

Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility (Main Works)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan

Report to Joss Group

Final Version – March 2021



 **L**ntern Heritage
shining a light on people and place



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Project Name

Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility (Main Works)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan

Project Reference Number

128-089

Local Government Area

Hilltops Shire Council

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ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Acronym/Term	Definition
Aboriginal Object	Has the same meaning as the definition of the term in section 5 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
Aboriginal Place	Has the same meaning as the definition of the term in section 5 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
ACHAR	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
ACHMSP	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan
EMP	Environmental Management Strategy
CoA	Conditions of Approval
Construction envelope	The maximum extent within which the disturbance area corridor can move to allow the final siting of infrastructure through the detailed design process
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
DECC	Department of Environment and Climate Change (now part of Heritage NSW)
DPC	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement The Environmental Impact Statement titled Environmental Impact Statement – Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility, 9 Campbell Street Young prepared by Ethos Urban dated 1 November 2019, submitted with the application for consent for the development, including any additional information provided by the Applicant in support of the application
EMP	Environmental Management Strategy
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EPL	Environment Protection Licence
Heritage Act	<i>Heritage Act 1977</i>
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Heritage Item	An item as defined under the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> and/or an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal Place as defined under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .
Joss	Joss Group Pty Ltd
Lantern Heritage	Lantern Heritage Pty Ltd
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (now part of Heritage NSW)
Project	Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility
RAPs	Registered Aboriginal Parties - Aboriginal stakeholders registered for cultural heritage consultation for the project
SSD	State Significant Development
SSDA	State Significant Development approval
YLALC	Young Local Aboriginal Land Council

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

Hilltops Council and Schools Infrastructure NSW are collaborating on a joint project to provide a new Library and Community facility that will form part of the Hilltops Cultural, Community and Education precinct in Young, NSW. The proposed library will be accessible by students from Young High School and the Hilltops local government area.

The project is a State Significant Development project (SSD 9671) known as the Young High School Redevelopment and Community Facility.

The proposed project is located within Young High School and the adjacent Carrington Park. A Heritage Impact Statement and Archaeological Assessment were completed to meet Requirement 9 of the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS). While an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment was completed to meet Requirement 11 of the SEARS.

The project was approved on 21 May 2020.

1.2 Environmental Management Plan

Joss Construction's Project Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed to identify the project specific environmental aspects of the works and plan procedures to remove or reduce the impacts on the environment. Internal and external influences that may affect the way Joss manage our environmental responsibilities will be assessed during this process. In addition, the plan defines measurable objectives, details the roles and responsibilities of various personnel and parties associated with the project, describes the procedural tools used to implement and monitor the environmental procedures and the records to be retained demonstrating compliance with the plan.

The Environmental Plan is one of a number of Joss Management Plans utilised on the project, and, rather than redefining existing management tools, it refers to other procedures defined within the Joss plans. Joss' Aspects and Impacts table thoroughly assesses Heritage and Cultural objectives of the project. Actions required to achieve the objectives are listed and comprehensively collaborate with the ACHMSP produced by Lantern Heritage ensuring clear procedures are defined.

The primary objective of this plan is to construct the works in accordance with the contract documentation but, whilst doing so:

- Not breach any legislated or local environmental requirements.
- Not receive any formal complaints from the client or adjoining properties regarding environmental issues during the course of the project.
- Detailed mitigation measures to offset potential impacts on heritage values.
- Training of workers in awareness of Heritage, Aboriginal and Archaeological significant importance hosted by Young LALC RAPs and a heritage advisor.
- Apply and monitor recommendations on the trees that have been identified for retention (heritage status) and those identified for removal.
- To ensure sediment and erosion control measures can mitigate the risk of sediment runoff during the construction of the development.
- Implement framework to meet the objectives of the Young SSDA

1.3 Purpose and Objective of this Plan

The aim of this plan is to meet the requirements of the State Significant Development approval conditions for this project. This plan outlines the environmental management measures proposed to meet the Aboriginal Cultural Heritages conditions of the approval.=

1.4 Plan Preparation

In accordance with CoA B17(a), this ACHMSP has been prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) to determine specific requirements and management measures to be used on site during construction, including protection of any objects or item in perpetuity.

