Feb 1790 in HRA 1(1) cited in Attenbrow 2002:22-24; Kass et al. 1996:6).

Governor Phillip Gidley King made observations about Aboriginal territories, noting Aboriginal place names. He wrote that:

...the tribe of Cadi inhabit the south side, extending from the south head to Long Cove; at which place the district of Wanne, and the tribe of Wangal, commences, extending as far as Par-ra-mata, or Rose Hill... I have already observed that the space between Rose-Hill and Prospect-Hill is distinguished by eight different names, although the distance is only four miles (King 1793 cited in Attenbrow 2002:22).

Anthropological studies indicate that clan sizes varied widely, consisting of between thirty to sixty people who moved through their territory using seasonal routes to access food, shelter and other resources necessary for survival as well as ceremonial sites. Generally, people camped, travelled, foraged, fished and hunted in smaller, extended family groups, coming together at times with the larger group for ceremonies and ritual combats (Attenbrow 2002:29).

5.6 Language and Boundaries

British colonists in the earlier years of the colony recorded languages and locations of where they were spoken. The methods at the time did not record the variations systematically, however a body of dialects and geographical proximity were recorded.

Watkin Tench (c.1758-1833), a naval officer, noted that people spoke 'different dialects of the same language; many of the most common and necessary words, used in life, bearing no similitude, and others being slightly different'. It was observed that although individuals from the coast and from the Hawkesbury were using different dialects to converse, they understood each other without difficulty (Tench 1793:122 in Fitzhardinge 1979:230). Tench was bemused by the variance in the languages considering the geographical proximity of the places, noting that 'these diversities arise from want of intercourse with the people on the coast, can hardly be imagined, as distance inland is but thirty-eight miles; and from Rose Hill not more than twenty, where the dialect of the sea coast is spoken' (Tench 1793:122 in Fitzhardinge 1979:231).

William Dawes (1762-1836), David Collins (1756-1810) and Governor Phillip Gidley King (1758-1808) made lists of words spoken by the coastal people (Attenbrow 2002:31). Dawes, a naval officer and scientist recorded details about pronunciation, verb tenses and sentence construction. A significant characteristic of the Aboriginal language recorded in eighteenth-century colonial records is the use of the suffix '-gal' (man) or '-galleon' (woman). In some areas the suffix was added to a word descriptive of the country in which the community lived (Phillip 13 Feb 1790, in Attenbrow 2002:22).

It was not until the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century that more methodical attempts to record Aboriginal languages were made by individuals such as R.H. Mathews, an anthropologist and linguist. Much of the information we have on languages was gathered by Mathews, by this time however there were few fluent speakers of the languages and dialects in Sydney (Turbet 1989:29, Attenbrow 2002:31-32). In the late 1960 linguist Arthur Capell found unpublished information and his research mapped new boundary alignments (Capell 1970).

Since the 1970s anthropologists and archaeologists have presented new theories about the boundaries of linguistic and tribal groups in and around the Sydney Basin, and debate on the subject continues. In a summary by Attenbrow (2002:34), three Language groups are recognised in the Sydney region; Dharawal, Gundungurra and Darug (see Figure 4). The people within the current study area were coastal Darug speakers.

5.7 Food and Subsistence

Port Jackson is one of the largest estuaries along the New South Wales coast. Access to Port Jackson and the former Botany Swamps that formed within the sand dunes would have provided a variety of possible food sources. The vast water body and freshwater tributaries provide a range of environments in their intertidal and tidal shorelines. These areas contain extensive rock-platforms, sandy beaches and mudflats as well as mangrove forests and seagrass beds. These diverse habitats are feeding grounds for a wide range of fish, shellfish, crustacean, marine mammals, marine turtles, tortoises and water birds. Rivers draining into Port Jackson have freshwater flows and the estuary is fully tidal, with a marine dominated biota (Attenbrow 2002:40). The local environment was also the source of raw materials for tool and weapon-making, clothing and shelter (Attenbrow 2002:71).

Bark canoes are known to have been used to access waterways and travel up the rivers. Colonial observers noted that coastal Aboriginal people obtained bark for canoes during excursions to Parramatta (Collins 1798: Vol 1 App 6). The shallow-draught, water craft made of bark and two to three metres in length were skilfully manoeuvred around the river. Bangalay (*Eucalyptus botryoides*), large River Oak (*C. cunninghamiana*) and species of Stringybark (*Eucalyptus agglomerata*) are thought to have been used for canoe construction (Attenbrow 2002:112; Turbet 1989:50).

The ample fresh water sources attracted native animals which were hunted or trapped. The hunting of tree-dwellers such as possums and gliders is thought to have been a common activity. Kangaroo and wallaby were hunted less often and most likely when several clans came together for ceremonies (Brook & Kohen 1991:3-4). Aboriginal people of the district used traps and snares to catch animals to eat. In 1789 on a journey between Rose Hill and the Nepean, observations were made that traps were used to catch ducks which were plentiful and snares were used to catch "opossums" and other tree and small ground

dwelling animals (Bradley c.1802, SLNSW Manuscripts, Electronic transcript, p.166). Other food resources included bull ants and the eggs and larvae of the longicorn beetle or witchetty grub (Kass *et al* 1996:6).

Botany Bay was named after the profusion of plant species, over 250 of these have been identified as being edible. There were extensive areas between Port Jackson and Botany Bay where freshwater and estuarine wetlands with saltmarsh and mangrove communities occurred in the lower stretches of the rivers and bays along the coast. Seasonal plant foods including fruits, tubers, shoots, flowers, berries, seeds and nectar of local trees, and grasses were also prominent in the diet. Food collection required a detailed knowledge of each plant's properties as well as of the local environment, seasonal variations and preparation methods. *Macrozamia* for example is poisonous unless prepared in a particular way. Plants also provided ingredients for medicinal preparations (Attenbrow 2002:40-41; Brook & Kohen 1991:5).

Aboriginal people relied on an extensive knowledge of their land and its resources and the acquisition of diverse skills essential to their survival in an environment that could be unpredictable. By 1814 it was increasingly difficult for Aboriginal people to catch or procure food using traditional methods. Similarly, food-gathering patterns were altered by the lack of access to their traditional lands, which were now farmed by the new settlers. Limited opportunities were offered by Europeans willing to barter spirits and tobacco, and even food, for fish (Barratt 1981:71-2).

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

TOPOGRAPHY

STREAM ORDER MODELLING

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

VEGETATION

CURRENT LAND USE AND DISTURBANCE

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

6.1 Topography

The study area is located within the central portion of the Sydney Basin. The Sydney Basin is characterised by contrasting landscapes of rugged sandstone escarpments and gently undulating hills over shale (Herbert 1980:21; Sydney 1:100,000 geological map).

Surry Hills is defined by gently undulating rolling hills and crests and ridges with gently inclined slopes (Sydney 1:100,000 geological map). The suburbanisation of the local area has generally followed the topography of the original surface however some modification has been undertaken to build roads and structures (McIntyre 1946). Cleveland Street follows the ridgeline, with the study area sloping down toward Central Railway Station. The study area is within an area which was historically known as “The Sandhills”, a sand dune system extending from Sydney to Botany Bay. This Botany Lowlands dune system was once stabilised with vegetation, however European removal of the vegetation and prevailing winds shifted the sand northwards towards Sydney. In later years, the problem was alleviated by bitumen paving, residential and industrial development which helped re-stabilise the dunes (Kass 2016:7). Rainfall runoffs throughout the Botany Lowlands dune system collected in swamps, lagoons and depressions.

