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Light Horse Interchange Business Hub, Eastern Creek NSW (SSD 9667)

Preliminary Non-Aboriginal Heritage Assessment

Prepared for Western Sydney Parklands Trust

March 2019

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CLIENT: Western Sydney Parklands Trust

PROJECT: Preliminary Non-Aboriginal Heritage Assessment

SITE NAME: Light Horse Interchange Business Hub (part of 165 Wallgrove Road, and part of 475 Ferrers Road, Eastern Creek NSW)

EXTENT HERITAGE PTY LTD INTERNAL REVIEW/SIGN OFF

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project Initiation

Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent) has been commissioned by the Western Sydney Parklands Trust (WSPT) to prepare a Preliminary Non-Aboriginal (European) Heritage Assessment for a part of 165 Wallgrove Road and 475 Ferrers Road, Eastern Creek NSW (hereafter the 'study area') in advance of the development of the proposed Light horse Interchange Business Hub.

The proposed development is being assessed as a State Significant Development (SSD 9667), in accordance with Part 4 Division 4.7 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the project require that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared for the proposal.

This report has been prepared to respond to the SEARs (Application No: SSD 9667) and identify any project constraints in relation to built heritage and historical archaeology. It provides a preliminary assessment of heritage significance for identified heritage items and historical archaeological resources, identifies heritage constraints and opportunities for input into the development of reference designs and specifications and recommendations for appropriate management. .

1.2 Site Location and Identification

The site is located to the east of the Westlink M7 and south of the M4 Western Motorway on Wallgrove Road, Eastern Creek (**Figure 1**). It lies within the Blacktown Local Government Area (LGA), in Parishes of Melville and Prospect, County of Cumberland, and consists of Part Lot 10 DP1061237 and Part Lot 5 DP804051.

1.3 Development Description

WSPT intends to redevelop the study area to accommodate industrial and light industrial land use activities. An indicative land subdivision plan has been prepared for the study area and includes indicative building development areas and site works. Key features of this are the demolition of existing structures and bulk earthworks, the creation of approximately 29.5 hectares of developable Industrial zoned land and its associated estate with access roads, bridge crossings, and other infrastructure, as well as the realignment of Eskdale Creek. Provision has also been made for the demarcation and construction of flood compensation offset storage areas, though these are currently under consideration and may be subject to revision or removal (**Figure 2**).

Further detailed approvals will be sought for the construction of individual buildings, ancillary facilities and associated site works, which would be the subject of a separate heritage assessment, if required.

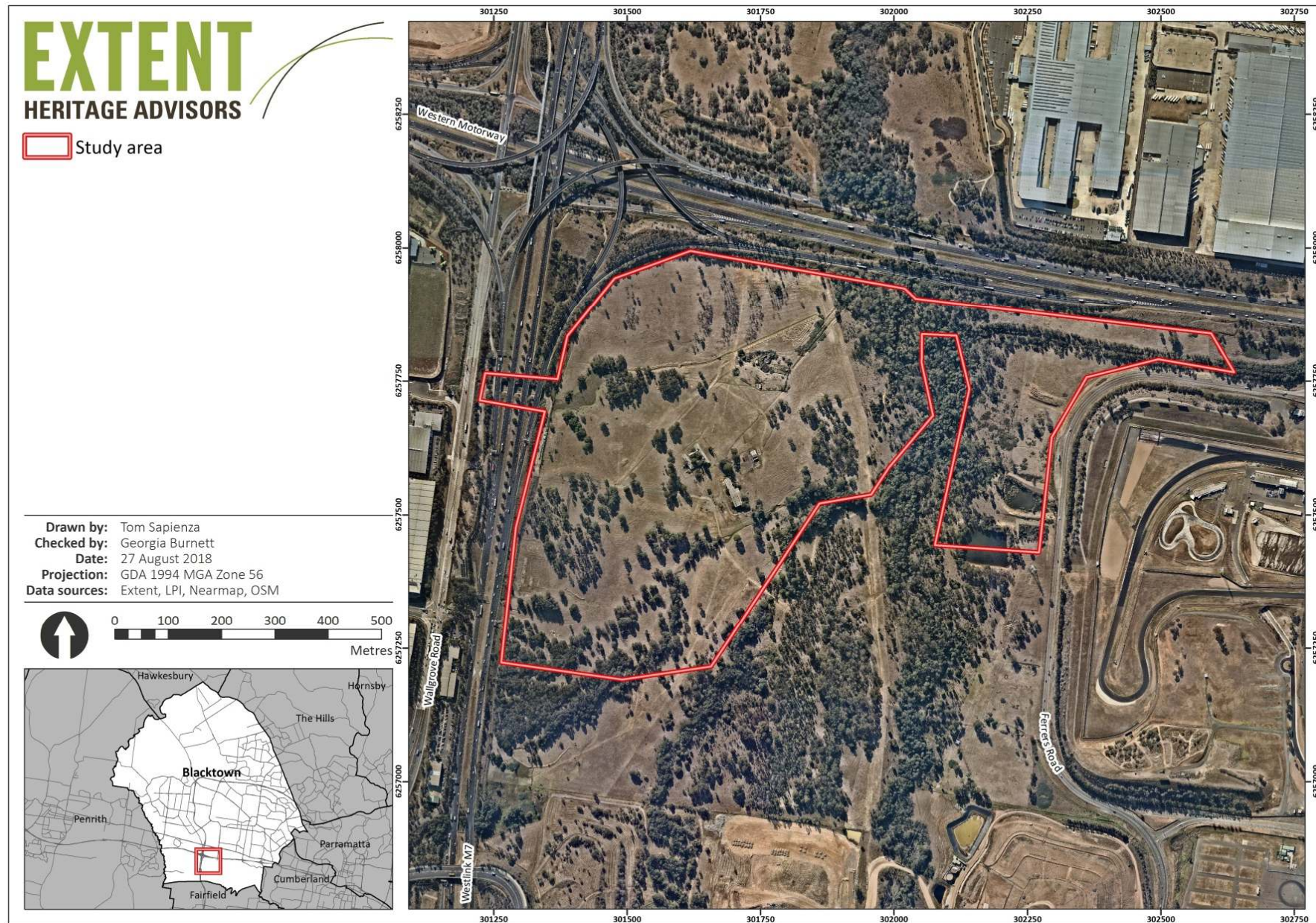


Figure 1. Current aerial imagery showing the subject area (Source: Sixmaps).



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DEVELOPMENT DATA			
OVERALL SITE AREA	336,287m ²		
LOT 8 (RESIDUAL) - ESTATE BIO-BASIN/CSD	21,511m ²		
ACCESS ROAD RESERVE	21,137m ²		
TOTAL DEVELOPABLE AREA (LOT 1 TO 7)	293,639m ²		
TOTAL BUILDING AREA	166,500m ²		
FLOOR SPACE RATIO	56.4%		
DEVELOPABLE LOT	W/H AREA	OFFICE AREA	TOTAL
LOT 1 SITE AREA (41,270m ²)	19,000	1,000	20,000
LOT 2 SITE AREA (34,143m ²)	16,900	800	17,700
LOT 3 SITE AREA (41,112m ²)	23,200	1,200	24,400
LOT 4 SITE AREA (38,636m ²)	21,400	1,000	22,400
LOT 5 SITE AREA (44,193m ²)	24,700	1,300	26,000
LOT 6 SITE AREA (38,404m ²)	20,000	1,000	21,000
LOT 7 SITE AREA (55,831m ²)	32,400	1,600	34,000
TOTAL	157,600	7,900	165,500
CARPARK PROVISIONS			
TOTAL CARPARK REQUIRED Res. (approx) 1 space/200sqm Office 1 space/400sqm			723 spaces
TOTAL CARPARK PROVIDED			762 spaces

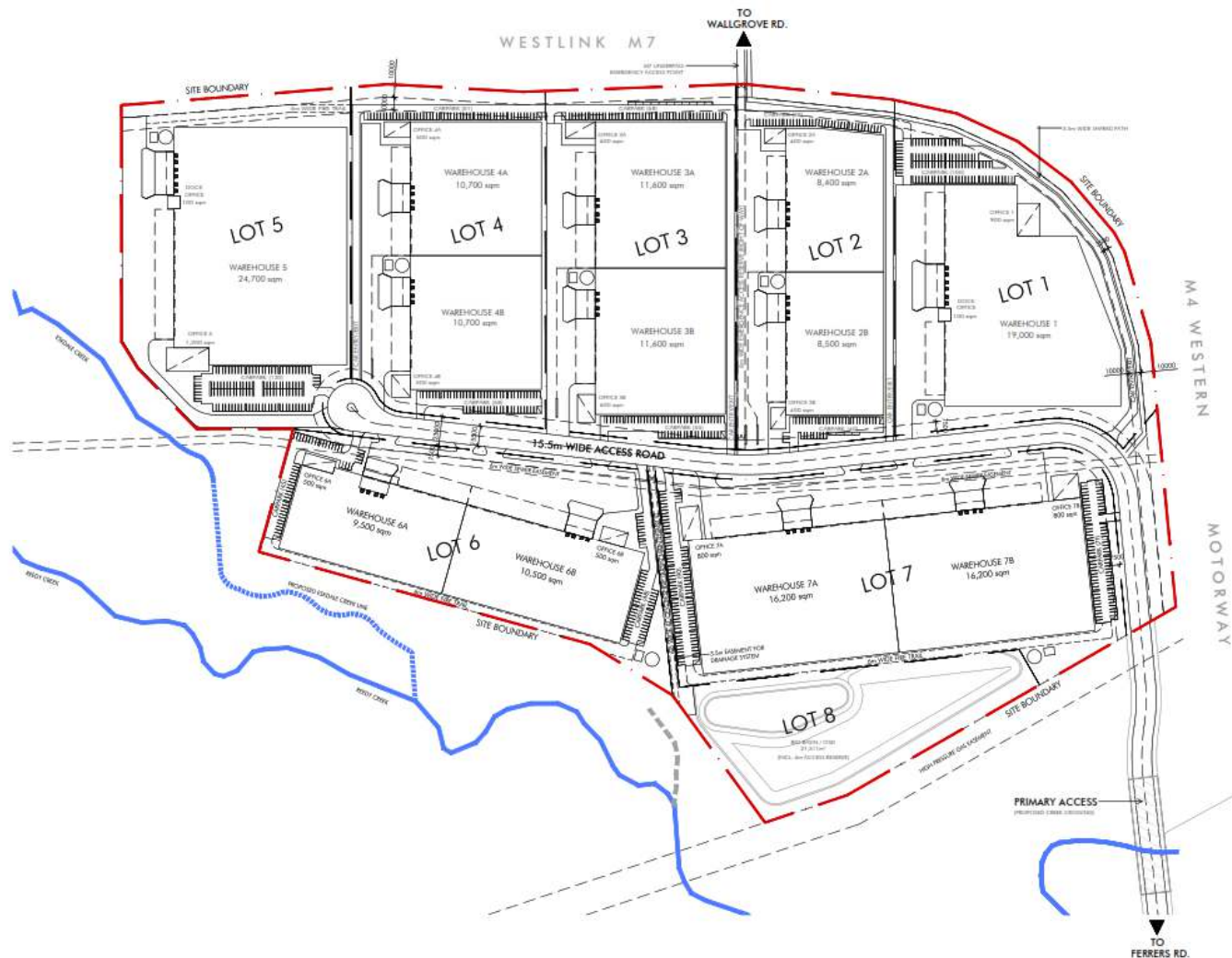


Figure 3. Concept Master Plan, Light horse interchange Business Hub (Source: WSPT Sketch No. 10935_SK017, March 2019)

1.4 Statutory Context

Historic heritage and archaeology in New South Wales are protected by Commonwealth and State legislation, and regulations provided by local government. Of relevance to the project are the:

- ◆ *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW)
- ◆ *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW)
- ◆ State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Sydney Parklands) 2009

1.4.1 Statutory Regulations

1.4.1.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977

The *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) (the Heritage Act) is designed to conserve the environmental heritage of New South Wales and regulate development impacts on the state's heritage assets. Significant historical archaeological features are afforded automatic statutory protection by the 'relics' provisions of the Act. A 'relic' is defined as:

any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- b) is of State or local heritage significance.*

In accordance with Section 139(1), it is an offence to disturb or excavate land, where this may affect a relic, without the approval/excavation permit of the Heritage Council of NSW, unless an endorsed 'Exemption' or 'Exception' to disturb or expose and destroy a 'relic' applies. Sites which may contain archaeological relics are usually dealt with under Sections 140 and 141 of the Heritage Act. Sites containing archaeological relics, listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR), are dealt with under Sections 60 and 63 of the Heritage Act.