This plan was prepared by Dr Rebecca (Bec) Parkes, Lantern Heritage Pty Ltd. In accordance with CoA B17(b), it has been submitted to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary prior to construction of any part of the development.



Figure 1: Site plan of proposed main works for Young High School and Community Library project (dated 30/04/2020).

1.5 Consultation

1.5.1 Aboriginal Consultation

Young is located within the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri people. Representatives from both groups have expressed their interest in the project area.

Aboriginal community consultation for the Project was commenced in July 2018 and was conducted in accordance with the guidelines as set out in the Heritage NSW's *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (NSW DECCW 2010b). Full details of the Aboriginal community consultation process is provided in the ACHAR appended to the EIS (GML 2019).

The RAPs for the Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility are:

- Young Local Aboriginal Land Council (YLALC);
- Merrigarr Indigenous Corporation;
- Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation;
- Karlari Ngunnawal Pajong Wallabalooa Descendants; and
- Murra Bidgee Mullangari.

In accordance with CoA B17(a) of the SSDA, this ACHMSP was prepared in consultation with the RAPs.

On 8 January 2021 the plan was issued to stakeholders for review and comment. Comments from consultation have been incorporated into this plan where appropriate. Comments are summarised in Table 1

Table 1: Consultation undertaken for the ACHMSP

Date	Consultation	Response/Outcomes
6 Jan 2021	Draft ACHMSP sent to RAPs for review and comments.	TBC
3 Feb 2021	End of consultation period for draft ACHMSP	No feedback received as of 15/03/2021

1.5.2 Ongoing Consultation

Consultation will be ongoing throughout construction. This will include, but not be limited to:

- consultation with RAPs in regard to the assessment and interpretation of the results of Aboriginal cultural heritage investigations;
- consultation with RAPs and Heritage NSW in regard to the development and implementation of the Heritage Interpretation Plan;
- consultation in the event of any unexpected Aboriginal objects found during construction; and
- consultation in regard to the long-term management of any excavated Aboriginal objects.

2 ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Legislation

Legislation relevant to heritage includes:

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act);
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) (EP&A Act);
- Native Title Act 1993 (note there are no native title claims relevant to this area);
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW) (NPW Act);
- National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 (NSW);
- Heritage Act 1977 (NSW) (Heritage Act); and
- Heritage Regulation 2012 (NSW) (Heritage Regulation).

2.2 Conditions of Approval

Table 2 details the conditions from the SSDA which are relevant to Aboriginal cultural heritage and identifies where these conditions are addressed in the ACHMSP.

Table 2: Conditions of approval relevant to Aboriginal cultural heritage (SSD 9671).

Condition	Requirement	Where addressed
B13	Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must submit a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to the Certifying Authority and provide a copy to the Planning Secretary. The CEMP must include, but not be limited to, the following:	EMP
	(g) an unexpected finds protocol for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage and associated communications procedure; and	Section 3.6 and Appendix 2 provide relevant details of the unexpected finds protocol
	(e) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan [see condition B17];	This document is the ACHMSP
B17	The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan (ACHMSP) must address, but not be limited to, the following:	
	(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties to determine specific requirements and management measures to be used on site during construction, including protection of any objects or item in perpetuity;	Section 1.4
	(b) be submitted to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary prior to construction of any part of the development;	Section 1.4
	(c) provide a methodology for the salvage excavation program for the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site;	Appendix 1