Prior to the more recent modification of this area, a tributary of Blackwattle Creek flowed through Prince Alfred Park and the study area (AHMS 2015; City of Sydney 2016). Blackwattle Creek was originally called Black Wattle Swamp Creek as it began in the swamplands of the present day University of Sydney and ran past the former Carlton United Brewery on Broadway serving as the brewery’s water source. Black Wattle Swamp Creek then rose in a swamp in Prince Alfred Park and then followed the line of Blackfriars Street and entered into Blackwattle Bay in a large swamp at the site of the Sydney City Council Depot on William Henry Street (<http://www.visitsydneyaustralia.com.au/lost-waterways.html>, accessed 25/07/2016). The Sydney railway plan “Plan of the Grounds in the City of Sydney, proposed to be appropriated for Railway Station and Works” created for the preliminary rail shows a creek running to the north west, adjacent to the study area (Figure 7). The later 1855 detailed survey for the Sydney Council indicates the creek ran directly through the school grounds (Figure 8).

The present study area is located approximately 2km to the north west of Centennial Park and approximately 1km to the north west of Moore Park, both of which historically were swamplands. It is located approximately 1km east of the University of Sydney, which historically was also swamplands and was the head of Blackwattle Creek. The study area is located approximately 1.5km north of Shea’s Creek, a small truncated tributary at the end of the Alexandria Canal. Historically Shea’s Creek ran from just to the south of Redfern Railway Station through Alexandria into the Cook’s River (GML 2012:72). The study area is also located 1.5km south of Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour.

The presence of swamplands and creeks indicates that the study area would have been part of a rich wetland area with a wealth of resources with access to the coastal rocky foreshore of Cockle Bay.

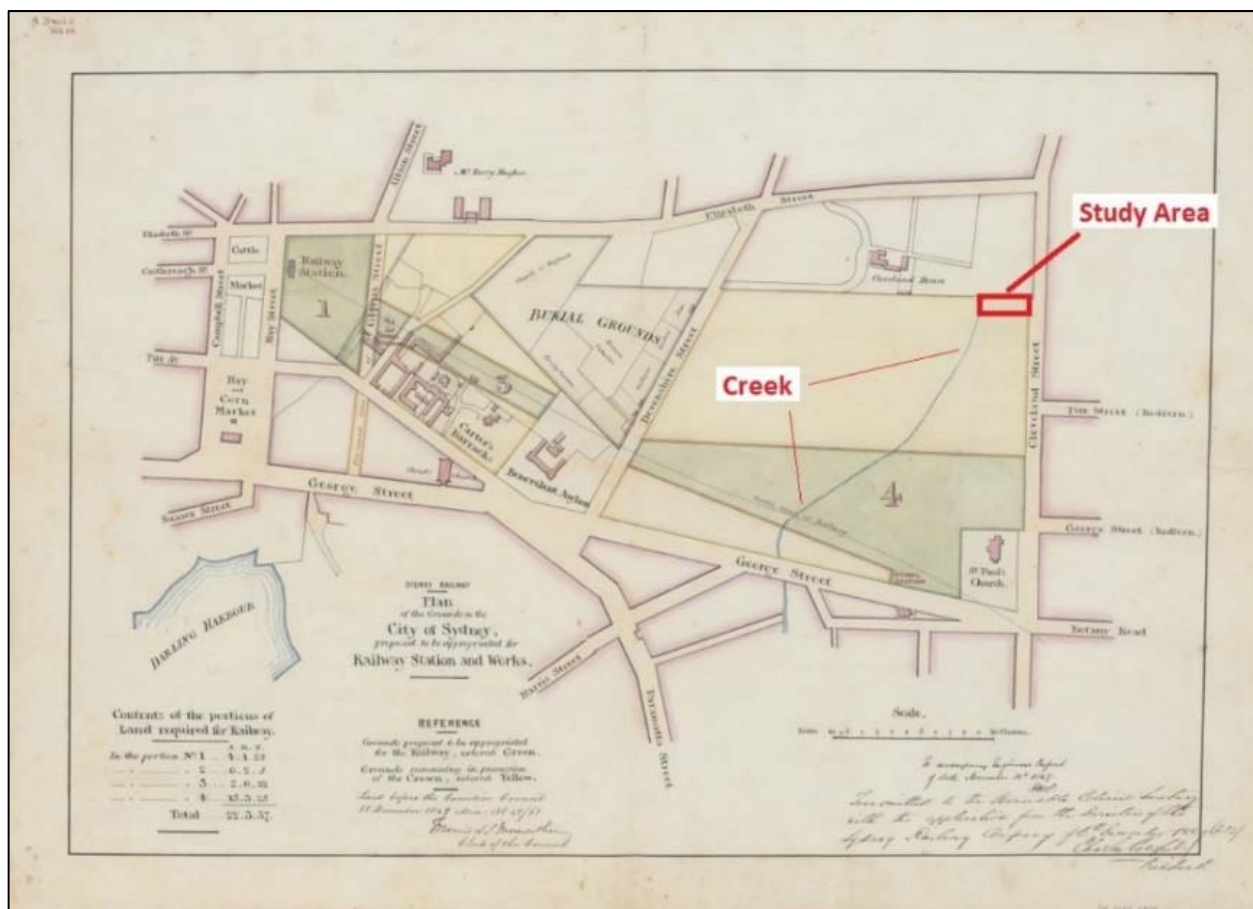


Figure 7: Railway Station and works 1849 [SR Map 6408], indicating study area and creek.



Figure 8: The 1855 Detail Survey completed for Sydney Council of the school on the site and indicating the creek. Source: 1855 Detail Survey, CCSA, Sheet 23.

6.2 Stream Order Modelling

Stream order can be used to predict Aboriginal land use patterns. Blackwattle and Shea's Creek would historically be classified as second order streams.

A first order stream is the smallest and is a small tributary that feeds larger streams but does not normally have any water flowing into it. The joining of two first order streams creates a second order stream and when two second order streams join, they form a third order stream. In addition, first and second order streams generally form on steep slopes and flow quickly until they slow down and meet the next order waterway. First order streams are intermittent.

Modelling undertaken by McDonald and Mitchell (1994) indicates that stream order can be used to predict areas of archaeological potential. The model hypothesis is that in any particular climate and landscape, a threshold catchment area is necessary to allow permanent stream flow or the establishment of waterholes with extended longevity (i.e. months to years). The critical point where these conditions are met appears to be at the junction of two second or third order streams. Such a location is likely to contain more complex sites with a high density of artefacts, whilst second and third order streams are also likely to contain large sites within 100 metres of the watercourse.

The study area is located adjacent to Blackwattle Creek and approximately 1.5km to the north of the now truncated Shea's Creek, both second order streams. As the study area is located between two second order streams it could be predicted to contain high archaeological potential.

6.3 Geology and Soils

The study area is found in the dune systems of the Botany Lowlands, an Aeolian landscape, formed during the Quaternary (Holocene and Pleistocene) period (Sydney 1:100,000 geological map). This environment, built by onshore winds forms transgressive dunes which originate from the remobilisation of beach and foredune sand blown inland. These dunes have been reworked from older sand surfaces well removed from coastal processes and have usually formed during periods when the sea level was lower than at present. Much of the dune sand in the Botany Basin is of Pleistocene age. These dunes are typically composed of fine to medium, well-sorted marine sand (Herbert 1983:55). Adjacent to the west and east the landform consists of the Ashfield Shale from the Wianamatta Group of shales which overlays the Hawkesbury Sandstone, formed during the Middle Triassic period. The sequence contains siltstone and laminate (Sydney 1:100,000 geological map).

