

10 VICTORIA ST, BERRY, NSW

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Report to Shoalhaven City Council
Proponent initiated Planning Proposal (Rezoning PP052)
on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd

Shoalhaven LGA

September 2020





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Apex Archaeology have been engaged to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) in accordance with the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (April 2011); the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW, April 2010) (the ACHCRs); and the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (September 2010) (the Code of Practice), to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry.

The project is within The Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) area. Council is progressing the planning proposal (rezoning) project on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd. This report details the results of the archaeological assessment completed in accordance with the Code of Practice and the consultation undertaken with the Aboriginal community in accordance with the ACHCRs.

The site is legally described as part Lot 6 DP1204186. It is proposed to amend the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (SLEP) to allow low-density residential development within the subject area. The lot is currently zoned RU1 – Primary Production, and the planning proposal seeks to rezone the land as R2 Low Density Residential land to allow ten residential lots in future. A Gateway Determination was issued on 30 April 2020.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)'s Biodiversity and Conservation Team requested an ACHA be completed for the site due to its proximity to an intermittent watercourse.

As a result, Apex Archaeology was engaged by Council to prepare an ACHA for the project. Consultation with the Aboriginal community was completed and archaeological survey was undertaken within the site.

A total of eight Aboriginal people and organisations registered an interest in being consulted for the project. The following list comprises the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs) for the project:

- Nowra LALC;
- Barraby Cultural Services;
- Murra Bidgee Mullangari
- South West Rocks Corp;
- Warra Bingi Nunda Gurri;
- Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp;
- Yurrandaali Cultural Services; and
- Richard Campbell (individual).

Consultation with the RAPs has been conducted in accordance with the Consultation Guidelines.



A site inspection was undertaken on 8 July 2020. No archaeological material was identified on the ground surface during the site inspection within the study area. No areas of subsurface archaeological deposit were identified within the study area. The site was assessed as being highly modified and no archaeological potential is considered to remain within the area.

Based on the results of the cultural heritage and archaeological assessments, the following recommendations have been made for the project:

RECOMMENDATION 1: NO FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REQUIRED

This report details the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the site, which has been assessed as nil. No further Aboriginal archaeological assessment is required for the site.

RECOMMENDATION 2: DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES

The proposed development works must be contained within the assessed boundaries for this project. If there is any alteration to the boundaries of the proposed development to include areas not assessed as part of this archaeological investigation, further investigation of those areas should be completed to assist in managing Aboriginal objects and places which may be present in an appropriate manner.

RECOMMENDATION 3: STOP WORK PROVISION

Should unanticipated Aboriginal archaeological material be encountered during site works, all work must cease in the vicinity of the find and an archaeologist contacted to make an assessment of the find and to advise on the course of action to be taken. Further archaeological assessment and Aboriginal community consultation may be required prior to the recommencement of works. Any objects confirmed to be Aboriginal in origin must be reported to Heritage NSW under Division 1, Section 89A of the NPW Act.

In the unlikely event that suspected human remains are identified during construction works, all activity in the vicinity of the find must cease immediately and the find protected from harm or damage. The NSW Police and the Coroner's Office must be notified immediately. If the finds are confirmed to be human and of Aboriginal origin, further assessment by an archaeologist experienced in the assessment of human remains and consultation with both Heritage NSW and the RAPs for the project would be required.

This recommendation should be included in any Construction Environmental Management Plan developed for the site.

RECOMMENDATION 4: REPORTING

One digital copy of this report should be forwarded to Heritage NSW for inclusion on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).

One copy of this report should be forwarded to each of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders for the project.



Apex Archaeology would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal people who are the traditional custodians of the land in which this project is located. Apex Archaeology would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

The following register documents the development and issue of the document entitled '10 Victoria Street, Berry, NSW: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report', prepared by Apex Archaeology in accordance with its quality management system.

Revision	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Issue Date
1 – Draft	Jenni Bate	Leigh Bate	10 August 2020
2 – Draft	Jenni Bate	Eric Hollinger – SCC	12 August 2020
3 – Final	Jenni Bate	RAPs	18 September 2020
4 – Final	Jenni Bate	Maggie Chapman – SCC	22 September 2020



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aboriginal Object	An object relating to the Aboriginal habitation of NSW (as defined in the NPW Act), which may comprise a deposit, object or material evidence, including Aboriginal human remains.
ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ACHAR	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System maintained by Heritage NSW, detailing known and registered Aboriginal archaeological sites within NSW
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
ASIRF	Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Form
BP	Before Present, defined as before 1 January 1950.
Code of Practice	The DECCW September 2010 <i>Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales</i>
Consultation	Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with the DECCW April 2010 <i>Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010</i> .
DA	Development Application
DECCW	The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (now Heritage NSW)
Disturbed Land	If land has been subject to previous human activity which has changed the land's surface and are clear and observable, then that land is considered to be disturbed
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Due Diligence	Taking reasonable and practical steps to determine the potential for an activity to harm Aboriginal objects under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> and whether an application for an AHIP is required prior to commencement of any site works, and determining the steps to be taken to avoid harm
Due Diligence Code of Practice	The DECCW Sept 2010 <i>Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales</i>
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
Harm	To destroy, deface or damage an Aboriginal object; to move an object from land on which it is situated, or to cause or permit an object to be harmed
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW within the Department of Premier and Cabinet; responsible for overseeing heritage matters within NSW
ka	Kiloannus, a unit of time equating to 1,000 years
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
LGA	Local Government Area
NPW Act	NSW <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
OEH	The Office of Environment and Heritage of the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (now Heritage NSW)
PAD	Potential Archaeological Deposit
RAPs	Registered Aboriginal Parties
SCC	Shoalhaven City Council



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Apex Archaeology have been engaged by Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) in accordance with the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (April 2011); the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW, April 2010) (the ACHCRs); and the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (September 2010) (the Code of Practice), to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry.

This report details the results of the archaeological assessment completed in accordance with the Code of Practice and the consultation undertaken with the Aboriginal community in accordance with the ACHCRs.

1.1 STUDY AREA AND PROJECT BRIEF

The study area is located approximately 110 km south west of Sydney. It is located within the SCC Local Government Area (LGA) (Figure 1). The study area is located at 10 Victoria Street, Berry. The site is legally described as part Lot 6 DP1204186 (Figure 2).

The planning proposal, which is being progressed by SCC on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd seeks to amend the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (SLEP) to allow low-density residential development within the subject area. The lot is currently zoned RU1 – Primary Production, and the planning proposal seeks to rezone the land as R2 Low Density Residential land to allow ten residential lots in future. A Gateway Determination was issued by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on 30 April 2020.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

The archaeological investigation was undertaken to meet the requirements of the Code of Practice and ACHCRs.

The purpose of the archaeological investigation is to understand and establish the potential harm the proposed development may have on Aboriginal cultural heritage within the study area, both tangible and intangible.

Aboriginal community consultation was undertaken for the project with the aim of:

- Identifying the Aboriginal community members who can speak for Country within which the study area is located;
- Involving the Aboriginal community in making decisions about the management of their cultural heritage;
- Identifying, assessing and recording Aboriginal heritage values within the study area;



- Preparing an assessment of the cultural heritage values in consultation with the Aboriginal community;
- Identifying the potential impact of the proposed development on the assessed cultural heritage values; and
- Developing conservation and mitigation strategies for these values, with the aim of minimising impacts to cultural heritage wherever possible.

In addition, this report provides a significance assessment of the identified Aboriginal heritage values, as defined by the registered Aboriginal stakeholders (RAPs) for the project. Aboriginal people are the primary determinants of the significance of their cultural heritage and therefore Apex Archaeology cannot make a determination on the cultural significance without the input of the RAPs.

Any development works which disturb the ground surface have the potential to impact Aboriginal archaeological deposits and therefore an assessment of whether the study area contains such deposits is required prior to the commencement of construction works. An assessment of whether the proposed development would impact these deposits (if present) is also necessary, and identification of to what extent the deposits would be impacted is also required. The degree of impact which may be allowable is determined, in part, with consideration of the level of cultural significance attributed to the cultural values of the study area, both tangible and intangible.

1.3 PROJECT PROPONENT

The proponent for the project is Mbark Pty Ltd (Mbark), who are also the landowners of 10 Victoria Street, Berry, NSW.

1.4 INVESTIGATORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

This archaeological assessment was commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council on behalf of Mbark. Apex Archaeology thanks Eric Hollinger and Maggie Chapman of Shoalhaven City Council for their assistance with the project. Thanks are also extended to the registered Aboriginal groups for their participation and assistance with the project.

This report has been prepared by Jenni Bate, Director and Archaeologist with Apex Archaeology. The report was reviewed by Leigh Bate, Director and Archaeologist with Apex Archaeology. Both Jenni and Leigh have over thirteen years of archaeological consulting experience within NSW. Project team roles and qualifications are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Project team roles and qualifications

Name	Role	Qualifications
Jenni Bate	Project Manager; Primary Report Author	B.Archaeology; Grad. Dip. CHM
Leigh Bate	Field inspection, Excavation Director; Review; GIS	B.Archaeology; Grad. Dip. Arch; Dip. GIS



1.5 LIMITATIONS

This report relies in part on previously recorded archaeological and environmental information for the wider region. This includes information from AHIMS, which is acknowledged to be occasionally inaccurate, due to inaccuracies in recording methods. No independent verification of the results of external reports has been made as part of this report.

Field investigations for this report included survey. The results are considered to be indicative of the nature and extent of Aboriginal archaeological remains within the study area, but it should be noted that further Aboriginal objects and sites which have not been identified as part of this assessment may be present within the study area, although this is considered to be highly unlikely.

It is recognised that Aboriginal people are the primary determinants of the significance of their cultural heritage, and as such, Apex Archaeology have relied on the Aboriginal community to provide cultural knowledge regarding the site, where they are willing and able to share such knowledge. However, there may be occasions where RAPs are unwilling or unable to share cultural knowledge regarding the site.

1.6 REPORT STRUCTURE

This report addresses the requirements of the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (The Guide), the Code of Practice and the ACHCRs. The Guide provides guidance as to what must be contained in an ACHAR. The following tables outline the requirements of both the Guide and the Code of Practice, and how they have been addressed in this report.

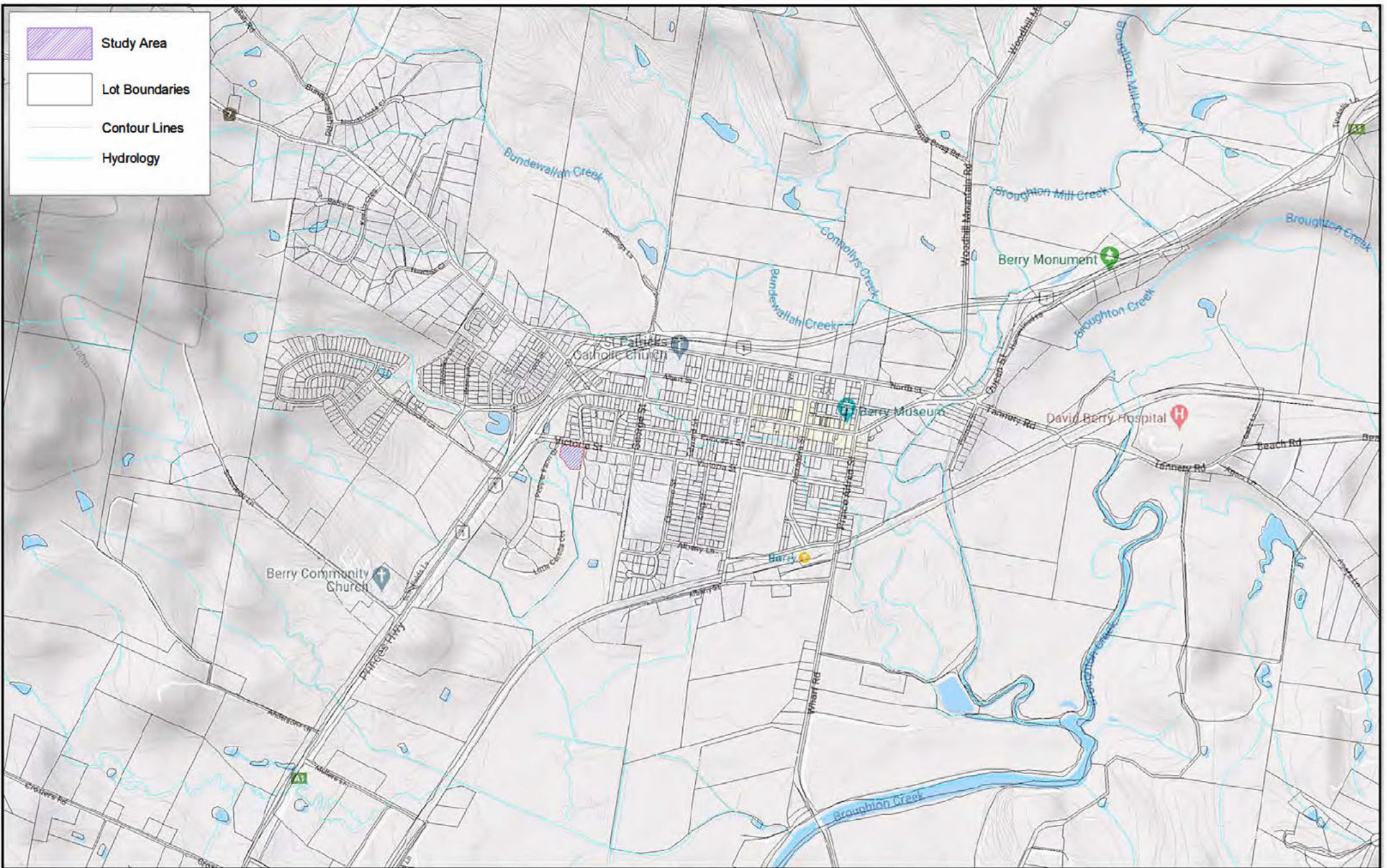
Table 2: Required contents of an ACHAR and where met in this report

Report requirements	Where met
Description of the Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places located within the area of the proposed activity	Section 4.9
Description of the cultural heritage values, including the significance of the Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places, that exist across the whole area that will be affected by the proposed activity	Section 6
The significance of the above values for the Aboriginal people who have a cultural association with the land	Section 6.3
How requirements for consultation with Aboriginal people have been met (as specified in clause 80C of the NPW Regulation)	Section 3
The views of those Aboriginal people regarding the likely impact of the proposed activity on their cultural heritage	Section 3; Section 6.3
Actual or likely harm posed to the Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places from the proposed activity, with reference to the cultural heritage values identified	Section 7
Any practical measures that may be taken to protect and conserve those Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places	Section 8
Any practical measures that may be taken to avoid or mitigate any actual or likely harm, alternatives to harm, or if this is not possible, to manage (minimise) harm	Section 8



Table 3: Requirements of Code of Practice and where met in this report

Requirement #	Where met
1 – Review previous archaeological work	Section 4.10.1
2 – Review the landscape context	Section 4
3 – Summarise and discuss the local and regional character of Aboriginal land use and its material traces	Section 4.10
4 – Predict the nature and distribution of evidence	Section 4.11
5 – Undertake an archaeological survey	Section 5
5a/b/c – Prepare an archaeological survey sampling strategy	Section 5.1; Appendix E
6 – Define identified sites	Section 4.9
7 – Site recording	N/A
8 – Location information and geographic reporting	Report Figures
9 – Record survey coverage data	Section 5.3
10 – Analyse survey coverage	Section 5.3; 5.4
15a – Consultation prior to test excavation	N/A
15b – Test excavation sampling strategy	Appendix E
15c – Notification	N/A
16a – Test Excavations	N/A
16b – Objects recovered during test excavations	N/A



<p>PO Box 236 NOWRA NEW SOUTH WALES 2541</p>	<p>0 500 1000</p> <p>metres</p>	<p>Projection MGA Zone 56 (GDA 94) Base Map: Google Earth Pro FINAL - Version 1</p>	<p>Figure 1: Study Area in its regional context.</p>	<p>N</p>
------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------	----------



Study Area



Lot Boundaries



Contour Lines



Hydrology

0

45

90



metres

Projection:
MGA Zone 56 (GDA 94)
Base Map:
Google Earth Pro
FINAL - Version 1

Figure 2: Study Area in its local context.