The subject area is not included on the SHR.

1.4.1.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the EPA Act) requires that environmental impacts, including impacts on cultural heritage, are considered by consent authorities prior to granting development approvals. The relevant sections of the EPA Act are:

- Part 4 (Division 4.3): Development that needs consent under consideration of environmental planning instruments.
- Part 4 (Division 4.7): An approval pathway for State Significant Development (SSD) projects.
- Part 5 (Division 5.1): Activities carried out by or on behalf of public authorities.
- Part 5 (Division 5.2): An approval pathway for State Significant Infrastructure (SSI).

The EPA Act controls the making of environmental planning instruments, including State Environment Planning Policies (SEPPs), which deal with matters of state or regional environmental planning significance; and Local Environmental Plans (LEPs), which guide planning decisions for local government areas. The site falls within the Blacktown Local

Government Area (LGA). The relevant environmental planning instrument is the State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Sydney Parklands) 2009 (Western Sydney Parklands SEPP). That states under Clause 6 (1) that the Blacktown LEP instruments do not apply to Western Parklands and under Clause 6A that " a development control plan does not apply to the Western Parklands unless it is made by the Director-General."

1.4.1.3 State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Sydney Parklands) 2009

The aim of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Sydney Parklands) 2009 (Western Sydney Parklands SEPP) is to put in place planning controls that will enable the Western Sydney Parklands Trust to develop the Western Parklands into a multi-use urban parkland for the region of western Sydney. The heritage conservation objectives are provided in the following clause:

15 Heritage conservation

1. Objectives

The objectives of this clause are:

- a. to conserve the environmental heritage of the Western Parklands, and*
- b. to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items in the Western Parklands including associated fabric, settings and views.*

2. Requirement for consent

Development consent is required for any of the following in the Western Parklands:

- a. demolishing or moving a heritage item,*
- b. altering a heritage item,*
- c. altering a heritage item that is a building by making structural changes to its interior,*
- d. erecting a building on land on which a heritage item is located,*
- e. subdividing land on which a heritage item is located.*

3. When consent not required

However, consent under this clause is not required if:

- a. the applicant has notified the consent authority of the proposed development and the consent authority has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development:*
 - i. is of a minor nature, or is for the maintenance of the heritage item, and*
 - ii. would not adversely affect the significance of the heritage item, or*
- b. the development is in a cemetery or burial ground and the proposed development:*
 - i. is the creation of a new grave or monument, or excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of conserving or repairing monuments or grave markers, and*

- ii. *would not cause disturbance to human remains, relics or Aboriginal objects in the form of grave goods, or*
- c. *the development is limited to the removal of a tree or other vegetation that the consent authority is satisfied is a risk to human life or property, or*
- d. *the development is on land to which another State environmental planning policy applies and is exempt development under that other policy.*

4. Effect on heritage significance

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause, consider the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the heritage item concerned. This subclause applies regardless of whether a heritage impact statement is prepared under subclause (5) or a heritage conservation management plan is submitted under subclause (6).

The subject area does not contain any items listed on Schedule 1 of the Western Sydney Parklands SEPP

1.4.2 Heritage items

There are no listed heritage items within the site boundary or in the immediate vicinity. However, the Australian Light Horse Sculpture Parade Memorial lies adjacent to the site. The sculpture has a central 55m high mast at the centre of the interchange and four sets of radiating markers along the central median strips of the approaching roads representing the Australian Light Horse on parade. The poles are coloured Flanders Poppy red and are topped with abstract plumage representing the emu plumes on the Light Horsemen's slouch hats. Horses are not represented in the memorial as Australian quarantine regulations prohibited their repatriation (Register of War Memorials 2005).

1.5 Objectives

The objectives of this report are to:

- Identify listed heritage items and historical archaeological sites in relation to the study area
- Present a historical context for the study area
- Provide a preliminary assessment of heritage significance for identified heritage items and historical archaeology
- Provide an overview of the project statutory requirements in relation to heritage matters
- Present a heritage constraints and opportunities analysis to provide input for the development of reference designs and specifications (as relevant)
- Provides recommendation for appropriate heritage management
- Respond to the SEARs (Application No: SSD 9667) and authority submissions

1.6 Approach and Methodology

This report was prepared in accordance with the principles and procedures established by the following documents:

- Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics' (Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009);
- *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013* (The Burra Charter); and
- *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice* (Heritage Office, Department of Planning 2006).

1.7 Limitations

This report uses historical documentation and previously established significance assessments prepared by third party heritage consultants to describe and assess the heritage significance of land that would be affected by the proposal.

This report does not review the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the study area. The Aboriginal cultural heritage is assessed in Light Horse Interchange Business Hub, Eastern Creek NSW (SSD 9667)—Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Extent, February 2019), currently in draft ("ACHAR 2019").

1.8 Author Identification

This report was prepared by Dr Vidhu Gandhi, Senior Heritage Advisor, Lorna Cooper, Heritage Advisor, and Bridget San Miguel, Research Assistant.

It was reviewed by Anita Yousif, Senior Associate and Historical Archaeology Team Leader.

2. Historical Context

2.1 Introduction

The study area has been the subject of a number of heritage reports and studies, which have focused primarily on the Wallgrove Army Camp and Wallgrove Migrant Hostel. This historical context has been conducted using primary and secondary sources, including historical plans, aerials and existing archaeological reports. The historical overview provides sufficient historical background to provide an understanding of the place in order to assess the archaeological potential and provide relevant recommendations; however, it is not intended as an exhaustive history of the site. All figures are aligned north unless otherwise noted.

2.2 Aboriginal Occupation

This report does not address the pre-European Aboriginal occupation of the study area, though it is briefly summarised in **Part 0**. The more detailed ethnographic and historic accounts about the local Aboriginal groups are provided in ACHAR 2019. Aboriginal Occupation

Over thirty separate Aboriginal groups populated the Sydney region in 1788, each of which had their own country, practices, diets, dress, and dialects. These groups are now known of as 'clans', each of which is also identified with broader cultural-linguistic groups sometimes referred to as 'tribes' (Attenbrow 2010: 23, 32). Each clan was made up of thirty to fifty people who had own defined territory. Clans occasionally converged with other clans to trade, hunt, fight, feast, arrange marriages, conduct ceremonies, resolve disputes, and share information. There was often tension between neighbouring groups and the boundaries between territories were not lightly traversed (White 1790). The study area is placed where several territory boundaries meet. It is likely to be associated with the Dharug, Tharawal, Eora people (Tindale 1974; Horton 2000). These groups were devastated by a smallpox epidemic in 1789, which destroyed entire Aboriginal communities and caused clans to merge together for survival (Hunter 1793). Alluvial Woodland occurs exclusively along, or in close proximity to, minor watercourses in the Cumberland Plain. In the study area, the woodland follows the courses of Eastern Creek and Reedy Creek, which were also important to the Aboriginal subsistence economy. The vegetation included native trees such as cabbage gum, forest red gum, and dense stands of Swamp Oak. It would have had abundant game resources, particularly grazing and browsing mammals such as kangaroos and possums (Backhouse 1843).

2.3 Early European Expeditions

European expeditions by Captain Watkin Tench in 1789 and Surgeon John White in 1790 recorded hunting traps and marked trees in the general area of what is now Prospect Reservoir (**Figure 4**). White described a burning tree, which would have been an Aboriginal hunting trap, and marks in trees likely to be climbing notches made by a stone axe (White 1790). Tench's party described the quality of the land in the area around what became Prospect Reservoir as good in many places (Tench 1961). Many of the Aboriginal paths in the

Sydney region were used for travel by the Europeans and later became European roads (Heiss and Gibson 2013).

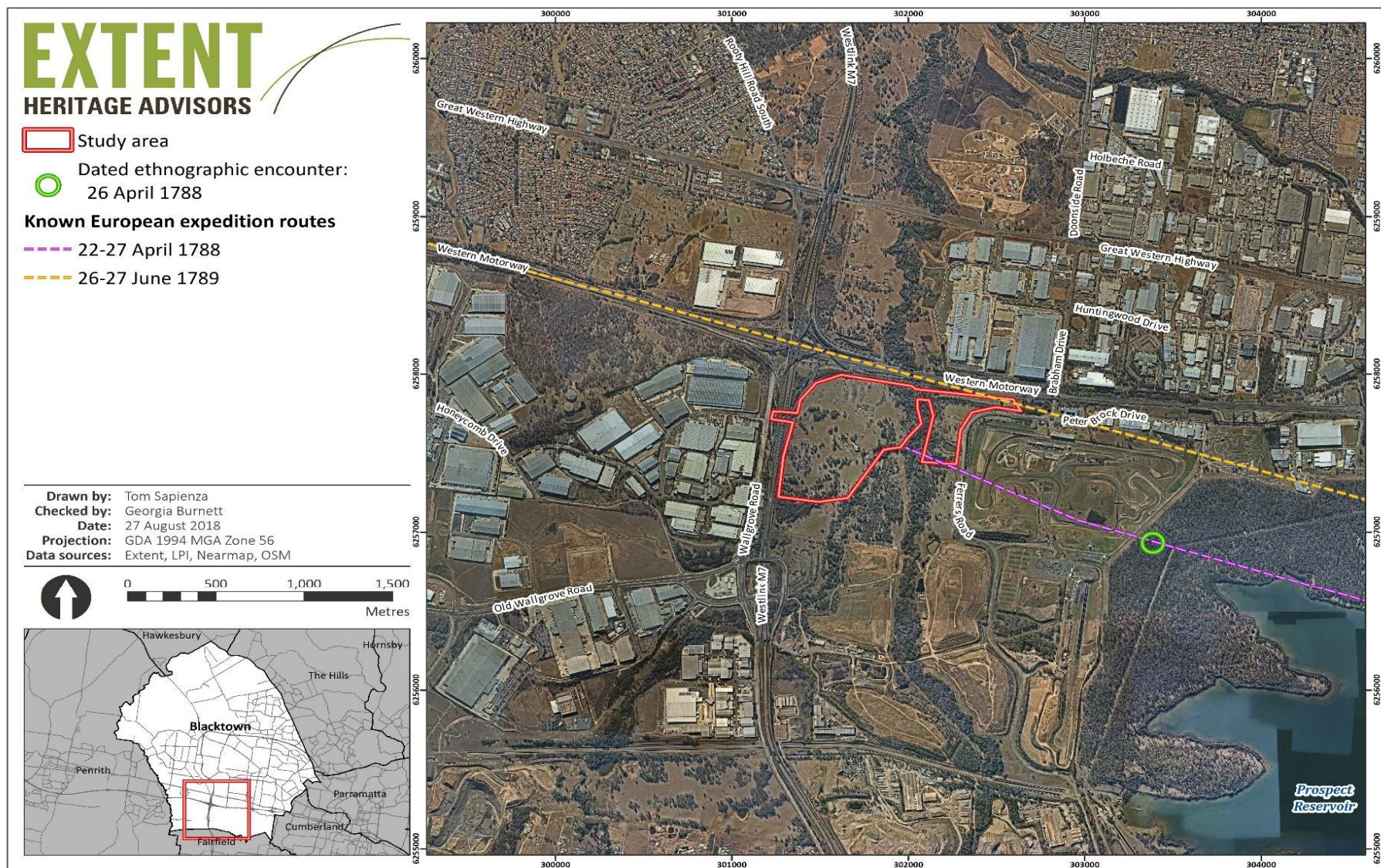


Figure 4. Paths taken by the early European explorers

2.4 Early European Land Grants

Undated early plans of the Parish of Melville and the Parish of Prospect show the study area spanning across Eastern Creek, the boundary between the two parishes (**Figure 5** and **Figure 6**). These plans indicate the original grantees of the land within the study area, which were made on 17 August 1819 to:

- Thomas Brown (50 acres, Portion 20 of the Parish of Melville);
- William Coombes (50 acres, Portion 21 of the Parish of Melville);
- Richard Martin (100 acres, Portion 22 of the Parish of Melville);
- William Clarke (50 acres, Portion 86 of the Parish of Prospect); and
- John Randall (50 acres, Portion 85 of the Parish of Prospect).



