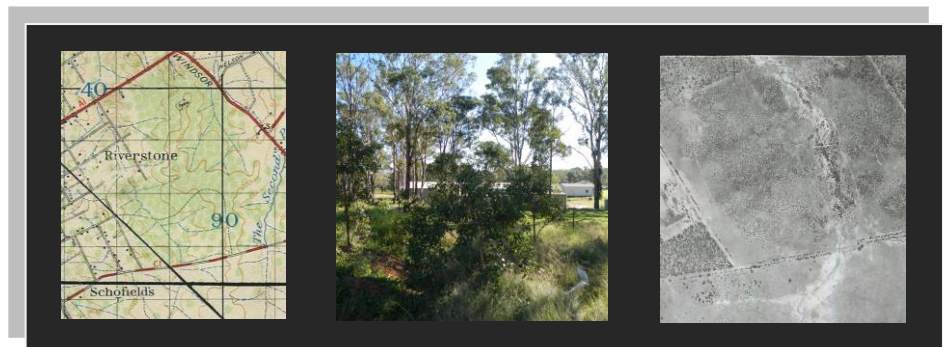


# Rapid Transit Rail Facility

## Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impacts

Report to JBA

June 2013



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## Executive summary

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As part of the North West Rail Link (NWRL) project, a train stabling and maintenance facility (Rapid Transit Rail Facility or RTRF) is planned to be constructed at Tallawong Road, Schofields (the Tallawong Road Depot). Concept approval for the NWRL project, including the Tallawong Road Depot, was granted in 2008 as a Staged Infrastructure Approval under Part 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). However, it is now proposed that the size of the Tallawong Road Depot be expanded beyond the capacity envisaged by the existing NWRL planning approvals in order to support future operational requirements. A separate planning approval is therefore required.

Artefact Heritage was commissioned by JBA Consulting, on behalf of Transport for NSW (TfNSW), to prepare an assessment of non-Indigenous heritage and Statement of Heritage Impacts (SoHI) which will form part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the RTRF proposal. The aims of this study were to assess the impacts of the RTRF proposal on items of heritage significance, outline opportunities and constraints on the proposed development regarding non-Indigenous heritage, and recommend if further action is required to fulfil statutory heritage obligations.

The study area is located mid-way along Schofields Road, and is bounded by Schofields Road to the south, Tallawong Road to the east, First Ponds Creek to the west and property boundaries to the north. The study area falls within the Riverstone East Precinct of the North West Growth Centre.

This assessment has found that no heritage listed items are located within 1.2 kilometres of the study area, and that the proposal would not have any direct impacts on listed heritage items. There is a possibility that limited views of the proposed RTRF would be available from the southern or western edges of the Rouse Hill property (SHR) or the house at 128 Westminster Street, Schofields (Blacktown LEP 1988, Alex Avenue and Riverstone Precinct Plan). If such views were available, they would not have a significant impact on the heritage value of the items. There would be no significant impacts to the views or setting of any of the other listed items discussed in this report, and as the items are all located more than 1.2 kilometres from the study area, there would be no appreciable impacts from noise or vibration.

It is highly unlikely that any non-Indigenous archaeological material would be present within the study area, and any surviving material would be expected to be of low research significance.

On the basis of these findings, the following recommendations have been made with regard to non-Indigenous heritage:

- There are no heritage constraints on the proposed development.
- If unexpected archaeological finds are encountered during works, work in the vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the significance of the find.



The NSW Heritage Branch should be notified if the find is of local or state significance, and further investigation and permits may then be required.

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## 1.0 Introduction

---

### 1.1 Background

As part of the North West Rail Link (NWRL) project, a train stabling and maintenance facility (Rapid Transit Rail Facility or RTRF) is planned to be constructed at Tallawong Road, Schofields (the Tallawong Road Depot). Concept approval for the NWRL project, including the Tallawong Road Depot, was granted in 2008 as a Staged Infrastructure Approval under Part 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), which applies to State Significant Infrastructure (SSI). However, it is now proposed that the size of the Tallawong Road Depot be expanded beyond the capacity envisaged by the existing NWRL planning approvals in order to support future operational requirements. A separate planning approval is therefore required.

Artefact Heritage was commissioned by JBA Consulting, on behalf of Transport for NSW (TfNSW), to prepare an assessment of non-Indigenous heritage and Statement of Heritage Impacts (SoHI) which will form part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the RTRF proposal. The aims of this study were to assess the impacts of the RTRF proposal on items of heritage significance, outline opportunities and constraints on the proposed development regarding non-Indigenous heritage, and recommend if further action is required to fulfil statutory heritage obligations.

### 1.2 The study area

The study area is located mid-way along Schofields Road, and is bounded by Schofields Road to the south, Tallawong Road to the east, First Ponds Creek to the west and property boundaries to the north. The study area falls within the Riverstone East Precinct of the North West Growth Centre (Figures 1 and 2).

### 1.3 The proposed development

The RTRF proposal would include the following infrastructure:

- Train stabling facilities.
- Train maintenance facilities including facilities for cleaning, inspection, preventative maintenance, corrective maintenance, component repair and major overhauls of rolling stock.
- A test track.
- Facilities for maintenance and repair of rail systems, equipment and infrastructure.
- Warehousing for spare parts, tools and equipment.



- Administration, staff facilities and training facilities including an Operations Control Centre.
- Ancillary buildings as required for security services, power supply systems, refuse disposal and hazardous material storage.
- Internal access and maintenance roads.
- Safeguarding for a future transport corridor to Marsden Park.

The RTRF would be designed with to stable 45 trains and provide maintenance services. The facility would operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## 1.4 Report authorship

Archaeologist Adele Anderson wrote this report with management input from Principal Archaeologist Dr Sandra Wallace.

Figure 1: Location of study area indicated by arrow (base map © Google Maps)

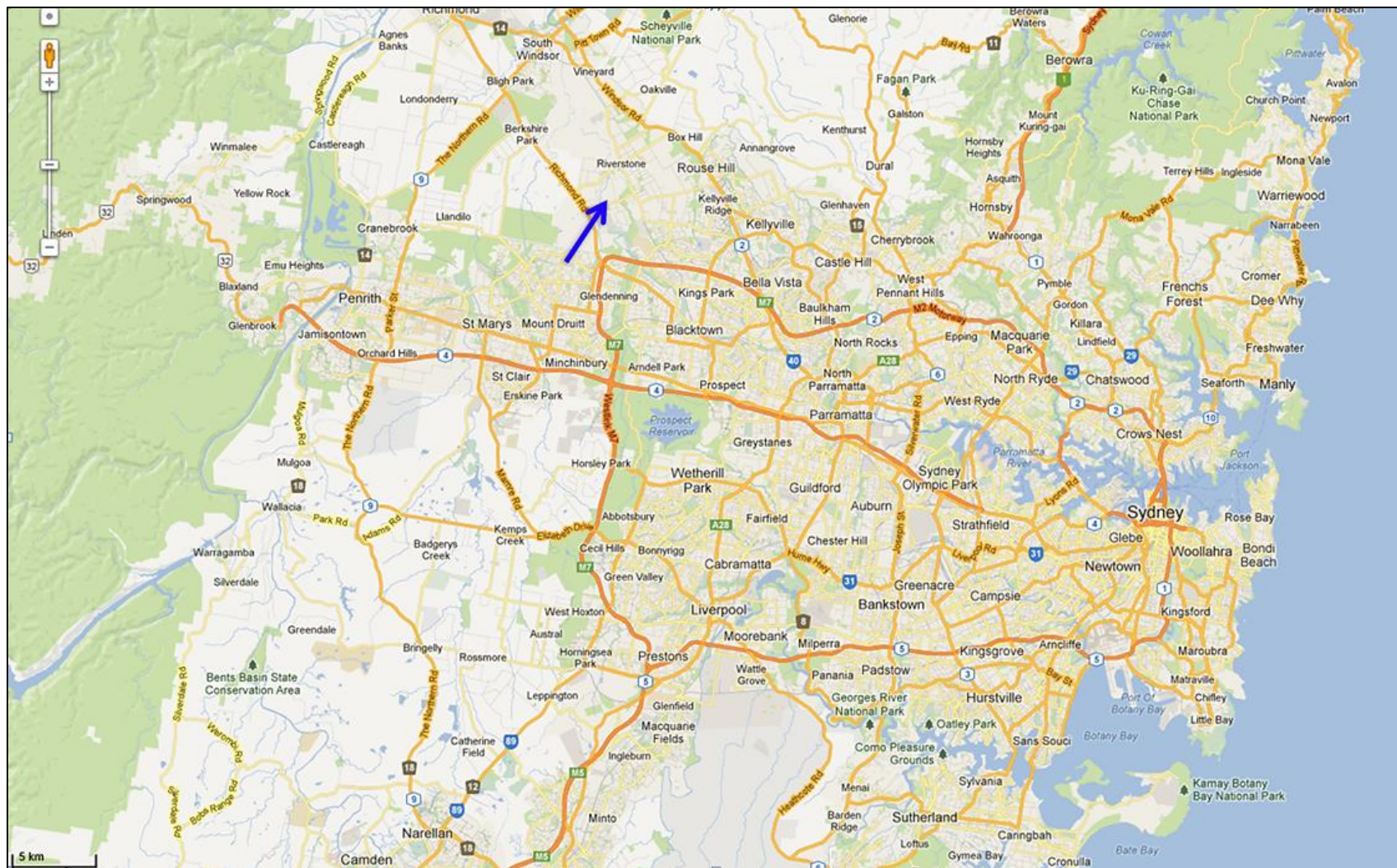
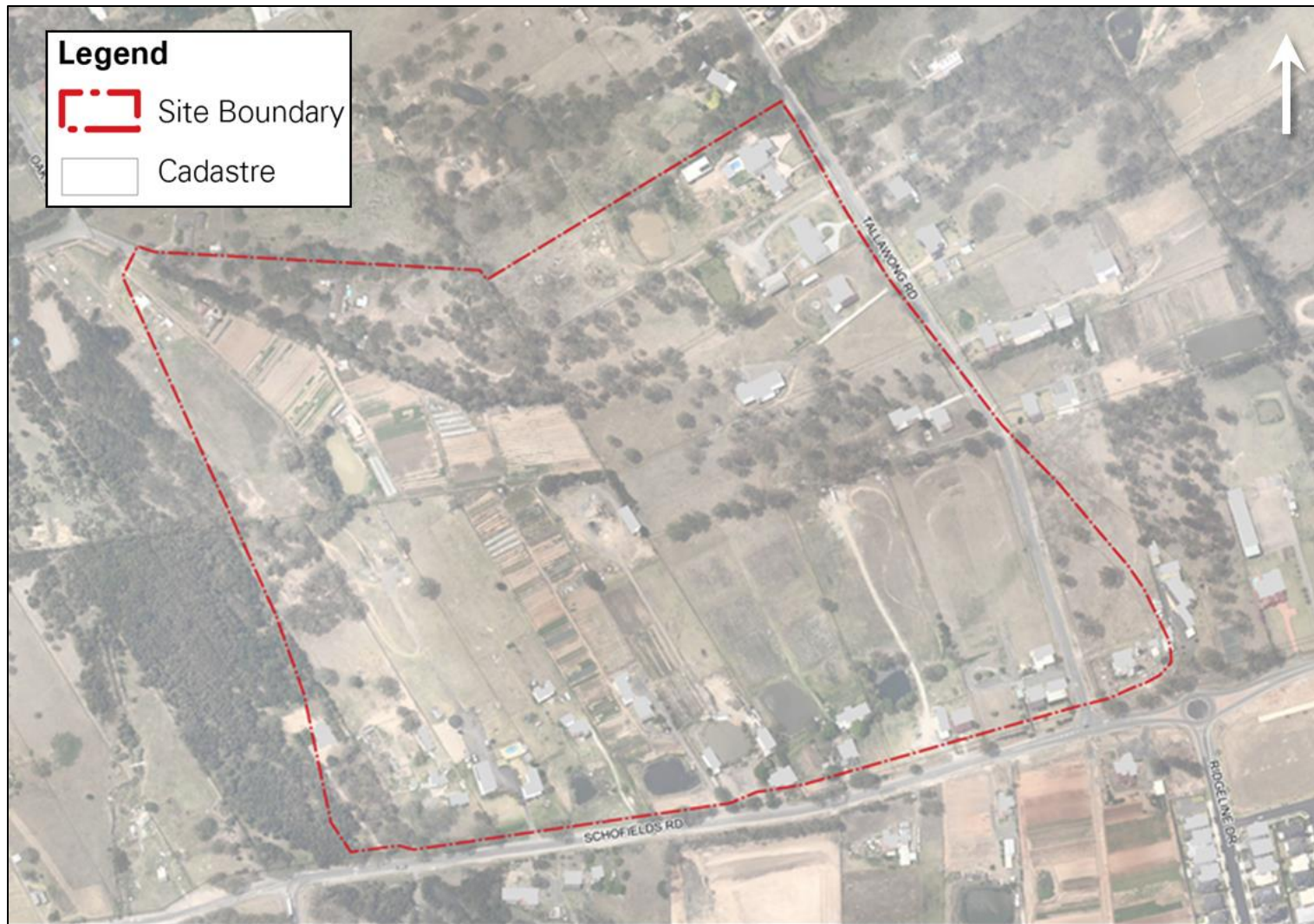