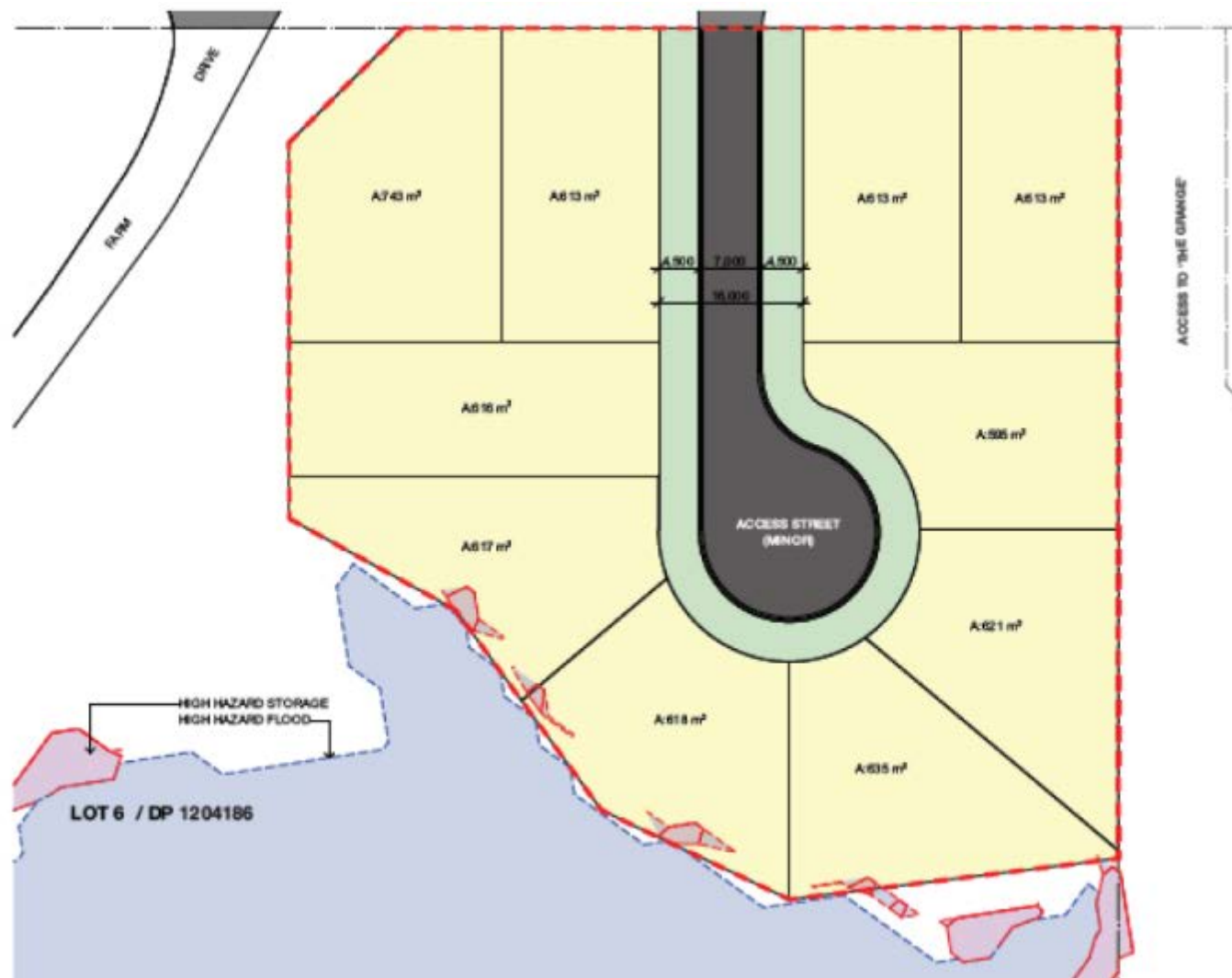


Figure 3: Proposed lot layout (Source: Altre 2019)



2.0 STATUTORY CONTEXT

Heritage in Australia, including both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage, is protected and managed under several different Acts. The following section presents a summary of the applicable Acts which provide protection to cultural heritage within NSW.

2.1 COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATION

2.1.1 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT 1984

This Act provides for the preservation and protection of injury and/or desecration of areas and objects in Australia and its waters that are of significance to Aboriginal people, in accordance with Aboriginal tradition.

Under this Act, the responsible Minister has provision to make both temporary and/or long-term declarations, in order to provide protection to areas and objects which are at threat of injury or desecration. In some instances, this Act can override State or Territory provisions, or be invoked if State or Territory provisions are not enforced. An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander individual or organisation must invoke the Act.

No items within the study area are listed or protected under this Act.

2.1.2 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

The EPBC Act provides protection to environmental sites of national significance, including places with cultural heritage values that contribute to Australia's national identity. The Act aims to respect the role of Indigenous peoples in the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of Australia's biodiversity, and to enhance the protection and management of important natural and cultural places. Additionally, the Act is designed to promote the use of Indigenous peoples' knowledge of biodiversity with the involvement of, and in cooperation with, the owners of the knowledge.

The National Heritage List provides a listing of natural, historic and Indigenous places of outstanding significance to the nation, while the Commonwealth Heritage List details the Indigenous, historic and natural places owned or controlled by the Australian Government.

Under the EPBC Act, approvals are required if any action is proposed that will have (or is likely to have) a significant impact on the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place. Therefore, actions must be referred to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Heritage. A decision will be made as to whether the proposed action will have a significant impact on any matters of national significance.

A search of both the NHL and the CHL did not identify any items within the study area.



2.1.3 NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993

The *Native Title Act 1993*, as amended, provides protection and recognition for Native title. Native title is recognised where the rights and interests of over land or waters where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practiced traditional laws and customs prior to the arrival of European settlers, and where these traditional laws and customs have continued to be practiced.

The National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) was established to mediate native title claims made under this Act. Three registers are maintained by the NNTT, as follows:

- National Native Title Register
- Register of Native Title Claims
- Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Searching the NNTT registers allows identification of potential Aboriginal stakeholders who may wish to participate in consultation.

A search of all three registers identified a registered Native Title claim by the South Coast People over the study area; however, this claim has not yet been determined. No determined Native Title claims exist over the study area.

2.2 NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATION

2.2.1 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* provides protection for all Aboriginal objects and places within NSW. Aboriginal objects are defined as the material evidence of the Aboriginal occupation of NSW, while Aboriginal Places are defined as areas of cultural significance to the Aboriginal community. All Aboriginal objects are protected equally under the Act, regardless of their level of significance. Aboriginal Places are gazetted if the Minister is satisfied that the location was and/or is of special significance to Aboriginal people.

Following amendments to the NPW Act in 2010, approval to impact Aboriginal cultural heritage sites is only granted under a Section 90 AHIP, which is granted by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

2.2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

Under the EP&A Act, it is necessary to consider environmental impacts, including impact to cultural heritage, as part of the land use process. Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and Development Control Plans (DCPs) are also required to be prepared by Local Government Areas (LGAs) in order to provide guidance on the applicable level of environmental assessment. LGAs are required to maintain a list of locally significant heritage items as part of their LEP.

Under the EP&A Act, Part 3 describes the planning instruments at both local and regional levels; Part 4 relates to development assessment and consent processes, and Part 5 refers to infrastructure and environmental impact assessment.

A Planning Proposal for the site has been prepared and a Gateway Determination was issued on 30 April 2020. Authority for the amendment of the LEP was given to SCC.

2.2.3 SHOALHAVEN CITY COUNCIL LEP 2014

The *Shoalhaven City Council Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2014* is the overarching planning instrument applicable to the Shoalhaven LGA.

Clause 5.10(2) (e) identifies that no buildings may be erected on land within a heritage conservation area or which contains an Aboriginal object, without first obtaining development consent. Further, Clause 5.10(2) (c) states that archaeological sites may not be disturbed or excavated without development consent. Exceptions to the requirement for development consent are detailed by Clause 5.10(3) and include low impact activities, or activities for the maintenance of a heritage item. Clause 5.10(8) requires that the effect of any development on an Aboriginal place of heritage significance must be considered, and the Aboriginal community must be notified of any proposed developments.

There are no heritage items, heritage conservation areas or archaeological sites identified on the LEP heritage maps within the study area. One heritage item known as Mark Radium Park is located on the northern side of Victoria Street and comprises the vegetation within the park. Assessment of the potential impact on the heritage values of the park is beyond the scope of this project.

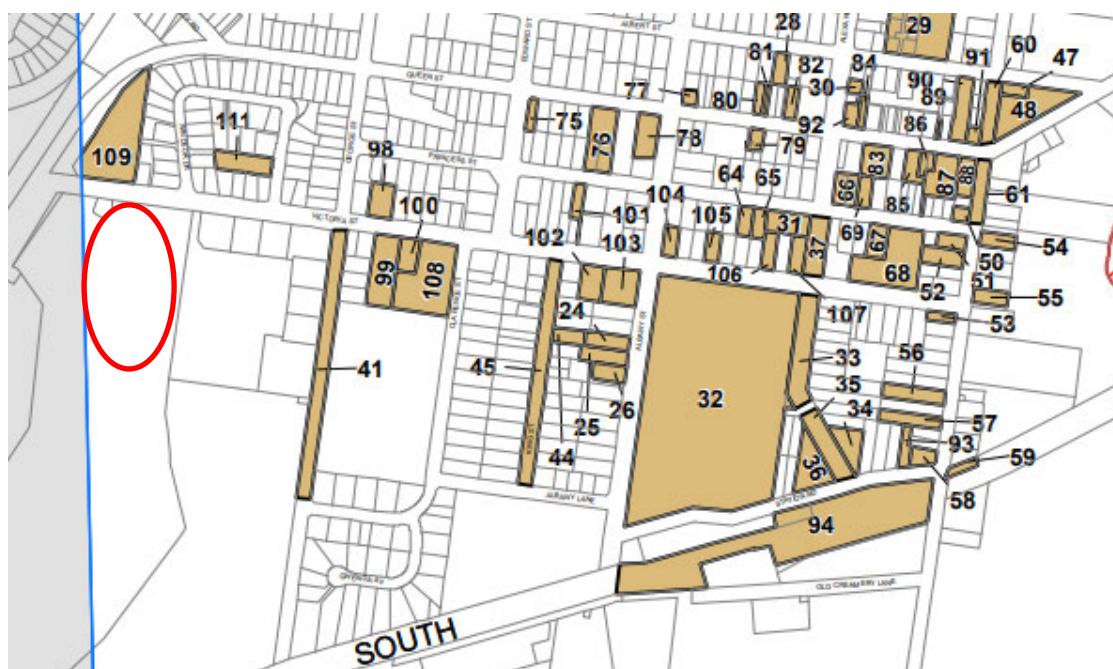


Figure 4: Detail of the SCC Heritage Map. Approx study area outlined in red (Source: SCC LEP 2014 Heritage Map Sheet HER_019E)



3.0 ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

This section details the Aboriginal community consultation undertaken to assist in the heritage assessment of the study area. Aboriginal consultation in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* was undertaken by Apex Archaeology for this project.

Aboriginal community consultation is a requirement in order to make assessments of Aboriginal cultural values, as Aboriginal people are the primary determinants of the significance of their cultural heritage and therefore Apex Archaeology cannot make a determination on the cultural significance without the input of the RAPs. Aboriginal people often have a strong connection to their Country, and to their ancestors, both past and present.

Material evidence of past Aboriginal occupation of an area is a tangible link to the intangible traditions, lore, customs, beliefs and history. These intangible values provide a sense of belonging for Aboriginal people, and cultural heritage and cultural practices are kept alive through being incorporated into everyday life, which helps maintain a connection to the past and to the present. It is a vital part of the identity of Aboriginal people.

Therefore, it is important that Aboriginal people are afforded the opportunity to understand, comment on and have input into projects that may impact areas which may be culturally sensitive, or damage items of cultural significance. The process of Aboriginal community consultation provides this opportunity, and this ACHAR details the results of the consultation undertaken for this project.

3.1 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* provide the process for undertaking consultation with the Aboriginal community. This process includes identification, registration, engagement and consultation with those Aboriginal people who may have cultural knowledge which is relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and places which may be within the study area.

The Consultation Guidelines detail a number of stages for consultation, as follows:

- Identification of those people who should be consulted for the project
- Inviting Aboriginal people to register their interest in being consulted for the project
- Providing information regarding the nature and scope of the project to the Aboriginal people who have registered an interest in being consulted – the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs)
- Providing opportunities for RAPs to comment on the proposed methodology for cultural heritage consultation



- Presenting information about the potential impacts of the proposed development for the RAPs to comment on
- Providing opportunities for RAPs to comment on the cultural significance of the proposed development area
- Providing opportunities for RAPs to comment on the draft reports detailing the results of the archaeological and cultural assessments for the project

3.2 STAGE 1 CONSULTATION: COMMENCEMENT

Stage 1 requires a list of Aboriginal people who may have cultural knowledge relevant to the area to be prepared from several sources of information. The first step requires enquiries to be made of certain statutory bodies regarding whether they are aware of Aboriginal people or organisations that may have an interest in the study area, and their contact details. Any Aboriginal people or organisations identified in this step must be contacted and invited to register an interest in the project. In addition, a notification must be placed in local print media requesting Aboriginal people or organisations to register their interest in the project. A list of those who register an interest must be compiled. A minimum of 14 days from the date of the letter or newspaper advertisement must be allowed for registrations of interest.

As a result of the Stage 1 activities, a list of Aboriginal people who wish to be consulted for the project is developed. These Aboriginal people become the registered Aboriginal parties – the RAPS – for the project.

Letters requesting the details of Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to the study area and who may wish to be consulted for the project were sent to several statutory agencies on 19 May 2020. Copies of these letters and responses are attached in Appendix B. These Step 1 letters were sent to the following agencies:

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE; now Heritage NSW)
- South East Local Land Services (SELLS)
- Shoalhaven City Council (SCC)
- Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC)
- Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW)* (ORALRA)
- Native Title Services Corp (NTSCorp)

Responses were received from DPIE, SELLS, and SCC. Heritage NSW provided a list of Aboriginal people and organisations with 45 people or organisations identified. These 45 individuals and organisations were invited to participate in consultation for the project.

An online search of the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) identified a Native Title Application over the study area on behalf of the South Coast People. The application has been accepted but not yet determined.



The Aboriginal people and organisations identified during this initial stage were contacted via letter (email if provided or via post if no email address given) on 1 June 2020, inviting them to register an interest in the project. Registrations were accepted until 15 June 2020. This is Step 2 of Stage 1 of consultation. Copies of these letters are attached in Appendix C.

In addition, an advertisement was placed in the *South Coast Register* on 27 May 2020, inviting registrations of interest from people who may have cultural knowledge of the project area. A copy of the advertisement is attached in Appendix D.

A phone call was received from NTSCorp on behalf of the South Coast People on 17 June 2020, after the close of registrations of interest, requesting a late registration be accepted if contact details were provided by Friday 19 June 2020. This was agreed to, but no further correspondence was received.

A total of eight Aboriginal people and organisations registered an interest in being consulted for the project. The following list comprises the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs) for the project:

- Nowra LALC;
- Barraby Cultural Services;
- Murra Bidgee Mullangari
- South West Rocks Corp;
- Warra Bingi Nunda Gurri;
- Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp;
- Yurrandaali Cultural Services; and
- Richard Campbell (individual).

Murra Bidgee Mullangari registered their interest after the due date for registrations, and their registration was accepted with the caveat that the due date for comment on the methodology/project information could not be extended as that stage of consultation had already commenced.

3.3 STAGE 2 & 3 CONSULTATION: PRESENTATION AND GATHERING OF INFORMATION

During Stage 2, information about the proposed project is provided to the RAPs, including location, scale, proposed development plans, timeframes, methodologies and any other relevant details relating to the project. This information can be provided in writing or at a meeting (or both), and an opportunity for the RAPs to visit the site may also be provided.

During Stage 3, RAPs are invited to share information about the cultural significance of the study area, which can assist in the assessment of the cultural significance of the Aboriginal objects and/or places within the study area. The cultural heritage assessment informs and integrates with the scientific assessment of significance and therefore can assist in the development of mitigation and management measures



for the project. A methodology detailing how this information will be gathered must be provided to the RAPs for comment and a minimum of 28 days must be allowed for responses to be received. Any feedback must be considered and implemented as appropriate into the methodology.

Stage 2 and 3 can be undertaken concurrently. The information about the project and the methodology for seeking cultural knowledge can be provided in the same written documentation or at the same meeting.

Details of the proposed project and the proposed methodology for undertaking the cultural heritage and archaeological assessments for the project were provided in writing to each of the RAPs on 16 June 2020. Comments were accepted until 13 July 2020. Responses were received from MBM, and was supportive with no alternatives suggested or requested for the methodology. The RAP response is attached in Appendix E. No other comments were received from any of the other RAPs for the project.

No cultural information was received from any of the RAPs for the project during this stage of consultation.

3.4 STAGE 4: REVIEW OF DRAFT REPORT

Stage 4 sees the preparation of the draft ACHAR, which details the results of the cultural heritage assessment. The draft is provided to the RAPs for their review and comment. A minimum of 28 days to comment on the ACHAR must be allowed. All comments must be addressed in the final document and the proponent's response to RAP comments must be included. Copies of any submissions received from RAPs must be included in the final ACHAR.

Consultation with the Aboriginal community for this project has been conducted in accordance with the ACHCRs. A log of all correspondence is presented in Appendix A of this ACHAR.

The draft report was sent to all RAPs on 12 August 2020 for their review and comment, with comments accepted until 11 September 2020.