Figure 5. Reuss's 1831 plan of the Parish of Cabramatta and Melville, with the study area outlined in red (Source: SLNSW M Z/M2 811.1128/1831/1).

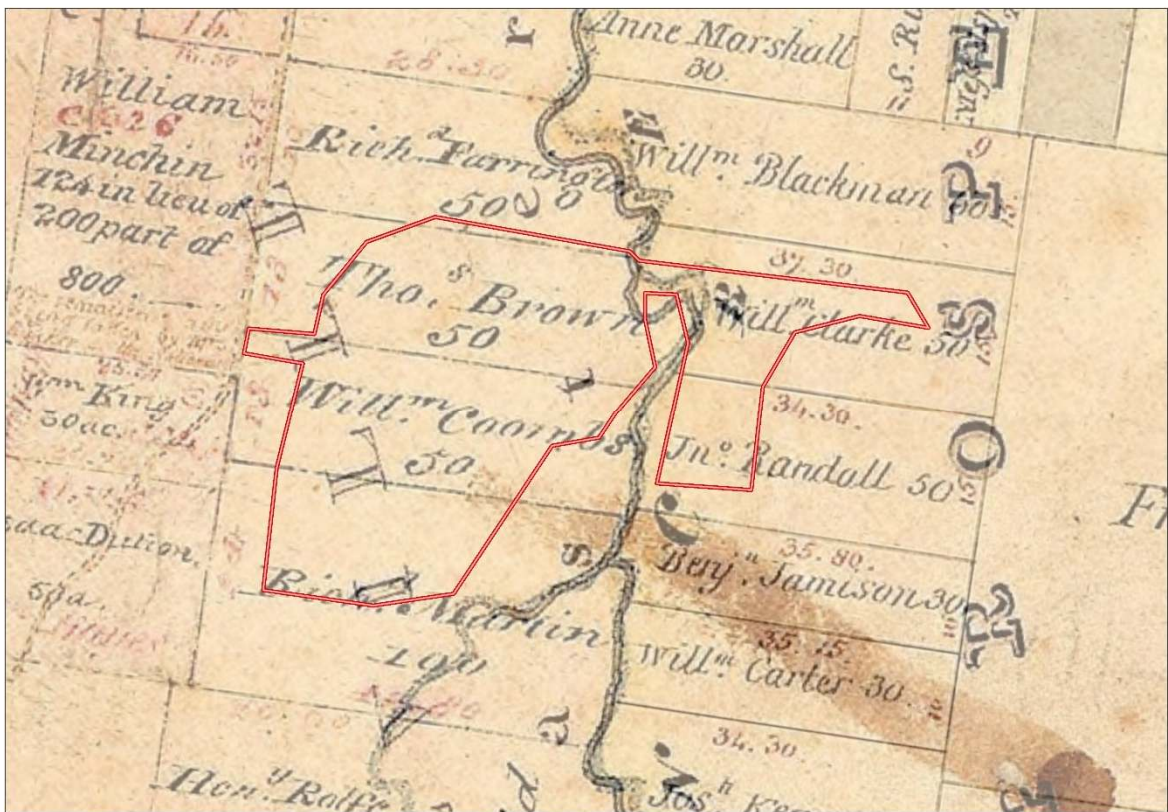


Figure 6. Parish of Melville, County of Cumberland, undated, with the study area outlined in red (Source: NSW LRS AO Map No. 331, Filename 14060401.jp2 and NSW LRS AO Map No. 265, Filename 14072601.jp2).

2.5 Consolidation of the Early Grants and Establishment of the Wallgrove Estate

The relatively small parcels of the original land grants were consolidated by Richard Farrington between 1825 and 1826. In 1826, he sold a 420-acre block to Richard Brown and Edward Aspinall (Banksia Heritage 2003: 7), Sydney-based merchants (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 1 March 1826; *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 6 August 1827). This block was then sold to Lieutenant Colonel Charles William Wall in 1827 (Curio Projects nd), who named it Wallgrove and used it as a stopping point to fatten his stock when they were driven from Bathurst to the Sydney markets (Banksia Heritage 2003: 7).

Charles William Wall was a constable at the Convict Barracks in 1822 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 1 March 1822), before becoming a Magistrate of the Territory from 1826 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 26 July 1826). He became a Justice of the Peace for the colony of New South Wales (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 26 April 1831). Wall's wife, Anne, died at Wallgrove in 1831 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 2 April 1831). Wall remarried in 1832 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 8 September 1832). He was a partner

of the Bank of Australia until 1835 (*The Sydney Herald*, 7 May 1835), then became a member of the New Commission in 1836 (*The Sydney Herald*, 7 January 1836).

In 1830, a solicitor named James Atkinson was residing at Wallgrove (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 18 September 1830). Atkinson may have been leasing Wallgrove from Wall, or he may have owned the property and was leasing it back to Wall. It is most likely, however, that Wall still owned the estate and Atkinson was a lessee, as Atkinson was experiencing financial difficulties (*The Australian*, 24 September 1830).

In 1833, the Wallgrove Estate was advertised for sale. It was listed as 460 acres of land with "about one hundred [acres] cleared, part in cultivation, and fenced into several small Paddocks...the Buildings consist[ed] of a good Cottage, well-adapted for a Family Residence, having seven good Rooms, a Dairy, and detached Kitchen, a Barn, three-stalled Stable, and other convenient Out-houses; also, an excellent Garden, well-stocked with the choicest Fruit Trees" (*The Sydney Herald*, 7 October 1833).

Charles Roberts owned the Wallgrove Estate until his death in 1865. He had purchased the property by 1839, which is the date of the earliest reference to Roberts residing at Wallgrove (*Commercial Journal and Advertiser*, 28 December 1839). He bred horses and cattle on the property and received many guests (*Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Chronicle*, 17 June 1865). Studs were kept on the property from as early as 1836 (*The Australian*, 11 November 1836) and his cattle were known for their high quality (*The Shipping Gazette and Sydney General Trade List*, 8 July 1848). Roberts and his wife, Margaret Roberts, had a son in 1849 (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 January 1849). The domestic situation of the Roberts family was volatile, however, and in 1853 Margaret Roberts had to leave Wallgrove as a victim of domestic violence (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 June 1855).

When it was advertised for sale in 1865, the improvements listed at Wallgrove included "a good Cottage Residence, with orchard and garden, and a number of out-offices, and the land ... subdivided into grazing and cultivation paddocks" (*Sydney Mail*, 16 December 1865). Richardson and Wrench sold the estate, listed as 400 acres at Eastern Creek, Rooty Hill, for £730 on 16 January 1866 (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 January 1866). Various farm animals and "farming implements" were sold at an auction of the estate later that month (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 January 1866).

The Estate was bought by John Shand, who arrived in Sydney in 1853 and worked as a labourer in Sydney and Ulladulla, eventually becoming a successful farmer and police magistrate (Shand 2012). Shand and his wife raised five children on at Wallgrove and built a school (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 October 1866), tannery and dairy (Shand 2012). The school and teacher's residence were likely updated c. 1871, when Shand put out a call for tenders for the erection of new buildings (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 October 1871). John Shand became "a name that [was] honoured and respected throughout the Nepean" (*Nepean Times*, 3 September 1887) and was an active member of the Eastern Creek community (e.g. *The Cumberland Mercury*, 30 August 1879). He moved to Redfern towards the end of his life (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 September 1891) and his sons gradually subdivided his Wallgrove property from 1890 onwards.

2.6 Subdivision from 1890 Onwards

The Certificate of Title (CT) dating to 1890 (CT 954-131) states that:

- John Shand (Rooty Hill gentleman) was the proprietor for 269 acres at Eastern Creek in the Parish of Melville on 6 January 1890, which consisted partly of the original grants to Richard Martin, William Coombes and Thomas Brown.
- Shand was also the proprietor for 267 acres of land in the Parish of Prospect on the eastern side of Eastern Creek, consisting partly of the original grant to John Randall.
- Shand's amalgamated property is shown in **Figure 7**.
- Part of the property was transferred to Samuel Spiller on 31 July 1890 (CT 978-118). This was within the southern portion of John Randall's original grant.
- Part of the property was transferred to Thomas Whelan on 8 September 1890 (CT 1042-189 and 986-25) (CT 954-131).

Shand's property was advertised for subdivision on 1 March 1890 (**Figure 8**). In January of that year, the proposed subdivisions were advertised as "First-Class Small Farms and Tannery", with "superior" farms of various sizes. The land was "in large part cleared, open grazing land for a series of years". The Homestead Block was an area of 50 acres from the road to the creek, so it was not within the study area. The tannery, north of the study area, contained a two-storey brick building (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 January 1890). It appears that many of the advertised subdivided lots (**Figure 8**) were not sold during the 1890 sale, however, as only two small portions were sold later that year to Samuel Spiller and Thomas Whelan, on the eastern side of Eastern Creek (CT 954-131). A small portion of Spiller's property falls within the study area.

In 1891, at the time of his death (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 September 1891), Shand's household furniture and effects, including household and farm items and animals were sold (*The Cumberland Mercury*, 11 July 1891). The tannery was taken over by John Herford and eventually relocated to Botany (*The Daily Telegraph*, 11 March 1927). The remaining area of Shand's property was transferred to three joint tenants: James Anderson, a Sydney Gentleman of the Royal Mint; and two of Shand's sons, John Shand (Junior), a Produce Merchant at Redfern, and Alexander Barclay Shand (CT 5395-109; *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 September 1891).

Alexander Barclay Shand, the second son of John Shand (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 January 1891), was a Lewisham-based barrister born at Ulladulla and educated at Newington College and Sydney University (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 October 1949). He qualified for the Bar of the Supreme Court of New South Wales when he was 21 years old (*Nepean Times*, 3 September 1887). He was then a Crown Prosecutor from 1895 to 1896 and became a King's Council in 1897. He died in 1949 (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 October 1949). Little information is available relating to the other joint owners.

The Certificate of Title from 1892 (CT 5395-109) states that:

- James Anderson (Sydney gentleman), John Shand (Redfern produce merchant) and Alexander Barclay Shand (Lewisham barrister) became joint proprietors of 269 acres in

the Parish of Melville and 226 acres and 16 perches in the Parish of Prospect, including part of the 50 acres granted to John Randall, on 1 February 1892 (**Figure 9**).

- A right of way was reserved for Thomas Whelan, whose property was in the Parish of Prospect adjoining Eastern Creek, to the north of the study area.
- Subdivided lots were transferred to:
 - ◆ James Smith on 22 March 1892 (CT 1052-198)
 - ◆ Robert Pringle Munns on 30 December 1892 (CT 1082-54)
 - ◆ John Samuel Duer on 21 January 1893 (CT 1083-124)
 - ◆ Charles Summers Wilson on 5 May 1893 (CT 1094-161)
 - ◆ Thomas Muler Wilson on 3 September 1893 (CT 1109-155)
 - ◆ Samuel Haywood on 24 November 1894 (CT 1150-38)
 - ◆ Patrick McCahrey on 15 January 1893 (CT 1211-235)
 - ◆ Matilda Rector on 14 April 1899 (CT 1249-130)
 - ◆ Andrew Peterson on 9 June 1898 (CT 1254-41)
 - ◆ Eugene Frederick Rudder on 27 October 1906 (CT 1736-26)
 - ◆ Mary Jane Watts on 8 November 1911 (CT 2205-234)
 - ◆ Jean Morrison Munns, wife of Robert Pringle Munns, on 5 December 1913 (CT 2432-101)
 - ◆ Alexander Third, together with preserving the right of way, on 12 October 1914 (CT 2523-57)
 - ◆ Simpson Third, together with the right of way, on 12 October 1914 (CT 2523-56)
 - ◆ George Oliver on 11 January 1916 (CT 2636-197)
 - ◆ Joseph Hicks on 20 April 1918 (CT 2838-212)
 - ◆ Francis William Watts on 28 January 1921 (CT 3152-124)
- Alexander Barclay Shand and John Shand became the registered proprietors of their remaining property area on 13 August 1906 after the death of James Anderson.
- The land was resumed by the Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales on 30 August 1991 (NSW CT 1042-189).

The Certificates of Title for the subdivided lots indicate that they were passed through a number of owners before being transferred to the Minister of Environmental Planning in the 1980s, or to the NSW Planning and Environment Commission, or to the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority in the early 1990s.