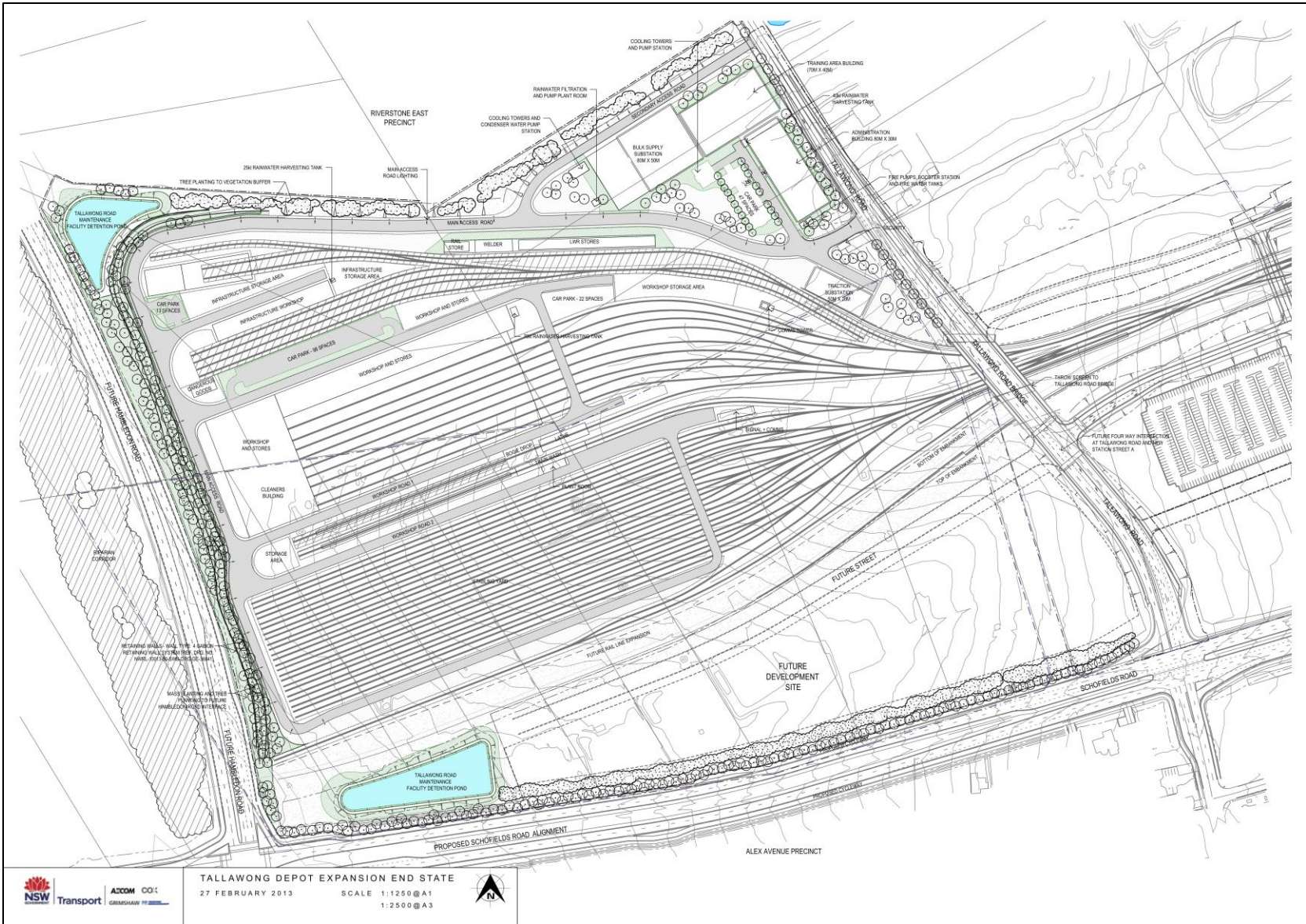


Figure 2: The study area





**Figure 3: Plan of Tallawong Road North option**



## 2.0 Legislative requirements

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### 2.1 Relevant legislation

There are several items of State legislation that are relevant to the current study. A summary of these Acts and the implications for the proposed development follow.

#### 2.1.1 The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the EP&A Act) establishes the framework for cultural heritage values to be formally assessed in the land use planning and development consent process. The EP&A Act requires that environmental impacts are considered before land development; this includes impacts on cultural heritage items and places as well as archaeological sites and deposits. The EP&A Act also requires that Local Governments prepare planning instruments (such as Local Environmental Plans and Development Control Plans) in accordance with the EP&A Act to provide guidance on the level of environmental assessment required. The current study area falls within the boundaries of the Blacktown LGA and is subject to the Blacktown LEP 1988. A Draft LEP 2013 is also currently on public exhibition. As the RTRF proposal is being undertaken by a state agency (TfNSW), the LEP is overridden by the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) (ISEPP) 2007.

The RTRF proposal will be assessed under Part 5.1 of the EP&A Act, which establishes an assessment and approval regime for SSI. Part 5.1 applies to development that is declared to be SSI by a State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). Section 115ZG of the EP&A Act specifies that approvals or permits under Part 4 or Section 139 of the *Heritage Act 1977* are not required for approved SSI. However, approval from the Minister of Planning and Infrastructure is required and an EIS must be submitted. The EIS must address the impact of the RTRF proposal on heritage items, through the framework of existing heritage legislation including the Heritage Act, and the local LEPs and DCPs.

#### 2.1.2 The NSW Heritage Act 1977

The *NSW Heritage Act 1977* (the Heritage Act) is the primary piece of State legislation affording protection to items of environmental heritage (natural and cultural) in New South Wales. Under the Heritage Act, 'items of environmental heritage' include places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects and precincts identified as significant based on historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic values. State significant items are listed on the NSW State Heritage Register (SHR) and are given automatic protection under the Heritage Act against any activities that may damage an item or affect its heritage significance.



The Heritage Act also protects 'relics', which can include archaeological material, features and deposits. Section 4(1) of the Heritage Act (as amended 2009) defines 'relic' as follows:

“relic means 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.”

Section 139(1) of the Heritage Act states that:

“A person must not disturb or excavate any land knowingly or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance or excavation is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.”

Permits to disturb or excavate 'relics' are issued by the NSW Heritage Council or a Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council under Section 140 (for relics not protected by an SHR listing) or Section 60 (for relics protected by an SHR listing) of the Heritage Act. Exceptions or exemptions to these permits may be applicable under certain conditions. These permits would not be required for the RTRF proposal as it will be assessed as SSI under Part 5.1 of the EP&A Act.

The Heritage Act also requires all government agencies to identify and manage heritage assets in their ownership and control. Under Section 170 of the Heritage Act, government agencies must establish and keep a register which includes all items of environmental heritage listed on the State Heritage Register, an environmental planning instrument, or which may be subject to an interim heritage order that are owned, occupied or managed by that government body. Under Section 170A of the Heritage Act all government agencies must also make sure that items entered on its register are maintained with due diligence in accordance with State Owned Heritage Management Principles approved by the NSW Minister for Planning & Infrastructure on advice of the NSW Heritage Council.