The Wianamatta Group does not provide a good variety of material highly siliceous lithic materials suitable for stone tool manufacture. These thin shales are not strong enough for use in stone tool manufacture. Deposits of silcrete and chert are available from western Sydney at Plumpton, Penrith, St Clair and Prospect, all a considerable distance from Surry Hills. As a result, people of the Sydney region favoured shell, rather than stone, for tool manufacture. If stone was required, it would have been necessary to travel great distances or trade to obtain chert or silcrete (Comber 2012:10).

The dune systems in the vicinity of the study area also does not contain outcrops of stone material suitable for stone tools manufacture, such as tuff, chert, flint, silcrete or quartz. As there are no immediate outcrops of stone in the study area or surround areas, the likelihood of raw material for stone tools is minimal. However, stone would have been available from nearby areas and any finds would indicate material being introduced into the area.

6.4 Vegetation

The vegetation surrounding the study area would once have consisted mainly of dry sclerophyll or open woodland. The alluvial soils would have supported a river-flat forest, including various *Eucalypt* species and *Angophoras*. The open woodland species would have included *Eucalyptus siberi* (Silvertop Ash), *Eucalyptus piperita* (Sydney Peppermint), *Eucalyptus sclerophyllia* (Scribbly Gum), plus *Corymbia* with an understorey of *Banksia serrata* (Old Man Banksia), *Banksia spinulosa* (Hairpin Banksia), *Banksia integrifolia* (Coast Banksia) and various *Acacia* spp., including *Acacia longifolia*. Flowering shrubs would have included *Telopea speciosissima* (Waratah) and *Boronia serrulate* (Native Rose), whilst groundcover species would have included *Grevillia laurifolia* and *Persoonia chamaepitys*. Clumps of *Lomandra longifolia* would also have grown on headland areas. In addition, various heathland communities would have existed along coastal areas (Baker 1986).

Such vegetation would have provided a rich and varied food source. Flowers from the *Eucalyptus* and *Banksias* provide a rich nectar. *Acacia* pods can be eaten and the bark used medicinally. This vegetation also supported a variety of animal life associated with Aboriginal diet. This included possums, various wallabies and other small marsupials, as well as birds and lizards. Bark and wood suitable for spears, shields, water and/or food vessels (coolamons) and other implements would have been available from large trees (Low 1989).

However, the urbanisation of Sydney has ensured that the landscape and its vegetation has been dramatically altered and no longer resembles the pre-contact landscape.

6.5 Current Land Use and Disturbance

The study area is located in an area first named the Government Paddocks. In 1790 much of the land in Surry Hills was granted for grazing and became privately owned, however the Paddocks remained government property. On the 1829 'Plan for the neighbourhood and roads from Sydney to the estate named Mount Lachlan' (Figure 9) the study area was located within the Government Paddocks. The Paddocks was later named Cleveland Paddocks after Cleveland House was built in the 1820's, by the wealthy ex-convict and merchant Daniel Cooper, on the grant 'Cleveland Gardens' (Keating & Wotherspoon 2009:109).

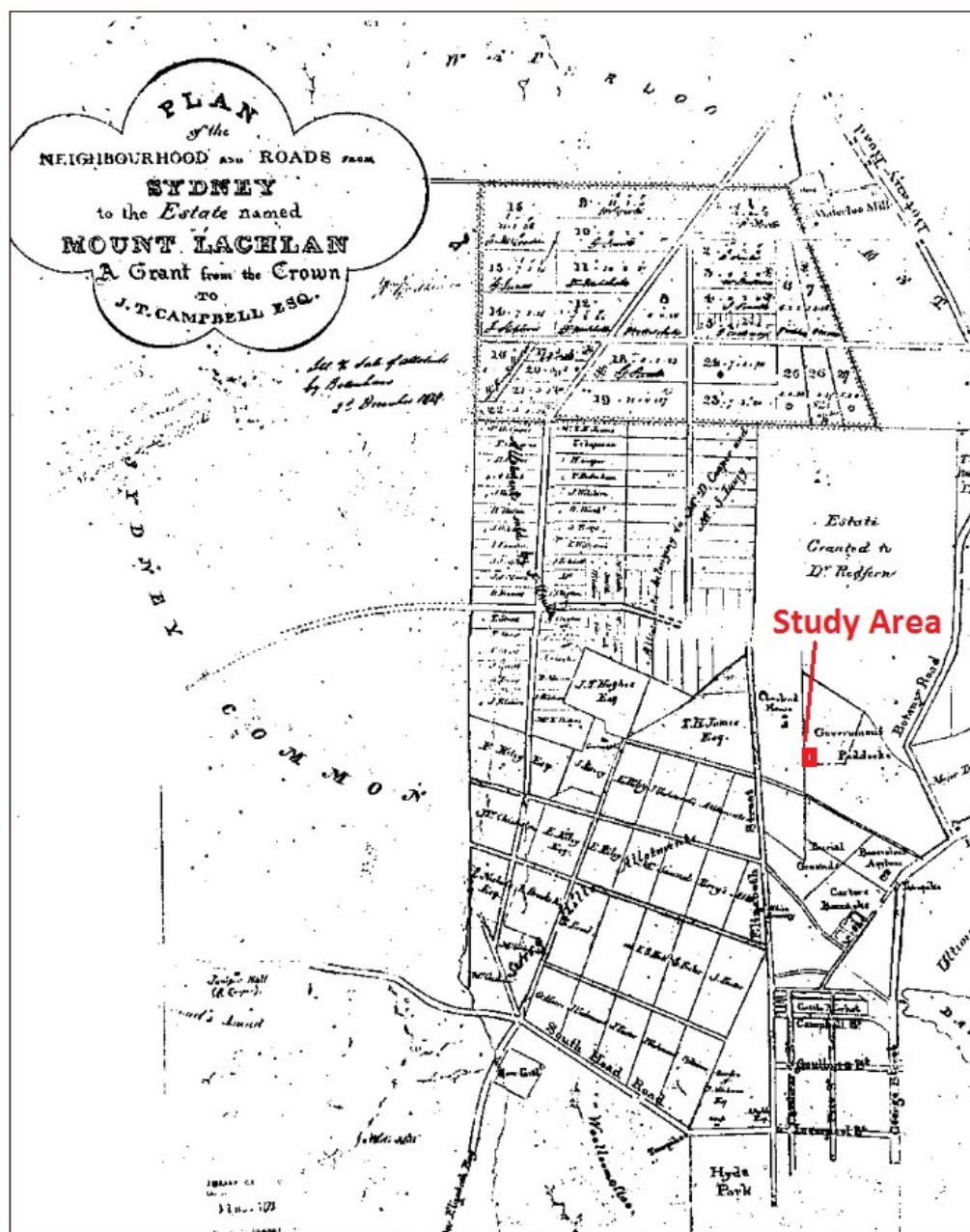


Figure 9: The 1829 'Plan for the neighbourhood and roads from Sydney to the estate named Mount Lachlan' including the Government paddocks (State Library of New South Wales).

The 1849 'Plan of the Grounds in the City of Sydney, proposed to be appropriated for Railway Station and Works', was created prior to the construction of the major railway terminus. The map shows the grounds proposed for the Sydney Railway in green with the crown lands in yellow. The study area is found within the Cleveland Paddocks near Cleveland House (Figure 7).

In an image created by John Rae (Figure 6) showing the turning of the sod in 1850 for the commencement of the railway, a variety of the city's population is seen at the event. Cleveland House can be seen at the far right of the image, with the study area located approximately in the vicinity of the fence and buildings. In this image, Aboriginal people can be seen camped adjacent to the present study area.