Condition	Requirement	Where addressed
	(d) describe how additional areas will be assessed if works are to occur in areas identified as requiring further investigation;	Section 3.5 Appendix 1
	(e) outline the long-term management for Aboriginal objects retrieved as part of archaeological investigations; and	Section 3.9
	(f) describe the measures to protect the Reconciliation Tree in perpetuity;	Section 3.2
B24	Prior to the commencement of landscape works, the Applicant must prepare a revised Landscape Plan to detail and manage the revegetation and landscaping works on-site, and provide a copy to the Planning Secretary. The plan must:	EMP
	(b) ensure that there is an appropriate relationship between the courthouse forecourt and landscape design considering both the Aboriginal and European heritage of the site;	EMP
B32	Prior to the commencement of construction (excluding demolition and earthworks), the Applicant must submit a Heritage Interpretation Strategy to acknowledge the heritage of the site to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The Strategy must:	
	(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the Heritage Council and Council;	Heritage Interpretation Strategy prepared by GML
	(b) incorporate relevant history and significance of the site including the Lambing Flat Anti- Chinese Riots, recognition of key buildings and landscape features; and	
	(c) establish the key elements relevant to guiding the detailed Heritage Interpretation Plan, consistent with the NSW history syllabus.	
C8	The Applicant must carry out the construction of the development in accordance with the most recent version of the submitted CEMP (including Sub-Plans).	This ACHMSP, and any subsequent versions, will be implemented throughout the development
C24	In the event that surface disturbance identifies a new Aboriginal object, all works must halt in the immediate area to prevent any further impacts to the object(s). A suitably qualified archaeologist and the registered Aboriginal representatives must be contacted to determine the significance of the objects. The site is to be registered in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) which is managed by EES Group and the management outcome for the site included in the information provided to AHIMS. The Applicant must consult with the Aboriginal community representatives, the archaeologists and EES Group to develop and implement management strategies for all objects/sites. Works shall only recommence with the written approval of EES Group.	Section 3.7 and Appendix 2 provide relevant details of the unexpected finds protocol

Condition	Requirement	Where addressed
D22	Prior to the commencement of operation, the Applicant must submit a Heritage Interpretation Plan to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan must:	
	(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the Heritage Council and Council;	Heritage Interpretation Plan to be prepared by Lantern Heritage.
	(b) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Heritage Council of NSW Guidelines;	
	(c) outline key results from the historical and Aboriginal archaeological investigations;	
	(d) include provision for naming elements within the development that acknowledges the site's heritage; and	
(e) incorporates interpretive information into the site.		

2.3 Licences and Permits

There are no licences or permits directly relevant to the Young High School project in respect to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

2.4 Guidelines

The guidelines, policies and standards relevant to this ACHMSP include:

- Department of the Environment 2013, Matters of National Environmental Significance Significant impact guidelines 1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra;
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2010, Code of practice for archaeological investigation of Aboriginal objects in New South Wales, DECCW NSW, Sydney;
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2010, Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents, DECCW NSW, Sydney;
- NSW Heritage Council 2012, Stabilising stuff: A guide for conserving archaeological finds in the field, NSW Heritage Council, Sydney;
- NSW Department of Health 2008, Exhumation of Human Remains, NSW Department of Health, Sydney; and
- NSW Heritage Office 1998, Skeletal remains – guidelines for the management of human skeletal remains under the Heritage Act 1977, NSW Heritage Office, Sydney;
- National Parks and Wildlife Service 1997, Aboriginal cultural heritage standards and guidelines kit, NPWS, Sydney; and
- Office of Environment and Heritage 2011, Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW, OEH NSW, Sydney.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

This section of the ACHMSP details the measures that will be implemented during the Project to manage and/or mitigate impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage. It outlines the actions that will be

taken in order to comply with the SSDA, and includes guidelines for management of known and predicted Aboriginal objects in or near the disturbance area, including:

- identifying where further archaeological investigation and/or salvage excavation is required;
- identifying where and when unmitigated impacts to heritage can occur;
- the procedures to be followed if any unexpected Aboriginal objects and/or human remains are found during construction;
- design principles to minimise impacts to Aboriginal objects; and
- the process that will be followed for continuing consultation.