## 3.0 Methodology

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Statutory registers provide legal protection for heritage items. The Heritage Act and EP&A Act give legal protection to heritage items through listing on statutory heritage registers. The SHR, the s170 registers, and heritage schedules of LEPs are statutory listings. Places on the National Heritage List are protected under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. In addition, a number of the heritage items are also listed on non-statutory heritage registers. Listing on these registers does not have any statutory implications, but does further demonstrate the recognised heritage value of the items.

Previously identified heritage items in the study area were located through a search of heritage registers. This search was undertaken on 26 April 2012 and included the following heritage registers:

- World Heritage List - The World Heritage List is maintained by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and includes items of international heritage significance.
- National Heritage List - The National Heritage List has been established to list places of outstanding heritage significance to Australia. It includes natural, historic and Indigenous places that are of outstanding national heritage value to the Australian nation.
- State Heritage Register - The SHR is a list of places and objects of particular importance to the people of NSW and is administered by the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. The register lists a diverse range of over 1500 items, in both private and public ownership. To be listed, an item must be deemed to be of heritage significance for the whole of NSW.
- Section 170 Registers – Section 170 (s170) Registers are created by government bodies and are registers of all heritage listed items that are owned, occupied or managed by those bodies.
- Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013 – The Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013 include a schedule of local heritage items.
- The Hills LEP 2012 - The Hills LEP 2012 includes a schedule of local heritage items.
- Sydney SEPP (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006 – the SEPP (Part 7) includes stipulations in relation to a cultural heritage landscape area to the north of Rouse Hill house and farm.
- Alex Avenue and Riverstone Precinct Plan 2010 – The Precinct Plan includes a schedule and maps of local heritage items.



- Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 19—Rouse Hill Development Area – the REP includes a schedule of heritage listed items within the Rouse Hill Development Area.
- Register of the National Estate - The Register of the National Estate is a list of natural, Indigenous and historic heritage places throughout Australia. It was originally established under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*. Under that Act, the Australian Heritage Commission entered more than 13,000 places in the register. Following amendments to the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*, the Register of the National Estate (RNE) was frozen on 19 February 2007, and ceased to be a statutory register in February 2012. The RNE is now maintained on a non-statutory basis as a publicly available archive and educational resource.
- Register of the National Trust - The Register of the National Trust was established in 1949 and is maintained by the National Trust of Australia. It is a non-statutory register.

Documentary research was conducted to investigate the general history of the locality, as well as the history of the study area itself, and of heritage listed items within it.

Following this research, a site survey of the acquired properties within the study area that were accessible was conducted to ground truth the desktop assessment and to identify and inspect any visible heritage items. The survey was undertaken by Josh Symons and Adele Anderson (Artefact Heritage) on 6 May 2013. Properties that were not accessible were subject to a desktop assessment only and will require ground verification once acquisition processes and access permissions have been confirmed.

### 3.1 Statutory heritage listings

#### World Heritage List

No sites in or near the study area are included on the World Heritage List.

#### National Heritage List

No sites in or near the study area are included on the National Heritage List.

#### The State Heritage Register

Within a two kilometre radius of the study area there are three items listed on the SHR:

- Rouse Hill House and Farm (1.5 kilometres to the north-east of the study area)
- Royal Oak Inn (former) (1.8 kilometres to the east of the study area)
- Merrville House and Garden (1.3 kilometres to the south-east of the study area)

Blacktown LEP 1988 / Draft LEP 2013

The Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013 both include a list of items/sites of heritage significance within the LGA. Six items within a two kilometre radius of the study area are listed on the current and draft LEPs, although there is some variation between the listings on each LEP. Details for these items are provided in Table 1 and they are shown in relation to the study area in Figure 4.

**Table 1: Blacktown LEP details for heritage items within the vicinity of the study area**

Suburb	Item	Address	Lot/DP	LEP(s) on which listed	Item number on Draft LEP 2013
Rouse Hill	House and other buildings – Rouse Hill	Windsor Road	Lot 1, DP 815213	Blacktown LEP 1988	n/a
Kellyville Ridge	House - Merrville	1 Eire Way (AKA 14 Glenheath Avenue, Cavenah Way)	Lot 248, DP 1049677	Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013	I28
Kellyville Ridge	Merrville Rise Park	Glenheath Avenue, Cavenah Way	Lot 5018, DP 1107498	Blacktown Draft LEP 2013	I30
Kellyville Ridge	Place – Battle of Vinegar Hill	712-746 Windsor Road	Lot 1, DP 1086553	Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013	I29
Riverstone	Slab building – Riverstone High School	Regent Street (AKA 71 McCulloch Street)	Part of Lot 1, DP 800352	Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013	I91
Schofields	Schofields Public School	St Albans Road, Schofields	Lot 2, DP 2912	Blacktown LEP 1988	n/a
Riverstone	House	122 Regent Street (AKA 52 McCulloch Street)	Lot 202, DP 831414	Blacktown LEP 1988 and Draft LEP 2013	I92

The Hills LEP 2012

The Hills LEP 2012 includes a list of items/sites of heritage significance within the LGA. Four items within a two kilometre radius of the study area are listed on the LEP. Details for these items are provided in Table 2 and they are shown in relation to the study area in Figure 4.

**Table 2: The Hills LEP details for heritage items within the vicinity of the study area**

Suburb	Item	Address	Lot/DP	Item number on Draft LEP 2013
Rouse Hill	Windsor Road from Baulkham Hills to Box Hill	Windsor Road		I28
Rouse Hill	Royal Oak Inn	2 Commercial Road	Lot 101, DP 1058862	I185

Suburb	Item	Address	Lot/DP	Item number on Draft LEP 2013
Rouse Hill	Christchurch	Windsor Road	Lot 10, DP 1087432	I187
Rouse Hill	Queens Arms Inn Site (archaeological)	1 Resolution Place	Lot 1, DP 285955	A24

#### Sydney SEPP (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006

Part 7 of the SEPP includes stipulations in relation to a cultural heritage landscape area to the north of Rouse Hill house and farm. This area is shown on Figure 4 and aims to preserve an area of rural land adjoining the SHR listed Rouse Hill house and farm.

#### Alex Avenue and Riverstone Precinct Plan 2010

Four items within a two kilometre radius of the study area are listed on the heritage schedule of the Precinct Plan:

- Riverstone High School—Slab Building.
- Warrawong, 158 Riverstone Road.
- Schofields Public School, St Albans Road, Schofields.
- House, 128 Westminster Street, Schofields

#### Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 19—Rouse Hill Development Area

Five items within a two kilometre radius of the study area are included in the heritage schedule of the Sydney REP No 19:

- Christ Church, part portion 79, Parish of Castle Hill, Windsor Road.
- “Royal Oak Inn”, lot 3, DP 30916, Windsor Road.
- “Merriville”, lot 1, DP 204060, Vinegar Hill Road.
- Rouse Hill House and outbuildings, lot 10, DP 567606, Windsor Road.
- Farmhouse, lot 15, section P, DP 712, Riverstone Road [also known as Warrawong].

### **3.2 Non-statutory heritage listings**

#### Register of the National Trust

Three items within a two kilometre radius of the study area are included on the Register of the National Trust:



- Merrville, including outbuildings and grounds.
- Rouse Hill House including stables, other outbuildings and curtilage.
- Royal Oak Inn.

#### Register of the National Estate

'The Rouse Hill House Garden' and 'Rouse Hill House including Stables and Outbuildings' are included on the Register of the National Estate.

### 3.3 Assessing heritage significance

Where existing statements of heritage significance were not available for the heritage listed items, brief assessments of significance have been formulated as part of this study, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Assessment Guidelines (NSW Heritage Branch 2001). These guidelines are included in the *NSW Heritage Manual* and are founded on the NSW heritage assessment criteria, which aim to minimise ambiguity and maintain consistency in the assessment process. The criteria encompass the four values identified in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter: historical significance, aesthetic significance, scientific significance, and social significance. They also include consideration of rarity and representativeness values. The criteria are summarised in Table 3 below. The heritage assessment guidelines also include two thresholds (state or local) for assessing the relative level of significance of heritage items.

**Table 3: NSW heritage assessment criteria**

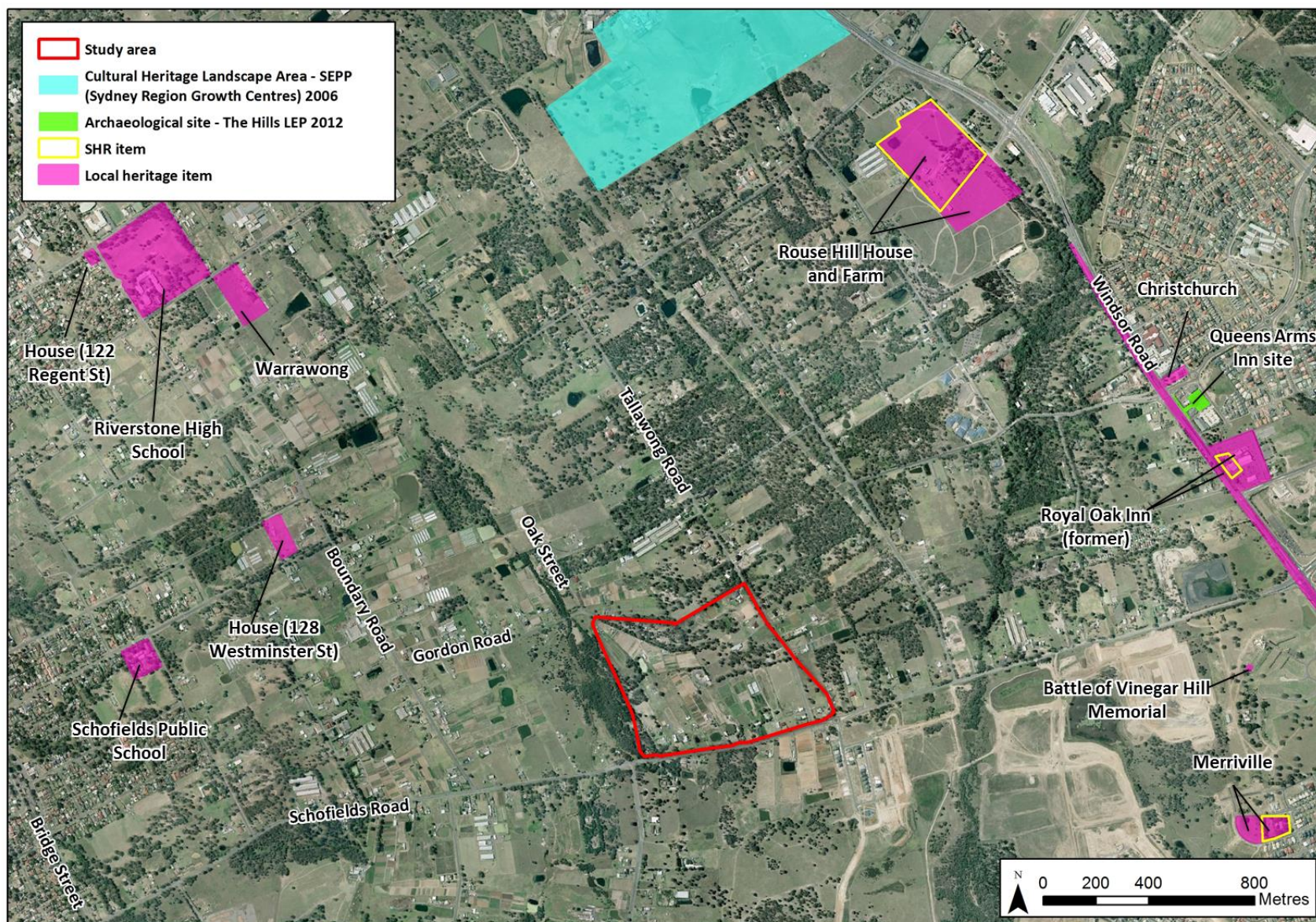
Criteria	Description
<b>A – Historical Significance</b>	An item is important in the course or pattern of the local area's cultural or natural history.
<b>B – Associative Significance</b>	An item has strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the local area's cultural or natural history.
<b>C – Aesthetic Significance</b>	An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the local area.
<b>D – Social Significance</b>	An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
<b>E – Research significance</b>	An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the local area's cultural or natural history.
<b>F – Rarity</b>	An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the local area's cultural or natural history.