In 1855 land was excised from the Paddocks to be used for the Cleveland Street Public School. The site bordered the area of Sydney known at that time as "The Sandhills", between Sydney and Botany Bay.

On 25 February 1858, William Wilkins of the Board reported that the school fence was no longer effective as Council had raised the level of Castlereagh Street (which was later renamed Chalmers Street) about 6 feet above the ground level of the school site and the school buildings. This resulted in the school being positioned in a hollow next to the street corner (Kass 2016:8).

The former Cleveland Street Public School established in 1855 began as iron structures which became permanent in 1867 (Figure 10) and remain on the site to this day. The original building occupied a long narrow site and was then extended in 1891 when a site to its west was also resumed to allow expansion of the School (Perumal Murphy Alessi 2015:7).



Figure 10: Cleveland Street Public School 1867-68 [State of New South Wales, Department of Education and Training] (Government Schools 2016).

The school requirements for space grew with the student attendance and over the period of the school's history there have been four additions to the original building and changes in grounds. Figure 11 below shows the growth of the school with the original building being constructed in 1867 and subsequent additions in 1891, 1908, 1924 and 1969 (City of Sydney 2016).

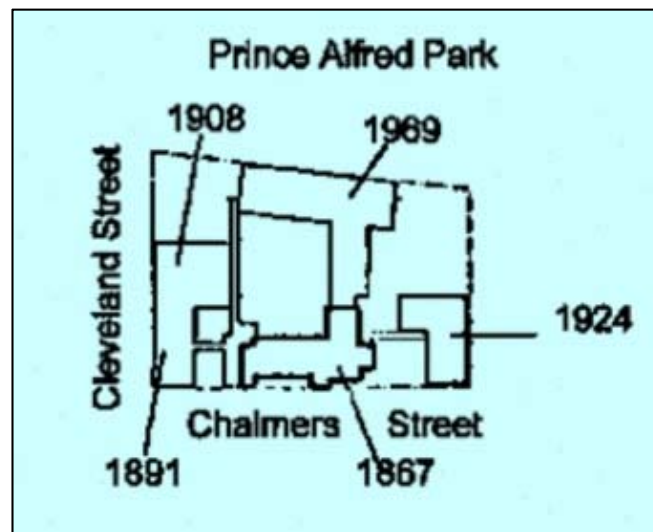


Figure 11: Cleveland School, 1867 the original building, with additions in 1891, 1908, 1924 and 1969 (City of Sydney 2016).

The remaining area of Cleveland Paddocks was gazetted as a public reserve on 22 December 1865, although it was described in 1869 by Jules Joubert as ‘a quagmire with a filthy drain running across it – a plague spot’ (City of Sydney 2016). Nevertheless, in 1868 it was named after Queen Victoria’s second son, Prince Alfred, then visiting Sydney (City of Sydney 2016). Prince Alfred Park is bounded by Chalmers Street, Cleveland Street and Central Railway, Surry Hills. The study area sits at the corner of the park at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Chalmers Street. Figure 12 shows the study area in 1943.

It would appear that disturbance prior to the construction of the school was minimal. Prior to construction of the school, the site was vacant land, which was excised from the Paddocks in 1855 to allow construction of the school. Figure 11 above shows the various phases of construction and additions to the school. The foundations of these buildings may have disturbed or displaced evidence of Aboriginal occupation, but not removed it. In addition the creek shown in Figures 8 & 9 has since been channelized.

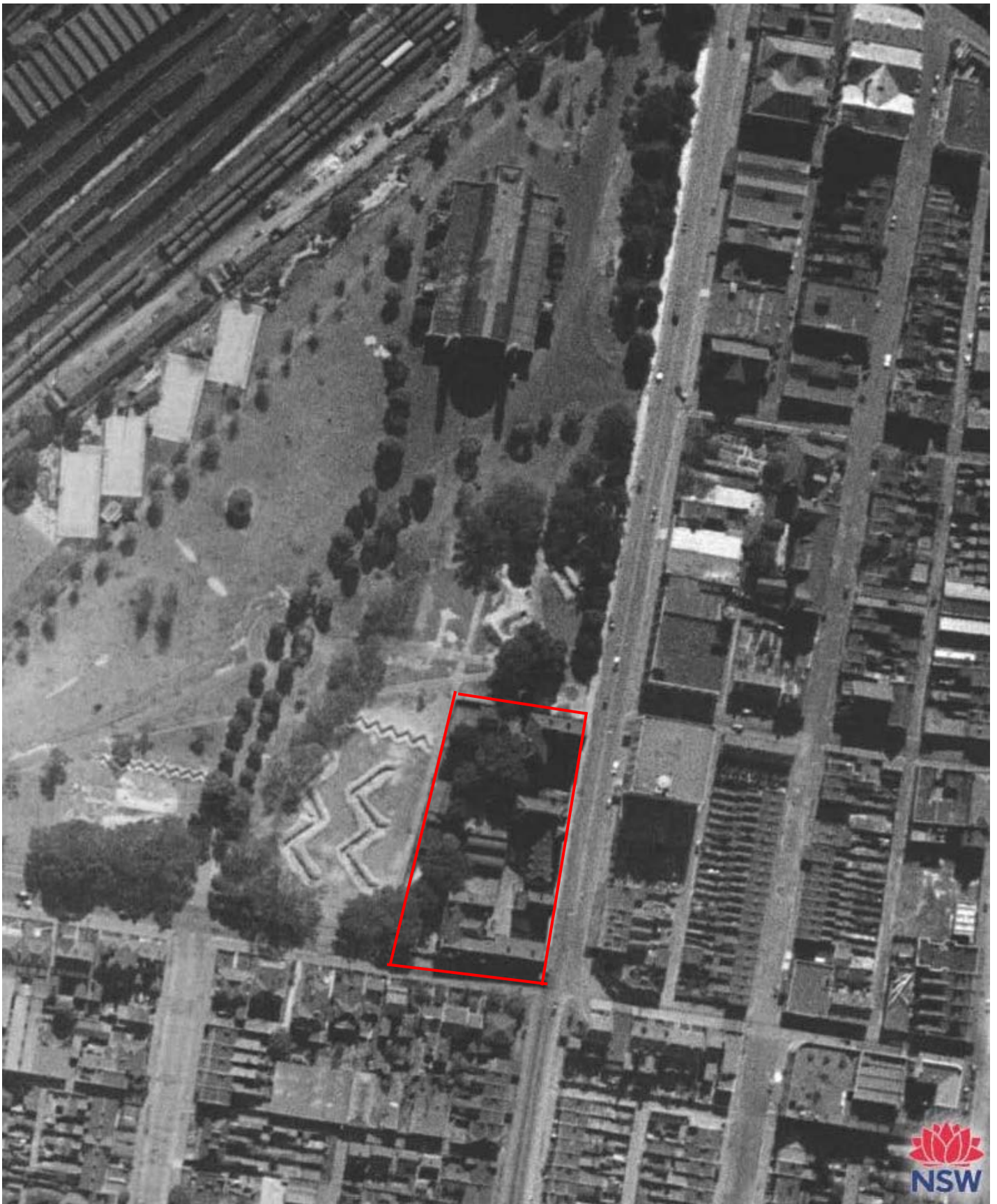


Figure 12:1943 aerial showing the study area edged in red (map courtesy of <http://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>)

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

THE SYDNEY REGION

SYDNEY CBD

STUDY AREA

SITE PREDICTION

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

7.1 The Cumberland Plain

Many surveys have been undertaken in the Sydney region which indicate the richness of the archaeological resources and provide information about Aboriginal occupation. In particular, Attenbrow (2002) has excavated a range of sites within the Sydney Basin. The aim of her study was to identify local geographic variation and temporal changes in the subsistence patterns and material culture of the people of this area. She excavated sites at Balmoral Beach, Cammeray, Castle Cove, Sugarloaf Point (Lane Cove River), Darling Mills State Forest, Winston Hills, Vacluse and Cumberland Street in the Rocks. Dates for initial occupation vary from approximately 10,000 years BP at Darling Mills to approximately 450 years BP at Cumberland Street, The Rocks.