The individual management measures are further described below.

3.1 No-Go Zones

Any areas within the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site, where impacts are not proposed, should be fenced off as *No-Go Zones* with appropriate signage installed to indicate that the area should not be entered.

All of the areas identified in Figure 2 as requiring further investigation should be designated as *No-Go Zones* until such time as:

- construction activities are complete; or
- clearance certificates have been issued following the completion of further investigations and any necessary salvage excavations.

All *No-Go Zones* should be marked on the relevant construction plans and maps. All staff and contractors working near designated *No-Go Zones* should be reminded at site inductions, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings, of the areas where they can and cannot go.

3.2 Protection of the Reconciliation Tree

No impacts are to occur at the Reconciliation Tree (refer to Figure 2). The Reconciliation Tree must be protected in perpetuity, in accordance with CoA B17(f). A *No-Go Zone* will be established around the tree prior to commencement of construction and landscaping activities. The *No-Go Zone* will be temporarily fenced, and appropriate signage installed to indicate that the area should not be entered for any purpose other than management and care of the tree.

The General Recommendations in the Aborigicultural Impact Assessment Report 2019 should be followed to ensure protection of the tree during construction. Specifically, as detailed in the Arborist Report any construction of proposed pathways adjacent to the Reconciliation Tree (Tree #24) must be raised above the current soil level to prevent the severing of root system (Wade Ryan Contracting 2019: 17).

Advice from a qualified arborist regarding the long term protection of the Reconciliation Tree will be included in the Operational Landscape Management Plan (OLMP). The long term protection and management of the tree will be detailed in the OLMP, to be provided prior to the commencement of the operation.