On the western side of Eastern Creek, the property obtained by Joseph Hicks on 20 April 1918 (**Figure 10**) was resumed by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1942 (CT 5252-172, 173, 174). This property became the location of the Wallgrove Army Camp. In 1947, it was transferred to the Commissioner for Main Roads (CT 5395-109).

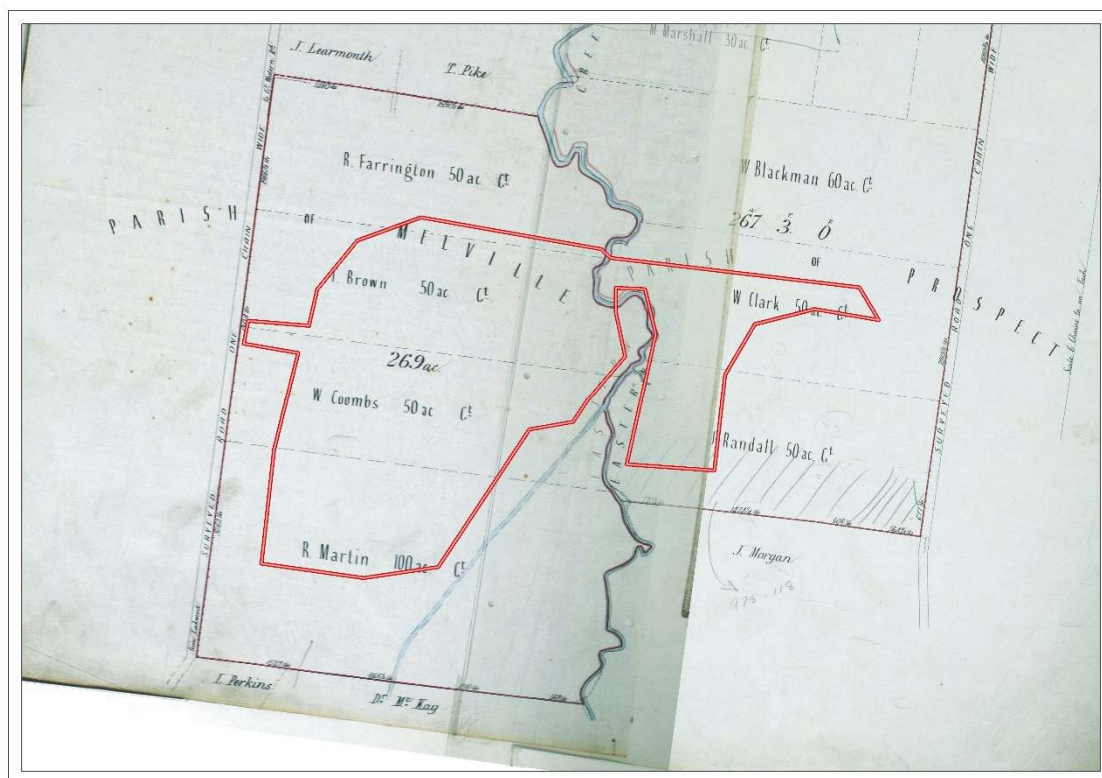


Figure 7. Plan within the 1890 Certificate of Title in Register Book Vol-Folio 954-131, with the study area outlined in red (Source: CT 954-131).

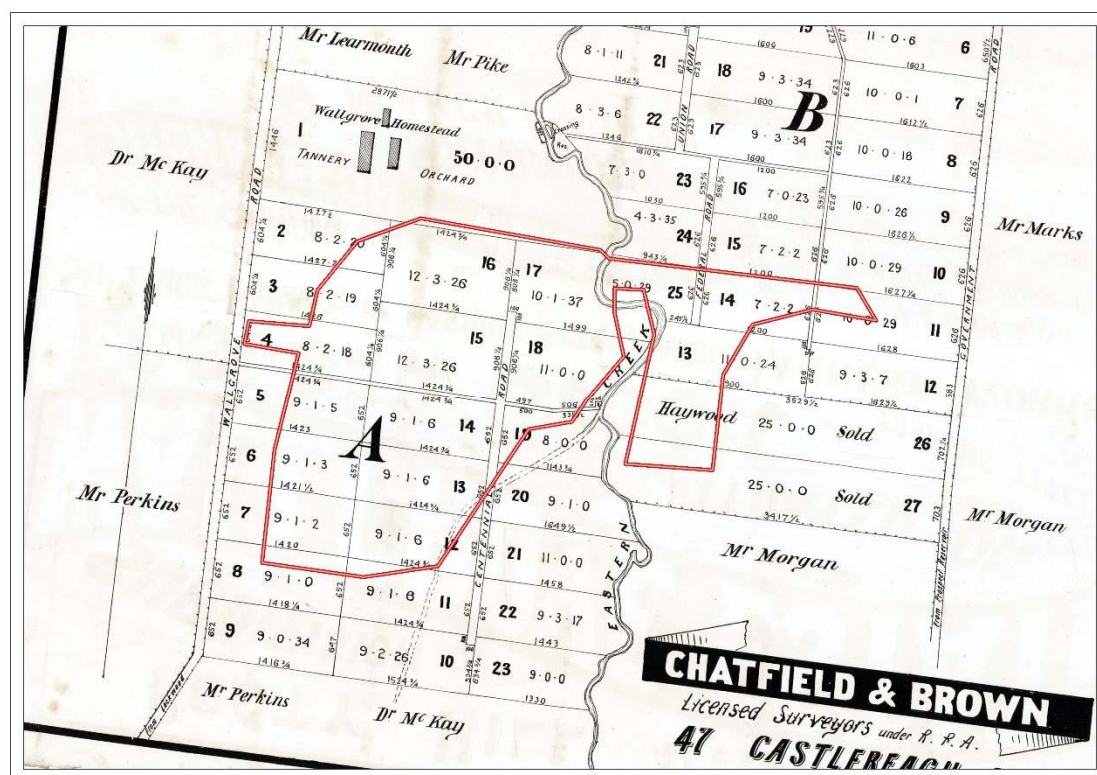


Figure 8. 1890 subdivision plan for the Wallgrove Estate for sale on 1 March, with the study area outlined in red (Source: SLNSW Z/SP/R13.1, IE9094621).

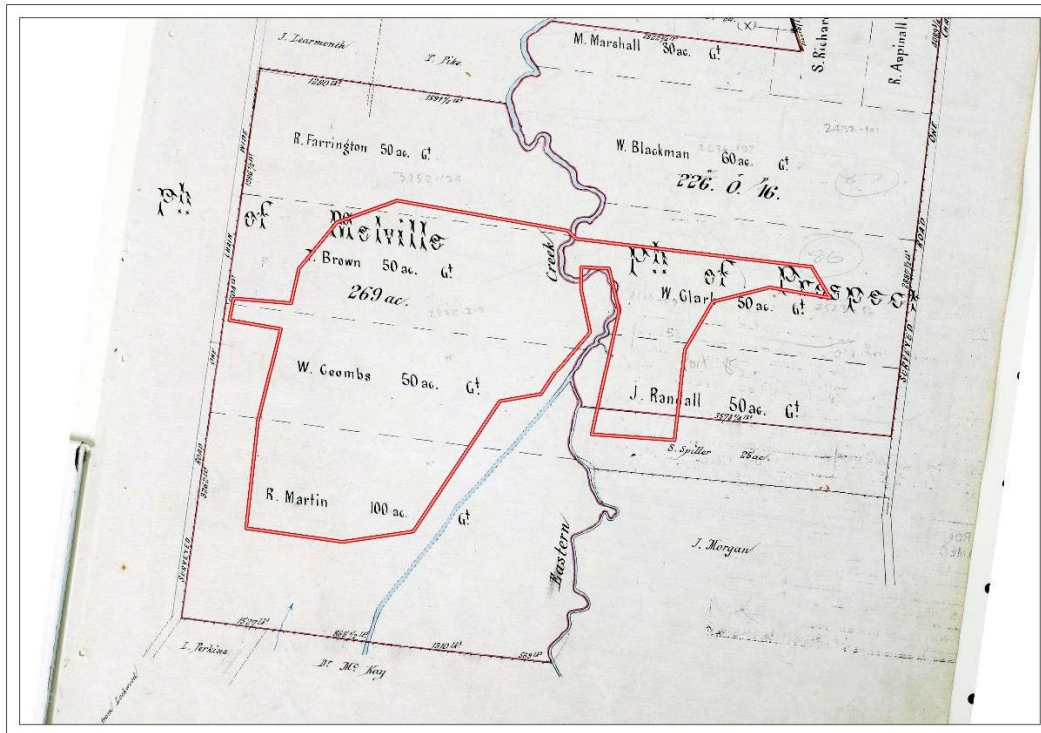


Figure 9. Shand, Anderson and Barclay Shand's property in 1892. Note that the property area was slightly reduced from John Shand's solely owned property in 1890, as shown in Figure 7. The study area is outlined in red (Source: CT 1042-189).

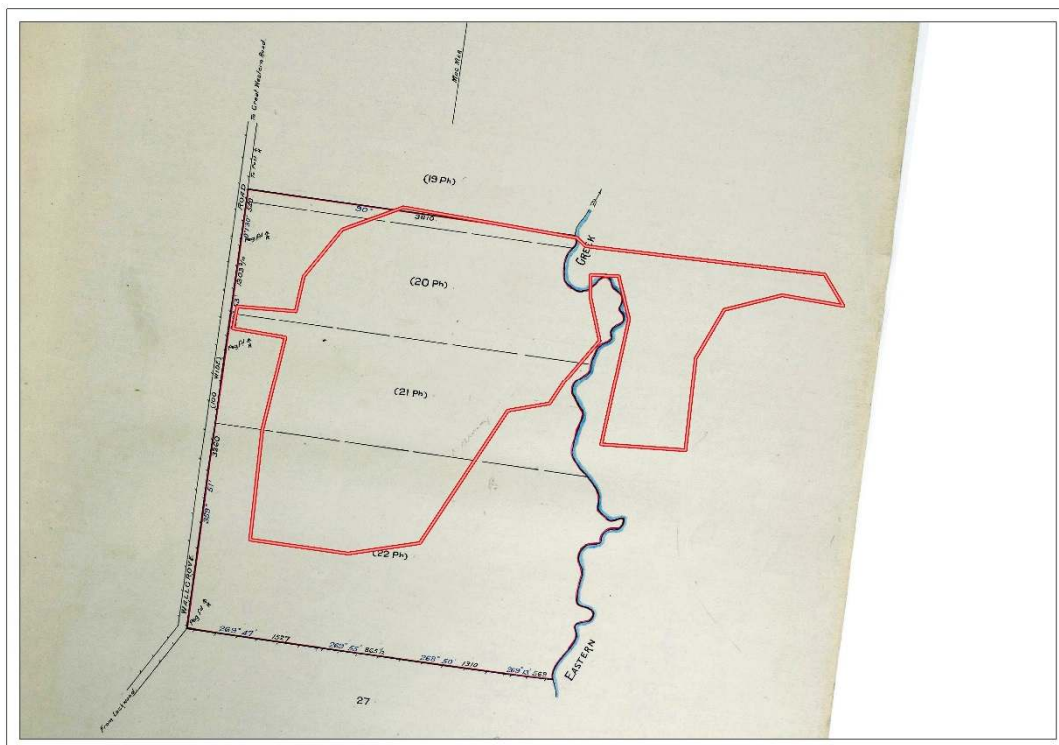


Figure 10. Part of the 1918 subdivision of Shand, Anderson and Barclay Shand's property to Joseph Hicks, which was acquired by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1942 and by the Commissioner for Main Roads in 1947. The study area is outlined in red (Source: CT 2838-212).