Criteria	Description
<b>G – Representative</b>	<p>An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSWs (or the local area's):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- cultural or natural places; or</li><li>- cultural or natural environments.</li></ul>



Figure 4: Heritage listed items within a two kilometre radius of the study area





## 4.0 Historical context

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### 4.1 European exploration and government farms

Exploration to the west of Sydney Cove began soon after first settlement, as it was found that the sandstone soils of coastal Sydney were unsuited for cultivation. In 1789, Governor Phillip led the first expeditions inland.

In 1788, a government farm was established on the banks of the Parramatta River at Parramatta (initially named Rose Hill). A government house was built near the farm, which prompted the development of the town of Parramatta, which was laid out in 1790. Initially the river was the main form of transport to and from Parramatta, but an overland track between Parramatta and Sydney was cleared through the bush between 1789 and 1791. This track formed the basis for Parramatta Road, which was laid out in 1797 and was a major thoroughfare by the early 19th century (Wotherspoon 2010a, 2010b).

A second government farm was established at Toongabbie in 1791, followed by the first land grants around Toongabbie, Kellyville and Dundas, which were made between 1793 and 1799. In 1794, Windsor Road (then known as Hawkesbury Road) was laid out to connect Sydney and Parramatta with the newly established farming settlement near present-day Windsor.

In 1801, a government farm was established at Castle Hill and in March 1804, convicts at this farm staged an unsuccessful uprising. The main confrontation in this uprising occurred at a site that was afterwards referred to as Vinegar Hill, where a short battle took place between over 230 convicts and a small group of soldiers. Although the actual site of the Battle of Vinegar Hill is a matter of debate, a memorial has been erected within the Castlebrook Lawn Cemetery to the south-west of the study area to mark the generally accepted location of the battle (GML 2010:7).

### 4.2 Early land grants

A few land grants were made in the vicinity of the study area during the late 1790s, but significant grants in the area were not made until Governor Macquarie's arrival in the colony. In 1813, Richard Rouse was granted 450 acres which he named Rouse Hill, though the grant was not formalised until 1816. Rouse had arrived in the colony in 1801 and was appointed Superintendent of Works at Parramatta in 1805. In Governor Macquarie's time he was involved in the erection of toll houses on roads in the colony, and the Rouse Hill grant was located directly opposite a tollhouse that had been erected on Windsor Road earlier in the same year (GML 2010:8). Rouse built a house on the property facing Windsor Road.





In 1822, Rouse described Rouse Hill as “my Countrey [sic] seat”, indicating that the property was never intended to be a highly productive working farm, but rather a home farm and symbol of the family’s status (Rouse, R. 12th February 1822: Letter to the Rouse Family). Properties such as this were not farmed intensively, and were instead kept for prestige, pleasure, and household supplies, with profit usually not of a high priority (Corbett 2010:35). The Rouse family ran other properties, particularly ‘Guntawang’ at Mudgee, to raise the funds to maintain Rouse Hill.

The western part of the land within the study area was originally a 200 acre grant made to Joseph Bigg by Governor Macquarie. Bigg came to Australia with the Macquaries to work as their coachman. He was also granted 200 acres further to the west at present-day Schofields, which he named “Argown”, and other parcels of land at Bathurst and Prospect. The eastern portion of the study area (east of Oak Street) was originally part of a 600 acre grant made to John Faultless in 1818, which extended to Windsor Road. In 1823, Faultless sold his grant to Richard Rouse. Figure 5 shows the study area in relation to original land grants.

A plan of the Windsor District dating to 1842 (Figure 6) shows that an area around Rouse Hill house had been cleared by this date, while the area to the south and east was largely uncleared forest. John Bigg’s grant is delineated on the plan and is almost entirely covered in forest, however, a thin strip of cleared land is located around the northern, eastern and southern sides of the land and what appears to be a fence line is shown around the boundary of the grant.

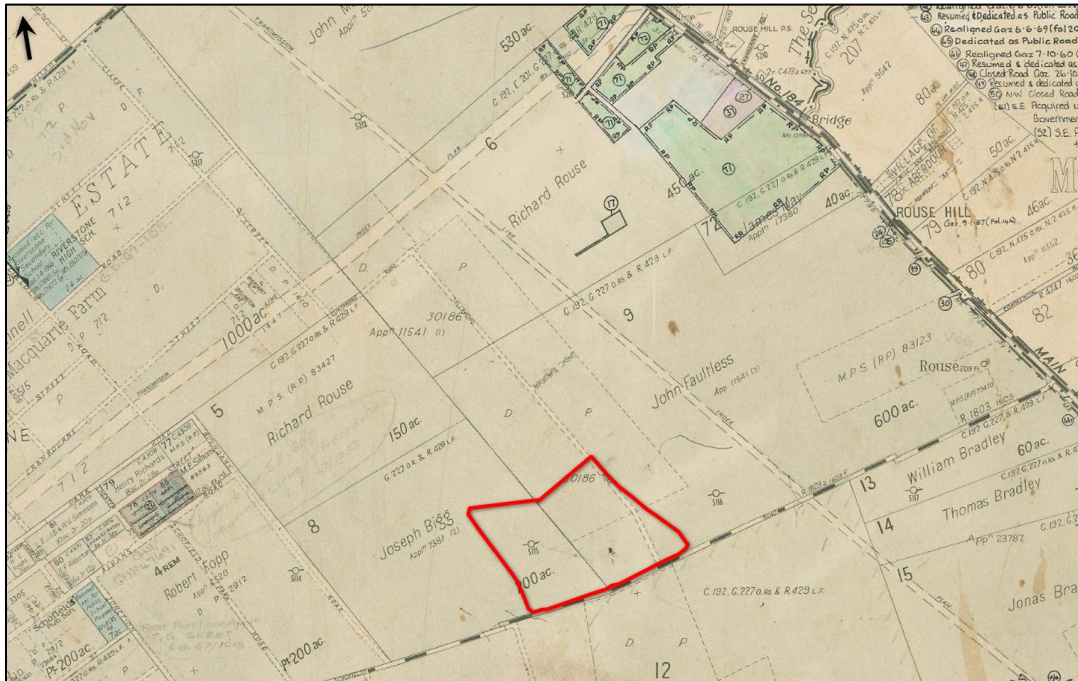
Parish maps dating to the mid to late 19th century indicate that Bigg’s grant was owned by E. Rouse during this period (Figure 7). Edwin Rouse was the son of Richard Rouse and inherited the Rouse Hill Estate on his father’s death in 1852. Edwin Rouse died in 1862, and the property passed to his son Edwin Stephen Rouse.

In 1898, a two-thirds undivided share in John Bigg’s original grant was advertised for sale as part of the estate of the late David Pye. In the advertisement, the property was referred to as “Lunnan’s Paddock”, however, further information about the reason for this name could not be found (*Sydney Morning Herald* 13 July 1898:3). It is likely that the two remaining shares were still held by the Rouse family, who were affected by the financial Depression of the 1890s, and may have sold a share of the block at the edge of the Rouse Hill property to Pye in order to ease their financial difficulties. The Pye family were prominent early settlers at Schofields. In 1815, John Pye and his son Joseph were each granted 85 acres and both acquired further land surrounding their original grants in the following years, eventually holding a total area of 800 acres. Joseph Pye built a homestead on the property in the 1830s, and on his death in 1853 the property passed to David Pye (GML 2011:12-13).