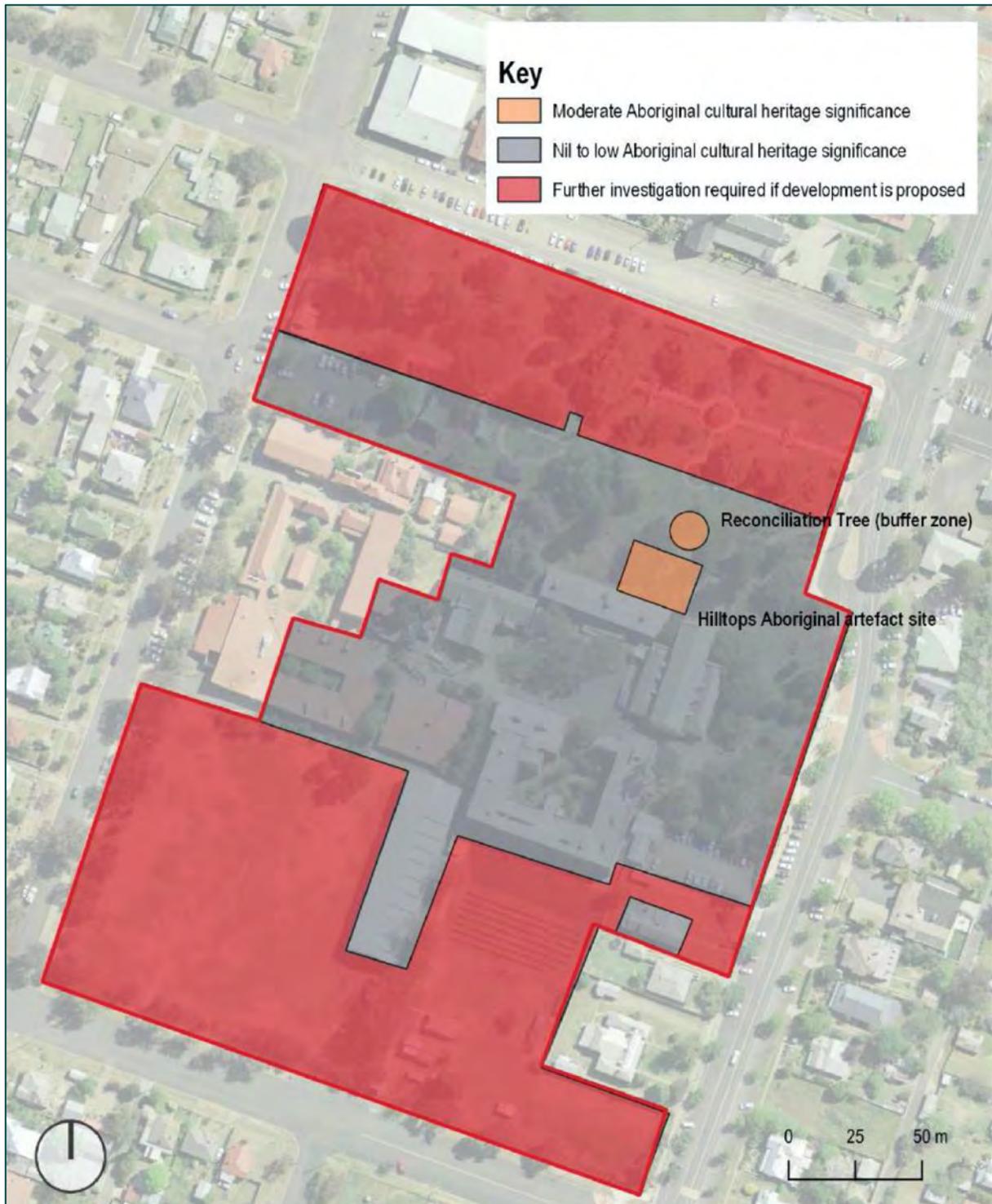


Figure 2: Zones of Aboriginal cultural heritage identified in the EIS [GML 2019: 42].

3.3 Mitigated Impact – Salvage Excavations

During the Aboriginal archaeological test excavation program conducted by GML (2019) a subsurface archaeological site was identified and recorded as Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site (AHIMS #50-3-0056) (see Figure 2). The test pits comprising the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site also included Historic artefact material as well as Aboriginal artefacts. The extent of the site is not known and a program of salvage excavation was recommended for this site.

Mitigated impact, in the form of archaeological salvage excavation, will be conducted within areas of proposed works at the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site prior to the commencement of construction activities. The salvage excavation will be undertaken by the Project Archaeologist in partnership with representatives of the RAPs. All excavations will be conducted in accordance with the methodology provided in the Archaeological Research Design at Appendix 1.

If the impact area is less than 5% of the extent of the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site (#xx-xx-xxxx) then salvage will be conducted across the entire area of proposed impacts. If more than 5% of the site extent is to be impacted, then salvage excavation would target “hot spots” identified from the results of test excavations with an aim to excavate a minimum of 50 metres square.

All Lantern Heritage staff are experienced in identification and excavation of both Aboriginal and Historic materials. The Archaeological Research Design at Appendix 1 includes steps to follow if Historic materials are encountered during the salvage excavation of Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site.

In the event that further investigations, or unexpected finds, trigger the requirement for additional archaeological test excavations beyond the boundaries of the identified Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site, those areas will be investigated following the Archaeological Research Design at Appendix 1.

3.4 Unmitigated Impact

Unmitigated impacts can occur within the areas of nil to low Aboriginal cultural heritage significance as highlighted in grey in Figure 2.

The procedures for unexpected finds, as detailed in Appendix 2, must be adhered to in these areas.

3.5 Further Investigation – Test Excavations

In the event that construction activities are proposed in any of the areas highlighted in red in Figure 2 (areas requiring further investigation), additional archaeological investigations will be required prior to the issue of a clearance certificate. The Project Archaeologist, in partnership with the RAPs, will make the decision on whether or not test excavations are required as part of the further investigations.

Where warranted, test excavations will be conducted in accordance with the methodology outlined in the Archaeological Research Design at Appendix 1.