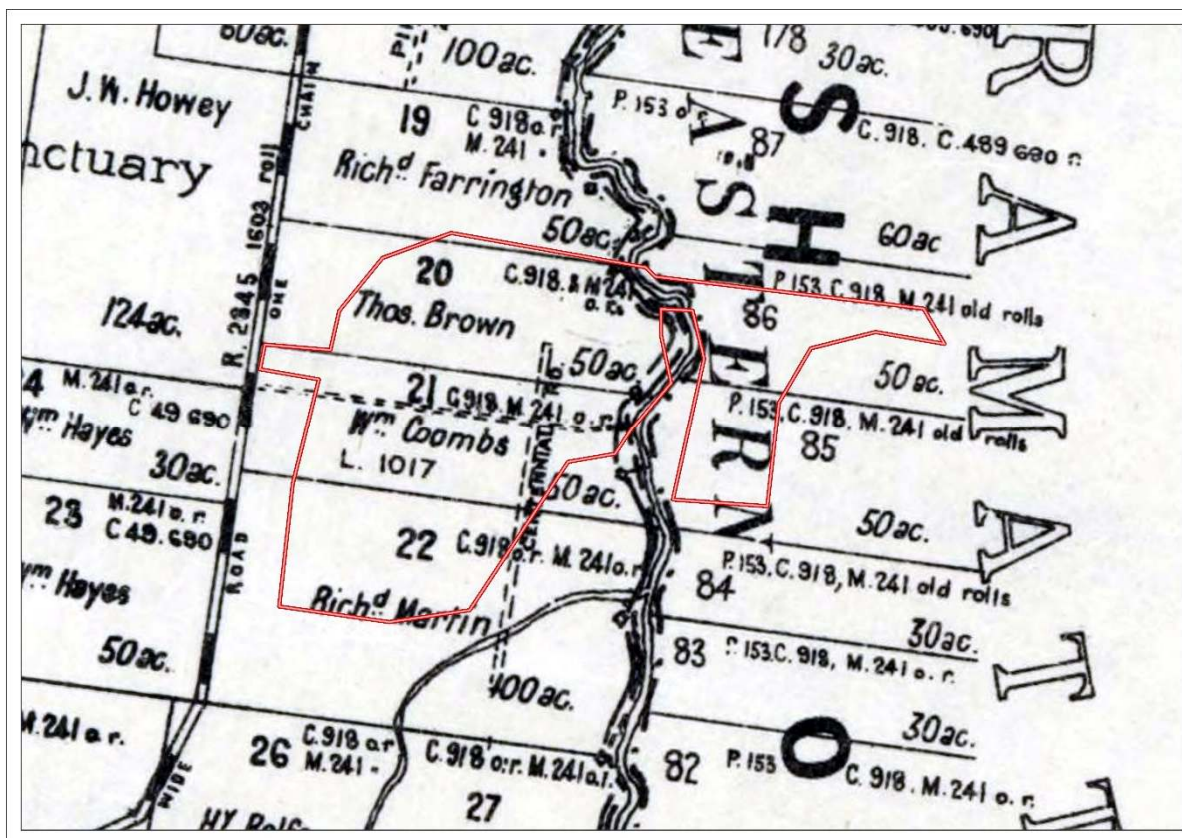


Figure 11. 1938 Melville Parish Map, showing the roads created during the attempted 1890 subdivision, with the study area outlined in red (Source: NSW LRS, Filename 114016301.jp2).

2.7 Wallgrove Army Camp

The western side of the study area falls partly within the boundary of the Wallgrove Army Camp, one of the many army camps established to train military volunteers during World War II (Curio Projects nd). The land for the Wallgrove camp was consolidated from various lots resumed between 1941 and 1942 (AMAC 1997). It is likely that this process of acquisition started from c. 1939 (Banksia and Heritage 2003). When the property was valued in 1941, it was described as:

"The lower portion is swamp oak and titree [sic] country, whilst box, gum and apple predominate in the more elevated parts. It has had timber treatment and a fair area is cleared. The land is not first class in its present state not suitable for cultivation" (AA SP394/1 Item CL10163, Valuer Wilde's report 30.07.1941, in Banksia Heritage 2003).

Overall the Army Camp, which spread across both sides of Wallgrove Road (west of the study area), had canvas accommodation for up to 5000 troops. Timber framed rectangular huts, known as P Huts, were also common structures within the camp (Banksia Heritage 2003). Development during this time included upgrading Wallgrove Road to bitumen and installing electricity, fresh water and street lights. Trees and plants were also cultivated at the camp (Curio Projects nd). The layout of the camp, which fell only partially within the study area, is shown in **Figure 13**.

The Australian Light Horse Brigade was partially based at the Wallgrove Army Camp during this period (Curio Projects nd).



Figure 12. 1943 partial aerial photograph, showing the area north of the Wallgrove Army Camp and the presence of the sewage treatment facility in the central western portion of the study area (outlined in red) (Source: NSW LRS).

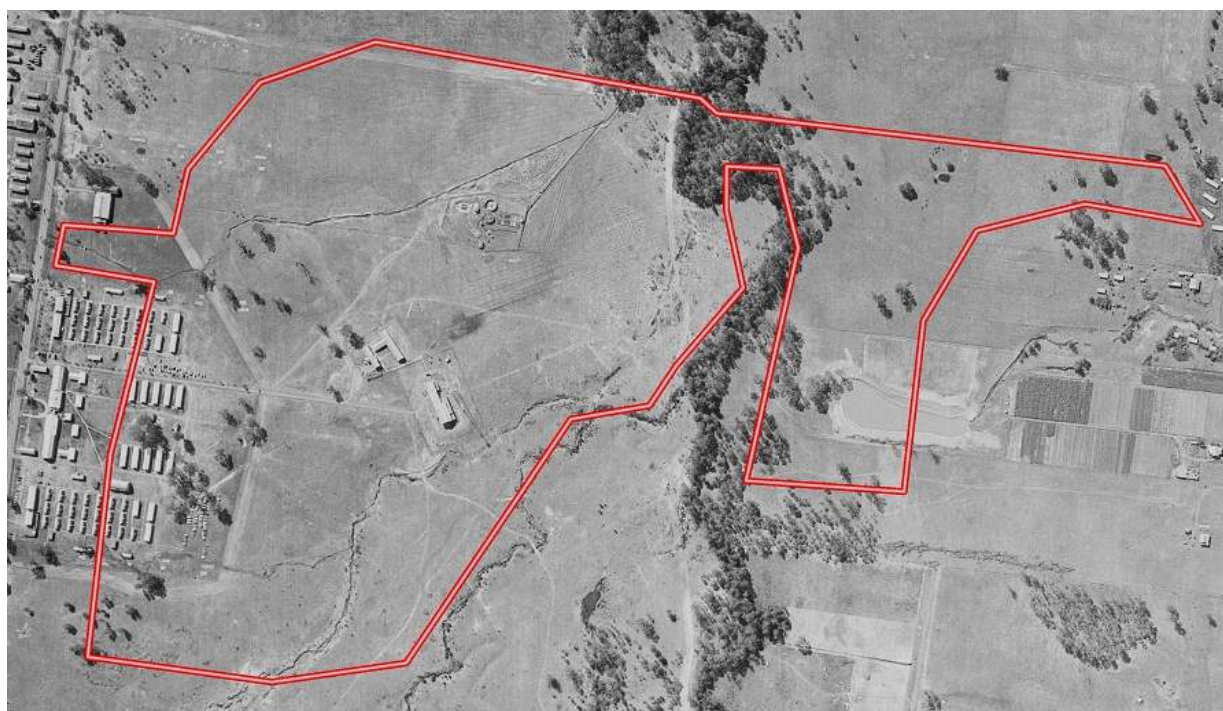


Figure 13. 1965 aerial photograph, showing part of the Wallgrove Army Camp in the western portion of the study area (outlined in red) (Source: NSW LRS).

2.8 Wallgrove Migrant Hostel

After World War II, the Army Camp was used to house the many post-war migrants to Australia. Many residents of the hostel worked on the Snowy Mountains Scheme and other state-based labour projects (Banksia Heritage 2003). Brick and tile factories were common throughout the local area, especially after World War II (Robyn Mills 1996).

The property remained a military establishment until the 1970s (AMAC 1997), with the Australian Defence Force based in part of the camp until the 1990s (Curio Projects nd). The hostel was run by the Department of Labour and National Service until 1948. The Migrant Workers Accommodation Division, a specialist operator established within the department, then took over the hostel's operations. An English language school was present at the hostel between 1950 and 1962 (Banksia Heritage 2003). The exact date of demolition for the camp is unknown, although it was partly destroyed during the construction of Australia's Wonderland, to the west of the site, c. 1985 (Banksia Heritage 2003). By 1986, aerial photography shows that the camp is no longer present (**Figure 14**).

2.9 Current Land Use

During the 1960s, plans were made for the Sydney to Newcastle Natural Gas Pipeline. This was completed in 1982 (*The Australian Pipeliner*, 7 September 2009) and is shown on the NSW LRS SIX Maps (2019) topographic map, which also has a sewage works and transmitting station marked within the study area (**Figure 16**).

As stated above, the Wallgrove Army Camp and Migrant Hostel was demolished by 1986 (**Figure 14**) and the Certificates of Title for the subdivided lots within the study area record transfers of ownership to the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) in the early 1990s. A large portion of the study area, shown in **Figure 10**, was transferred to the Commissioner for Main Roads in 1947 (CT 5395-109).

The M7, including Light horse Interchange, was opened by 2005 (Roads Australia nd). These changes can be seen in the 2009 aerial photograph of the study area (**Figure 15**). The study area is now within the Western Sydney Parklands.



Figure 14. 1986 aerial photograph showing the demolition of the Wallgrove Army Camp, with the study area outlined in red (Source: NSW LRS).



Figure 15. 2009 aerial photograph of the study area, showing the recently constructed M7 and Light horse Interchange (top left), with the study area outlined in red (Source: NSW LRS).

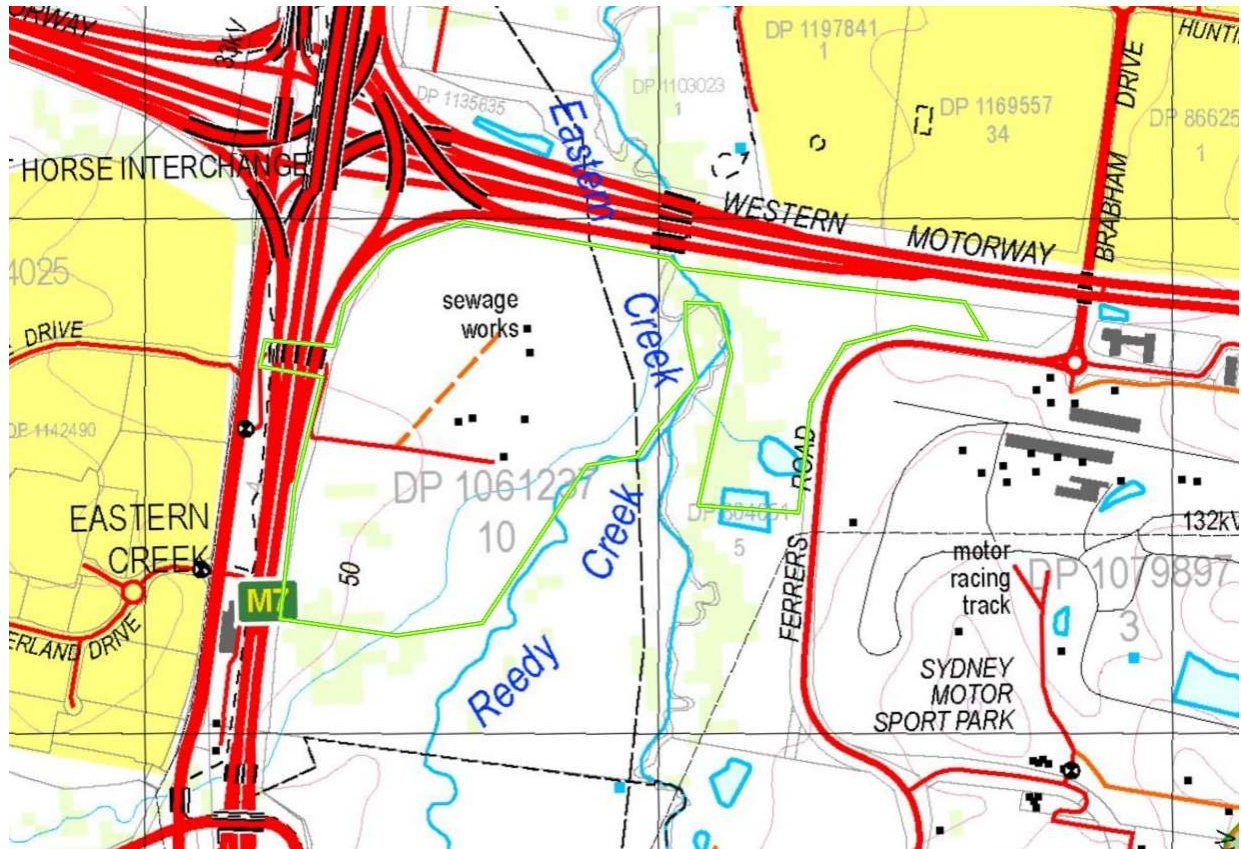


Figure 16. Topographic map of the study area (outlined in green), showing the sewage works and gas pipeline (dashed black line) in the study area (Source: SIX Maps 2019).