The oldest dated occupation for the Sydney region is 30,000 years BP from a site excavated by McDonald at Parramatta. She excavated an area known as the RTA site (McDonald 2005), located at George Street, Parramatta (McDonald 2005) on an alluvial sand terrace running parallel to the Parramatta River. This site provided a sequence of occupation dating from the late Pleistocene through to the mid-Holocene. Although the site had been heavily impacted by development, the sub-surface deposits revealed an “accumulation of evidence from multiple occupation episodes, no doubt occurring at many different times” (McDonald 2005:147). Radiocarbon dating provided a range of dates indicating continuous occupation of the site. The most important date showed that the alluvial sand terrace was possibly first occupied during the late Pleistocene period, about 30,000 years BP and then showed various phases of occupation (McDonald 2005c:107). The earliest date obtained from this site, 30,000 years BP, provides the oldest date for the Sydney Basin (McDonald 2005:4). However, it should be noted that the date was obtained from charcoal in the sieve and not in association with cultural deposits, therefore caution should be exercised when considering this date. The next oldest dated occupation is 15,000 years BP from the Shaws Creek K2 rock shelter on the Nepean River (Kohen 1984; Nanson et al 1987). However, these dates must be considered in association with environmental data related to sea level rises. The Sydney region that we know today was vastly different to the landscape of 15,000-30,000 years ago.

The period of maximum glaciation was 15,000–18,000 years BP. Therefore, the date of the K2 rock shelter, Attenbrow’s Darling Mills site and McDonald’s Pleistocene date, indicate that Aboriginal people lived throughout a period of extreme environmental change. During this period, sea levels were up to 130m below current levels (Nutley 2006:1). About 10,000 years ago as temperatures began rising at the end of the last ice age, the polar ice started melting and sea levels rose. The rising sea levels forced people to abandon coastal sites and move inland, with the result that the oldest coastal sites were inundated. By about 6,000 years ago rising water levels had flooded the coastal plain forming the Sydney landscape that we know today. The vast majority of sites in the Sydney region date to around 5,000 years BP, after sea levels had stabilised. Whilst research into submerged indigenous sites is now being undertaken (Nutley 2006), there are few sites in the Sydney area that are known to date beyond 10,000 years BP. Therefore, research undertaken to date has focused on subsistence patterns and cultural change, e.g. Attenbrow (2003).

Attenbrow’s (2003) study of the “Sydney region” extended from the eastern coast to the Hawkesbury-Nepean River to the north and west and as far south as Picton (2002: xiii), which includes the present study area. At the time of publication (2002), Attenbrow noted that approximately 4,340 Aboriginal sites had been registered with OEH’s Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) in the Sydney region (Attenbrow 2002:48). Middens and open campsites comprised just over half of the recorded sites (Attenbrow 2002:48-49). From both the archaeological evidence and historical records, she noted that the main focus of occupation was “on the valley bottoms and shorelines” (Attenbrow 2002:47). In addition, the evidence indicates that occupation was greater on the coastal/estuarine environments rather than in the hinterland/freshwater environments and on the Hawkesbury sandstone areas rather than the Wianamatta shales (Attenbrow 2002:51). Her work produced a great deal of information in respect of the people of the Sydney region, their social organisation and land use patterns. Her (2002:152-155) analyses indicates that prior to 5,000 years ago occupation in the Sydney region was not intensive and was only by small groups of people. It was not until sea levels stabilised about 5,000 years ago that more intensive occupation began with many open sites being first occupied in the last 1,500 years.

7.2 Sydney

The 1883 publication *Aborigines of Australia* and the 1880 *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* recorded a rock engraving at the area now known as Dawes Point Park, approximately 35km north of the study area. The engraving was either of a whale or a shark with the figure of a man at its head. This engraving has since been destroyed, probably during the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge (AHIMS 45-6-0030). Prior to construction of the Harbour Bridge Dawes Point would have been a high rocky point.

In 1985 Lampert excavated a midden and camp site at Mort’s Bond Store, approximately 2.5km north of the study area. The site had

been truncated by construction of the building and was in a highly disturbed condition. It contained shell and bone, as well as stone artefacts manufactured from red and grey silcretes, quartz, quartzite and chert. The artefacts were comprised of flakes, flaked pieces and cores. He hypothesised that the stone material was sourced from quarries on the Cumberland Plain (Lampert 1985).

An engraving was recorded “on upright surfaces in creek bed” at Goat Island (AHIMS 45-6-811). These engravings include a whale, kangaroo and fish. Three disturbed middens have also been recorded on Goat Island, (AHIMS 45-6-0811; 45-6-1957; 45-6-2382). Goat Island is situated at the mouth of Darling Harbour, approximately 4km north of the study area. Goat Island itself is extremely important, as it was recorded in 1798 as being owned by Bennelong, who played a significant role in early Aboriginal-European relations. It was also recorded as being used by Aboriginal people for imprisonment prior to European settlement. Deputy Judge Advocate David Collins, was required by the Colonial Government “...to observe, record and if possible reconcile the Aborigines...”. In 1798 he published details of Bennelong’s relationship to Goat Island. This is the first official, written account of ownership of land by an Aboriginal person (Gollan 1993).

A midden was recorded at Bennelong Point, approximately 3.5km north east of the study area. The shell from this midden had been collected by the convicts to burn into lime to provide building mortar (AHIMS 45-6-1615). Another midden was uncovered during building works near the historic building “Lilyvale” on the corner of Cumberland and Essex Streets, The Rocks, approximately 3km north east of the study area. It had been highly disturbed by the construction of terrace houses in the 1830s and was subsequently destroyed by the construction of a hotel (AHIMS 45-6-1853).

During historic excavations in relation to the construction of the eastern distributor at Woolloomooloo, an artefact scatter was uncovered. This site was subsequently excavated by Brayshaw (AHIMS 45-6-2580). This site, which was located near a spring contained 4 silcrete, 4 chert, 2 quartz artefacts plus one quartzite and one chalcedonic silica artefact. They were found at a depth of about one metre in “disturbed topsoil, overlain by fill” (AHIMS 45-6-2580:2).

During historic excavations in respect of development works located approximately 2km north east of the study area, at William Street, an artefact scatter was uncovered. This was subsequently excavated and the artefacts included fine quartz debitage and cores, silcrete flakes and tuff cores and flakes (AHIMS 45-6-2651).

At Angel Place, approximately 2.5km north of the study area, during development works stone artefacts were uncovered. This site was subsequently excavated by Steele who retrieved three broken flaked pieces in “partially disturbed topsoil mixed with alluvial silts” (AHIMS 45-6-2581). Steele also recorded a potential archaeological deposit (PAD) at 589-593 George Street, (AHIMS 45-6-2637), which he subsequently excavated. This site is located approximately 1.5km north of the study area between George, Liverpool, Goulbourn and Sussex Streets. Shell deposits were excavated and it was determined that the shell was most likely not of Aboriginal origin (Steele 2002). In 2002 Steele excavated a site on the corner of Broadway and Mountain Streets in relation to the Quadrant Development (AHIMS 45-5-2629). He uncovered 7 quartz and 6 silcrete artefacts.