3.5 ABORIGINAL COMMENTS AND APEX ARCHAEOLOGY RESPONSE

The following section details all comments received from the RAPs for the project, along with the response from Apex Archaeology.

Nowra LALC noted date for site inspection was incorrect but otherwise supported recommendations. The date has been corrected in the final report and their support noted with thanks.

Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp responded with the following:

"I would like to firstly correspond the purpose of Aboriginal Engagement into the consultation requirements. This report does not show or reflect any



engagement of Aboriginal Culture/Heritage assessment done other than an archeological assessment, that does not specifically identify the Aboriginal Cultural significant to the proposed site.

As my previous email to stated the importance of Aboriginal culture and heritage emerging into the modern concept of society, this report desecrates Aboriginal culture and Heritage Values through an Archeological assessment. As such Aboriginal culture and heritage does not impinge the concept of development therefore not hinder the gateway determination.

It is very important through the local government RAP to engage Aboriginal culture and heritage either social, economical and or tangible to such extent. this report does not assist the reconciliation of Aboriginal peoples culture and heritage in any development of this report.

I wish to see this email attached to the final report issued to The Shoalhaven City Council to consider the factor of economic development of Aboriginal peoples culture and heritage this reports attribution to The Shoalhaven City Council gateway response.”

Apex Archaeology responded with the following:

Thank you for your email regarding the project at 10 Victoria Street, Berry, and the draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. This project has been completed in accordance with the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (the ACHCRs) and as such it is acknowledged that Aboriginal people are the primary determinants of the significance of their cultural heritage. A total of eight Aboriginal individuals or organisations registered an interest in participating in consultation for this project.

The steps of consultation include compiling a list of people who wish to participate in consultation. The next step is sending out the proposed methodology for undertaking the archaeological and cultural assessment of the site. I received one response regarding the methodology, endorsing the proposed steps to be taken. The methodology also invited Aboriginal people to share cultural knowledge that they were comfortable sharing. I did not receive any specific cultural information from any of the RAPs for the project.

Once the draft report was prepared, it was sent out to the RAPs for their review and comment, including an invitation to share any additional cultural information they may wish to share. This would have been incorporated into the final report, or the draft report revised if significant information was received, requiring further mitigation strategies to be developed. To date, I have not received any specific cultural information regarding the site. It is acknowledged that all landscapes hold significance to Aboriginal people to some extent, and this is noted in the report. But I am only able to report on the information available to me.



The last email I received from you prior to this email was confirmation of the organisation you were registering for consultation, on 15 June 2020. I did not receive a response to the methodology and I did not receive any correspondence from you stating “the importance of Aboriginal culture and heritage emerging into the modern concept of society” (although I acknowledge the truth of your statement).

I’d also like to clarify that while we have been commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council to undertake the assessment, they are not the entity undertaking the development of the site and have no input into who is engaged to undertake these works. In addition, it is important to note that as community consultation “must be an open and honest two-way communication process between the proponents and Aboriginal people who have cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area”, offering remuneration in return for cultural knowledge could be construed as a conflict of interest. Please also find attached the first page of a letter from DPIE (now Heritage NSW) regarding the consultation process and the confirmation that consultation does not equal employment.

If you have specific cultural information regarding this study area that you wish to share, I am more than happy to receive it and incorporate it into the report.

I will include your email as an appendix, as I am required to do so in accordance with the ACHCRs, and will note your comments in the report, along with our response.

No further comments were received from any of the RAPs regarding the cultural significance of the area.

Copies of all correspondence are included in Appendix G.



4.0 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

This section presents information about both the physical and cultural landscape in which the study area is located, as well as previous archaeological and ethnohistorical studies, to provide context and background to the existing knowledge of Aboriginal culture in the area.

4.1 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The study area is located within the Southern Illawarra Coastal Plain, and within the Kangaroo Valley physiographic region. The Kangaroo Valley is bounded by the Illawarra Escarpment to the east and the Moss Vale Table lands to the West. This physiographic region comprises gentle rises of the Illawarra coal measures, moderate to steep slopes of Berry Siltstone, undulating slopes of Budgong Sandstone and broad flats of Quaternary alluvium.

The study area has been disturbed by previous land use practices, including historic land clearance, and subsequent road, residential and landscaping activities including associated infrastructure.

4.2 TOPOGRAPHY

The study area is located on a gentle simple slope running south east. An unnamed ephemeral drainage line borders the study area to the south; however, this has been modified with a section widened to form a pond and subsequently landscaped to form a part of the gardens for the Arbour Retirement Community.

4.3 GEOLOGY

The underlying geology of the study area consists of Permian Illawarra Coal measures which are underlain by the Permian Shoalhaven Group. This includes the following formations: Budgong Sandstone, Berry Siltstone, Nowra Sandstone and Wandrawandian Siltstone. Budgong Sandstone overlies the Berry Siltstone which consists of mid to dark grey siltstone, mudstone and fine sandstone. Nowra Sandstone consists of fine to coarse grained pebbly quartzose sandstone. These formations provide a moderately good selection of lithic materials for stone tool manufacture.

4.4 SOIL LANDSCAPES

The study area falls across two soil landscapes the Shoalhaven and Coolangatta soil landscapes. The Shoalhaven soil landscape is a fluvial landscape characterised by level to gently undulating floodplains. The local relief is <5m with slopes <3%. The alluvium is made up of gravel, sand, silt and clay derived from sandstone and shale overlying buried estuarine sediments. Soil are moderately deep at around 50-100cm.

The Coolangatta soil landscape is an erosional landscape with moderate to severe stream bank erosion occurrences. This soil landscape is situated on undulating to rolling low hills with local relief 10-100m and slopes 5-20%. This landscape has also



Figure 5: Soil Landscapes associated with the study area.



been extensively cleared with scattered open woodland and occasional shrubs. Soils are moderately deep at 50-100cm occurring mid-slope with deeper soils >150cm occurring on lower slopes.

4.1 HYDROLOGY

The nearest major permanent water source is Broughton Creek which is a tributary of the Shoalhaven River. An unnamed modified ephemeral drainage line runs along the southern border of the study area which drains into Broughton Creek approximately 2.8km south of the study area. Broughton Creek is defined as a 3rd Order water course according to the Strahler system as used by PI Water (Figure 5). Watercourse classification ranges from 1st order through to 4th order (and above) with 1st order being the lowest, ie a minor creek or ephemeral watercourse and 4th or above being a large watercourse such as the Shoalhaven River.

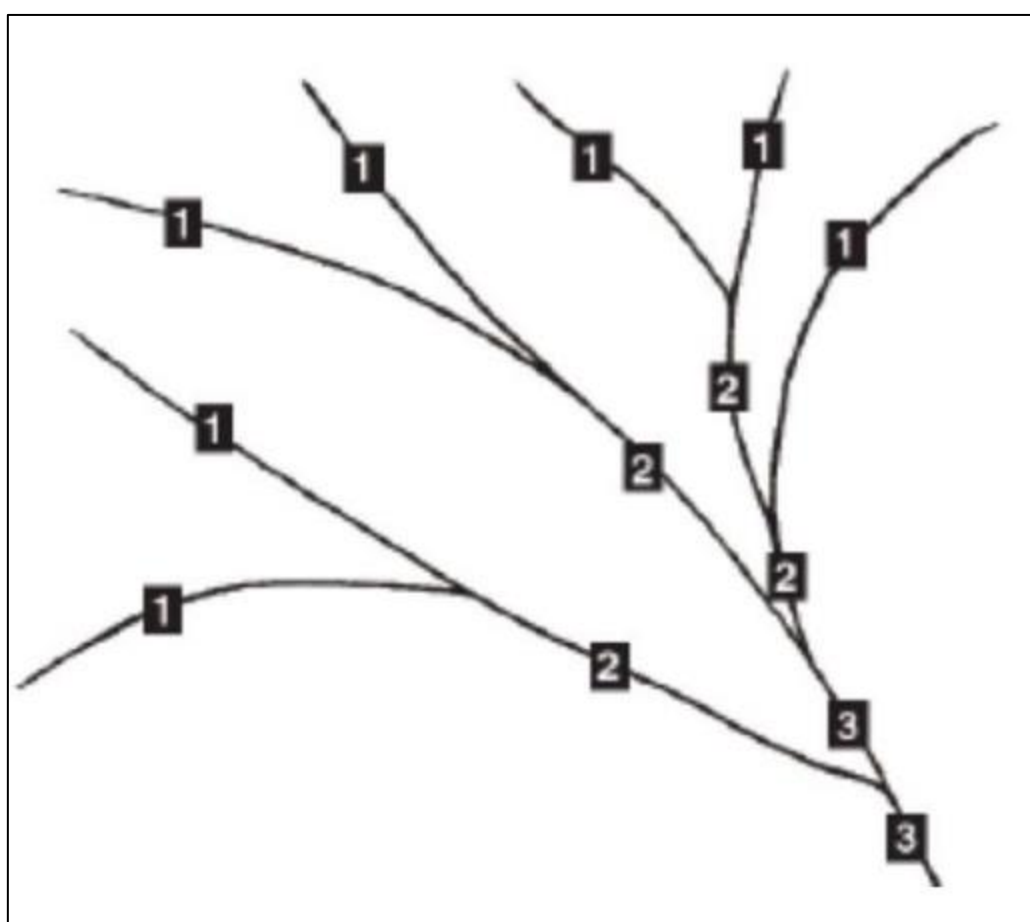


Figure 6: The Strahler system (Source: Department of Planning and Environment 2016).

4.2 FLORA AND FAUNA

The original vegetation of this area has been extensively cleared. It would have comprised tall open forest and open woodland, with spotted gum (*Eucalyptus maculata*), blackbutt (*Eucalyptus Pilularis*), blue-leaved stringy bark (*Eucalyptus agglomerate*), cabbage tree palm (*Livistona australis*), Illawarra flame tree



(*Brachychiton acerifolium*), wattle (*Accacia sp.*) and decorative paperbark (*Malaleuca decora*).

These species would have supported a range of fauna species. Both floral and faunal resources would have been exploited by the Aboriginal people in the area.

4.3 LAND USE HISTORY

Following the establishment of the first European settlement at Sydney Cove, the need for additional agricultural land was identified, as Sydney Cove was considered unsuitable for farming. By November 1788, food supplies were running low for the settlement, and an expedition led by Governor Philip set off up the Parramatta River in search of arable land. An area known as Rose Hill (now Parramatta) was settled by a small group of 11 soldiers and 10 convicts. The grain crops at Sydney Cove failed, and the settlement at Rose Hill was ordered to be used for agriculture. These crops were luckily successful, and a further settlement comprising a convict farm was established at Toongabbie.

Exploration of the wider region continued, and in 1791, expeditions travelled the Hawkesbury and Nepean areas, identifying them as likely spots for agriculture. The Shoalhaven region had been sighted by Captain Cook in April of 1770, when he observed a protected bay which was later named Port Jervis, and he recorded evidence of smoke along the shoreline just before dark, which may have been related to Aboriginal campfires near the area now known as Bass Point.

Lieutenant James Grant recorded an account of an early meeting of Europeans and local Aboriginal people as being amicable (Grant 1801), with the Aboriginal people they encountered described as 'more robust than Sydney Blacks'.

James Meehan reached the Shoalhaven River in 1805 as part of his exploration of the region, and noted the extensive stands of red cedar along the lower reaches of the river (Antill 1982). The first official shipment of cedar left the Shoalhaven in 1811, and by the following year seven ships were transporting cedar out of the Shoalhaven.

The Cambewarra and Illawarra Ranges were first explored by Europeans in 1812, by surveyor George Evans. This included a survey of the Jervis Bay foreshores and Evans intended to return overland to Appin, but the difficulty of the terrain led to him abandoning this plan (Griffith 1978). In 1818, James Meehan and Charles Throsby were commissioned to find an overland route between Sydney and Jervis Bay, and a route through Kangaroo Valley was identified with the assistance of two Aboriginal people from the Lake Illawarra region.

Alexander Berry explored the Shoalhaven River environs over several days in 1822, and he was later granted 10,000 acres on the river with the aim of establishing a permanent settlement. The study area is located within this original grant.



Berry's settlement was located on elevated land at the foot of a hill now known as Coolongatta. By 1850, the major industries of the Shoalhaven region included agriculture, dairying and milling (Cousins 1994), as well as timber felling. When Alexander Berry passed away in 1873, the estate was inherited by his brother David, and following David's death in 1889, the township known as Broughton Creek was renamed Berry in his honour (Berry Museum 2015).

Between 1907 and 2006, the study area lands were owned by a range of people, including farmers, accountants, and solicitors (Altre 2019). Historical aerials show the evolution of the site over the years.

In 1961, the site was comprised open land with minor vegetation present but had been predominantly cleared. Two creeks and a dam are visible within the study area, and the surrounding landscape was predominantly open agricultural land. No structures are visible within the study area.



Plate 1: 1961 aerial. Study area in red (showing a previous layout). (Source: Altre 2019)

By 1970, little had changed within the study area. A lightly vegetated creekline is still visible along with the dam.



Plate 2: 1970 aerial. Study area in red (showing a previous layout). (Source: Altre 2019)

The 1984 aerial shows little change within the study area itself, although considerable development of residential properties to the immediate north is evident. No development within the site itself can be seen on the aerial.



Plate 3: 1984 aerial. Study area in red (showing a previous layout). (Source: Altre 2019)



The 2006 aerial shows the remaining vegetation within the site has been predominately cleared, with a small stand remaining along the northern boundary of the site, and also along one of the creeklines within the study area. The vegetation on the northern boundary of the site is not visible on earlier aerials. Evidence of underground services can be seen on the eastern boundary of the site, and further development to the east had been undertaken.



Plate 4: 2006 aerial. Study area shown in red. (Source: SCC)



By 2009, a road (Pepper Farm Drive) had been constructed running north-south on the western boundary of the study area. Plantings around the creekline to the south of the study area had been completed, and the study area itself had been landscaped to show a smooth grassed area.



Plate 5: 2009 aerial. Study area shown in red. (Source: SCC)



The 2014 aerial imagery for the site shows additional landscaping in the form of trees around the boundary of the study area, as well as formal plantings lining Pepper Farm Drive, leading to The Arbour. A community garden is visible to the south of the study area. The dam noted in earlier aeriels is visible as a patch of darker grass, but does not contain water.



Plate 6: 2014 aerial. Study area shown in red. (Source: SCC)



The most recent aerial for the study area shows the recently completed section of the Berry Bypass to the west of the study area, and the modifications made to the intersection of Victoria and Queen streets to accompany this upgrade. Within the study area, vegetation has matured, particularly the formal plantings lining Pepper Farm Drive. The dam has been formalised and an island is apparent in the centre of the dam, and the ephemeral drainage line to the south east of the dam appears to have been deepened and straightened. The grass has been mowed as shown by striations in the grass.



Plate 7: recent aerial. Study area shown in red. (Source: SCC)

4.4 ETHNOHISTORY

Historical records made by early colonists indicate the study area is located within lands traditionally occupied by the Wodi Wodi people (Tindale 1974). Boot (2002:58) notes:

The problem associated with ethnohistoric documents include their tendency to record unusual, rather than everyday events, and their focus on religious



behaviour to the exclusion of woman and children (Attenbrow 1976:34; Sullivan 1983:12.4).

Although historical records can be contradictory and incomplete regarding the exact tribal boundaries and locations of ceremonial or domiciliary activities of Aboriginal people pre-contact within the South Coast region, the Wodi Wodi people were considered to have occupied an area extending from around Stanwell Park to the north, to the Shoalhaven River in the south, the coast to the east, and Picton, Moss Vale and Marulan in the west (Tindale 1974).

Aboriginal society was constructed of a hierarchy of social levels and groups, with fluid boundaries (Peterson 1976), with the smallest group comprising a family of a man and his wife/wives, children and some grandparents, referred to as a 'clan' (Attenbrow 2010). The next level consists of bands, which were small groups of several families who worked together for hunting and gathering purposes (Attenbrow 2010). The third level comprised regional networks with a number of bands, and these bands generally shared a common language dialect and/or had a belief in a common ancestor. Networks would come together for specific ceremonial purposes. The highest level is described as a tribe, which is usually described as a linguistic unit with flexible territorial boundaries (Peterson 1976); although Attenbrow (2010) argues that "these groups were not tribes in the current anthropological sense of the word".

The Wodi Wodi were considered to speak Dharawal (or Tharawal) by Tindale, although other sources attribute their language as Gurungada (Howitt 1904). Most sources consider the Dharawal language as part of the Yuin linguistic group, which covered an area from Sydney to the Victorian border. 'Wodi Wodi' was first recorded in 1875 by Ridley, when Lizzy Malone, the daughter of a woman of the Shoalhaven tribe, stated Wodi Wodi was the language spoken by the Aboriginal people of the Illawarra.