3. Physical Description

3.1 General

The site was inspected by Lorna Cooper of Extent Heritage Pty Ltd on 17th January 2019. The study area covered just under 30 acres and was largely flat open rural pasture covered with grass and low herbs (**Figure 17**) with both isolated mature trees (**Figure 18**) and stands of trees (with little understorey) along the creek lines and in wetter areas (**Figure 19**). The area was crossed by several large creeks (Eastern, Reedy and Eskdale Creeks) (**Figure 20**) which had smaller more ephemeral tributaries (**Figure 21**) and areas of marshy ground running from them (**Figure 22**). An area of dense vegetation was situated along the banks of the larger Eastern Creek (**Figure 23**) essentially dividing the western and eastern halves of the study area.

There was a small herd of cows and horses pastured on the study area (**Figure 24**) that have contributed to the erosion along the banks of the creeks (**Figure 25**). This has been mitigated along Eastern Creek by rock infill (**Figure 26**). The continual presence of livestock has generally added to the compacting the soils where the subsurface clay has been exposed through long term disturbance (**Figure 27**). Fenced areas and earlier fence posts showing pasturing patterns are scattered across the study area, especially in association with the creek lines (**Figure 28**).

The area is crossed by several concrete roads (**Figure 29** and **Figure 30**) and dirt tracks leading to the various structures across the study area, including disused, dilapidated buildings associated with the mid twentieth century sewage treatment plant (**Figure 31**, **Figure 32** and **Figure 33**) and late twentieth transmitting station (**Figure 34**, **Figure 35** and **Figure 36**) as well as a furnace of uncertain date (**Figure 37**) and the 2005 M7 Flyover bridge (**Figure 38**). Also present on site were the concrete foundations of the former Wallgrove Army camp and migrant hostel (**Figure 39**, **Figure 40**, **Figure 41**, **Figure 42**, **Figure 43** and **Figure 44**) (previously impacted by the M7) that were archivally recorded by Banksia Heritage + Archaeology in 2003 prior to building of the M7. A telegraph pole to the north of the army camp has been cut down and left on site (**Figure 45**).

Across the area were seemingly random concrete covers to access points for stormwater and/or sewage (**Figure 46**, **Figure 47**, **Figure 48** and **Figure 49**), pads for aerial antennas (**Figure 50**), evidence of cuts for services (**Figure 51**) and areas of bare ground with metal rods extruding (**Figure 52**).

Generally across the study area there is very little evidence of dumping or rubbish with only a few small scatters such as a tyre dump (**Figure 53**), a rubbish scatter associated with the furnace (**Figure 54**), rubble and excess building materials (**Figure 55**), a small number of isolated items (**Figure 56**), a bottle dump (**Figure 57**) and several mounds which likely indicated buried rubbish across the site generally set apart from the army camp area (**Figure 58**).

The eastern side of the study area the vegetation was more scrub like (**Figure 59**) and had been disturbed by two large dams (**Figure 60**, **Figure 61** and **Figure 62**). There was no notable indication of historical activities over the eastern half.



Figure 17. Low grass across whole site



Figure 18. Isolated trees, looking north



Figure 19. Stands of trees along waterways



Figure 20. Eskdale Creek



Figure 21. Showing the cut of the creek



Figure 22. Ephemeral streams and marshy areas



Figure 23. Dense vegetation along Eastern Creek



Figure 24. Livestock



Figure 25. Erosion along creek lines



Figure 26. Rock infill to prevent erosion



Figure 27. Compacted ground of exposed subsurface clay



Figure 28. Isolated fence post near creek



Figure 29. Concrete road surface



Figure 30. Concrete footpath



Figure 31. Sewage treatment plant: sedimentation tanks



Figure 32. Sewage treatment plant: Sludge drying tanks

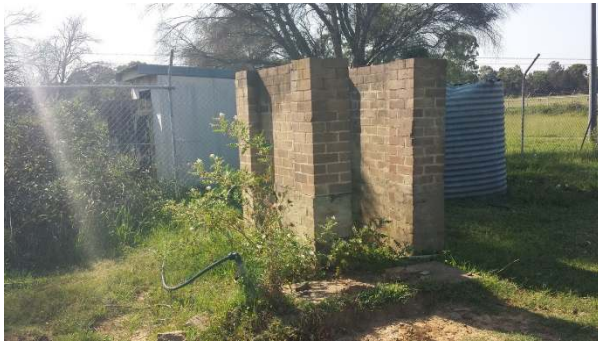


Figure 33. Outbuildings associated with sewage treatment plant



Figure 34. Red brick Transmitting Station buildings



Figure 35. Disused Transmitting Station buildings



Figure 36. Transmitting Station buildings complex



Figure 37. Partially demolished furnace



Figure 38. M7 Flyover



Figure 39. Internal layout still visible on concrete slabs



Figure 40. Impact of grass on slabs



Figure 41. Concrete slab foundation



Figure 42. Detail of slab showing bluestone concrete, curved lip and isolated artefact (ink bottle sherd)



Figure 43. Concrete drainage



Figure 44. Brick pad associated with concrete building slabs



Figure 45. Cut down telegraph pole



Figure 46. Compacted circle of soil near open access point



Figure 47. Open shallow access pit with a shallow



Figure 48. Isolated access point



Figure 49. Concrete pad covering sewer or stormwater access



Figure 50. Possible radio communications aerial pad



Figure 51. Partially exposed sewer pipe



Figure 52. Compacted square area with small metal rods extruding from corners



Figure 53. Tyre dumps



Figure 54. Isolated rubbish near to furnace



Figure 55. Rubble pile



Figure 56. Metal sign post and oil drum dumped



Figure 57. Bottle scatter (several bottles date from 1930s onwards)



Figure 58. Isolated mounds - possible rubbish dumps



Figure 59. Eastern side of study area



Figure 60. Large dam



Figure 61. Wet areas around dam



Figure 62. Rubble mounds from pipeline excavation

3.2 Discussion of Disturbance

The analysis of available historical maps, photographs, aerials and the site inspection of the study area indicates that the area has been subject to agricultural and pastoral activities from the 1820s. The vegetation was cleared early in the study area history and the land has been nearly continually used for large animal pasture (cows and horses). Between the 1840s and 1940s the general area was partially cultivated with orchards and other crops, used as pasture, and largely kept clear of trees.

Construction within the study area begins in the early 1940s (approximately 1942) with the Defence Force and the building of army base infrastructure (housing and services). Aerial imagery shows that several of the outbuildings of the former army camp were removed to ground level prior to 1965. Additionally, regional infrastructure (gas pipeline and a transmitting station) was installed by the 1960s. It doesn't appear that any buildings have been removed below ground, however, numerous services have created cuts and disturbances (including the building dams on the eastern side in the 1960s) have been made through the study area.

From 2001 to present the construction of the M7 and the Light horse Interchange as well as limited infrastructure in preparation for further development significantly impacted on the western portion of the subject area, in particular the remnants of the army camp. The site inspection showed that the area still supports livestock and retains an open rural site with the majority, if not all of the previous building works still visible.

4. Built Elements

The study area has a few buildings and remains of buildings and structures that existed on site from the days of the former Wallgrove Army camp (**Figure 62**). There are two sets of extant structures on site - the sewage treatment plant which is located to the northern most section, and the transmitting buildings complex situated approximately to the centre of Lot 10 DP1061237 part of the study area.

The sewage treatment plant was most probably established in 1942 - it is seen in the 1943 aerial imagery of the study area (**Figure 11**) - at the same time as the former Wallgrove Army camp so as to serve the needs of the camp. The existing elements of the plant on the site (from west to east) include a sedimentation tank (**Figure 30**), two sets of digestion tanks with two vents for each tank and a metal gabled roofed, weatherboard valve house between the tanks, two circular filtration tanks, and two sets of sludge drying tanks (**Figure 31**) (the smaller of these is located to the south). There are two metal, gable roofed buildings adjoining the sludge drying tanks. A galvanized chain link fence forms the perimeter of the sewage treatment plant.

The transmitting buildings complex (**Figure 33, 34 and 35**) which was established in c.1960s comprises three sets of buildings - the southernmost of these are two rectilinear brick buildings with metal gable roofs with air vents to one of the roofs. To its north are four buildings arranged around a courtyard - these are also brick buildings with metal, gable roofs. A single brick building with a stepped profile, and metal, gable roof is located to the east. The complex is demarcated by metal wire fencing.

In general, the remaining buildings are significantly dilapidated (e.g. collapsed roofs) and contain large amounts of asbestos.

There are also extant concrete aprons and foundation footings at several locations in the study area, especially along the western boundary of the site - which are most likely concrete foundations of the former Wallgrove Army camp and migrant hostel.

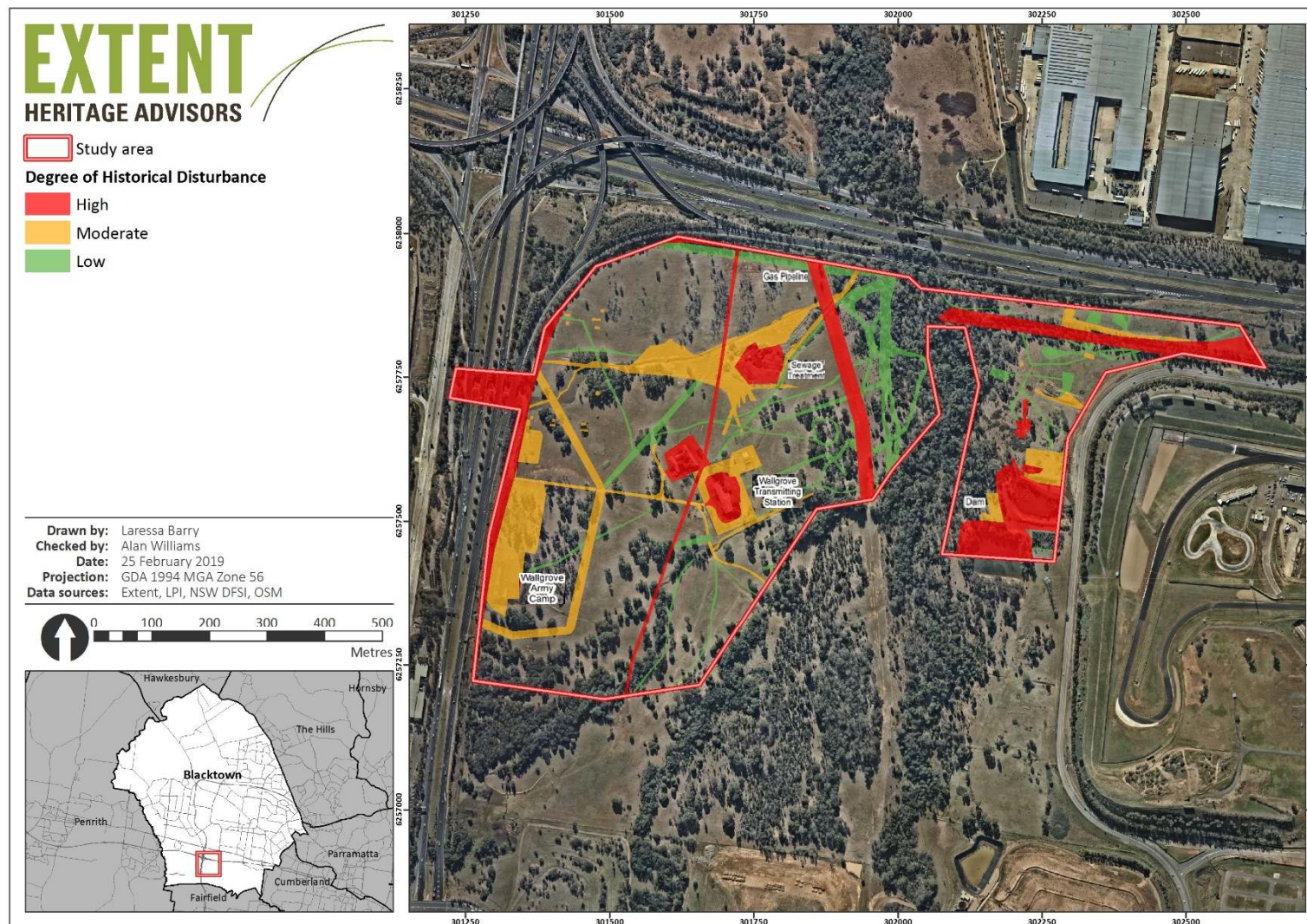


Figure 63. Extant built elements and areas of disturbance across the site

4.1 Potential Built Heritage Significance

While the built fabric on the site does represent the historical development of the site none of the buildings or sewage treatment plant or remaining foundations have been found to have any heritage significance. The sewage treatment plant is an example of a typical plant that was established for army camps in the 1940s. The 1960s transmitting complex buildings are ordinary examples of brick buildings with gable roofs. Examples of more intact army camps and migrant hostels exist in New South Wales and therefore retention of the foundations of the former Wallgrove Army camp and migrant hostel is not considered as an option. However, the buildings, sewage treatment plant and foundations do have the potential for interpretation of the history and development of the study area and its surroundings.