3.6 Clearance Certificates

Before construction works commence in a given location area, a heritage clearance certificate will be issued and signed off by the Project Archaeologist. The heritage clearance certificate will certify that heritage mitigation measures in the area that works are proposed have been completed and impacts may now proceed.

3.7 Unexpected Finds

In the event that any Aboriginal objects, or potential/suspected Aboriginal objects, are identified during the course of construction works, works in the direct vicinity of the find will cease immediately and the Project Archaeologist, RAPs and environmental manager will be notified. The find will be inspected and assessed by the Project Archaeologist in partnership with representatives of the RAPs.

If the item is assessed to be an Aboriginal object, or if additional investigation is required to assess the find, the Project Archaeologist will record the location, nature and extent of the item and liaise with the RAPs, Heritage NSW/DPIE and the environmental manager regarding appropriate management measures (e.g. extent of *no-Go Zone*, requirement for salvage/exploratory excavation etc). Works will not recommence in that area until all necessary management measures are implemented, and a heritage clearance certificate has been issued by the Project Archaeologist.

Further details of the procedure for unexpected finds is provided in Appendix 2.

3.8 Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains

In the event that a burial, or human skeletal remains are encountered during excavations or construction works, the relevant procedures for notification and investigation will be followed, as outlined in the procedure in Appendix 2, which details protocols for unexpected finds, including human remains.

All human remains must be handled in accordance with the Public Health Act 1991 (NSW). Management of the remains is to be determined through liaison with the appropriate stakeholders (NSW Coroner/Police, forensic anthropologist, DPIE, Heritage NSW, RAPs, suitably qualified archaeologist(s), etc.)

3.9 Long-term management of Aboriginal objects

The Local Aboriginal community will be consulted about the long-term management of Aboriginal objects retrieved during excavation. Some of the options include re-burial on site, storage at the Young Local Aboriginal Land Council office or future use as an educational resource in the Hilltops Cultural Precinct.

Consultation regarding the long-term management of Aboriginal objects retrieved during excavation will be undertaken during such excavation works, and through Aboriginal community meetings as part of the post-excavation analysis and interpretation process. (i.e. consultation will be conducted through discussions during fieldwork with site officers, formal meetings where excavation results are presented, and through RAP review of excavation reporting recommendations).

Where relevant, additional details regarding the long-term management of Aboriginal objects will also be addressed in the Heritage Interpretation Plan (e.g. if finds are managed as part of a broader interpretive assemblage).

4 COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT

4.1 Monitoring and Inspections

Environmental inspections will be undertaken in accordance with Section 4.0 of the EMP. These inspections will be undertaken at 4 weekly intervals, at a minimum. The inspections will include reviews of the condition of fencing around *No-Go Zones* and monitoring for any inadvertent impacts within the *No-Go Zones*. The inspections will also include reviews of where any archaeological investigations are being conducted in order to ensure that appropriate management and mitigation strategies are implemented, in accordance with this ACHMSP.

4.2 Training

All personnel on site will undergo site induction training in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The induction training will at a minimum include:

- existence and requirements of this ACHMSP;
- relevant legislation;
- obligations and responsibilities surrounding *No-Go Zones*;
- the management and mitigation of impacts to heritage;
- the unexpected finds procedures;
- roles and responsibilities for heritage management: and
- procedures in the event of an incident.

Targeted training in the form of toolbox talks and pre-start meeting will also be provided to personnel working near known Aboriginal objects and/or personnel with duties related to excavation and other tasks that may trigger the unexpected finds procedures.

Further details regarding the staff induction and training are outlined in Section 3.7 of the EMP.

4.3 Incidents

Incidents will be reported and managed in accordance with Section 3.6 of the EMP, including notification to the Secretary and other relevant agencies.

4.4 Audits

Audits will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements detailed in Section 4.6 of the EMP. The audits will assess the effectiveness of the management measures and overall compliance with this ACHMSP.