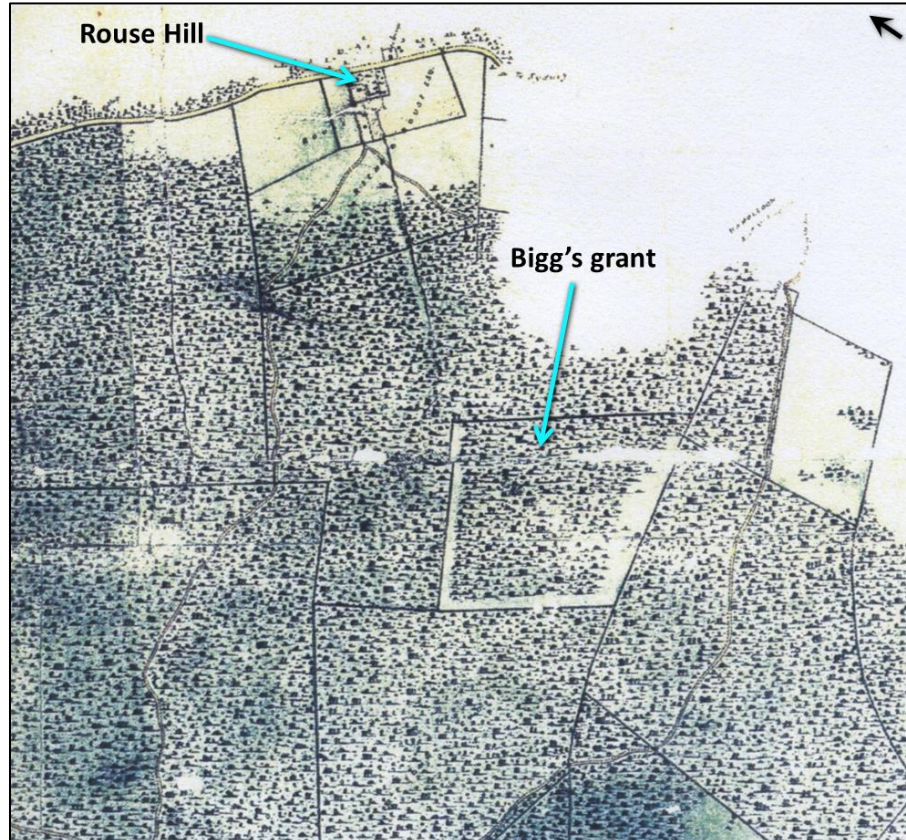
Because both the main holdings and homesteads of both the Rouses and the Pyes were located at a distance from the study area, it is unlikely that the land was used for any significant farming activities. The most likely use for the land during the 19th and early 20th centuries would have been for grazing.



**Figure 5: Detail from the Regional Charting Map of the Parish of Gidley showing the study area outlined in red (© LPI – Department of Finance and Services)**

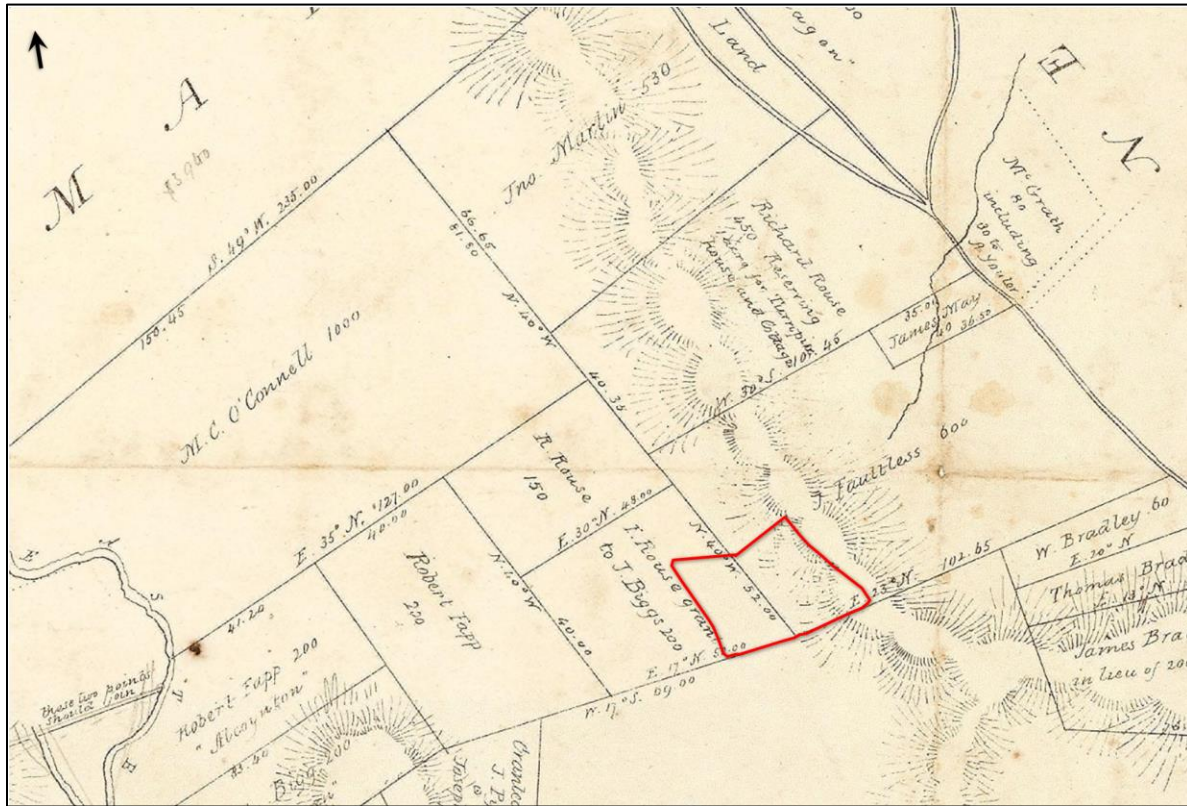


**Figure 6: Detail from 1842 plan showing Bigg's grant (Plan of part of the Windsor District contained between the Old Richmond Road and the Road from Windsor, J. Musgrave, Surveyor)**





**Figure 7: Detail from 19th century parish map showing E. Rouse as the owner of Bigg's original grant. Study area outlined in red (© LPI – Department of Finance and Services)**



### 4.3 Twentieth century subdivision

An aerial photograph of the study area dating to 1947 shows that it was partially vegetated at this time, probably with immature regrowth, and thin tracks across the paddock would be consistent with its use for grazing (Figure 8). No structures are visible in the aerial photograph. A map of the area dating to 1951 shows that there were no structures within the study area at that time, and that it was largely vegetated (Figure 9).

The Rouse Hill property remained largely intact until 1952, when the outermost paddocks began to be sold in order to pay off the family's debt. By 1961, most of the property had been sold to Blacktown City Council for subdivision, except for the house and 100 acres of surrounding paddocks. The land within the study area would have been sold off during this period. Also at this time, both Cudgegong and Tallawong Road were laid out.

By 1970, aerial photographs show a large number of small rural allotments within the study area and the surrounding area. Many of these sites appear to have been developed with market gardens or small poultry farms. By this time, the allotments existed on their present-day pattern, and many of the houses within the study area were constructed during the 1970s.

Figure 8: 1947 aerial photograph of the study area (© LPI – Department of Finance and Services)

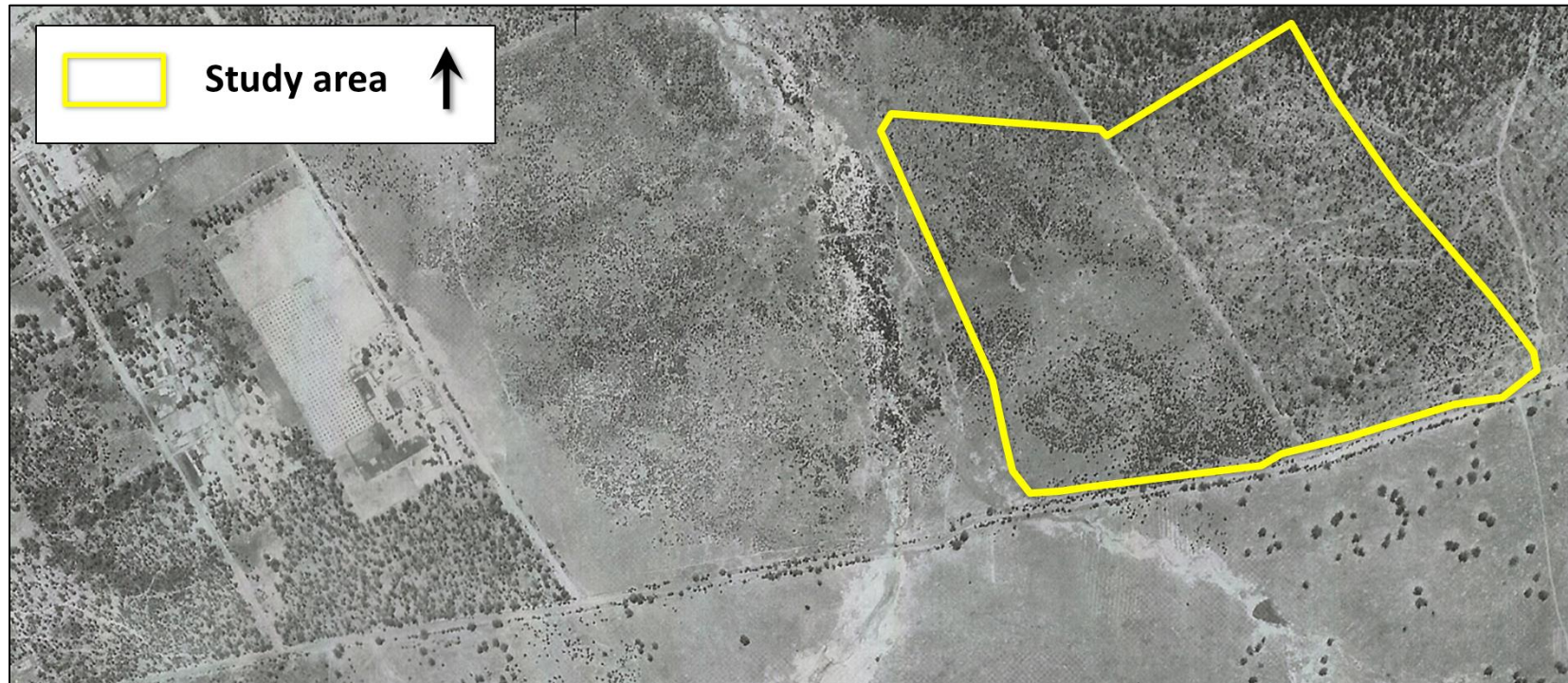
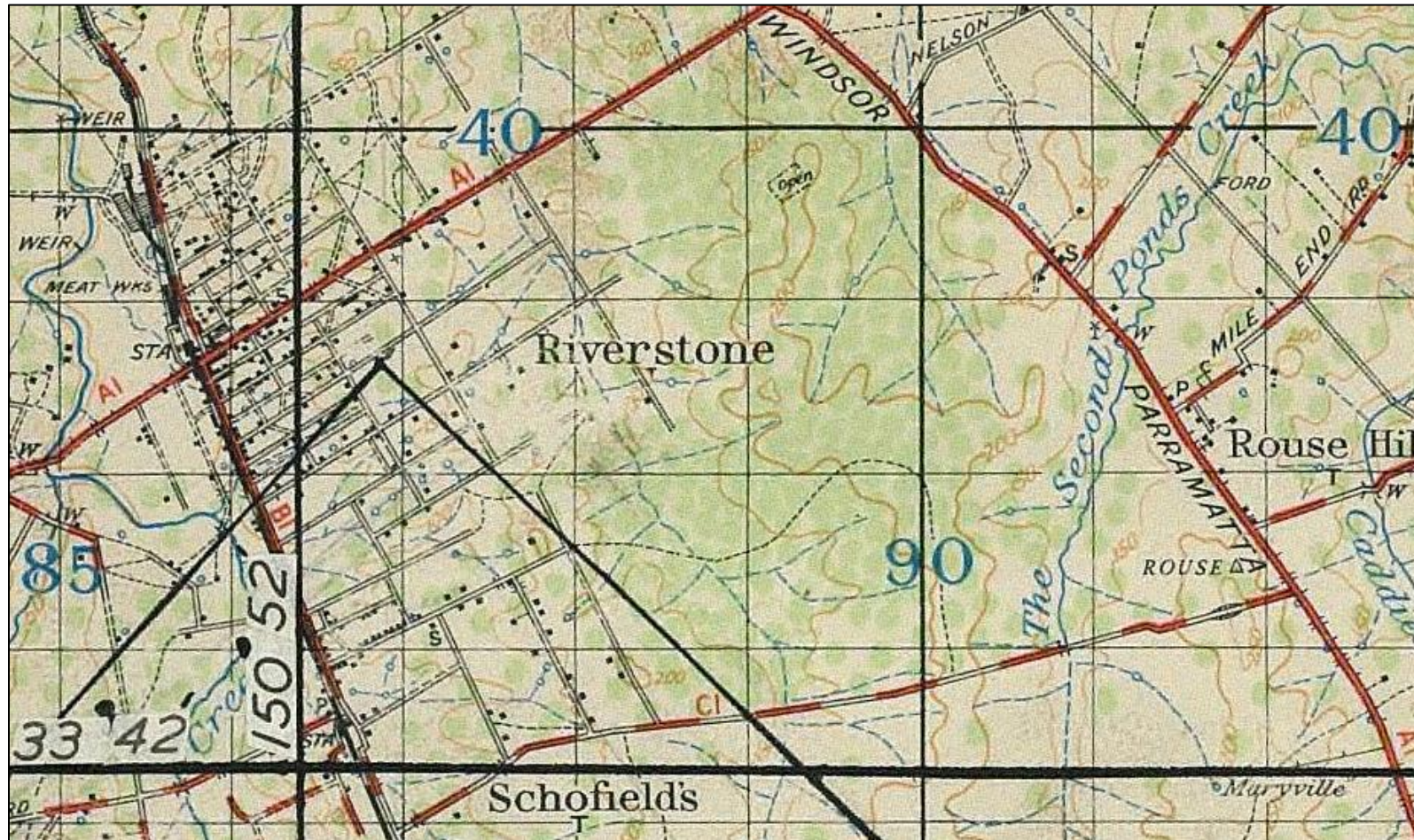