5. Historical Archaeological Potential

5.1 Introduction

This section of the report discusses the subject area's potential to contain archaeological evidence of the previous phases of occupation. The potential for the archaeological resource to reveal useful information about the previous uses or activities that shaped its history depends on its extent, nature and level of intactness. Disturbed archaeological features and deposits in the form of fragmentary structural remains and random artefacts may be evidence of previous occupation, but their use or value in reconstructing the past though providing meaningful information is limited. This is because such features and deposits are disassociated from the stratigraphic sequence that establishes their provenance and secured date of deposition.

This section identifies where archaeological evidence is likely to be found within the subject area and to what extent it may be preserved. The preliminary level of significance of archaeological evidence (known or potential) is discussed in **Part 6**.

5.2 Phases of Development

Based on the historical research undertaken to date the following broad historical phases of site development could be identified:

Phase 1: Early Explorers (1788 - 1819)

Phase 2: European Land Grants and Rural Development (1819 - 1941)

Phase 3: Wallgrove Army Camp (1941 - 1946)

Phase 4: Wallgrove Migrant Hostel (1946 - 1980s)

Phase 5: Modern Use (1980 - present)

5.3 Evaluation of Potential

5.3.1 Archaeology of the Neighbourhood

There have been no previous archaeological assessment reports completed for the subject area. The following relevant archaeological excavation reports prepared for sites in the vicinity provide an indication of the extent and nature of potential archaeological remains that may be expected at the subject area.

Robynne Mills. 1996. Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Western Sydney Orbital Road from West Baulkham Hills to Cecil Park. Part A: Non-Indigenous Heritage. For the RTA, c/o- Sinclair Knight Merz.

Mills reports on a preliminary survey undertaken to identify areas of heritage sensitivity along the proposed Western Sydney Orbital (later the Westlink M7) from West Baulkham Hills to Cecil Park. Site SO-E-9 was identified within the current study area, at 301400E, 625700N. It was named "Remains of RAAF base and subsequent migrant hostel" and described as containing building footings, footpaths, etc, covering an approximately 600m x 700m area. It was assessed as having moderate heritage significance, with the impact of the proposed road being 100 per cent. A full site recording and assessment prior to the commencement of the road development was recommended.

Banksia Heritage + Archaeology (Banksia Heritage). 2003. Westlink M7 - Wallgrove Army Base and Migrant Hostel [WSO-E-11]: Archaeological Recording. For ERM Australia and Abigroup Leightons Joint Venture.

This study was carried out before ground disturbance associated with the construction of the Westlink M7. The current study area is within the southern portion of the area investigated for the study, which details approximately fifty structural foundations and landscape evidence relating to the Wallgrove Army Base and Migrant Hostel. Archaeological sites were mapped and recorded and provided in the appendix of the report. Most of the archaeological evidence consisted of concrete slabs, with the majority of the buildings having been removed. Other indications of archaeological evidence were rubble piles, brick sumps, paths and amenity blocks. Large structural items were found at low densities throughout the investigated area, as well as some smaller personal artefacts. The northern portion of the investigated area had been disturbed during the construction of the M4 and the remainder of the site was used for cattle grazing. The report supports previous assessments that the physical remains are less significant than the historical associations of the place with the military and the migrant hostel.

Archaeological Management & Consulting Group Pty Ltd (AMAC). 1997. European Heritage & Archaeology: Assessment & Survey. Surplus Land Adjoining Australia's Wonderland, Eastern Creek, NSW. For Gutteridge Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd.

This archaeological assessment and survey report identified areas of archaeological potential and significance and recommended appropriate management measures prior to the rezoning of the surplus land adjoining the former Australia's Wonderland at Eastern Creek, to the west of the study area on the opposite side of Wallgrove Road. The historical archaeological sites were a mix of roads and paths, dams, run-offs and water catchment, rubbish dumps, animal pens and shelter. There were also incidental sites of isolated artefacts, small unexplained scars or various features on the land surface. Sixteen potential sites were identified, overall they were assessed as having little indication of archaeological potential. The report stated however that any existing sites of archaeological potential would likely remain intact, as there were few signs of impact within the study area. Although the study area was associated with important figures in the history of NSW and had cultural associations relating to the war and post-war periods, it was considered unlikely that these associations would be represented archaeologically. Evidence of twentieth century rural technologies were considered to have moderate representative significance, demonstrating a class of cultural places. These sites were located in dams, pens, roads and major rubbish dumps.

Cultural Resources Management (CRM). 2005. Archaeological Investigation: Lucan Park Homestead Site, M17 Motorway, Eastern Creek. For Abigroup Leighton Joint Venture.

This report summarises the excavation results of Lucan Park, southwest of the subject area. The site excavated was on the western side of Wallgrove Road, close to its junction with Old Wallgrove Road. The excavations were conducted prior to the development of the Westlink M7. The archaeological evidence found at the site likely related to the period of leaseholds between 1895 and 1914, or through to the 1920s. It consisted of buildings and sheds used for managing grazing animals, unlikely to have been permanently occupied. They were most likely demolished in 1939, when changes were made to Wallgrove Road around the time of the construction of the military base. The site then remained vacant from the demolition to the works associated with the M7 Westlink. The archaeological evidence consisted of a brick lined cistern, a remnant gate and fence and three buildings, a yard and services. Some artefacts were recovered; however, they were discarded due to their poor research value.

Banksia Heritage + Archaeology (Banksia Heritage). 2005. Investigation of seven historical archaeological sites on the Westlink M7 - final report. For Abigroup Leighton Joint Venture.

Several small-scale archaeological investigations were conducted during the construction of the Westlink M7. Four of the areas investigated by Banksia Heritage + Archaeology were in the vicinity of the study area. These were: Potential well, Eastern Creek; Former Eastern Creek Public School site, Eastern Creek; Great Western Highway alignment, Eastern Creek; and PAD 20 rubbish dump, Eastern Creek. After archaeological investigation, these four sites were assessed as not meeting the criteria for local significance, due to the lack of artefacts, previous removal of archaeological evidence and presence of modern evidence only. The closest site to the study area was the PAD 20 rubbish dump, to the north, contained a number of artefacts, majority glass and ceramic, dating between c. 1850 and 1939, however the communal nature of the dump and inability to differentiate the time of deposition led to an assessment of limited research potential, therefore not meeting the local significance threshold.

5.3.2 Site Formation Processes

In 1788 and 1789 two exploration expeditions passed through the area along former aboriginal tracks which later became the significant roadways. Evidence of their passage may be shown by discarded objects and incidental finds. Tench's expedition in particular had its terminus at Eastern Creek, purportedly within the study area. However, due to site development including the construction of the M4 the chance of such finds surviving is low to nil.

The second phase of the study area saw the agricultural development of the land. The area was granted to various owners in 1819 who sold the properties on, apparently undeveloped, until Lieutenant Colonel Charles William Wall acquired the land in 1827. At this point it was used as a stopping point to fatten his cattle being driven from Bathurst to Sydney, site development would likely include fencing. In 1833 the study area was part of a larger area sold. It was advertised as cleared, fenced and with a cottage and several associated buildings

plus a garden and orchard. The subsequent owners retained the buildings and also stabled Studs on the property with various upgrades noted in sales documents including a tannery. Subdivision plans indicate these buildings were located north of the study area and so archaeological evidence is likely to be limited to evidence of fence posts, possible evidence of cultivation such as ploughing and incidental finds. There is little historical evidence that the eventual subdivision of the estate beginning in the 1890s was much taken up and there is no evidence of further development.

In 1941 and 1942 the land was resumed for government use for the next phase of occupation, and the Wallgrove Army Camp was established over part of the study area. Spreading across both side of Wallgrove Road, the camp provided canvas accommodation for up to 5000 troops as well as timber framed huts. Wallgrove Road was upgraded to bitumen, services were installed and plantings done. The sewage treatment plant is visible in the 1943 aerial imagery. Evidence of buried rubbish and services across the study area likely date from this period and later.

By 1965 the Army camp had changed use to a migrant hostel whilst still remaining part of the military. Aerial imagery shows that a number of the more northerly buildings were removed by this time and that transmitting station building complex was installed. The concrete slabs still extant on site are associated with the camp and later hostel but it is not clear either what date they were installed or then later levelled to the ground.

The upgrade of the M4 and the installation of the significant gas pipeline in the 1970s in addition to the upgrade of Wallgrove Road and the M7 destroyed most of the early ephemeral evidence of the tracks taken by early explorers and estate upgrades associated with the Wallgrove Estate, as well as taking out more than three quarters of the evidence associated with the Army Camp and later Migrant Hostel within the study area.

Ground survey showed very little evidence of surface finds from any pre-twentieth century phase of the site formation. Historical archaeological potential is likely to be limited to isolated finds and localised rubbish mounds dating from the mid to late twentieth century. These finds, associated with the third phase of the army camp and the fourth hostel phase, would have limited potential to add significantly to the war and post-war story of the area. Evidence from the neighbouring rubbish dump uncovered in 2005 by Banksia indicates that any such finds would be comingled and the inability to differentiate time would mean that it was of very limited research value.

5.4 Summary of Historical Archaeological Potential

The historical archaeological potential of the subject area relating to each of the five phases is summarised in **Table 1** below. The graphic representation of the subject area's features and the subject area's historical archaeological potential is provided in (**Table 1**) and (**Figure 64**).