Steele (2006) also undertook an assessment and excavations at a development site bound by Kent, Erskine, Napoleon and Sussex Streets, which became known as the KENS site. He retrieved a large assemblage of 952 artefacts which were predominately manufactured from silcrete with some tuff and quartz artefacts (Steele 2006:97). He interpreted the site as being occupied between 2,800 BP to 1788.

Steele further recorded PAD at 14-28 Ultimo Road, the site of the Dr Chau Chak Wing Building at the University of Technology, Sydney (AHIMS 45-5-2979). The site card contains recommendations to obtain an AHIP and undertake test excavations. A copy of Steele’s (2011) report could not be located and therefore the results of those test excavations is unknown.

In 2011 Higgs recorded an isolated fragment of a large retouched flake which may have been made of petrified wood (AHIMS 45-5-2987) at the corner of Quay Street and Ultimo Road, the Haymarket. The artefact was found in spoil which was removed from a post hole. It was considered that the artefact was not in its original position and that it was unlikely that further Aboriginal objects would be uncovered. An AHIP was acquired for the removal of the object, however no further Aboriginal objects were located.

Higgs further recorded a potential archaeological deposit at 435-473 Wattle Street Ultimo (AHIMS 45-5-3071). The western boundary of the property is Blackwattle Lane, which is named for its alignment with Blackwattle Creek. The site card recommends test excavations, however no indication is provided if those excavations were undertaken.

Diyan Coe recorded a midden in Wynyard Street Sydney (AHIMS 45-5-2597), however the description provided on the site card states “100m south of Redfern Station come to a park on west side of street”. The coordinates provided on the AHIMS site card place the midden between Botany Road and Wyndham Street Redfern. It is considered that the site is located on Wyndham Street, Redfern, approximately 1km to the south west of the present study area, not in Wynyard Street, Sydney. No further details are provided.

Allan Madden of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council recorded a PAD at the corner of Mountain Street and Broadway, Ultimo (45-5-2680). The AHIMS site card indicates that a permit for test excavations was obtained by Wheeler, however no

information could be found detailing the results of those test excavations.

AHIMS site 45-5-0647 was first recorded by John Mann in 1883 when he described and illustrated rock engravings within what is now known as Centennial Park at a meeting of the Geographical Society of Australasia. He wrote

A flat rock near the Association Ground, Sydney Common, was covered with the representations of kangaroo, opossum, fish, boomerangs, &c. (cited in Attenbrow 2002:11).

His drawing includes two fish, two macropods (kangaroos or wallabies), an axe or club-like object and an indeterminate outline. Campbell (1899:10) also recorded this site in *Aboriginal Carvings of Port Jackson and Broken Bay*. His description states that

...on a flat rock in a saddle of the ridge between the Pastoral and Agricultural Society's Ground and the Centennial Park, on the old cart-track crossing which is now Darvall-street, below an old quarry.

Description: the group comprises two boomerangs, portions of a kangaroo or wallaby, a waddy or a stone tomahawk. Mr FJ Man. Licensed Surveyor, who informed the writer of this group, saw it fully forty-five years ago, and states that there were other figures visible then; these have now disappeared in consequence of cart traffic wearing away the rock...(cited in Attenbrow 2002:12).

The site has since been registered with AHIMS based on the information recorded by Mann and Campbell, however the site has been destroyed.

A rockshelter with art (45-5-0675) was recorded by McCarthy and then registered with the AHIMS database by Guider at Queens Park. The site is described as a rock shelter facing northwest with a view across the entirety of Centennial Park and the city of Sydney. The shelter has a rocky floor and has been subjected to vandalism since 1899. The art is described as 27 white hand stencils, one white fish stencil and six white unknown stencils. He also records a "natural rock slippery -dip which appears to have been worn down over a long period of time possibly by Aboriginal children. European children still use it frequently and its surface is shiny and smooth." (AHIMS Site Card 45-5-0675). Attenbrow inspected the rock shelter in 2002 and states that only a few stencils were barely visible and large areas of the back wall are covered in graffiti.

Attenbrow describes a single stone artefact held at the Australian Museum which was collected from the Sydney Cricket Ground. The object is a silcrete flake with rounded edges and highly polished surfaces. The artefact was inspected by use-wear and residue specialist Dr Richard Fullagar who suggested that "its glossy state and wear was reminiscent of a gizzard stone – perhaps it had been swallowed by an emu and passed through?" (Attenbrow 2002: 15).

In 2014 Artefact Heritage recorded an artefact scatter (45-5-3155) under a former carpark area at Moore Park Tennis Centre. The two artefacts, comprising of a silcrete and a mudstone flake, were retrieved during test excavations for the proposed light rail network. Salvage excavations were later undertaken but it does not appear that any further Aboriginal objects were identified.

In 2008 Comber undertook an assessment of the Darling Walk site at Darling Harbour and predicted that it was possible for subsurface Aboriginal sites to exist on the site. In 2009 (Comber 2012) she excavated the site prior to redevelopment into the present Darling Quarter. She uncovered a midden with charcoal and 10 predominantly chert artefacts (eight chert, one silcrete, and one quartz artefact).

Comber also undertook an assessment and excavations on the western side of Darling Harbour at the site of the former Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre and surrounds (presently being redeveloped into the Sydney International Convention, Exhibition and Entertainment Precinct). Those excavations (Stening 2016) revealed a sequence of middens along the rocky foreshore of the harbour with 63 predominantly silcrete artefacts being collected. One of the middens appeared to be in situ with a knapping floor adjacent to it. Radiocarbon dating results on this midden indicate that it dates to approximately 300 years BP.

The majority of these sites have been uncovered during historical archaeological excavations in relation to development proposals. A few of the sites were recorded at contact. None have been recorded and analysed as a result of a systematic assessment. However, all of these sites are located in the coastline/estuarine environment on Hawkesbury Sandstone. These locations confirm Attenbrow's model of coastal occupation that occupation was greater in these environments and on the Hawkesbury Sandstone than in the hinterland/freshwater environments.

7.3 Study Area

A search of OEH's AHIMS database on 20 July 2016 indicates that there are no known sites within the study area.

7.4 Site Prediction

On the basis of the environmental and archaeological information detailed above, it could be predicted that the study area contains high archaeological potential. It is located between two second order streams, was in an area which contained abundant resources and the historical record indicated that the area was a favoured camp ground. The site types that could be expected would be:

1. *Artefact scatters*

These sites are characterised by surface or sub-surface scatters of stone artefacts or artefacts embedded in deposits.

2. *Isolated finds*

Single artefacts which may be the result of tool loss, abandonment or maintenance may be found. They may also be indicators of otherwise buried sites or the only remains of heavily disturbed sites.

3. *Shell Middens*

'Midden' is a term borrowed from the Danish. It originally applied to the accumulations of shell and other food remains left by Mesolithic people in that country.

Australian Midden sites are an accumulation of hearth and food debris, which has built up a deposit on the ground surface over a length of time. Middens are usually comprised of charcoal and either freshwater or coastal shell species, depending on the site's location. Midden sites may also contain stone artefacts, and the food refuse of other native animals such as small mammals. Coastal shell middens are often found in close association with rock platforms. Freshwater shell middens are found in close proximity to areas that provided freshwater mussels. Middens can contain artefacts and/or burials.

Given that the study area is located on a small creek and is surrounded by swamps it is possible that shellfish was available.

Scarred or carved trees are not expected as the property has previously been cleared. Similarly, rock shelters, paintings, engravings or axe grinding grooves are not expected, as the study area does not contain rock outcrops suitable for such site types.