The traditional lifestyles of Aboriginal groups such as the Wodi Wodi depended largely on the environment in which they lived. Whilst hinterland groups relied on freshwater and terrestrial animals and plants, coastal groups utilised marine and estuarine resources. Berry falls within the coastal region, as it was possible to access a shoreline campsite in a day return journey (Boot 2002), with access to both marine and inland resources. Animals such as kangaroos, wallabies, possums, gliders, bandicoots, wombats, quolls, fruit bats, echidnas, native rats and mice, emus, ducks, tortoises, snakes and goannas (Attenbrow, 2010), played a major role in the subsistence of hinterland groups, while other resources included shellfish such as oysters, crustacea such as crayfish and crabs, and marine animals including dolphins, dugongs and whales. Fishing was conducted from canoes with spears, or collected along the shore (Tench in Attenbrow 2010). Beached whales were eaten, as observed by the British settlers in the late 18th century. Dugong, seal and dolphin



bones have been found in shell middens around the Sydney region, with evidence of butchering evident on the bones (Attenbrow 2010).

The different environments of the Berry area contain a diverse range of plant and animal species. On creek banks and surrounds, a wide variety of game would have been found. The vegetation communities along the creeks and gullies, primarily woodlands, would have provided shelter for numerous animal and plant species that could be eaten or used for other purposes such as providing shelter and medicines.

The Wodi Wodi people utilised a range of hunting and gathering equipment, including fishing and hunting spears made of wood and barbed with shell, flaked stone blades, shark teeth, or sharpened bone; boomerangs and spear-throwers; fishing hooks made from bird talons, bone, wood and shell; ground stone axes; anvils and pounders; stone tools including blades and scrapers; shields, clubs and digging sticks made from wood; baskets made from bark; and wooden canoes (Attenbrow 2010).

Shelter is a basic need for any humans and the Wodi Wodi were reported to make use of either rockshelters or huts constructed from bark, branches and leaves. Coastal groups tended to build larger huts than the hinterland groups, and within the Berry region, huts were likely the dominant choice of shelter due to the limited nature of rockshelters (Attenbrow 2010). There is some discussion regarding whether Aboriginal people moved regularly from place to place, or whether they lived at one campsite for a longer period of time and ranged out for resources, returning to their home base as necessary.

4.4.1 RAW MATERIALS

A wide range of raw materials were selected by Aboriginal people for flaking to create stone implements. Material types ranged from high quality to poor quality for flaking purposes, depending on the geology of the area and readily available material types. The following is a description of a range of raw material types known to have been utilised by Aboriginal people for the creation of stone artefacts.

BRECCIA

Breccias are coarse, angular volcanic fragments cemented together by a finer grained tuffaceous matrix.

CHALCEDONY

Chalcedony is a microcrystalline, siliceous rock which is very smooth and can be glossy. Introduction of impurities can produce different coloured versions of chalcedony, including yellow/brown (referred to as carnelian), brown (sard), jasper (red/burgundy) and multicoloured agate. It flakes with a sharp edge and was a prized material type for the creation of stone artefacts in parts of Australia (Kuskie & Kamminga 2000: 186).



CHERT

Chert is a highly siliceous sedimentary rock, formed in marine sediments and also found within nodules of limestone. Accumulation of substances such as iron oxide during the formation process often results in banded materials with strong colours. Chert is found in the Illawarra Coal Measures and also as pebbles and colluvial gravels. It flakes with durable, sharp edges and can range in colour from cream to red to brown and grey.

PETRIFIED WOOD

Petrified wood is formed following burial of dead wood by sediment and the original wood being replaced by silica. Petrified wood is a type of chert and is a brown and grey banded rock and fractures irregularly along the original grain.

QUARTZ

Pure quartz is formed of silicon dioxide, and has a glossy texture and is translucent. Introduction of traces of minerals can lead to colouration of the quartz, such as pink, grey or yellow. The crystalline nature of quartz allows for minute vacuoles to fill with gas or liquid, giving the material a milky appearance.

Often quartz exhibits internal flaws which can affect the flaking quality of the material, meaning that in general it is a low-quality flaking material (Kuskie & Kamminga 2000: 186). However, quartz is an abundant and widely available material type and therefore is one of the most common raw materials used for artefact manufacture in Australia. Flaking of quartz can produce small, very sharp flakes which can be used for activities such as cutting plant materials, butchering and skinning.

QUARTZITE

Formed from sandstone, quartzite is a metamorphic stone high in silica that has been heated or had silica infiltrate the voids found between the sand grains. Quartzite ranges in colour from grey to yellow and brown.

SILCRETE

Silcrete is a siliceous material formed by the cementing of quartz clasts with a matrix. These clasts may be very fine grained to quite large. It ranges in colour from grey to white, brown, red or yellow. Silcrete flakes with sharp edges and is quite durable, making silcrete suitable for use in heavy duty woodworking activities and also for spear barbs (Kuskie & Kamminga 2000:184).

TUFF/INDURATED MUDSTONE

There is some disagreement relating to the identification of lithic materials as tuff or indurated mudstone. The material is a finely textured, very hard yellow/orange/reddish-brown or grey rock. Kuskie and Kamminga (2000: 6, 180) describe that identification of lithic materials followed the classification developed by Hughes (1984), with indurated mudstone described as a common stone material in the area. However, Kuskie and Kamminga's analysis, which included x-ray diffraction, identified that lithics identified as 'indurated mudstone' was actually rhyolitic tuff, with significant differences in mineral composition and fracture



mechanics between the stone types. They define mudstone as rocks formed from more than 50% clay and silt with very fine grain sizes and then hardened.

The lithification of these mudstones results in shale (Kuskie & Kamminga 2000: 181) and thus 'indurated mudstone', in the opinion of Kuskie and Kamminga, do not produce stones with the properties required for lithic manufacture.

In 2011, Hughes, Hiscock and Watchman undertook an assessment of the different types of stones to determine whether tuff or indurated mudstone is the most appropriate terminology for describing this lithic material. The authors undertook thin section studies of a number of rocks and determined that the term 'indurated mudstone' is appropriate, with an acknowledgment that some of this material may have been volcanic in origin. They also acknowledge that precise interpretation of the differences between material types is difficult without detailed petrological examination, and suggest that artefacts produced on this material are labelled as 'IMT' or 'indurated mudstone/tuff'.

4.4.2 PROCUREMENT

Assemblage characteristics are related to and dependent on the distance of the knapping site from raw materials for artefact manufacture, and different material types were better suited for certain tasks than other material types. Considerations such as social or territorial limitations or restrictions on access to raw material sources, movement of groups across the landscape and knowledge of source locations can influence the procurement behaviour of Aboriginal people. Raw materials may also have been used for trade or special exchange between different tribes.

4.4.3 MANUFACTURE

A range of methodologies were used in the manufacture of stone artefacts and tools, through the reduction of a stone source. Stone may have been sourced from river gravels, rock outcrops, or opportunistic cobble selection. Hiscock (1988:36-40) suggests artefact manufacture comprises six stages, as follows:

1. The initial reduction of a selected stone material may have occurred at the initial source location, or once the stone had been transported to the site.
2. The initial reduction phase produced large flakes which were relatively thick and contained high percentages of cortex. Generally the blows were struck by direct percussion and would often take advantage of prominent natural ridges in the source material.
3. Some of these initial flakes would be selected for further reduction. Generally only larger flakes with a weight greater than 13-15 grams would be selected for further flaking activities.
4. Beginning of 'tranchet reduction', whereby the ventral surface of a larger flake was struck to remove smaller flakes from the dorsal surface, with this retouch applied to the lateral margins to create potential platforms, and to



the distal and proximal ends to create ridges and remove any unwanted mass. These steps were alternated during further reduction of the flake.

5. Flakes were selected for further working in the form of backing.
6. Suitable flakes such as microblades were retouched along a thick margin opposite the chord to create a backed blade.

Hiscock (1986) proposed that working of stone materials followed a production line style of working, with initial reduction of cores to produce large flakes, followed by heat treatment of suitable flakes before the commencement of tranchet reduction. These steps did not necessarily have to occur at the same physical location, but instead may have been undertaken as the opportunity presented.

4.5 AHIMS RESULTS

A search of the study area with a 1km buffer was conducted on 6 August 2020. Subsequently, an extensive search of the database was completed, with a total of 10 sites registered on the AHIMS database, as shown in Table 1 below. A copy of the search results is appended in Appendix F and have been utilised for the AHIMS site mapping.

Table 4: Sites identified during AHIMS search

Site ID	Site Name	Context
52-5-0351	ISOLATED ARTEFACT BERRY 1	Open site
52-5-0578	PASA 40	Open site
52-5-0579	PASA 41	Open site
52-5-0733	G2B A41	Open site
52-5-0680	G2B A18	Open site
52-5-0681	G2B A15	Open site
52-5-0669	G2B A17	Open site
52-5-0671	G2B A19	Open site
52-5-0674	G2B A16	Open site
52-5-0693	PASA 11 (Berry - Bomaderry)	Open site

These sites are all listed as open sites, comprising one artefact site, three potential archaeological deposits (PAD), and six PAD with associated artefact scatters. Figure 7 shows the location of these sites in relation to the current study area.



Figure 7: AHIMS sites within a 1km² radius in relation to the study area

Redacted for privacy



4.6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

An analysis of previous archaeological work within the study area assists in the preparation of predictive models for the area, through understanding what has been found previously. By compiling, analysing and synthesising the previous archaeological work, an indication of the nature and range of the material traces of Aboriginal land use is developed. An understanding of the context in which the archaeological assessment is vital, as development does not occur within a vacuum, but within a wider cultural landscape, and this must be considered during any archaeological assessment in order to develop appropriate mitigation and management recommendations.

The archaeological work previously completed within the wider region is summarised here.

The study area is located within the Southern Illawarra Coastal Plain. Numerous archaeological assessments have been completed across this region over many years, including a range of academic assessments, resource management studies and development impact assessments. All of these assist in informing the archaeological assessment of sites within the region.

When Aboriginal occupation of Australia is likely to have first commenced, around 60,000 years ago (Attenbrow 2010) sea levels were around 30-35m lower than present levels, and this further decreased to up to 130m lower than present sea levels (Attenbrow 2010). Sea levels stabilised around 7-6,500 years ago, and as a result many older coastal sites would have been inundated with increasing sea levels. It is possible that areas that are now considered “coastal” would once have limited resources available to Aboriginal people, and as such would have been less likely to have been occupied or used for repeated habitation sites.

Archaeological work at the Madjedbebe site in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory revealed evidence confidently dated to the period before 45-46 ka and possibly up to 50-55 ka (Clarkson et al 2015). In NSW, there is strong evidence available to support Aboriginal occupation of the Cumberland Plain region in the Pleistocene period (approximately 40 ka) and possibly earlier. Work in Cranebrook Terrace was dated to 41,700 years BCE by Stockton and Holland (1974), and a site in Parramatta within deep sandy deposits was dated to 25-30 ka (JMcDCHM 2005). Kohen’s 1984 assessment of Shaws Creek in the Blue Mountain foothills yielded ages of 13 ka, while Loggers Shelter at Mangrove Creek was dated to 11 ka by Attenbrow (1987). Deeply stratified occupation deposits at Pitt Town were dated to 39ka (Apex Archaeology 2018). These ages are obtained from both radiocarbon and optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating.

Some experts have cast doubt onto the assessment of the items from Cranebrook Terrace as artefactual (Mulvaney & Kamminga 1999; McDonald 2008), although they do not doubt the results of the radiocarbon dates – it is the association of the



artefacts with the dated deposits that is problematic, and Mulvaney and Kamminga (1999) consider that there are better examples of sites with more robust identification of age available. There has certainly been a great deal of research undertaken within the Sydney region in the intervening years.

Aboriginal people have occupied the NSW South Coast for at least 20,000 years (Boot 2002). Occupation sites dating to the Pleistocene period have been dated to c.20,000 Before Present (BP) at Burrill Lake (Lampert 1971) and c.17,000 BP at Bass Point (Bowdler 1970; 1976), with investigations suggesting a very low site occupation intensity during the Pleistocene era, with intensification of occupation commencing approximately 7,000 BP. The evidence at Burrill Lake came from a rockshelter, while Bass Point comprised an open context site on the gentle slopes of a ridgeline.

Changing sea levels resulted in the ecological systems of the hinterland areas changing too, resulting in differing resources becoming available. This led to an increase in evidence of habitation of areas from around 6,500 BP, although it is unclear whether this relates to the survivability of more recent sites, or an increase in population. Hughes and Lampert (1982) suggested that a population is the only plausible explanation for the exponential increase in Holocene sites from 6,000 BP.

During the Holocene period around 6.5ka, sea levels increased and stabilised, which led to those groups on the coastal fringes turning inland (McDonald 2008). Around 5 ka a change in archaeological assemblages can be seen, with an emphasis on the use of locally available stone for artefact production. Around 4,000 years ago people began to decrease their residential mobility and inhabit certain biogeographic zone on a permanent basis (McDonald 2008).

4.6.1 LOCAL CONTEXT

A review of previous archaeological work within the surrounding region of the study area was undertaken. A number of reports were identified from background research and the AHIMS database and are detailed below.

CORKHILL 1986

Tessa Corkhill's thesis focussed on the lower Shoalhaven Valley, and included fieldwork in the vicinity of Berry. Four sites in the Berry region were identified, comprising two small artefact concentrations of five and ten flakes respectively, a grinding groove, and a scarred tree.

DONLON 1991

Denise Donlon was engaged to undertake a preliminary archaeological survey of the proposed upgrade of the Princes Highway between Gerringong and Berry. Portions of the route were identified as being archaeologically sensitive and these were targeted for survey. One isolated find comprising a hammerstone was identified within an upper gully on Toolijooa Ridge.



KUSKIE, NAVIN AND OFFICER 1995

A survey to support the Environmental Impact Statement for the Eastern Gas Pipeline to the north and west of Berry was undertaken by Kuskie, Navin and Officer. During the survey, an artefact scatter was recorded.

KUSKIE 1998

Peter Kuskie undertook a survey in advance of a proposed subdivision on the southwestern margin of Berry. An isolated find was identified on a spoil heap adjacent to an ephemeral watercourse.

ERM 1998

ERM were engaged to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed North Berry Bypass. No Aboriginal sites were identified during the survey completed for the project, and this was considered to relate to the poor ground visibility within the study area. The report concluded there was moderate to high potential for previously unidentified Aboriginal sites to be present within the study area.

NOHC 2000

NOHC were commissioned to survey Woodside Park, 120 hectares located east of Berry. One very low density artefact scatter was identified during the survey along an unformed farm track on the upper slopes and crest of a major spur line.

KAS 2011

Kayandel Archaeological Services were engaged by Manildra Group to undertake an Aboriginal and Historic Heritage Assessment of a proposed gas pipeline between Pestells Lane at Bomaderry to Shoalhaven Starches Factory, Bolong Road at Bomaderry. No items of archaeological significance were identified due to high levels of disturbance within the study area. It was assessed that there were no archaeological constraints for the proposed development, based on the results of the site inspection and other assessments undertaken within the area.

NOHC 2012

NOHC were engaged by AECOM Australia on behalf of RMS to prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Technical Paper for the upgrade of the Princes Highway between Toolijooa Road to the north of Foxground, and Schofields Lane south of Berry. 23 areas of PAD, one artefact scatter, and one isolated artefact were identified as part of the assessment. Further investigation of 12 of the areas of PAD was recommended, and 298 test pits were excavated. 92 test pits contained artefacts, with a total of 236 items identified. A spurline crest was identified as having the highest concentration of lithic items, along with spurline basal slopes and the alluvial flats associated with the valley floor adjacent to Broughton Creek. Further salvage works were recommended for a number of test pit locations, and 'no-go' zones were recommended for areas adjacent to the proposed construction zone.



NSW ARCHAEOLOGY 2013

NSW Archaeology were commissioned by RMS to undertake salvage excavations for the required geotechnical works in advance of the construction of the Foxground to Berry Bypass. 76 of the proposed 257 geotechnical test locations were located within known Aboriginal sites. Approximately 215 artefacts were recovered from 18 salvage pits across a range of landforms, and a Heritage Interpretation Plan (HIP) was developed for the project.

ARTEFACT 2017

Artefact was engaged by Arcadis to undertake an assessment for a proposed upgrade of the Princes Highway, between Mullers Lane and Cambewarra Road, Bomaderry. Artefact undertook salvage excavations of eight Aboriginal sites identified by NOHC in 2009, as well as surface collection of two sites. Seven of the sites were identified as having extended site areas. Four of these were anticipated to be impacted by the upgrade works, two would not be impacted, and one would be subject to minor impacts. As such, Artefact recommended staged salvage excavations for the four sites to be impacted, and areas outside of the impact zone be protected by exclusion zones.

RPS 2018

RPS was engaged by SCC to prepare an Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment for works at Hitchcocks Lane, in Berry. This site is located due west of the current study area. It was proposed to subdivide the study area to create residential lots, and clear vegetation within the site. Two areas of PAD were identified within the study area, with one in the eastern section of the study area within a low rise, and the second located on the western boundary along an elevated hill with a mature eucalyptus tree present. Both areas were within 200m of water. Further investigation of the areas of PAD was recommended prior to any works being undertaken on site.