Figure 9: Detail of 1951 map showing that the study area was partially vegetated at that time (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-vn4330094-s1-sd-cd>)



## 5.0 Assessment of heritage impact

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### 5.1 Rouse Hill House and Farm

#### 5.1.1 History and description

Construction of Rouse Hill House (Figure 10) began in 1813, although the 450 acre land grant to Richard Rouse was not formalised until 1816. Rouse and his wife Elizabeth moved into the house between 1818 and 1825. The house was sited in a prominent location on a hill overlooking Windsor Road.

Rouse acquired large landholdings through the colony and also expanded the Rouse Hill estate through the purchase of adjoining properties. By the time of his death in 1852, the Rouse Hill Estate included 1200 acres. The property passed to Richard's son Edwin Rouse, and then to his grandson Edwin Stephen Rouse in 1862, when Edwin Rouse died.

The property continued to be owned by members of the Rouse family until 1978, however, the subdivision of the estate had begun in 1951 and had reduced the property to 8.15 hectares by 1975. In 1978, the NSW Government purchased the property and restoration works occurred gradually in the following years. In 1999 the Historic Houses Trust opened Rouse Hill House and Farm to the public.

Rouse Hill house is a large two-storey sandstone Georgian house set on a hill and oriented to the north-east. The property also includes various historic outbuildings and that intact early garden layout (State Heritage Inventory "Rouse Hill House and Farm").

**Figure 10: Rouse Hill House**  
([http://www.hht.net.au/\\_\\_data/assets/image/0012/840/varieties/main\\_image.jpg](http://www.hht.net.au/__data/assets/image/0012/840/varieties/main_image.jpg))





### 5.1.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the State Heritage Inventory entry for the item is as follows:

*“Rouse Hill House is one of the most significant and substantial houses of the Macquarie period which dates from 1810 to 1822. Rouse Hill House Estate is the largest and most complete publically owned physical record - in the form of buildings, furnishings, artefacts and landscape relationship - of the occupancy and culture of a European-Australian family, encompassing the tastes, fortunes, and endeavours of seven generations from the early 19th century to the late 20th century (Historic Houses Trust 1997:8). The property is perhaps unique for its survival as a largely intact estate with an unbroken chain of occupancy, allowing the survival of major garden and interior elements of every period of its history to the present. This layering of artefacts and fashions is especially prevalent in the gardens where designs and physical details such as edging, fencing, planting containers, bed designs and paths provide a case history for the study of the development of garden practices in Australia. The garden is perhaps Australia's oldest surviving colonial garden in relatively intact form. The surviving physical evidence in the gardens includes borders in a variety of materials, fence and gate remnants, fragments of trellis and arbours, paving and numerous soil displacements that become evident with the location's annual dry spells. These physical remains, matched with pictorial evidence from photographs, drawings and engravings of the property, and writings, have resulted in the identification of four stages of the garden's development: c.1825, c.1865, c.1885 and c.1968. This continuity and evidence of evolution of a very early intact garden from the first quarter of the 19th century to the Edwardian era and 20th century is extremely rare in Australia.”*

### 5.1.3 Statement of heritage impact

The Rouse Hill property is located 1.5 kilometres from the study area. The topography between the Rouse Hill property and the study area is undulating and includes many areas that are well-vegetated by bushland. It is highly unlikely that any views of the RTRF would be available from the property, and if any such views did exist they would only be available from the southern or western edges of the property, rather than from the main farmstead complex, and would not have a significant impact on the heritage value of the property. Views from Rouse Hill toward the RTRF will be analysed in detail in the Visual Assessment included in the EIS for the proposal.

The RTRF proposal would not result in any appreciable heritage impacts to Rouse Hill House and Farm and would not negatively affect the heritage significance of the property.

### 5.1.4 Mitigation measures

It is proposed that a vegetation buffer would be established along the northern frontage of the study area, and this would minimise the potential for views from Rouse Hill to be affected by the RTRF

proposal. This measure is expected to be effective in mitigating any potential impacts to Rouse Hill and no further mitigation measures would be required.

## 5.2 Royal Oak Inn

### 5.2.1 History and description

The site on which the former Royal Oak Inn (now known as the Mean Fiddler) is located was originally part of a 36 acre grant made to Charles Davis in 1818. Davis held a total of 82 acres, and established a small farm on the site. By 1823 a house was located on the intersection of Windsor Road and later Commercial Road.

In 1829, Davis leased part of his property to William Cross, who built the White Hart Inn. By 1839 John Booth was the licensee for the inn and in 1841 Booth purchased Davis' land and changed the name of the inn to the Queen's Arms. In 1845, he renamed the inn the Royal Oak.

**Figure 11: The former Royal Oak Inn (State Heritage Inventory "Royal Oak Inn (former)")**



From 1858 to 1876, the inn was owned and run by John Seath who changed its name back to the White Hart Inn. Following his death in 1876, the property passed to his wife Ann. By 1900 the property appears to have been subdivided, however, the portion on which the inn was located remained in Anne's ownership until her death in 1916. Ann's sons sold the property to Thomas Alfred Paterson, who merged it with other land to create a 98 acre property and converted the inn to a house.

The property was subdivided in 1941 and the inn site passed through various hands in the following years. Between 1947 and 1962 the inn operated as a restaurant, antique shop, refreshment rooms and residence. In 1966, the inn was renovated and operated as a licensed restaurant named "The Royal Oak Inn".





The former inn is currently part of a complex of buildings known as “The Mean Fiddler”, which include a bar, restaurant and function centre. The building is a single-storey Georgian sandstone inn, with a front verandah and a single pitch tiled hipped roof (Figure 11). Various additional buildings were added in the surrounding area in between 1996 and 2003, as part of the Mean Fiddler redevelopment (State Heritage Inventory “Royal Oak Inn (former)”).

### 5.2.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the State Heritage Inventory entry for the item is as follows:

*“The former Royal Oak Inn (now the Mean Fiddler Inn) has State significance as an important survivor of an early colonial coaching inn of the 1820-40 period with the main part of the original complex of buildings remaining intact. It is believed to be the site of one of the first inns on the Parramatta to Windsor/Richmond route and one of the earliest licensed premises in the colony, dating to 1830. It is rare on Windsor Road between Parramatta and Windsor as an inn which remains in use as a “watering hole” or “stop over” for the general public and travellers along the Windsor Road. Its Georgian sandstone frontage and elegant verandah facing Windsor Road is a vivid reminder of the inns once were plentiful along Windsor and Old Windsor Roads.”*

### 5.2.3 Statement of heritage impact

No views of the RTRF would be available from the former Royal Oak Inn, which is located 1.8 kilometres to the east of the study area. Views in the direction of the study area are screened by vegetation adjacent to the building within the median strip of Windsor Road and to the west of Windsor Road, as well as sloping land that rises between the former inn and the study area. The RTRF proposal would have no impacts to the heritage significance of the former inn.

### 5.2.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures required.

## 5.3 Merriville House and Garden

### 5.3.1 History and description

The site of Merriville House was originally part of a grant of 250 acres made to Jonas Bradley in 1818. Bradley was a former Sergeant in the NSW Corps and was successful farmer. Adjoining grants were also made to Bradley’s sons Thomas and William, and the three grants were eventually amalgamated, along with some land purchased from a neighbouring grant. Jonas Bradley also bought an additional 300 acres of land on the other side of Windsor Road and by 1823 owned more than 100 cattle and 800 sheep. A house was built on the property, and is thought to have been located on the same spot as the current house.