8.0 SITE INSPECTION

RESULTS
SUMMARY

8.0 SITE INSPECTION

8.1 Results

A pedestrian survey of the study area and surrounding Prince Alfred Park was undertaken on 30th June 2016. It was observed that the study area does not contain original surfaces. The ground is covered by buildings, asphalt and modern garden beds.

The historic research indicates that prior to the construction of the school, the site was part of the Government Paddocks and possibly used for grazing. Prior to the construction of the school the site was vacant land and an area of significance to the Cadi.

There is a marked difference between the ground level of the study area and Chalmers Street and Cleveland Street. As previously detailed this resulted from the raising of the street by about 6 feet (approximately 1.8m) in 1858 when Chalmers Street (formerly known as Castlereagh Street) was raised above the ground level of the school site and the school buildings (Kass 2016:8).

8.2 Summary

The study area was an important camping and ceremonial ground for Aboriginal people prior to and post colonisation. It contained a creek and was close to swamps and wetlands which would have provided a wide range of resources. Historical information indicates that Aboriginal people continued camping in the area till at least 1850. The historical information indicates that prior to construction of the school the area was part of the Government Paddocks possibly used for grazing. It is highly likely that evidence of Aboriginal occupation still remains beneath the school buildings. Whilst the foundations for the buildings would have disturbed and displaced Aboriginal objects, it is highly unlikely that they were destroyed by construction of the school.

The study area is in an area of high archaeological potential. It is located adjacent to Blackwattle Creek and approximately 1.5km north of the present alignment of Shea's Creek, both second order creeks. The study area is also located within a highly resource rich swampland which extends from the University of Sydney to Centennial Park. The predictive model developed by McDonald and Mitchell indicates that it is highly likely that subsurface archaeological deposits will exist within the study area. In addition, OEH's *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* details the archaeological importance of certain landscape features, including a water source. The *Due Diligence* guidelines state that if the proposed activity is "within 200m of waters" then there may be a need to apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP), particularly if the background research indicates the likelihood of Aboriginal objects existing within the property.

As Aboriginal "objects" are highly likely to exist within the study area and it is an offence to "harm" such "objects", it will be necessary to undertake archaeological testing prior to the commencement of any proposed redevelopment of the site which would impact upon the ground surface, i.e., if the redevelopment includes excavation of the site for additional buildings or basements. The aim of the testing would be to determine if Aboriginal objects exist within the study area and their nature and extent. If Aboriginal objects are uncovered a program of archaeological salvage should be undertaken and the objects lodged with the Australian Museum. OEH's *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (the Code) details the manner in which such testing and salvage should be undertaken. Normally an AHIP would be required for such testing and salvage, however, as this project is a State Significant development an AHIP will not be required for the program of testing and salvage.

Prior to such testing Aboriginal community consultation should be undertaken in accordance with OEH's *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*. A Research Design which clearly outlines the proposed methodology for the testing and salvage will also need to be prepared in consultation with the Aboriginal community.

9.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

PREAMBLE

ASSESSMENT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

9.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

9.1 Preamble

Significance assessment is the process whereby sites or landscapes are assessed to determine their value or importance to the community.

A range of criteria have been developed for assessing the significance which embody the values contained in the Burra Charter. The Burra Charter provides principles and guidelines for the conservation and management of cultural heritage places within Australia.

Following are the criteria which will be used to assess the Aboriginal significance of the study area:

Social Value (sometimes termed “Aboriginal” value) which refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments which the place or area has for the present day Aboriginal community.

Historic Value refers to an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history.

Research Potential an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history.

Rarity refers to an item that possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

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

9.2 Assessment

Social Values

Early descriptions by Collins in 1793 indicate that this was a highly significant area to the Aboriginal community. He describes the Aboriginal people of Sydney choosing a location encompassing the study area for “the performance of any of their rites and ceremonies” indicating the significance of the area to the Aboriginal community. The area continued to be used as an Aboriginal ceremonial and meeting place throughout the following years and a “place whence they derived so many comforts and so much shelter in bad weather” (Collins 1802:Oct 1976). A painting by John Rae shows Aboriginal people camping at the site in 1850 at the same time that Europeans were celebrating the construction of the railway.

Historic Values

The study area lies within an important trade and movement corridor between Cockle Bay and Botany Bay for Aboriginal people. It demonstrates the historic values associated with the occupation and ceremonial use of the site demonstrating Aboriginal lifeways.

Research Potential

Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the study area was an attractive location for Aboriginal people as it had access to Blackwattle Creek, Shea’s Creek, Cockle Bay and the extensive surrounding swamplands which extended from the University of Sydney to Centennial Park. The importance of the site continued throughout the contact period. Archaeological investigations have the potential to reveal substantial information about the precontact and contact Aboriginal occupation of the study area and immediate surrounds and contribute further information about the Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney Basin.

Rarity

The Botany Lowlands sand dunes are a rare example of an Aeolian sand body which has the potential to contain thousands of years of evidence of Aboriginal occupation. The study area itself is a rare example of an Aboriginal ceremonial and meeting place and campsite in the Sydney Basin as described by Collins in 1793.

Representativeness

The study area is an important and good representative example of a ceremonial and meeting place and campsite within the Sydney Basin which can provide significant information about the precontact and contact Aboriginal occupation of the area.

9.3 Statement of Significance

Early descriptions by Collins in 1793 indicate that this was a highly significant area to the Aboriginal community. He describes the Aboriginal people of Sydney choosing a location encompassing the study area for “the performance of any of their rites and ceremonies” indicating the significance of the area to the Aboriginal community. The area continued to be used as an Aboriginal ceremonial and meeting place throughout the following years and a “place whence they derived so many comforts and so much shelter in bad weather” (Collins 1802:Oct 1976). A painting by John Rae shows Aboriginal people camping at the site in 1850 at the same time that Europeans were celebrating the construction of the railway. The study area lies within an important trade and movement corridor between Cockle Bay and Botany Bay for Aboriginal people. It demonstrates the historic values associated with the occupation and ceremonial use of the site demonstrating Aboriginal lifeways. Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the study area was an attractive location for Aboriginal people as it had access to Blackwattle Creek, Shea’s Creek, Cockle Bay and the extensive surrounding swamplands which extended from the University of Sydney to Centennial Park. The importance of the site continued throughout the contact period. Archaeological investigations have the potential to reveal substantial information about the precontact and contact Aboriginal occupation of the study area and immediate surrounds and contribute further information about the Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney Basin. The Botany Lowlands sand dunes are a rare example of an Aeolian sand body which has the potential to contain thousands of years of evidence of Aboriginal occupation. The study area itself is a rare example of an Aboriginal ceremonial and meeting place and campsite in the Sydney Basin as described by Collins in 1793. The study area is an important and good representative example of a ceremonial and meeting place and campsite within the Sydney Basin which can provide significant information about the precontact and contact Aboriginal occupation of the area.

This site is of State heritage significance due to its social, historic and rarity values.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made on the basis of:

- The provisions of the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1977 which states it is an offence to harm or desecrate an Aboriginal object.
- The results of the assessment detailed in this report.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT:

1. In accordance with the SEARS and prior to any redevelopment of the site Aboriginal community consultation should be undertaken in accordance with OEH's Aboriginal *Cultural Heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* and an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report (ACHAR) prepared, detailing the results of the consultation. This report should be appended to the ACHAR.
2. Once the above consultation has been undertaken, archaeological testing to determine the nature and extent of any archaeological deposit should be undertaken in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, prior to any bulk excavation, piling, redevelopment or any activity that disturbs the ground surface.
3. If archaeological objects are uncovered a program of archaeological salvage should be undertaken, in association with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, prior to any redevelopment of the site. This should be undertaken immediately after the testing.