AMBS 2020

AMBS Ecology and Heritage were engaged by Cowman Stoddart to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for a proposed subdivision at Hitchcocks Lane in Berry, following the initial assessment by RPS in 2018. As such, AMBS undertook test excavation with 22 50x50cm test pits excavated across the study area. No artefacts were recovered during the test excavations and the site was assessed as being disturbed. No further archaeological works were recommended.

SUMMARY

In summary, evidence of Aboriginal occupation within the Berry region generally comprises low density artefact concentrations, on upper slopes or crests of ridgelines, or within valley flats, and within relatively close proximity to water. Previous work within a site located due west of the current study area (RPS 2018; AMBS 2020) identified landforms that may have potential for Aboriginal archaeological material to be present; but test excavations did not identify any subsurface archaeological material within these areas.



4.7 PREDICTIVE MODEL

Based on the results of previous archaeological investigations within the wider region, a number of predictions regarding Aboriginal use of the area can be made. These predictions focus on the nature, extent and integrity of the remaining evidence.

The landscape characteristics of the area influence the prediction of the nature of potential sites within the landscape itself. Site types associated with sandstone country, such as grinding grooves, rock art sites, petroglyph (rock engravings) and sandstone rockshelters with art and/or archaeological deposit are not considered likely to occur within the study area. Scarred trees are also considered unlikely within the study area due to the high levels of historical clearing which have occurred within the landscape.

Disturbance is the predominant factor determining whether or not artefacts are likely to be identified within a landscape.

Surface sites are likely to have been impacted by agricultural processes and domestic land use within the area over the historic period. Natural actions such as bioturbation are likely to have impacted at least the upper levels of archaeological deposits, as are cultural activities such as excavation, construction, demolition, ploughing, clearing and planting. Whilst these actions may impact the integrity of stratigraphy within the deposit, this does not necessarily mean associated archaeological objects will also be disturbed.

In general, Aboriginal use of an area is based on a number of factors, such as:

- Proximity to permanent water sources – generally permanent or areas of repeat habitation are located within approximately 200m of permanent water;
- Proximity to ephemeral water sources – generally sites near ephemeral water sources were utilised for one-off occupation;
- Ease of travel – ridgelines were often utilised for travel during subsistence activities; and
- The local relief – flatter, more level areas were more likely to be utilised for long term or repeat habitation sites than areas of greater relief, especially if the slopes are at a distance from water.

In terms of the study area, sites are considered more likely to comprise:

- Isolated finds, which may occur anywhere across a landscape; and
- Open sites, in areas of low relief in close proximity to ephemeral or permanent water sources, particularly 4th order streams.



4.8 LIMITATIONS

The above review of previous archaeological work is subject to a number of limitations.

It should be noted that AHIMS results are a record only of the sites that have been previously registered with AHIMS and are not a definitive list of all Aboriginal sites within an area, as there is potential for sites to exist within areas that have not previously been subject to archaeological assessment.

Aboriginal people may choose not to disclose cultural knowledge of an area for a variety of reasons, and therefore the area may hold cultural significance, but this significance is not disclosed to the archaeologist. This, in turn, makes it difficult to establish the level of cultural significance within an area.



5.0 FIELD WORK

5.1 SAMPLING STRATEGY

Apex Archaeology prepared a detailed methodology for field survey, which was provided to the RAPs for their review and comment as discussed in Section 3.3 above. The entire study area is proposed to be impacted and as such this methodology takes into account total survey coverage. The methodology is attached as Appendix E of this report.

5.2 SITE INSPECTION

A survey was undertaken on 8 July 2020 by Apex Archaeology as part of the assessment under the Code of Practice and Consultation Requirements.

Participants in the survey included:

- Leigh Bate, Apex Archaeology
- Adrian Smith, Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council

5.3 SURVEY COVERAGE

The study area was surveyed in one pedestrian transect (Table 5 & Figure 8) across one landform element (Table 6) by the two survey participants. Each participant was responsible for inspecting a 2m wide portion of the transect walked. This meant that on each pass an area covering 4m would be observed for archaeological material.

Table 5: Survey transects

Transect	Landform Element	Number of participants	Total Length
1	gentle simple slope	2	435m

Table 6: Survey Transect Waypoints

Waypoint	Easting	Northing	Zone	Datum
1	288,225.55	6,149,321.83	56	GDA
2	288,236.18	6,149,329.70	56	GDA
3	288,304.12	6,149,319.86	56	GDA
4	288,297.81	6,149,274.76	56	GDA
5	288,283.64	6,149,258.03	56	GDA
6	288,282.46	6,149,246.61	56	GDA
7	288,288.95	6,149,240.70	56	GDA
8	288,289.35	6,149,235.77	56	GDA
9	288,273.29	6,149,235.72	56	GDA
10	288,261.39	6,149,240.89	56	GDA
11	288,246.03	6,149,253.11	56	GDA
12	288,233.43	6,149,281.06	56	GDA
13	288,224.96	6,149,287.96	56	GDA
14	288,225.35	6,149,293.08	56	GDA
15	288,247.02	6,149,290.72	56	GDA
16	288,258.24	6,149,264.14	56	GDA
17	288,272.02	6,149,263.54	56	GDA



Waypoint	Easting	Northing	Zone	Datum
18	288,286.00	6,149,283.03	56	GDA
19	288,284.03	6,149,301.15	56	GDA
20	288,225.35	6,149,308.64	56	GDA

During the survey completed by Apex Archaeology the study area was inspected for Aboriginal archaeological evidence. An assessment of landform element and slope was made for the study area, with the results presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Survey area results

Survey Area #	Landform Element	Slope	Vegetation	Detection Factors	Limiting	Ground Disturbance
VS01	Simple Slope	Gentle (>1.45°-5.45Level°)	Cleared (Landscaped/Major Earthworks)	vegetation/leaf litter/grass		High

The total survey coverage (meaning the areas physically inspected for archaeological evidence) was approximately 1740m². The total area of the development impact is approximately 7654m². A range of factors were considered and recorded during the survey, including the surface visibility (percentage of bare ground within a survey unit); archaeological visibility (amount of bare ground within an area in which artefacts could be expected to be identified if present); exposure type (A or B soil horizon) and calculations of how effective the survey coverage was. The results of the survey coverage are presented in Figure 8.

Table 8: Survey coverage results

Survey Area #	Total Area Surveyed (m ²)	Surface Visibility (%)	Arch Vis (%)	Exposure Type (A/B)	Effective Coverage (m ²)	% Effective Survey Coverage of Context
VS01	1740	<5	<5	A	435	25

Surface visibility across the study areas was limited due to surface vegetation such as exotic pasture grasses and leaf litter. Total effective survey coverage for the entire study area was 1% (Table 9).

Table 9: Total effective survey coverage results

Survey Area #	Total Area of Study Area (m ²)	Total Area Surveyed (m ²)	Effective Coverage of survey area (m ²)	Surface Visibility (%)	Arch Vis (%)	Exposure Type (A/B)	% Total Effective Survey Coverage of Study Area
VS01	7654	1740	25	<5	<5	A	22.7



- Study Area
- Lot Boundaries
- Contour Lines
- Hydrology
- Transect
- ★ Waypoints

Waypoints	Easting	Northing
1	288,225.55	6,149,321.83
2	288,236.18	6,149,329.7
3	288,304.12	6,149,319.86
4	288,297.81	6,149,274.76
5	288,283.64	6,149,258.03
6	288,282.46	6,149,246.61
7	288,288.95	6,149,240.7
8	288,289.35	6,149,235.77
9	288,273.29	6,149,235.72
10	288,261.39	6,149,240.89
11	288,246.03	6,149,253.11
12	288,233.43	6,149,281.06
13	288,224.96	6,149,287.96
14	288,225.35	6,149,293.08
15	288,247.02	6,149,290.72
16	288,258.24	6,149,264.14
17	288,272.02	6,149,263.54
18	288,286	6,149,283.03
19	288,284.03	6,149,301.15
20	288,225.35	6,149,308.64

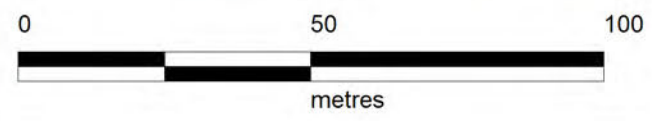


Figure 8: Survey transect within the study area



5.4 SURVEY RESULTS

The study area was noted to be consistently and heavily disturbed through various earthworks and subsequent landscaping activities.



Plate 8: General view across study area looking east from Arbour main entrance



Plate 9: General view across study area looking south west



Plate 10: General view of study area looking south.



Plate 11: Looking east along the southern boundary of the study area.



Plate 12: Looking east across the central portion of the study area.

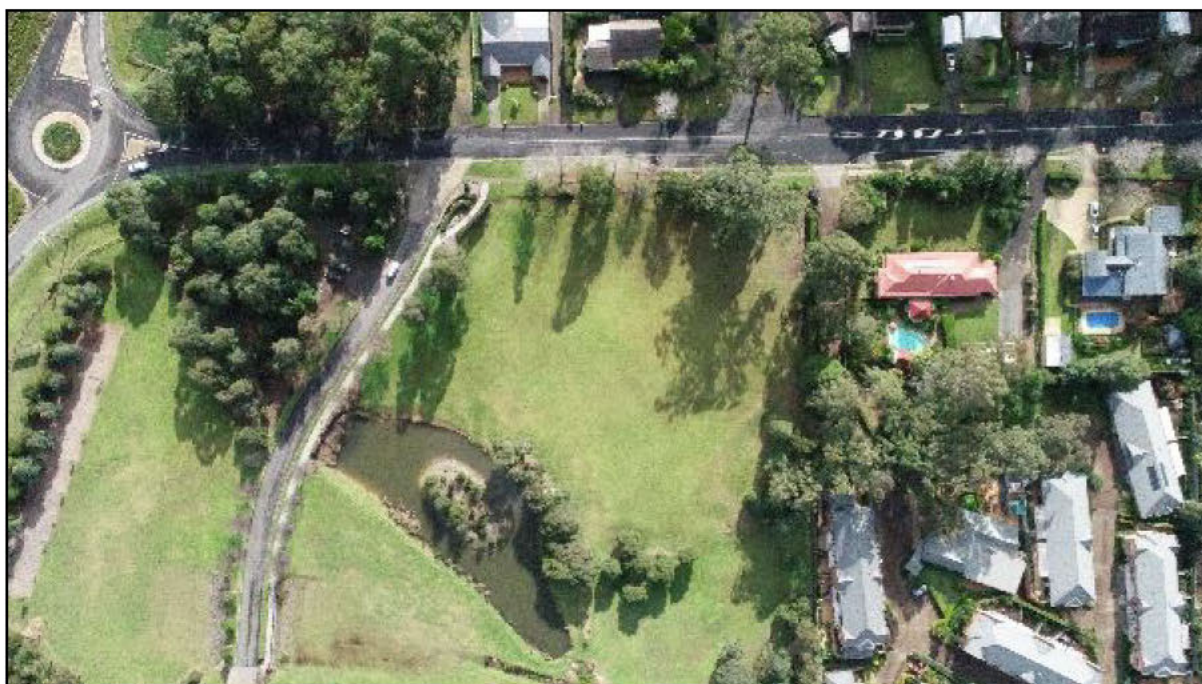


Plate 13: Aerial of study area taken on 8 July 2020 (Drone imagery courtesy of Leigh Bate - DJI Phantom 4 2.0 Pro).

5.5 DISCUSSION

The site has been disturbed through the construction of Pepper Farm Road, the main access road to The Arbour housing complex. The road has been built up along the



western boundary of the study area which can be clearly seen. Further earthworks associated with the clearing of the area and redirecting the natural drainage line running through the site are evident. A pond area has also been excavated and widened along the drainage natural drainage line bordering the southern extent of the study area. The remaining area has been landscaped and grassed.

The survey confirmed that disturbance has occurred across almost all of the study area and that no portion remains that exhibits any sub-surface potential. Along with the fact that no surface sites were identified within the area, it can be confidently said that this site has been the subject of intense landscape modification/disturbance.

Based on the analysis of previous archaeological work within the Berry region, and the results of the site inspection, the study area is not considered to contain surface Aboriginal archaeological material, nor is it considered likely to contain subsurface Aboriginal archaeological material.



6.0 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* acknowledge that:

- Aboriginal people have the right to maintain their culture, language, knowledge and identity
- Aboriginal people have the right to directly participate in matters that may affect their heritage
- Aboriginal people are the primary determinants of the cultural significance of their heritage

Undertaking consultation with Aboriginal people ensures that potential harm to Aboriginal objects and places from proposed developments is identified and mitigation measures developed early in the planning process.

6.2 CRITERIA

The Burra Charter is considered an appropriate framework for the assessment of cultural heritage, which can be made based on the following assessment criteria:

- **Social value:** Also referred to as cultural value, this criterion considers the spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations an area or place has for Aboriginal people
- **Historic value:** the relationship between a place and people, events, phases or activities of importance to the Aboriginal community
- **Scientific value:** assessment under this criterion considered the ability of a landscape, place, area or object to inform scientific research and/or analysis and to assist in answering research questions
- **Aesthetic value:** the ability of a place, area, landscape or object to demonstrate aesthetic characteristics, or possess creative or technical values
- **Representativeness:** this criterion examines if the item is a representative example of that site type, and if it possesses the main characteristics of that site type
- **Rarity:** assesses whether the site is uncommon or endangered within a region and to what extent that site type is found elsewhere

Additionally, archaeological significance is assessed based on the archaeological or scientific values of an area. These values can be defined as the importance of the area relating to several criteria. Criteria used for determining the archaeological significance of an area are as follows:

- **Research potential:** Can the site contribute to an understanding of the area/region and/or the state's natural and cultural history? Is the site able to provide information that no other site or resource is able to do?



- **Representativeness:** is the site representative of this type of site? Is there variability both inside and outside the study area? Are similar site types conserved?
- **Rarity:** is the subject area a rare site type? Does it contain rare archaeological material or demonstrate cultural activities that no other site can demonstrate? Is this type of site in danger of being lost?
- **Integrity/Intactness:** Has the site been subject to significant disturbance? Is the site likely to contain deposits which may possess intact stratigraphy?

Further, an assessment of the grade of significance is made, based on how well the item fulfils the assessment criteria. The Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning (now the Heritage Division of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) 2009 guideline *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* defines the grading of significance as follows:

Table 10: Grading of significance, from Heritage Branch 2009

Grading	Justification
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding item of local or State significance. High degree of intactness. Item can be interpreted relatively easily.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.

Whilst this was developed for the assessment of significance of historical items, the criteria are applicable to Aboriginal significance assessments as well. It is important to note that the below assessment is specific to Aboriginal cultural heritage and does not consider the non-Aboriginal significance of the site.

6.3 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

SOCIAL VALUE

The Aboriginal community are best placed to make a determination of the social or cultural value of the study area. No comments regarding the social value of the area to Aboriginal people were received from the RAPs.

HISTORIC VALUE

The site did not possess Aboriginal cultural material on the ground surface and is considered to have no potential for subsurface archaeological deposits to be present. Therefore, the site is considered to have little to no historical value with regards to Aboriginal heritage.



SCIENTIFIC VALUE

The study area is not considered to have any specific scientific value. The site did not possess Aboriginal cultural material on the ground surface and is considered to have no potential for subsurface archaeological deposits to be present. Therefore, the site is considered to have little to no scientific value.

AESTHETIC VALUE

Generally, aesthetic value is determined by the response evoked by a setting. The study area is not considered to hold aesthetic significance with regards to Aboriginal heritage, based on its disturbed context and limited view lines.

REPRESENTATIVENESS

The site is representative of a disturbed area. However, it is not representative of any Aboriginal cultural values as it is not considered to contain any such values.

RARITY

The site is not considered to have value under this criterion due to its disturbed nature and its lack of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the area.

RESEARCH POTENTIAL

The study area is disturbed and is not considered to possess research potential regarding Aboriginal heritage.

INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS

The site is considered to be disturbed to some extent across the entirety of the study area, and therefore is not considered to have integrity, nor be intact.

6.4 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

Generally, all Aboriginal sites are of high significance and importance to the Aboriginal community, both locally and more broadly. The Aboriginal social or cultural value of the study area can only be determined by the Aboriginal community and no comments have been received regarding the social significance of the study area.

6.5 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The study area located at 10 Victoria Street, Berry, is not considered to have Aboriginal archaeological significance, due to its disturbed nature.



7.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

It is proposed to amend the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (SLEP) to allow low-density residential development within the subject area. The lot is currently zoned RU1 – Primary Production, and the planning proposal seeks to rezone the land as R2 Low Density Residential land to allow ten residential lots in future. A Gateway Determination was issued on 30 April 2020.

Associated infrastructure such as a road and utilities would also be constructed.

Landscaping would be undertaken across the area where appropriate on completion of construction activities.