Table 1: Summary of Historical Archaeological Potential

PHASE	SITE FEATURE OR SITE ACTIVITIES	POTENTIAL REMAINS	LEVEL (OR LIKELIHOOD) OF SURVIVAL
Pre-Contact Aboriginal Occupation: pre-1788	Aboriginal objects	Aboriginal objects located within historical cultural deposits	Low
European Explorers (1788 - 1819)	Evidence of exploration	Isolated Finds	Nil
European Land Grants and Rural Development (1819 - 1941)	Evidence of Pasturing and Cultivation	Fence posts, plough marks, possible tree boles, isolated finds	Low - Nil
Wallgrove Army Camp (1941 - 1946)	Troop movement and training, training of volunteers, short term accommodation, military development, mid twentieth century sewage treatment,	Post holes associated with wooded structures, rubbish pits, concrete foundations, footpaths, roads, parade grounds, services, isolated artefacts	Extant
Wallgrove Migrant Hostel (1946 - 1980s)	Transmission Station, Accommodation for labourers with state based labour employment schemes	Concrete foundations, footpaths, roads, yard surfaces, services, sewage treatment plant, isolated finds	Extant
Modern Use (1980 - present)	Road building, regional services (gas), modern fencing	Rubbish mounds, cuts, services,	Extant

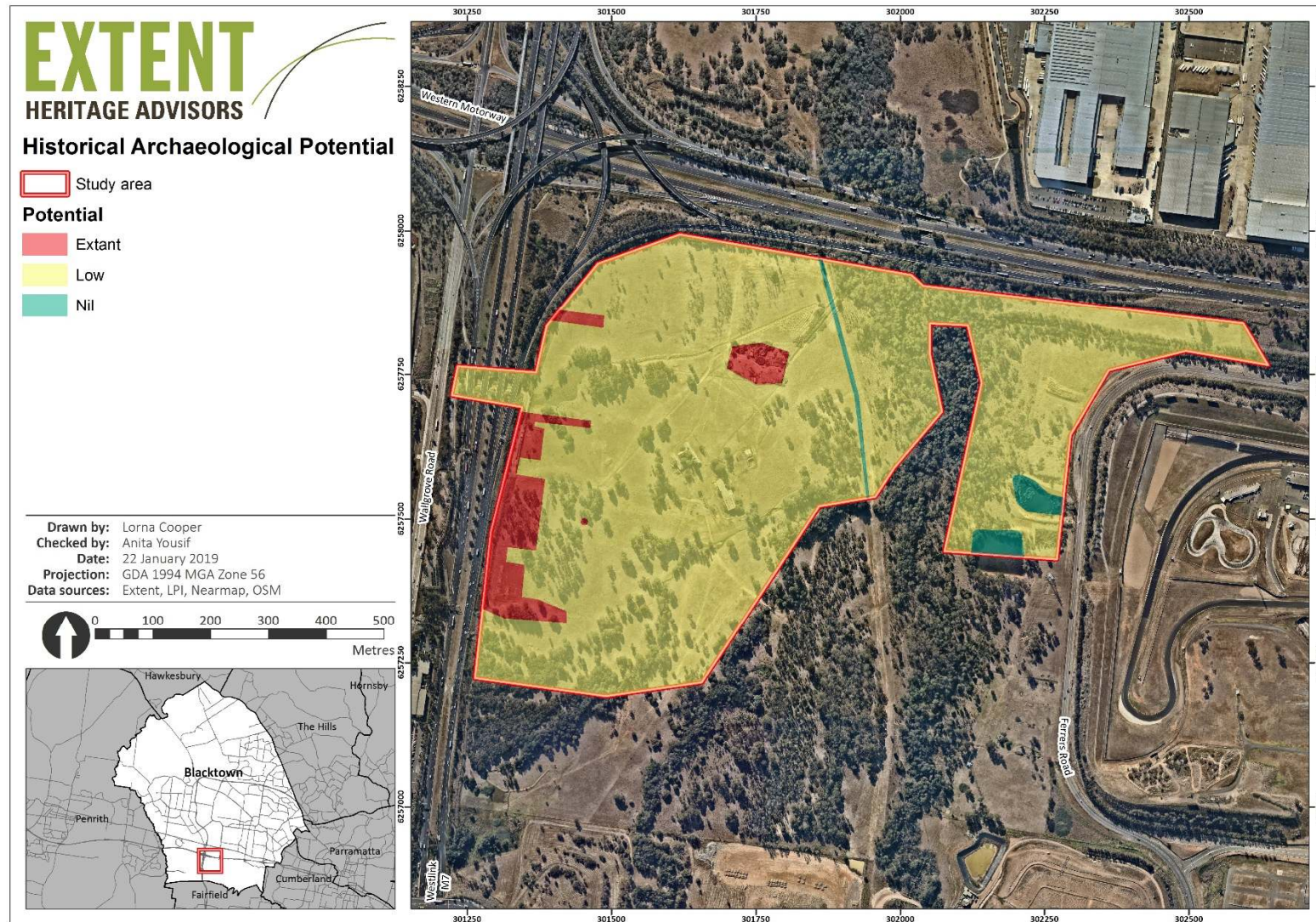


Figure 64. Areas of historical archaeological potential

6. Preliminary Assessment of Historical Archaeological Significance

6.1 Basis for Assessment

This report presents a preliminary significance assessment of the archaeological potential identified in Part 5. It is based on the criteria expressed in the publication 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'', prepared by the Heritage Branch, formerly Department of Planning (NSW) (now the Heritage Division, Office of Heritage and Environment) in December 2009.

Any potential remains identified as significant at either local or State levels would trigger the relic's provision of the Heritage Act and require that their disturbance or removal be managed in accordance with relevant sections of the Heritage Act.

6.2 Existing Statement of Significance

The following statement of significance has been reproduced from Banksia Heritage + Archaeology (2003, p30):

The remains of the Wallgrove Army camp and later migrant hospital ... are of local historical significance as a large camp in Western Sydney that was established in the early years of World War II and operated until it was reconfigured as a migrant hostel. In both instances they were one of the many similar establishments that were built around Sydney and regional New South Wales.

Those people who served and worked there and migrants who passed through after their arrival in Australia will have memories and associations with the place, giving a minor level of social significance, but one that is representative of other army and migrant camp experiences in the World War II and post-war periods. Layout and these have already been compromised through demolition of all standing buildings and removal of a significant proportion of the in-ground evidence. They have some ability to supplement and expand what we already know from the documentary record, and what can reasonably be interpreted by comparison with other sites. The value of this information is in providing additional detail to the site and broadening our understanding of how the site was laid out

The archaeological remains represent less than half of the original layout and these have already been compromised through demolition of all standing buildings and removal of a significant proportion of the in-ground evidence. They have some ability to supplement and expand on what can reasonably be interpreted by comparison with other sites. The value of this information is in providing additional detail to the site and broadening our understanding of how the site was laid out and inferring how it was experienced by its occupants. The detailed archaeological recording has provided a permanent record of the archaeological evidence that may readily be retrieved from the site.

The physical remains themselves do not provide either a resource for further significant investigation or convey a general sense of layout, structure or appearance of the camp

6.3 Preliminary Significance Assessment

To facilitate significance assessment of historical archaeological remains the NSW Heritage Division prepared a set of criteria in the publication 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics', prepared by the Heritage Branch, formerly Department of Planning (NSW) (now the Heritage Division, Office of Heritage and Environment) in December 2009. The NSW heritage criteria for assessing significance related to archaeological sites and relics include:

- Archaeological Research Potential (current NSW Heritage Criterion E).
- Associations with individuals, events or groups of historical importance (NSW Heritage Criteria A, B & D).
- Aesthetic or technical significance (NSW Heritage Criterion C).
- Ability to demonstrate the past through archaeological remains (NSW Heritage Criteria A, C, F & G).

These criteria are augmented by three questions formulated by Bickford and Sullivan that place emphasis on the research contribution of the identified archaeological resource to the field of Australian history and archaeology (Bickford and Sullivan 1984). They include:

- Can the site contribute knowledge that no other resource can?
- Can the site contribute knowledge that no other site can?
- Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive questions relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?

The assessment of archaeological potential indicates that the subject area has only limited potential to contain historical archaeological remains that may be of local significance and no potential for State significance.

6.4 Summary Statement of Significance

The assessment of historical archaeological potential for the study area has shown that, whilst the area was utilised for agriculture from 1827 to the 1940s, there is little to no potential for evidence across the study area. That which does occur, such as isolated finds, has limited potential to add to the research value of the study area.

From the 1940s onwards, there is extant evidence on site of the Wallgrove Army Camp and subsequent migrant hostel, however three quarters of the evidence of this complex has been erased by previous development and the remaining structures, concrete aprons and other features do little to create a sense of place of the original site. The concrete foundations have been archivally recorded. The likelihood that any artefacts found on site could provide information about the site's occupiers and activities carried out there is extremely low. Evidence of rubbish pits is assessed as being more likely, however, their research potential would be limited, with no ability to add significantly to the value of the study area as it is likely

to have been deposited as co-mingled dumps which have previously been shown to have limited research value.

The existing underground and aboveground remains would have some merit in their association with WW2 and post-war immigration, however better preserved army and immigration camps (eg: Bonegilla in Victoria, Greta in NSW, Wacol in Queensland, etc) remain in other parts of Australia.

Based on the low level of historical evidence for occupation during the nineteenth and early twentieth century and low level of research value of the remaining archaeological deposits, the study area's historical resource is assessed as having little or no archaeological significance.

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 Conclusions

- The subject site is not listed as an archaeological site or heritage item on any statutory register.
- The study area was passed by two early European expeditions in 1788 and 1789, archaeological finds associated with this phase are considered unlikely.
- The study area has been subject to agricultural activities (pasturing of livestock and partial cultivation) from 1827, including the Wallgrove Estate. However, the farm buildings all existed to the north of the study area and were destroyed by the construction of the M4.
- During WWII, a small portion of the Wallgrove Army Camp occupied the study area, this was later repurposed as a migrant hostel. The physical remains were assessed as unable to provide either a resource for further significant investigation or convey a general sense of layout, structure or appearance of the camp.
- The extant concrete foundations of the camp were archivally recorded in 2005 by Banksia Heritage + Archaeology.
- There is potential archaeological evidence of comingled rubbish pits on site associated with twentieth century development.
- Twentieth century regional development (including gas pipelines, sewage, the Wallgrove Transmitting Station and the M4 and M7 motorways) has impacted on the potential of the study area to contain undisturbed archaeological relics.
- The extant remains are comprised of early twentieth century structural remains and associated fills and modern disturbances; These features do not meet the threshold for local significance;
- In general, the historical archaeological potential of the study area is considered to be low or nil.
- The study area has interpretation potential in terms of the built structures and foundations on site as part of the memorial complex that includes the nearby Australian Light horse Sculpture Parade.

7.2 Recommendations

The management recommendations for the study area are as follows:

- On the balance of the evidence presented in this report, no further historical archaeological assessment or mitigation is warranted. Therefore, the works may proceed with caution, and in accordance with the staged directions below:
- If archaeological deposits are encountered, they would be managed in accordance with the Unexpected Find Procedure, (Appendix 1), which details the actions to be taken when a previously unidentified relics are found during site works.
- Any unexpected archaeological relics that are present in the study area remain protected by the Heritage Act. If the exposed remains are assessed to be archaeological relics, the Heritage Division should be notified under Section 146 of the Heritage Act. It is possible that further works would require a further assessment and/or an application for an

Excavation Permit under Section 141 of the Heritage Act to allow works to proceed, should the remains be assessed to be of local or state significance.

- Where demolition activities require excavation into the ground surface, including building slab and asphalt removal, vegetation removal, and general clearing/levelling works, these activities have the potential to impact relics. These activities may proceed with caution, but should be inspected by a qualified historical archaeologist, to ensure that any relics are appropriately identified and managed.
- It is recommended that an archival recording be undertaken for the buildings, foundations and sewage plant elements prior to any demolition in accordance with 'How to prepare archival records of heritage items' (Heritage Office, 1998).
- An Interpretation Plan be prepared, which showcases the history of the study area as part of the former Wallgrove Army Camp and migrants' hostel. The Interpretation Plan will seek to explore the historic and social values associated with the study area, will identify target audiences, site issues, and the potential for interpretation, and will propose interpretation devices at appropriate locations on the site.
- It is also recommended that the Interpretation Plan for the study area consider and, if possible, tie in with an existing interpretative work and memorial in the vicinity of the study area, The Australian Light Horse Sculpture Parade, which is to the north of the study area. Also known as the Light Horse Interchange, the interpretive art installation is a memorial to the soldiers and their horses who served as part of the Australian Light Horse troops in the Second Boer War and World War I. While the study area has associations with World War II owing to the Wallgrove Army camp, the presence of the Australian Light Horse Sculpture Parade in the vicinity should also be acknowledged and incorporated into any future interpretations for the study area.

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Appendix 1 - Unexpected Finds Procedure

In the event that a potential heritage artefact/item/object/site is encountered during construction the following steps shall be taken.

- **STOP ALL WORK** in the vicinity of the find and immediately notify the relevant Site Supervisor. The Supervisor will then notify a qualified Historical Archaeologist and demark the area to protect the artefact/item/object/site.
- The Site Supervisor is to record the details, take photos of the find and ensure that the area is adequately protected from additional disturbance.
- The Site Supervisor contacts the nominated Historical Archaeologist to notify them of the location of the find.
- If the Historical Archaeologist advises that the find is not a historical archaeological relic, work will recommence in consultation with the Archaeologist.
- If the Archaeologist advises that the find is a relic, the Site Supervisor should undertake the following procedure:
 - ♦ Liaise with the Archaeologist to determine the significance of the relic. Note this may require liaison with the Heritage Division; including notification about the discovery of relics in accordance with Section 146 of the Heritage Act. Further approvals may be required prior to the works recommencing; and
 - ♦ Implement the appropriate heritage mitigations commensurate to the assessed significance of the relic.