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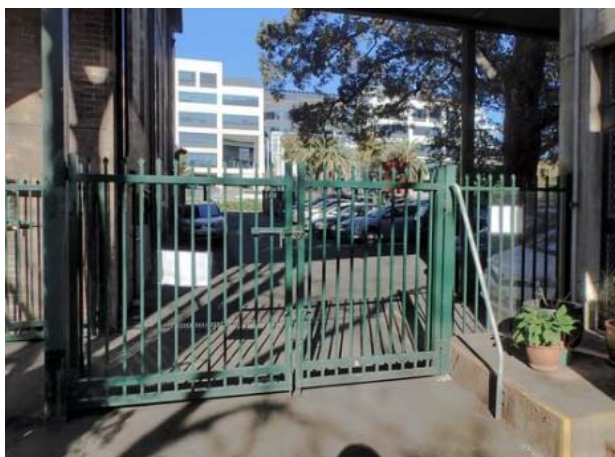
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PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1: Open area in south east of property. Camera facing south east.



Photograph 2: Car park gate in south west of property. Camera facing south.



Photograph 3: Car park in south west of property. Camera facing south.



Photograph 4: Car park in south west of property. Camera facing west.



Photograph 5: Car park gate in south west of property. Camera facing north west.



Photograph 6: Central area of property under walkway. Camera facing north.



Photograph 7: Open area in north west of property. Camera facing south east.



Photograph 8: Open area in centre of property. Camera facing north east.



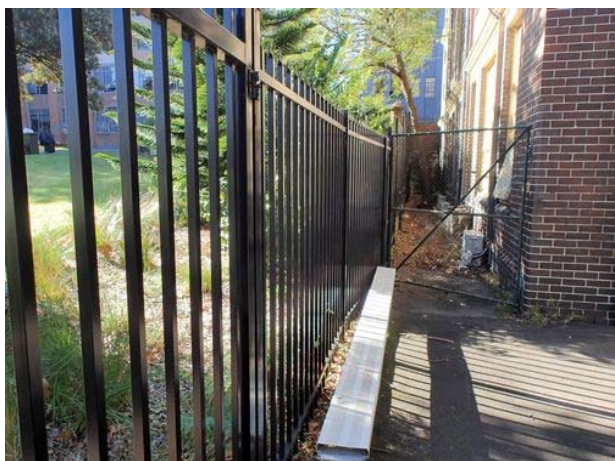
Photograph 9: Open area in north of property. Camera facing west.



Photograph 10: Open area in north east of property. Camera facing east.



Photograph 11: Open area in north east of property. Camera facing north east.



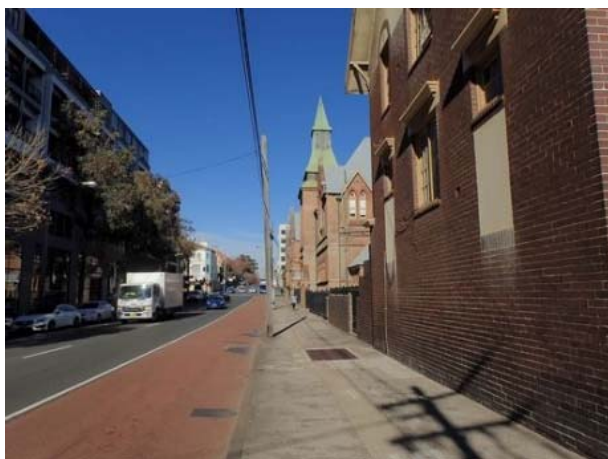
Photograph 12: North east corner of property. Camera facing est.



Photograph 13: North east corner of property. Camera facing est.



Photograph 14: Cleveland Street facing east from south west corner of study area



Photograph 15: Chalmers Street facing south from north east corner of study area



Photograph 16: Prince Alfred park and study area boundary facing north from south west corner of study area



Photograph 17: Cleveland Street facing west from south west corner of study area



Photograph 18: Cleveland Street facing east from south west corner of study area



Photograph 19: Cleveland Street facing east from south west corner of study area



Photograph 20: Prince Alfred park facing north from north west corner of study area



Photograph 21: Prince Alfred park and study area boundary facing south from north west corner of study area

APPENDIX A:

AHIMS EXTENSIVE SEARCH



APPENDIX A: AHIMS EXTENSIVE SEARCH



AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Cleveland

Client Service ID : 235113

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-2597	Wynyard St Midden	AGD	56	333469	6247920	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-0647	Centennial Park	AGD	56	336273	6247961	Open site	Valid	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Rock Engraving	
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-2629	Broadway 1	AGD	56	333060	6249100	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1299	
45-6-2637	George street 1	AGD	56	333860	6249880	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		98238,102494, 102763,10276 5
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1369	
45-6-2651	William St PAD	AGD	56	334800	6250220	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1589,1670	
45-6-2652	Ultimo PAD 1	AGD	56	333450	6250000	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1598	
45-6-2666	Wattle Street PAD 1	AGD	56	333150	6249450	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1738	
45-6-2663	Mountain Street Ultimo	AGD	56	333300	6249400	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1719	
45-6-2680	Broadway Picture Theatre PAD 1	AGD	56	333150	6249000	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102142,10249 4,102763,1027 65
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1854	
45-6-2687	Crown Street PAD 1	AGD	56	334950	6250300	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	2017	
45-6-2745	University of Sydney Law Building PAD	AGD	56	332350	6248740	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102201,10249 4,102763,1027 65

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 20/07/2016 for Alandra Tasire for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.904, 151.1826 - Lat, Long To : -33.873, 151.2318 with a Buffer of 50 meters. Additional Info : Archaeological Assessment. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 19

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.



AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Cleveland

Client Service ID : 235113

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	Contact	Recorders		Doctor Jo McDonald				Permits	2153,2320,2443	
45-6-2767	Tent Embassy	AGD	56	332680	6248680	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Resource and Gathering : 1		102494,102763,102765
	Contact T Russell	Recorders		Bill Lord				Permits		
45-6-2822	USYD: Central	AGD	56	332750	6248550	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		100302,102494,102763,102765
	Contact	Recorders		Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management				Permits	2554	
45-6-2979	UTS PAD 1 14-28 Ultimo Rd Syd	GDA	56	333650	6249590	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,102763,102765
	Contact	Recorders		Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting, Mr. Dominic Steele				Permits	3458	
45-6-3071	445-473 Wattle Street PAD	GDA	56	333285	6249412	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	Contact	Recorders		Biosis Pty Ltd - Sydney				Permits		
45-6-2987	Poultry Market 1	GDA	56	333746	6249575	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1		102494,102763
	Contact	Recorders		Ms. Samantha Higgs, Biosis Pty Ltd - Canberra				Permits	3506	
45-6-3064	445-473 WATTLE ST PAD	GDA	56	333285	6249412	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		102763
	Contact	Recorders		Biosis Pty Ltd - Sydney				Permits		
45-6-3152	168-190 Day Street, Sydney PAD	GDA	56	333877	6250257	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	Contact	Recorders		Mr. Josh Symons, Mr. Alex Timms				Permits	3789	
45-6-3155	Moore Park AS1	GDA	56	335613	6247909	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders		Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management, Mr. Josh Symons, Mr. Alex Timms				Permits		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 20/07/2016 for Alandra Tastre for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.904, 151.1826 - Lat, Long To : -33.973, 151.2318 with a Buffer of 50 meters. Additional Info : Archaeological Assessment. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 19

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