7.2 POTENTIAL IMPACT

No surface artefacts were identified within the study area during the site inspection on 8 July 2020 and therefore the proposed development will not impact any surface artefacts. The site is not considered to have potential for subsurface deposits due to the high level of disturbance across the site and therefore it is not considered likely that the proposed works would impact any Aboriginal heritage values within the site.

Therefore, it is not considered likely that the proposed development would impact on any Aboriginal objects and/or Aboriginal heritage values within the study area.

7.3 ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD)

It is a requirement of Section 2A(2) of the NPW Act to apply the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) when considering any impact to Aboriginal objects and places. ESD integrates economic and environmental considerations, which includes cultural heritage, into decision-making processes. In general, ESD can be achieved through consideration and implementation of two key principles, being intergenerational equity and the precautionary principle.

Intergenerational equity refers to the present generation having consideration for the health, diversity and productivity of the environment for those generations to come. In terms of Aboriginal cultural heritage, this relates to cumulative impacts to Aboriginal objects and places within a region. Intergenerational equity therefore relies on the understanding that a reduction in the number of Aboriginal objects and places within a region results in fewer opportunities for Aboriginal people to access their cultural heritage in the future. Thus, it is essential to understand what comprises the Aboriginal heritage resource, both known and potential, when assessing intergenerational equity within a region.

The precautionary principle relates to threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, and that lack of scientific certainty regarding the degree of potential damage should not be a reason to postpone adequate reasonable measures to



prevent harm to the environment. Regarding Aboriginal cultural heritage, the precautionary principle relates to where a proposed development may seriously or irreversibly impact Aboriginal objects or places, or their significance; and where there may be uncertainty relating to the integrity, rarity or representativeness of Aboriginal cultural values. The Code of Practice outlines that a precautionary approach should be taken to avoid or reduce damage to Aboriginal objects or places, with cost-effective measures implemented wherever possible. Additionally, a cumulative impact assessment should be completed to determine how the proposed development would impact the cultural resource in the wider region.

7.3.1 INTERGENERATIONAL EQUITY

The cumulative impact of the project on the Aboriginal cultural resource can be assessed in two ways, these being:

1. Utilising AHIMS data to compare the identified cultural heritage resource within the study area to that of the wider region; and
2. Utilising aerial photographs, topographic maps and data drawn from GIS databases to identify the potential regional Aboriginal heritage resource.

As discussed in Section 4.8.1, a search of the AHIMS database was undertaken on 6 August 2020 and covered the study area with a 1km buffer. A total of 10 previously registered sites were identified. None of these were identified as being located within the study area.

The potential of the site was assessed during the site inspection, and also based on the results of surrounding assessments. It was noted that the study area had been subject to a high degree of disturbance throughout much of the study area with no potential for subsurface deposits to be present.

In terms of cumulative impact, the site does not contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation. Previous activities within the site have removed much of the evidence which may have once been present within the site, thus there is no potential for subsurface material to be present. As such, it is considered that the cumulative impact of the proposed project on Aboriginal cultural heritage would be negligible.



8.0 MANAGEMENT, MITIGATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Wherever possible and practicable, it is preferred to avoid impact to Aboriginal archaeological sites. In situations where conservation is not possible or practicable, mitigation measures must be implemented.

The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013 (The Burra Charter) provides guidance for the management of culturally sensitive places. The Burra Charter is predominantly focussed on places of built heritage significance, but the principles are applicable to other places of significance as well.

The first guiding principle for management of culturally significant sites states that “places of cultural significance should be conserved” (Article 2.1). A cautious approach should be adopted, whereby only “as much as necessary but as little as possible” (Article 3.1) should be changed or impacted.

Mitigation measures depend on the significance assessment for the site. Cultural significance of sites should also be considered in consultation with the Aboriginal community during community consultation.

8.2 HARM AVOIDANCE OR MITIGATION

The study area does not contain any Aboriginal sites or potential for sub surface material to be present. No further archaeological assessment is required prior to the commencement of works on the site. As Aboriginal objects are not located within the study area, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* will not be necessary prior to impact from development works.

Consultation with the Aboriginal community has been undertaken for this project in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*. The Aboriginal community have been afforded an opportunity to provide feedback regarding the proposed development and its potential impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage, and their views will be incorporated into the final ACHA.

Given the low scientific significance of the site, further mitigation measures are not considered warranted or appropriate.



9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made on the basis of:

- The statutory requirements of the NP&W Act 1974;
- The requirements of Heritage NSW and Shoalhaven City Council;
- The results of the cultural and archaeological assessment;
- An assessment of the likely impacts of the proposed development; and
- The interests of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders and the cultural heritage record.

It was found that:

- There are no registered Aboriginal sites within the study area.
- No surface expressions of artefacts were identified within the study area.
- The area was not considered to have potential for subsurface archaeological material to be present.
- The area was considered to be heavily disturbed.

Therefore, the following recommendations have been made.

RECOMMENDATION 1: NO FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REQUIRED

This report details the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the site, which has been assessed as nil. No further Aboriginal archaeological assessment is required for the site.

RECOMMENDATION 2: DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES

The proposed development works must be contained within the assessed boundaries for this project. If there is any alteration to the boundaries of the proposed development to include areas not assessed as part of this archaeological investigation, further investigation of those areas should be completed to assist in managing Aboriginal objects and places which may be present in an appropriate manner.

RECOMMENDATION 3: STOP WORK PROVISION

Should unanticipated Aboriginal archaeological material be encountered during site works, all work must cease in the vicinity of the find and an archaeologist contacted to make an assessment of the find and to advise on the course of action to be taken. Further archaeological assessment and Aboriginal community consultation may be required prior to the recommencement of works. Any objects confirmed to be Aboriginal in origin must be reported to Heritage NSW under Division 1, Section 89A of the NPW Act.

In the unlikely event that suspected human remains are identified during construction works, all activity in the vicinity of the find must cease immediately and



the find protected from harm or damage. The NSW Police and the Coroner's Office must be notified immediately. If the finds are confirmed to be human and of Aboriginal origin, further assessment by an archaeologist experienced in the assessment of human remains and consultation with both Heritage NSW and the RAPs for the project would be required.

This recommendation should be included in any Construction Environmental Management Plan developed for the site.

RECOMMENDATION 4: REPORTING

One digital copy of this report should be forwarded to Heritage NSW for inclusion on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).

One copy of this report should be forwarded to each of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders for the project.



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APPENDIX A: CORRESPONDENCE LOG

2021 10 Victoria Street, Berry ACHA – Consultation Log

Date	Type of Consultation	Parties Contacted	Outcome
19/05/2020	Requesting details of Aboriginal individuals or organisations with cultural knowledge of the area and who may wish to participate in consultation (Section 4.1.1 of ACHCRs)	DPIE	4/5/2020 – emailed letter received with list of potential stakeholders
		Local Land Services	20/5/2020 – Advised contact should be made with OEH for contact details, and that the LLS could not provide any other information regarding Aboriginal individuals or organisations
		Shoalhaven City Council	22/5/2020 – Advised that “other than the South Coast People Native Title Claimants, we would not have any other individuals or organisations that are not on the list provided by the state government” and advised to contact NTSCorp regarding the South Coast People.
		Nowra LALC	No response
		NTSCorp	17/6/2020 – received a call asking if a registration on behalf of the South Coast Peoples would be accepted if details could be provided by 19/6/2020. JB advised that yes, the registration would be accepted, but the timeframe for commenting on the methodology/project information sent on 15/6/2020 could not be extended. The NTSCorp contact agreed and advised that contact details would be provided by the 19/6, but no further information was received.
		ORALRA	No response
		National Native Title Tribunal	Search of Native Title Vision mapping identified a Native Title Application over the study area on behalf of the South Coast People. The application has been accepted but not yet determined.
27/05/2020	Advertisement for registrations of interest for consultation from Aboriginal people or organisations with cultural knowledge relevant to the area	Advertisement placed in <i>South Coast Register</i>	

Date	Type of Consultation	Parties Contacted	Outcome
1/06/2020	Letters sent to identified individuals and organisations from Section 4.1.1 of ACHCRs Letter sent via email if address provided; and by post where email not available	Badu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Barraby Cultural Services	28/5/2020 – email from Lee Field registering interest
		Biamanga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Bilinga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Noel Butler	No response
		Darryl Caines	No response
		Gary Caines	No response
		Ronald Carberry	No response
		Cullendulla (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Darug Land Observations	No response
		Dharug (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Eora Heritage Group	No response
		Clive Freeman	No response
		Gadhu Dreaming	No response
		Goobah Development Pty Ltd	No response
		Gundungurra Tribal Technical Services	No response
		Gumaraa	No response
		Gunyuu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Guunamaa Dreamin Sites and Surveying	No response
		Jerringong (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Karrial (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Minnamunnung	No response
		Munyunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Murramarang (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corp (MBM)	23/6/2020 – late registration received. Advised that registration would be accepted, but that the due date for comment on the methodology/project information could not be extended.
		Murrumbul (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
Nowra LALC	Automatic registration		

Date	Type of Consultation	Parties Contacted	Outcome
		Nundagurri (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Pemulwuy (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Shoalhaven Elders and Friends Organisation	No response
		South Coast NSW Aboriginal Elders	No response
		South West Rocks Corp	5/06/2020 – phone call from Edward Moran registering interest
		Thoorga Nura	No response
		Three Ducks Dreaming Surveying and Consulting	No response
		Tungai Tonghi	No response
		Leanne Tungai	No response
		Walbunga (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Walgalu (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Warra Bingi Nunda Gurri	1/6/2020 – email from Nathaniel Kennedy registering interest
		Gayle Watts	No response
		Noel Webster	No response
		Wingikara (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Wullung (Murrin Clan/Peoples)	No response
		Yerramurra (Murrin Clan/Peoples) and Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp	9/6/2020 – email from Blaan Davies registering interest on behalf of Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp
		Yurrandaali Cultural Services	28/05/2020 – email from Bo Field registering interest
2/06/2020	Additional registrations of interest		Registration from Richard Campbell as individual
15/06/2020	Provision of project information and methodology	Barraby Cultural Services	No response
		Nowra LALC	No response
		South West Rocks Corp	No response
		Warra Bingi Nunda Gurri	No response
		Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp	No response
		Yurrandaali	No response

Date	Type of Consultation	Parties Contacted	Outcome
		MBM	23/6/2020 – email stating they “endorse the recommendations made”
12/08/2020	Provision of draft ACHAR for review and comment	Barraby Cultural Services	No Response
		Nowra LALC	19/8/2020 – Email received advising date of survey was incorrect in report and that otherwise the LALC supported the report
		South West Rocks Corp	No response
		Warra Bingi Nunda Gurri	No response
		Taste of Tradition Native Aboriginal Corp	19/8/2020 – lengthy email received; refer to Section 3.5 and Appendix G of ACHA
		Yurrandaali	No response
MBM	No response		



APPENDIX B: STEP 1 LETTERS AND RESPONSES

19 May 2020

Team Leader – Planning
Environment, Energy & Science Group
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
PO Box 513
Wollongong NSW 2520

Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam,

Shoalhaven City Council on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd have engaged Apex Archaeology to assist in preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry (Figure 1). The project is located within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA.

It is proposed to amend the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (SLEP) to allow low-density residential development within the subject area. The lot is currently zoned RU1 – Primary Production, and the planning proposal seeks to rezone the land as R2 Low Density Residential land to allow ten residential lots in future. A Gateway Determination was issued on 7 April 2020. Advice was received from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)'s Biodiversity and Conservation Team that an ACHA should be completed for the site due to its proximity to an intermittent watercourse.

As such, a process of Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* is being initiated by Apex Archaeology.

I am writing to request any information you may have regarding Aboriginal stakeholders who may have cultural knowledge of the study area. Apex Archaeology will be undertaking a full archaeological assessment under the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*.

The proponent is Mbark Pty Ltd. The project manager is Mr Eric Hollinger of Shoalhaven City Council, who can be contacted via email at Eric.Hollinger@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au.

Information regarding Aboriginal stakeholders can be sent to PO Box 236, Nowra, NSW 2541, or jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au. I am available to assist with any inquiries about the process and can be contacted by telephone on 0422 229 179.

We would appreciate a response within 14 days of the date of this letter wherever possible.

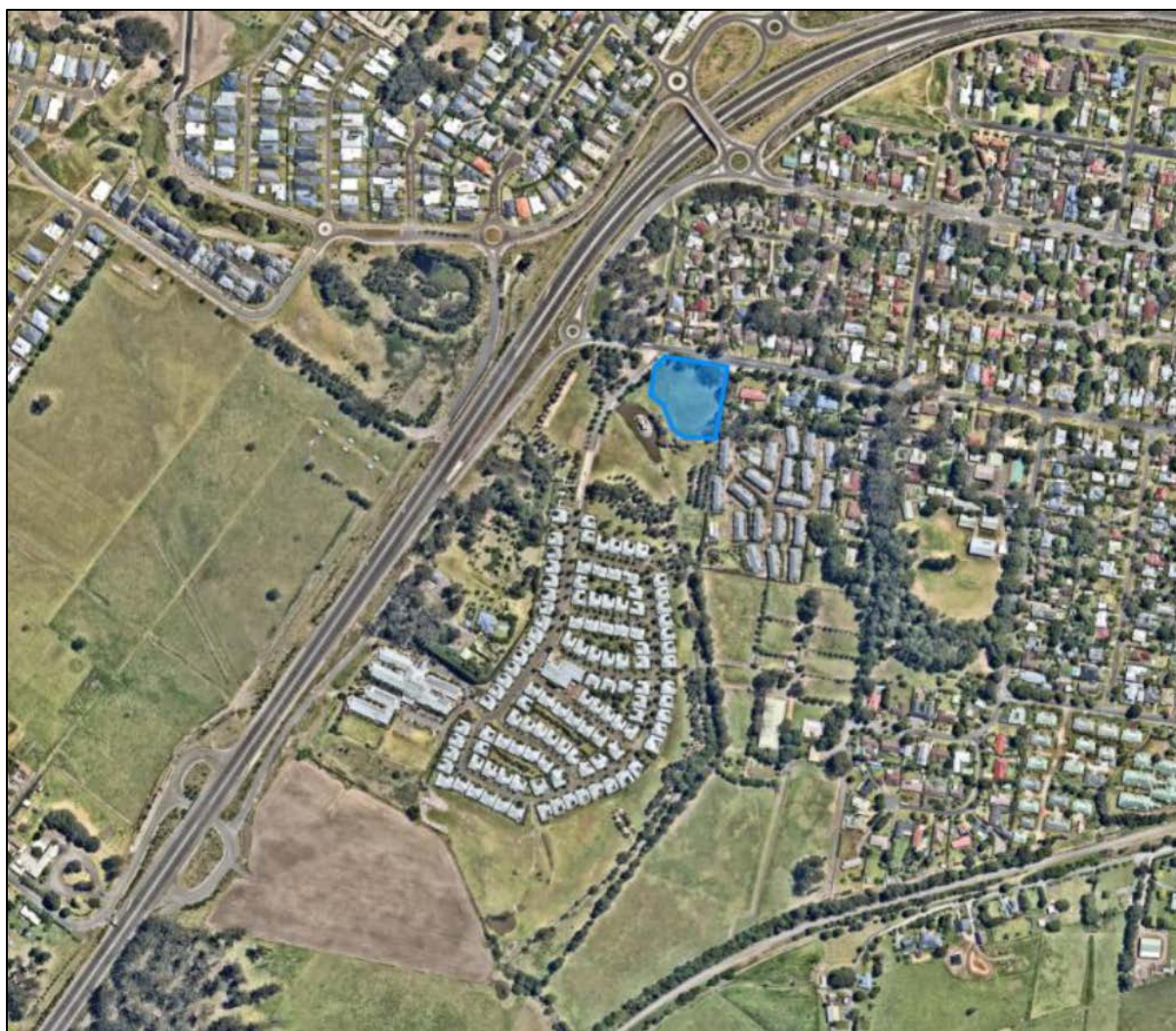


Figure 1: Location of proposed development (blue outline) shown in its regional context

Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179

19 May 2020

South East Local Land Services

Via email: [REDACTED] Redacted for Privacy

Dear Sir/Madam,

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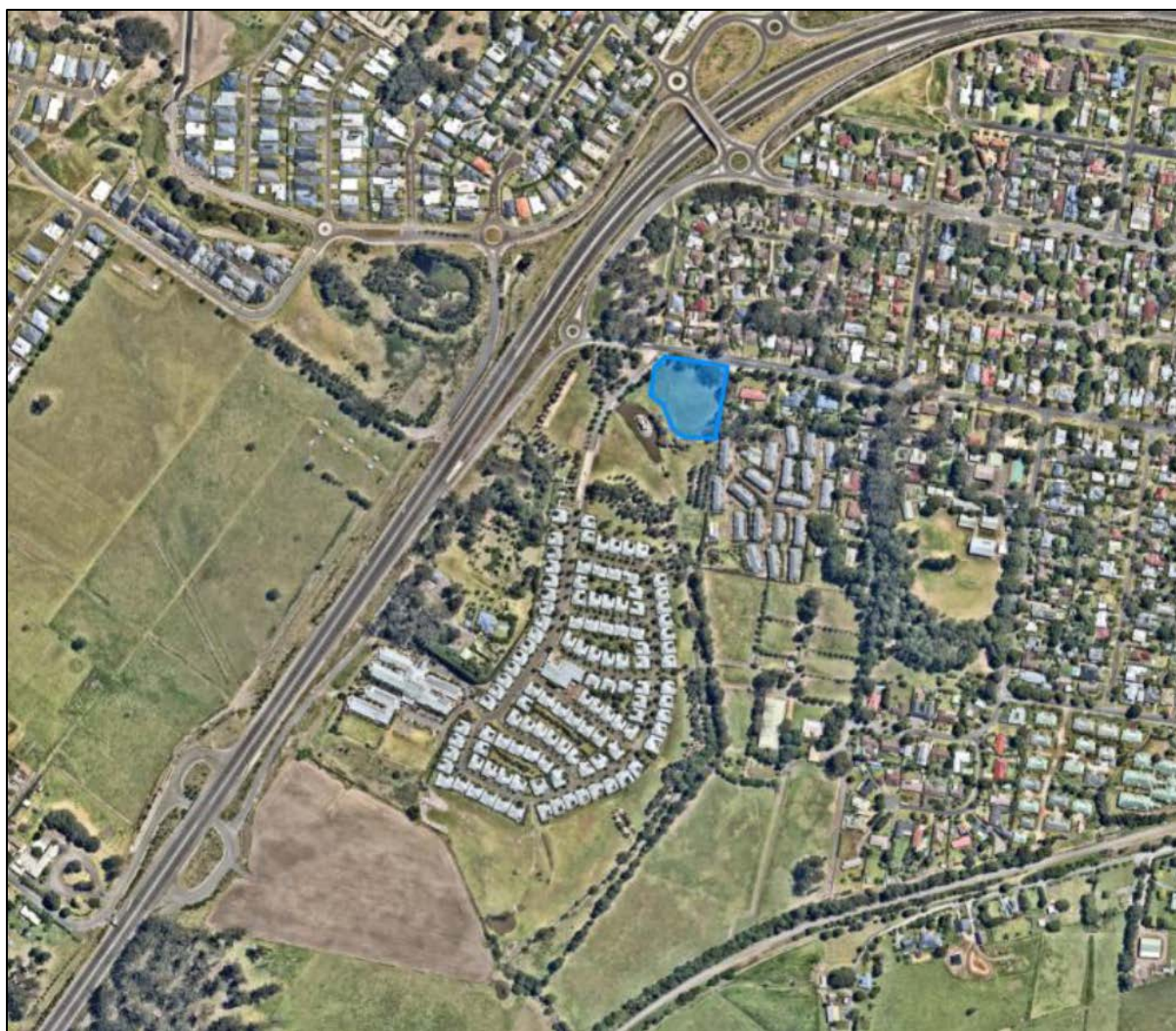


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Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179

19 May 2020

The CEO
Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 2049
Bomaderry NSW 2541

Via email: [REDACTED] **Redacted for Privacy**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Shoalhaven City Council on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd have engaged Apex Archaeology to assist in preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry (Figure 1). The project is located within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA.

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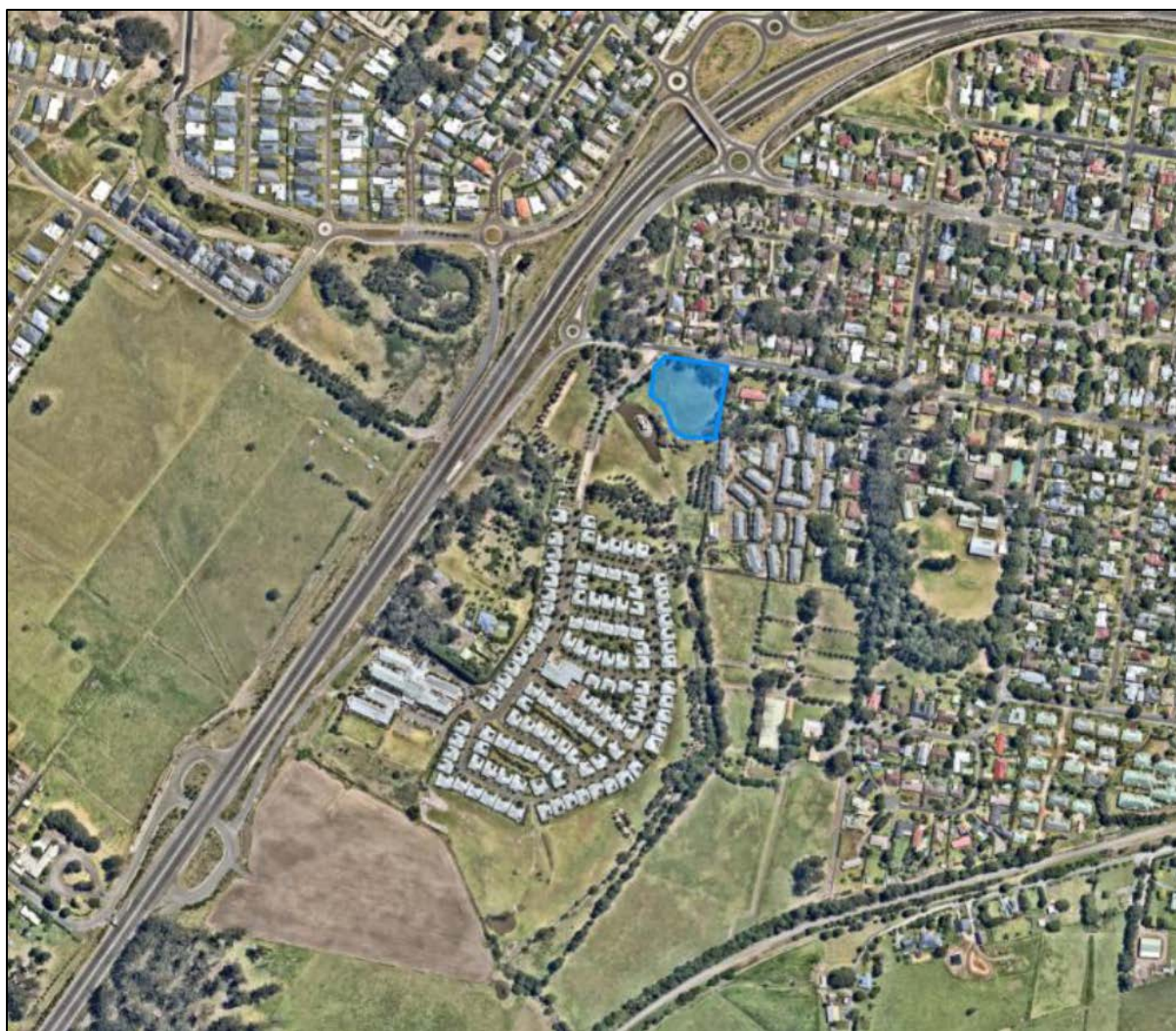


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Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179

19 May 2020

NTSCorp
Level 1, 44-70 Rosehill Street
Redfern NSW 2016

Via email: [REDACTED] Redacted for Privacy

Dear Sir/Madam,

Shoalhaven City Council on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd have engaged Apex Archaeology to assist in preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry (Figure 1). The project is located within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA.

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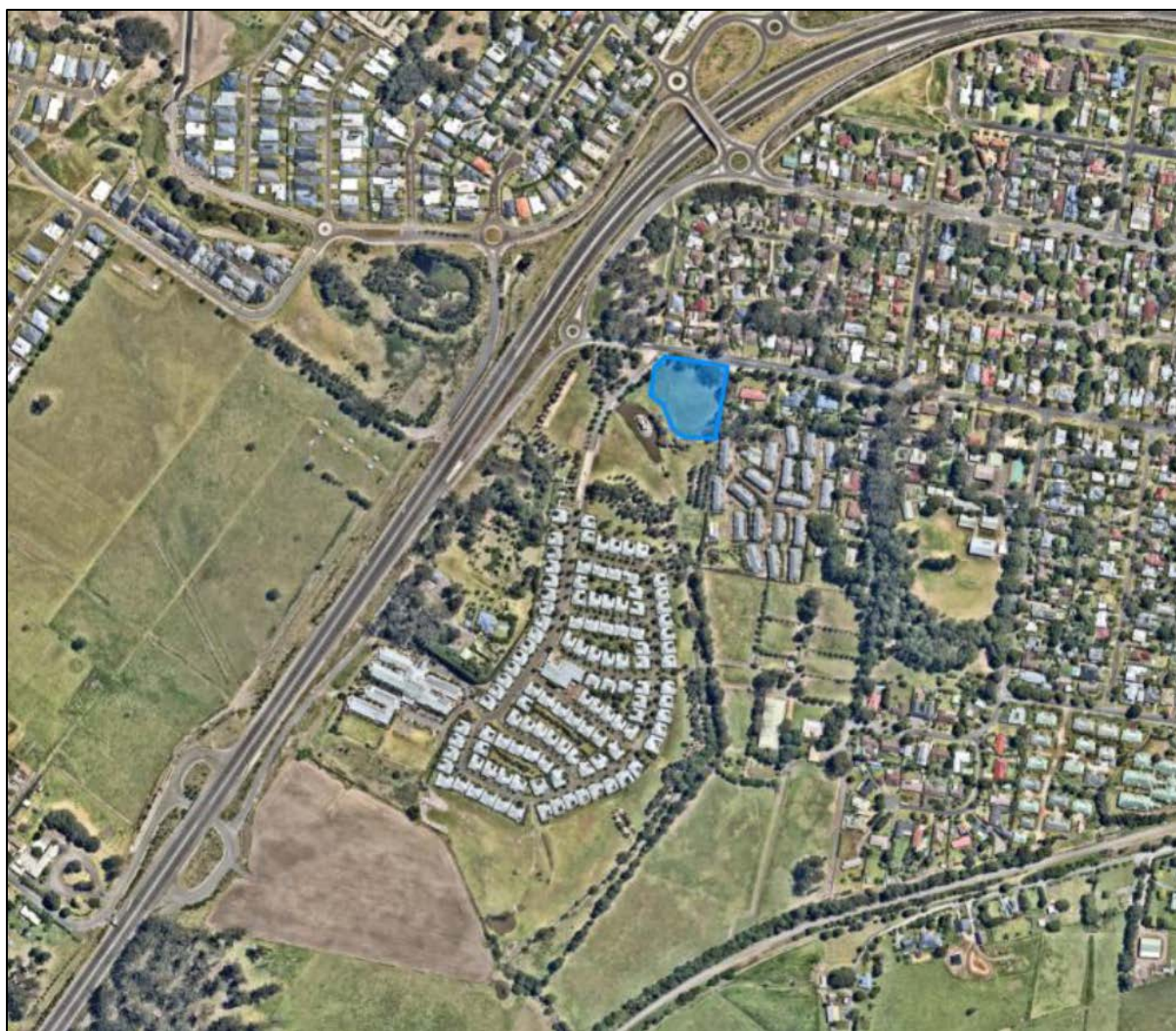


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Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179

19 May 2020

Office of the Registrar Aboriginal Land Right Act 1983
PO Box 112
Glebe NSW 2037

Via email: [REDACTED] Redacted for Privacy

Dear Sir/Madam,

Shoalhaven City Council on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd have engaged Apex Archaeology to assist in preparing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry (Figure 1). The project is located within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA.

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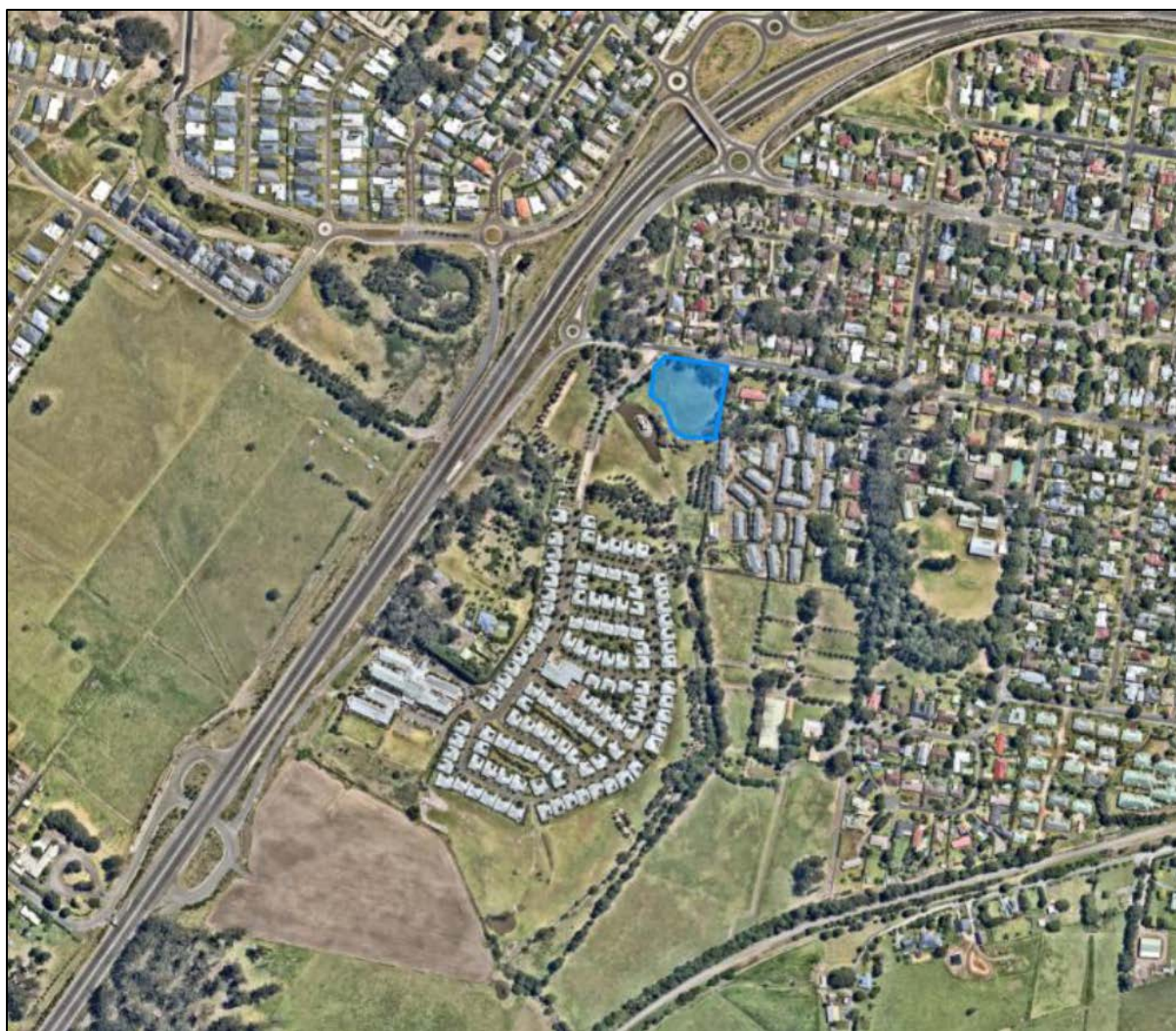


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Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179