By 1828, Jonas Bradley had moved to Goulburn and the property appears to have been leased to tenants. In 1841, following the deaths of his father and brother, William Bradley inherited the entire land holding and continued to lease it for 10 years. In 1851, he sold the property to Elias Pearson Laycock.

The property was named 'Maryville' during Laycock's ownership and it is likely that he built the extant Merriville House, probably in the mid to late 1850s. In 1866, the property was sold to Robert Pearce. The Pearce family was one of the most influential in the district and held large amounts of land. It is likely that they were responsible for substantial additions at Maryville. The property remained in the ownership of members of the Pearce family until 1955, although various subdivisions were made during the 20th century.

In 1955, the property was purchased by Charles Scharkie who was a former Mayor of Manly. Scharkie's son, Ian, and daughter-in-law lived at Maryville and Ian later inherited the property. It was the Scharkie family who changed the name of the property to Merriville and gradually sold much of the property, reducing it to 30-40 acres around the house.

The site was purchased by Landcom in the late 1980s and then sold on in 1993. Significant residential development has since occurred in the area and the site of the house now includes only 2 acres (State Heritage Inventory "Merriville House and Gardens").

### 5.3.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the State Heritage Inventory entry for the item is as follows:

*Merriville House and environs have state significance because of the rarity of the early-mid nineteenth century fabric found there. The place and its landscape contribute to documenting an evolving Australian identity and rural life-style. Both the early nineteenth century kitchen/dairy and the mid-nineteenth century Merriville House are largely intact, although modified, and both are rare and very good examples of Colonial Georgian and Victorian Georgian architecture. The garden and drive, too, are likely to reflect early nineteenth century planning and boundaries. The siting of the house on the hill demonstrates early Colonial practice and now, with the mature vegetation that surrounds it, provides a strong visual landmark. The place is comparable to the near-by Rouse Hill House although Merriville offers a different scale of prosperity and alternate social histories. Thus it provides a good comparative and possibly more representative example of nineteenth century rural life. "Merriville House and its environs have regional and local significance for the historical associations of its principal occupants and their contribution to local development. The property had its beginnings in a seminal period of regional development and it has associations with an important, influential and respected early nineteenth century settler, Jonas Bradley. Bradley was independently important for his contribution to the development of early agricultural practices in the settlement. This place, on some part of his property, was the site of the first successful tobacco crop in*



*the country and became a model for its cultivation elsewhere. "Merriville House and its environs are representative but now increasingly rare illustrators of the principal influences and events that shaped the area in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and contributed to the unique community profile. It has long-standing associations with the Pearce family who were major figures in the Hills district and beyond for their commercial orchards. Robert Pearce and his descendents were associated with this house and land for approximately one hundred years. At one time the Pearce family was the largest landholder in the district and responsible for some of its finest properties. "Merriville House and environs contain substantial elements of the first and all subsequent periods of occupation and this fabric describes the long and diverse residential and commercial history of the place and provides regional historical landmarks. It reflects the impact of changing economies and the closer incorporation of this once rural area into the suburban metropolitan area. This is achieved through open paddocks, the house group and the remnant farm structures and fencing. "The fabric of the building and the landscape and the potential archaeological resource contains information that may help to more accurately define the specific history of occupation, use and development of this place as well as contribute to a greater knowledge of issues such as colonial agriculture and farm management, landscape design, architecture and building, particularly local varieties and supplies. It is one of a relatively small number of sites which have this potential most particularly for the early-mid nineteenth century period of occupation".*

### 5.3.3 Statement of heritage impact

No views of the proposed RTRF would be available from Merriville, which is located 1.3 kilometres to the south-east of the study area. The RTRF proposal would have no heritage impact on the property.

### 5.3.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures required.

## 5.4 Battle of Vinegar Hill Memorial

### 5.4.1 History and description

The memorial is a masonry wall erected in 1988 to commemorate the Battle of Vinegar Hill, which was skirmish between more than 230 convicts and a group of soldiers that occurred in 1804. The memorial is located in an elevated position within the Castlebrook Lawn Cemetery on Windsor Road, which is the possible location of the battle.

### 5.4.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the State Heritage Inventory entry for the item is as follows:

*“The position overlooks Windsor Road, the site of the first military battle to have taken place on Australian soil.”*

The memorial commemorates a significant event in the history of the local area and the state.

#### 5.4.3 Statement of heritage impact

The memorial is located 1.6 kilometres east of the study area and no views of the study area are available from the memorial. The RTRF proposal would have no heritage impact on the item.

#### 5.4.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures are required.

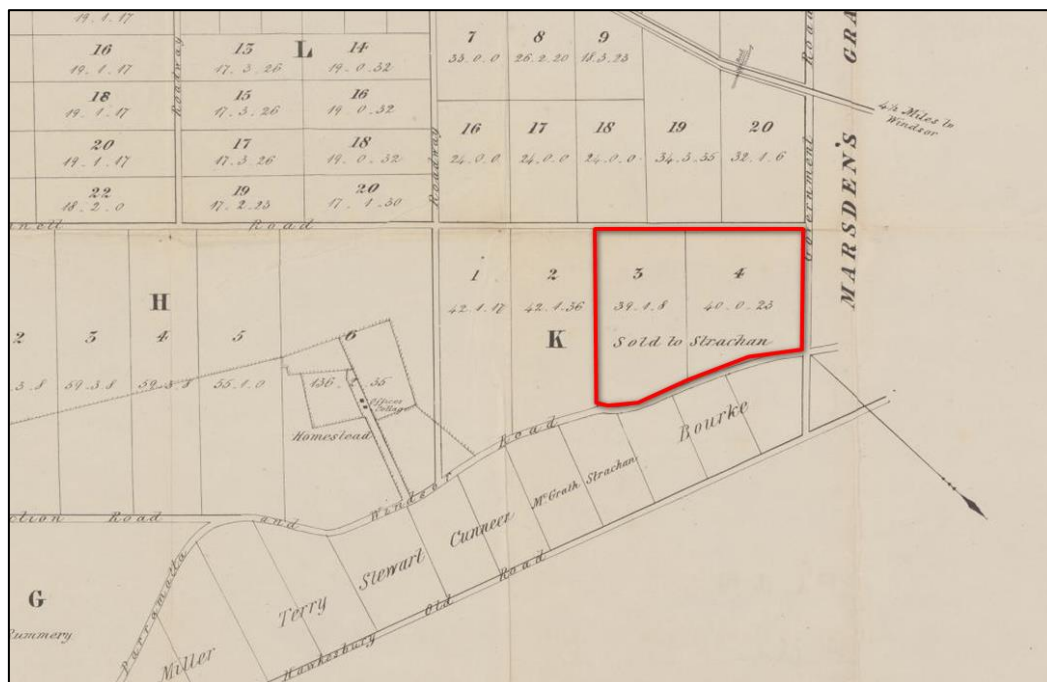
### 5.5 Slab building – Riverstone High School

#### 5.5.1 History and description

The slab cottage was originally located at Vineyard and was built by Arthur Strachan on land that was sold to him by Lieutenant-Governor Maurice Charles O’Connell. O’Connell was granted 3500 acres in 1818, which he named “Riverston Farm”. This property stretched from present-day Bandon Road in Vineyard to Kensington Park Road in Schofields. O’Connell sold a portion of his property on the corner of Bandon Road and Windsor Road to Strachan c. 1864 (Figure 12).

The building is a single storey slab cottage with a pyramidal hipped shallow pitched roof in zincalume. The house is now used for a museum of rural life and agricultural implements in the school grounds.

**Figure 12: Detail from 1864 subdivision plan of “Riverstone” showing land sold to Strachan (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-1fsp2337-sd-cd>)**



### 5.5.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the State Heritage Inventory entry for the item is as follows:

*“A well-presented/restored example of a slab cottage - one of the few remaining in Blacktown. This house was originally built for Arthur Strachan and formerly stood in the Strachan family property, bounded by Windsor Road, Bandon Road and O’Connell Street.”*

### 5.5.3 Statement of heritage impact

The slab cottage is located 1.7 kilometres north-west of the study area. Due to the undulating landscape between the item and the study area, no views toward the proposed RTRF would be available from the slab cottage. The RTRF proposal would have no heritage impact on the item.

### 5.5.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures are required.

## 5.6 House (122 Regent Street, Riverstone)

### 5.6.1 History and description

The house at 122 Regent Street is a large post-Federation brick dwelling with a terracotta tiled roof. The front elevation features a large gable and a wrap-around verandah (Figure 13).

**Figure 13: 122 Regent Street, Schofields**



### 5.6.2 Heritage significance

The house is of local historical and aesthetic significance as an example of residential development in Riverstone.



### 5.6.3 Statement of heritage impact

The house is located two kilometres north-west of the study area and no views toward the proposed RTRF would be available from the item. The RTRF proposal would not have any impact on the item.

### 5.6.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures are required.

## 5.7 Warrawong (158 Riverstone Road)

### 5.7.1 History and description

Warrawong is a large Victorian period country homestead built of brick, with a slate roof and bell shaped verandah roof (Figure 14).

Figure 14: Warrawong (© Blacktown City Council 1995)



### 5.7.2 Heritage significance

The house is of local historical and aesthetic significance as a good example of a large rural dwelling from the mid-19th century.

### 5.7.3 Statement of heritage impact

Warrawong is located 1.8 kilometres north-west of the study area and no views toward the proposed RTRF would be available from the item. The RTRF proposal would not have any impact on the item.

### 5.7.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures required.

## 5.8 Schofields Public School

### 5.8.1 History and description

Schofields Public School opened in a local hall in 1919. In 1923, it was opened on the current site in a small timber building which is still used today. The school now includes the original timber building and a number of modern structures.

### 5.8.2 Heritage significance

Schofields Public School is of local historical and social significance as an education facility that has served the community since the early 20th century and which still includes the original school building.

### 5.8.3 Statement of heritage impact

The school is located 1.6 kilometres north-west of the study area. There would be no views of the proposed RTRF from the school and the RTRF proposal would have no impact on the heritage significance of the item.

### 5.8.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures are required.

## 5.9 House (128 Westminster Street, Schofields)

### 5.9.1 History and description

The land at 128 Westminster Street, Schofields was originally part of 200 acres granted to Robert Fopp, who arrived in the colony as a servant of Governor Macquarie. The current allotment was created in 1882 as part of the Kensington Green subdivision and it is likely that the house was built in the late 19th or early 20th century (Figure 15).

**Figure 15: 128 Westminster Street, Schofields**



### 5.9.2 Heritage significance

The house is of local historical and aesthetic significance as an example of late 19th and early 20th century domestic architecture in the Schofields area.

### 5.9.3 Statement of heritage impact

The house is located 1.2 kilometres north-west of the study area. Limited views of the proposed RTRF area may be visible from the house, however, the RTRF proposal would not have a significant impact on the views or setting of the item.

### 5.9.4 Mitigation measures

It is proposed that a vegetation buffer would be established along the northern frontage of the study area, and this would minimise the potential for views from the house to be affected by the RTRF proposal. No further mitigation measures would be required.

## 5.10 Windsor Road

### 5.10.1 History and description

Between 1810 and 1812, a turnpike road between Sydney and Windsor was constructed under orders from Governor Macquarie. The road was opened as far as South Creek at Windsor in 1812, but was in very poor condition. In 1813, the road was widened and improved and a bridge was constructed over South Creek. The road was the main link to the Hawkesbury region.

Nothing survives of the original carriageway, but the present-day road retains its 1812 alignment and, to the west, the alignment of the earliest track to the Hawkesbury granaries. Some post and rail fencing survives beside the road at Glenmore, and various inns (both historic and modern) are located along the road (Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory Sheet 216).

### 5.10.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory Sheet for the item is as follows:

*“The best example of a Macquarie period toll-road, partly in the 1794 line of the earliest track to the Hawkesbury granaries. The inns and inn sites, the suburban growth at Baulkham Hills, the village development at Kellyville in the late Victorian period and the larger properties at Rouse Hill and Box Hill evoke historical realities, just as the post and rail fencing at Glenmore evokes the colonial rural scene.”*

### 5.10.3 Statement of heritage impact

Windsor Road is located 1.9 kilometres from the study area and would not be impacted by the RTRF proposal.



#### 5.10.4 Mitigation measures

No mitigation measures are required.

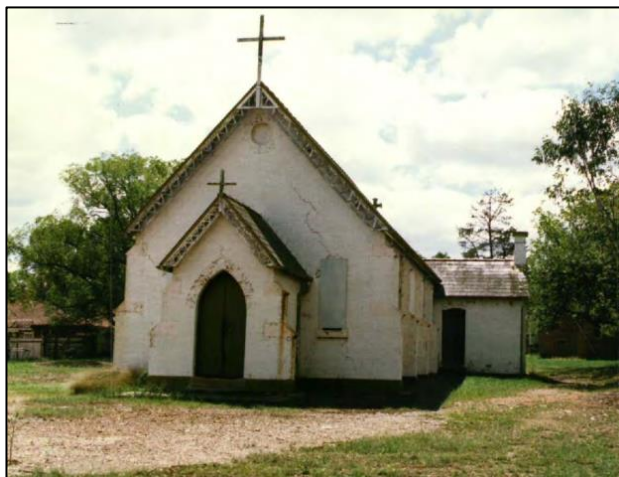
### 5.11 Christchurch

#### 5.11.1 History and description

The site of the church was donated by Robert Fitzgerald of Windsor, who had married Richard Rouse's youngest daughter. The church was built in 1863 and for 16 years it was used as both a church and school by the community. The chancel was designed by E.T. Blacket and was funded by Hannah Rouse. In 1908, a brick church hall was built to the rear of the church (Figure 17).

The church is in the Gothic style and is built of brick on sandstone foundations (Figure 16). It is located on the corner of Mile End Road and Windsor Road (Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory Sheet 229).

**Figure 16: Christchurch (Baulkham Hills Heritage Study 1994)**



**Figure 17: Hall to rear of Christchurch (Baulkham Hills Heritage Study 1994)**



#### 5.11.2 Heritage significance

The statement of significance included in the Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory Sheet for the item is as follows:

*“Evidence of the community centre in the Rouse Hill area in the 19th and first half of the twentieth centuries. The church was an educational and social focus from 1863. It reflects the Anglican ascendancy of the Rouse family in this district. It is the only Blacket church in the Council area.”*

#### 5.11.3 Statement of heritage impact

The church is located 1.8 kilometres to the east of the study area and no views toward the proposed RTRF would be available from the item. The RTRF proposal would not have any impact on the item.

#### **5.11.4 Mitigation measures**

No mitigation measures are required.

### **5.12 Queens Arms Inn archaeological site**

#### **5.12.1 History and description**

The Queens Arms Inn was first licensed in 1839 by John Booth. In 1857, the publican of that time, John Rattalick, established a post office at the back in the inn and both the inn and post office stayed in operation until 1886. In around 1900, a cottage was built on the site of inn/post office and reused material from the former building.

Part of the site was archaeologically excavated in 1994, to reveal stone foundations of the front of the inn and wooden stumps and post holes from successive verandahs facing Windsor Road (Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory Sheet 24).

#### **5.12.2 Heritage significance**

The site of the former Queens Arms Inn is of local significance for its research potential.

#### **5.12.3 Statement of heritage impact**

The site is located 1.8 kilometres east of the study area. The views and setting of the site do not contribute to its significance and would not be impacted by the RTRF proposal in any case. There would be no impacts to the heritage significance of the site.

#### **5.12.4 Mitigation measures**

No mitigation measures are required.

## 6.0 Archaeological potential

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### 6.1 Assessing archaeological potential and research significance

Archaeological potential is defined as the potential of a site to contain archaeological relics, as classified under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*. Archaeological potential is assessed by identifying former land uses and associated features through historical research, and evaluating whether subsequent actions (either natural or human) may have impacted on evidence for these former land uses.

While archaeological potential should essentially be understood as ‘what is the potential for remains to be present’, research significance should be understood as ‘how important or significant might those remains be?’ It is possible for an area to be of high archaeological potential but low research significance.

In 1984, Bickford and Sullivan examined the concept and assessment of archaeological research significance; that is, the extent to which archaeological resources can address research questions. They developed three questions which can be used to assess the research significance of an archaeological site:

- 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?
  - Other substantive questions relating to Australian history?
  - Other major research questions?

In its guidelines for Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and ‘Relics’, the NSW Heritage Branch (2009) has since provided a broader approach to assessing the archaeological significance of sites, which includes consideration of a site’s intactness, rarity, representativeness and whether many similar sites have already been recorded, as well as other factors. This document also acknowledges the difficulty of assessing the significance of potential subsurface remains, because the assessment must rely on predicted rather than known attributes (NSW Heritage Branch 2009).

A site can be of high archaeological potential (meaning that remains are likely to be present) and yet still be of low research significance if those remains are unlikely to provide valuable or useful information.

### 6.2 Archaeological potential and research significance within the study area

Until the 1950s, the study area had not been subject to development. The land within the study area was owned at least partly by the Rouse family for most of its history, though David Pye is known to



have also owned a share in the property. The land was located in the south-west corner of the Rouse Hill estate and was situated some distance from the main farmsteads of the both the Rouse and Pye families. It is therefore highly unlikely that it was ever farmed intensively, or that significant structures were constructed on the site prior to the 1950s. Archaeological evidence for features dating from before the 1950s would be likely to be limited to post holes from former fence lines or insubstantial timber structures such as feed shelters for livestock. Such evidence would be quite ephemeral and susceptible to damage from later actions on the land.

Subsequent development during the 1960s and 1970s, including the creation of market gardens on many of the properties within the study area, has caused significant disturbance to much of the study area and is likely to have disturbed or destroyed any surviving archaeological evidence.

If any in situ remains do survive, they are expected to be very limited in extent and of low research significance.

## 7.0 Overall Statement of Heritage Impact

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The potential heritage impact of the RTRF proposal on the study area as a whole is assessed below using the guidelines provided in the NSW Heritage Manual document *Statements of Heritage Impact*.

What aspects of the development proposal respect or enhance the heritage significance of the study area?

The RTRF proposal would have no impact on the heritage significance of heritage listed items in the vicinity of the study area. There would be no significant impacts to the views or setting of any of the items, and because the items are all located more than 1.2 kilometres from the study area, there would be no appreciable impacts from noise or vibration.

What aspects of the proposal could have a detrimental impact on the heritage significance of the study area?

There is a possibility that limited views of the proposed RTRF would be available from the southern or western edges of the Rouse Hill property (SHR) or the house at 128 Westminster Street, Schofields (Blacktown LEP 1988, Alex Avenue and Riverstone Precinct Plan). If such views were available, they would not have a significant impact on the heritage value of the items. Views from Rouse Hill toward the RTRF will be analysed in detail in the Visual Assessment included in the EIS for the proposal.

Have more sympathetic options been considered and discounted?

Five options for the RTRF proposal are under consideration, however, none of these options would have a significant heritage impact. The preferred option includes provision for a vegetation buffer along the northern boundary of the site, which would help to screen any views of the site from Rouse Hill house and farm and the house at 128 Westminster Street.

## 8.0 Recommendations

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On the basis of background research and a site inspection and adhering to all statutory obligations, the following recommendations have been made with regard to non-Indigenous heritage:

- There are no heritage constraints on the proposed development.
- If unexpected archaeological finds are encountered during works, work in the vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the significance of the find. The NSW Heritage Branch should be notified if the find is of local or state significance, and further investigation and permits may then be required.

## 9.0 References

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Baulkham Hills Shire Council Heritage Inventory

Bickford, A and Sullivan, S 1984, 'Assessing the research potential of historic sites', in Sullivan, S & Bowdler, S (eds) *Site surveys and significance assessment in Australian archaeology*, Department of Prehistory, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, Canberra: 19-26.

Corbett, N. (2010) Rouse Hill Farm and Family: A Biographical Approach to Landscape Archaeology. Unpublished Honours Thesis, University of Sydney.

GML (2010) *North West Growth Centre: Area 20 Precinct, Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment*.

GML (2011) *Schofields Precinct: Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment, Draft Report*.

NSW Heritage Office (2001) 'Assessing Heritage Significance' from the NSW Heritage Manual.

NSW Heritage Office (2009) *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'*.

State Heritage Inventory:

- Merriville House and Gardens
- Royal Oak Inn (former)
- Rouse Hill House and Farm