19 May 2020

Aboriginal Liaison Officer
Shoalhaven City Council
PO Box 42
Nowra NSW 2541

Via email: council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

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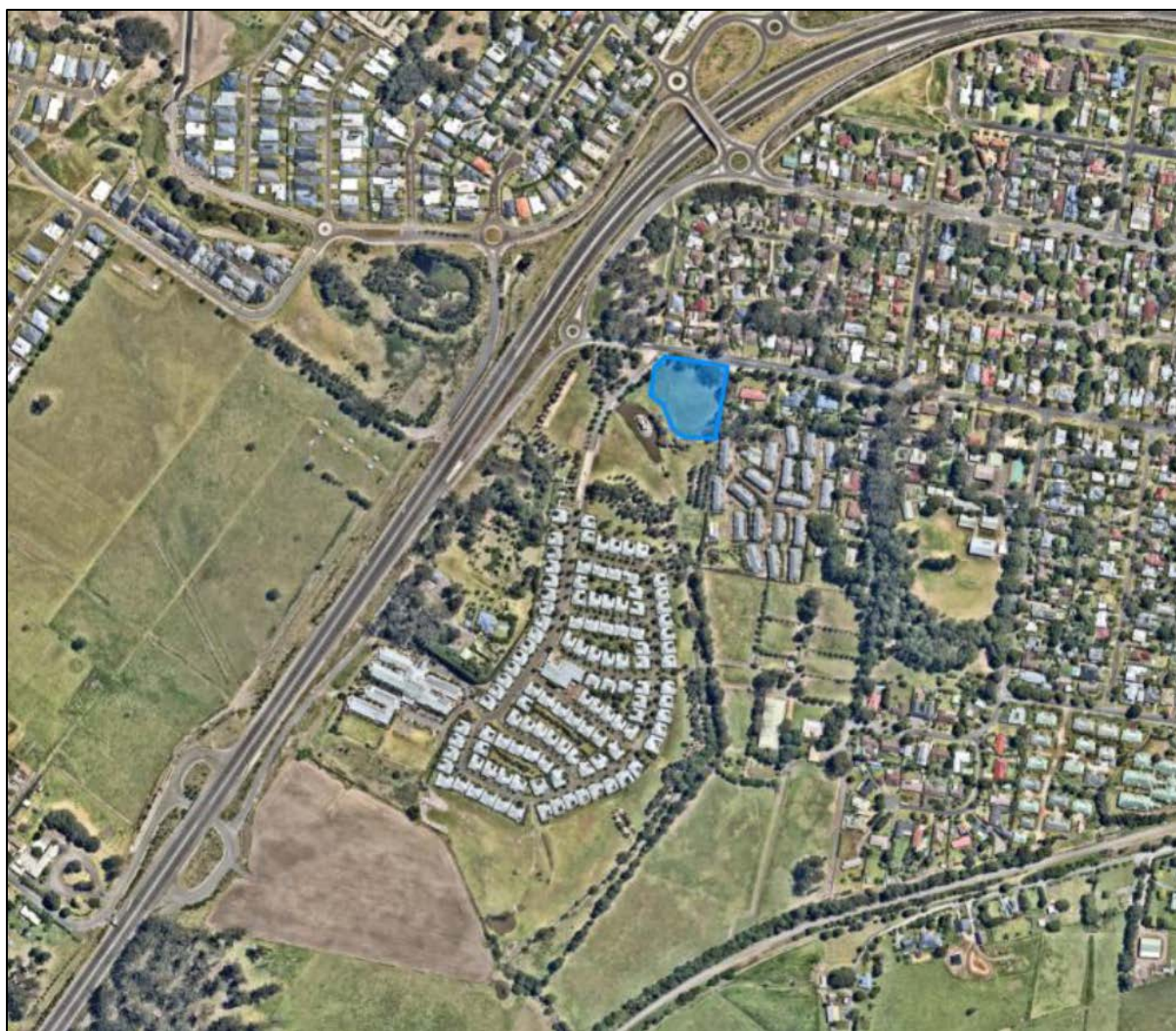


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Kind regards,

Jenni Bate

Director/Archaeologist

Apex Archaeology

E: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

M: 0422 229 179



Application Details

[Back to search results](#)

South Coast People (NC2017/003)

Application name	South Coast People
Tribunal file no.	NC2017/003
Federal Court file no.	NSD1331/2017
Application type	Claimant
Date filed	03/08/2017
State or Territory	New South Wales
Area description	South Coast of NSW
Approximate area size (sq km)	16807.6895
Local government area(s)	Bega Valley Shire Council, Campbelltown City Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Liverpool City Council, Shellharbour City Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Sutherland Shire Council, The Council Of The Municipality of Kiama, Wingecarribee Shire Council, Wollondilly Shire Council, Wollongong City Council, Canterbury-Bankstown Council, Georges River Council, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Representative A/TSI body area(s)	New South Wales
Applicant's representative	NTSCORP Limited
Registration decision status	Accepted for registration
Dates registered on the Register of Native Title Claims	Registered from 31/01/2018
Notification status	Notification Complete
Notification date(s)	30/05/2018 to 29/08/2018
Application status	Active More information on Federal Court website

Schedule extract and attachments

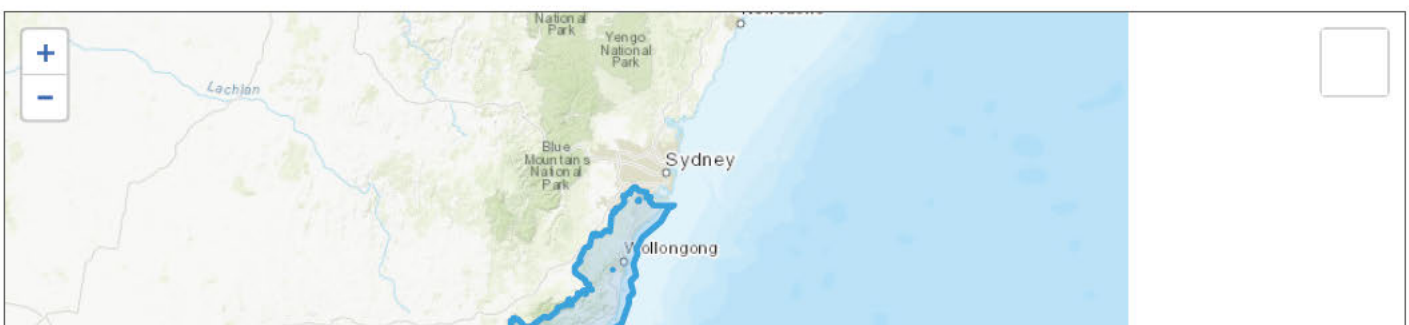
Schedule extract	SNTAExtract_NC2017_003
Schedule extract attachment/s	Attachment B External boundary description Attachment C Map of the area covered by the application NNTT Map of the application area

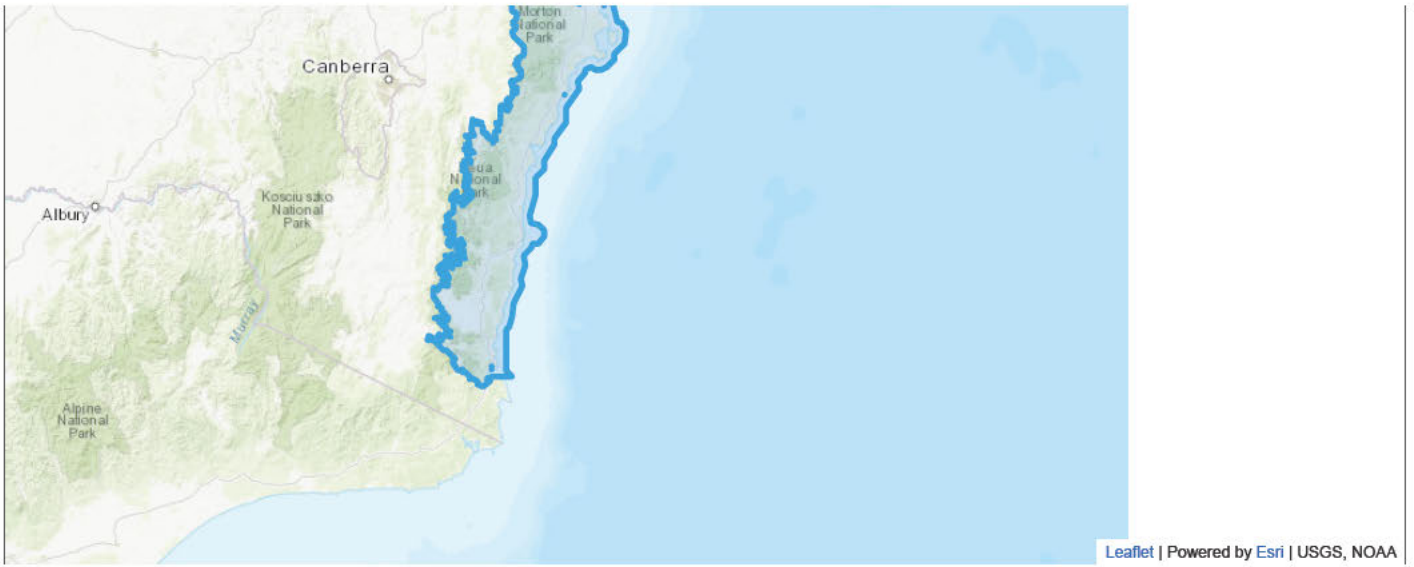
Registration Decision(s)

Tribunal file no.	Decision result	Decision type	Decision date	Reason for decision	Link to Register
NC2017/003-1	Accepted	Full Decision	31/01/2018	pdf rtf	Register Details

Determination(s)

No determinations of native title have been made for this application





View this map in NTV: **NC2017/003**



28 May 2020

Jenni Bate
Apex Archaeology Pty Ltd

By email: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au

Dear Jenni

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL ABORIGINAL STAKEHOLDERS AS
REQUIRED UNDER OEH ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSULTATION
REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPONENTS 2010**

RE: 10 Victoria Street, Berry

Thank you for your request received on 19 May 2020 regarding the above matter. Attached is a list of known Aboriginal parties for the Shoalhaven Local Government Area. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment believes these groups and individuals are likely to have an interest in the project.

The consultation process involves getting the views of, and information from, Aboriginal people and reporting on these. It is not to be confused with other field assessment processes involved in preparing a proposal and a permit application. Consultation does not include the employment of Aboriginal people to assist in field assessment and/or site monitoring. Aboriginal people may provide services to proponents through a contractual arrangement, however, this is separate from consultation. The proponent is not obliged to employ those Aboriginal people registered for consultation. Consultation as per the requirements will continue irrespective of potential or actual employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

This list is not necessarily an exhaustive list of all interested Aboriginal parties and does not remove the requirement of a proponent or consultant to advertise in local print media and contact other groups in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (April 2010).

The contact details in the attached list are provided solely for the purpose of contacting people about this project. The contact details must remain private and must not be reproduced in publicly available reports or other documents.

Under Section 4.1.6 of the Consultation Requirements you must also provide a copy of the names of each Aboriginal person who registered an interest to the relevant Department of Planning, Industry and Environment regional office and Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) within 28 days of the closing date for registering an interest.

From: [Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
To: "[Jenni Bate](#)"
Subject: RE: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details
Date: Friday, 22 May 2020 2:27:11 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Hi Jenni.

I have also spoken with Margaret Simoes, Aboriginal Community Development Officer for Shoalhaven City Council. Other than the South Coast People Native Title claimants, we would not have any other individuals or organisations that are not on the list provided by the state government (whatever OEH is called now). If you have not received the state government's list, please give me a call.

NTSCorp are representing the South Coast People.

Geoff Young
Environmental Operations Officer
Shoalhaven City Council

02 4429 3399
0478 307 936

[Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au



From: Jenni Bate <jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 May 2020 4:44 PM
To: Council Email <Council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details

Good afternoon,
In accordance with the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010, please find attached a letter requesting contact details for Aboriginal individuals or organisations who may wish to be consulted for our project at Berry.
Could this letter please be passed to an Aboriginal Liaison officer or a Heritage Planner?
Thank you for your assistance.
Kind regards,



Jenni Bate
DIRECTOR - ARCHAEOLOGIST

0422 229 179

JENNI@APEXARCHAEOLOGY.COM.AU

WWW.APEXARCHAEOLOGY.COM.AU

Apex Archaeology is proud to support the [Immunisation Foundation of Australia](#) through our workplace giving program.

Signature Banner - Stay Safe Practice Good Hygiene



This message may contain both confidential and privileged information intended only for the addressee named above.
If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately then destroy the original message.

From: [Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
To: [Redacted]
Cc: jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au
Subject: RE: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details
Date: Wednesday, 20 May 2020 1:33:04 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Catchment Management Authorities are listed in Section 4.1.2 (g) of the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010, under Part 6, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 as a source of information to obtain the “names of Aboriginal people who may hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places”. We understand that with the loss of Catchment Management Authorities in NSW such requests are likely to be forwarded to Local Land Services.

South East Local Land Services is a partner with many Aboriginal communities in the region on natural resource management (NRM) projects. We are not, however, the primary source for contacting or managing contact lists for Aboriginal communities or persons that may inform or provide comment on planning issues. Currently we do not coordinate or administer any Aboriginal reference group for our region.

We strongly recommend that you make contact with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Cultural Heritage Division, Queanbeyan for all-inclusive contact lists of persons and organisations that may assist with your investigation.

Yours sincerely,
Noel Webster
Aboriginal Community Support Officer

From: Belinda Davies [Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2020 11:48 AM
To: Noel Webster [Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
Subject: FW: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details

Hi Noel,
Please see attached.

Kind regards
Belinda

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of Admin** **Redacted for Privacy**
SouthEast
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2020 10:44 AM
To: Belinda Davies [Redacted] **Redacted for Privacy**
Subject: Fwd: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details

Hi Belinda

For your information.

Business Services Team
South East Local Land Services
Level 1, 84 Crown Street (PO Box 3095) | Wollongong | NSW 2520
Tel: 02 4222 8302

Stay up-to-date with advice, information, events and project updates from South East Local Land Services by [signing up to our e-newsletter](#).



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jenni Bate** <jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au>
Date: Tue, 19 May 2020 at 16:38
Subject: Request for Aboriginal Stakeholder contact details
To: [REDACTED] **Redacted for Privacy**

Dear LLS team,

In accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*, please find attached a letter requesting contact details for Aboriginal individuals or organisations who may wish to be consulted for our project at Berry.

Thank you for your assistance.

Kind regards,



Jenni Bate
DIRECTOR - ARCHAEOLOGIST
0422 229 179
[JENNI@APEXARCHAEOLOGY.COM.AU](mailto:jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au)
[WWW.APEXARCHAEOLOGY.COM.AU](http://www.apexarchaeology.com.au)

Apex Archaeology is proud to support the [Immunisation Foundation of Australia](#) through our workplace giving program.

This message is intended for the addressee named and may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete it and notify the sender. Views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, and are not necessarily the views of their organisation.

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APPENDIX C: STEP 2 LETTERS AND RESPONSES

Redacted for privacy



APPENDIX D: ADVERTISEMENT

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Public Notices



Public Notice

St Anns and Lyrebird Park SPS and RM Upgrades – Draft REF on Public Exhibition

The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for St Anns and Lyrebird Park SPS and RM Upgrades will be on public exhibition from Monday, 11 May 2020 until Monday, 1 June 2020 and can be viewed on Council's website at <https://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Council/Public-exhibition/Documents-on-exhibition>

Submissions must be received by close of business Monday, 1 June 2020 and emailed to council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

For further information, please contact Anthony Galea on 02 4429 5510.

Public Notices

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: 10 Victoria Street, Berry, NSW Notification and Registration of Aboriginal Interests

Shoalhaven City Council (SCC), on behalf of Mbark Pty Ltd, have engaged Apex Archaeology to conduct an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to inform the proposed rezoning of part Lot 6 DP1204186, at 10 Victoria Street, Berry, within the SCC LGA. The proponent is Mbark Pty Ltd. The project manager is Mr Eric Hollinger of SCC, who can be contacted via email at Eric.Hollinger@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

It is proposed to amend the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (SLEP) to allow low density residential development within the subject area. An ACHA is required to assess the potential impact of the project on the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the site.

The proponent has engaged Apex Archaeology to undertake the archaeological assessment to support an AHIP application if required. As such, a process of Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 is being initiated by Apex Archaeology. The purpose of consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proponent in the preparation of an application for an AHIP and to assist the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) in the consideration of the application.

The proponent invites Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and places within the study area to register an interest in the process of Aboriginal community consultation.

Please note that details of the Aboriginal people or organisations who register an interest in consultation will be forwarded to both DPIE and the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council (NLALC). Please advise at the time of registration if you do not wish for your details to be forwarded to either entity.

Aboriginal stakeholders can register their interest by post to PO Box 236, Nowra, NSW 2541; via phone on 0422 229 179; or via jenni@apexarchaeology.com.au. Please include the name and contact details of your preferred contact person in your registration. Registrations will be accepted until COB Monday 15 June 2020.

Positions Vacant

CASUAL CLEANERS required for holiday home and domestic cleaning. Experience preferred with good eye for detail. Work in most Shoalhaven areas. Transport a must. Phone Graham 0402 576 859

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Death Notices

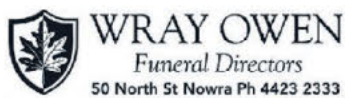
HARRIS, Peter Norton

Late of Coastal Waters Aged Care.

Treasured Husband of Jan. Much loved Dad to Linda and Rodney, Kay and Pieter, Murray (deceased) and Meg. Cherished Pee Wee to his 8 Grandchildren.

Aged: 83 years
Loved Forever

A Private Family Service will be held.



DON'T FORGET

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
OPENING HOURS CLASSIFIEDS CALL CENTRE

MONDAY, 8th JUNE 2020 CLOSED

**Normal business hours resume Tuesday, 9th June 2020.



When words are not enough

There's Emoji!

South Coast Register

In Memoriam



BROWN, Gwen 30.5.2008

You can shed a tear that she is gone Or you can smile because she has lived You can close your eyes and pray she will come back Or you can open your eyes and see all she has left Your heart can be empty because you can't see her Or you can be full of the love that you shared Smile, open your eyes and love Miss you mum - your loving husband Bob and family

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APPENDIX E: METHODOLOGY, COVER LETTERS AND RESPONSES

Cover letters redacted for privacy



APPENDIX F: AHIMS SEARCH RESULTS

Redacted for privacy



APPENDIX G: DRAFT REPORT EMAILS AND RESPONSES

Redacted for privacy