4.5 Reporting

4.5.1 Compliance Reporting

Reporting requirements and responsibilities are documented in Section 4.3 of the EMP.

4.5.2 Archaeological Reporting

Following completion of any further investigations and/or salvage excavations at the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site, a detailed archaeological excavation report will be compiled that includes the specific management actions and methodologies implemented, results of any additional research, and documentation of the results of all investigations. It will include detailed mapping that

shows locations of all excavation trenches, relevant site plans and sections, together with an accompanying photographic inventory and descriptions of the excavated deposits. Post excavation analysis of all excavated finds will be documented, including full artefact catalogues, statistical analysis of the assemblage, results of any radiometric dating samples, and comparative analysis of the site in a regional context. The analysis will also address the identified research questions from the Archaeological Research Design (Appendix 1).

Copies of the archaeological excavation report will be provided to the Young High School and Joint-use Community Facility, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), the Heritage Council of NSW and to local libraries.

4.5.3 Interpretation Plan

An Interpretation Plan will be prepared in accordance with CoA B33. The Interpretation Plan will encompass Aboriginal and Historical cultural heritage at the Young High School. It will build on the Interpretation Strategy prepared by GML, the Early Works Excavation Report prepared by GML, and the results of any archaeological investigations conducted under the SSDA. The Interpretation Plan will include identification of themes, audience, locations for interpretive information, material and design of interpretive signs, as well as documentation of the complex history of the site.

5 REFERENCES

- Australia ICOMOS, International Council on Monuments and Sites, 2013. The Burra Charter: the Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance 2013.
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010a. Due diligence code of practice for the protection of Aboriginal objects in New South Wales. NSW DECCW, Sydney, N.S.W.
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010b. Code of Practice for archaeological investigation of Aboriginal objects in New South Wales. DECCW, Sydney, N.S.W.
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010c. Aboriginal cultural heritage: consultation requirements for proponents 2010 : Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Dept. of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, Sydney.
- GML Heritage 2019, *Hilltops Library and Community Facility, Young High School. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report*, Report prepared for Hayball.
- Office of Environment and Heritage, 2011 Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW: Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Office of Environment and Heritage, Sydney South, N.S.W.
- Wade Ryan Contracting, 2019, *Aboriginal Cultural Impact Assessment, Young High School - Main Works 2019 V1*.

APPENDIX 1 – ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH DESIGN

Young High School Library and Joint-use community facility test and salvage excavation methodology.

1. Introduction

This methodology details the archaeological salvage and test excavation procedures to follow prior to any construction activities within the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site (AHIMS #50-3-0056) and within areas identified as requiring further investigation by GML (2019) (Figure 1).

This methodology includes details of field methods and recording procedures for salvage and test excavations, as well as post-excavation analysis of finds and repatriation protocols.

The primary aims of the proposed mitigation works are to:

- Identify the nature, type and extent of the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site; and
- Identify the presence or absence of Aboriginal archaeological deposits within areas requiring further investigation if development is proposed.

The salvage and test excavation (if required) will be undertaken in consultation with, and with the participation of, representatives of the registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs). They will examine the following questions:

The **sub-surface salvage excavation of Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site** will examine the following questions:

- Can we obtain any further information on the single occupation event recorded by GML (2019)? For example, is there evidence of other knapping events?
- What types of raw materials and artefact types are present?
- Is there evidence of any other possible glass artefacts?
- How do these raw materials and artefact types compare to GML's (2019) test excavation results?
- What are the stone tool technologies that were used by Aboriginal people who lived and visited here?
- What is the relationship with the historic artefacts recorded during test excavation by GML (2019)?
- What can be inferred from the artefact assemblage regarding the activities or functions of artefacts and the life of the people who used them;
- Is there archaeological evidence that can be dated?
- Are other site features such as hearths, heating ovens, knapping floors or plant and animal remains present?
- Can sediments for palynological analysis be sampled? From GML report
- How do the results from this project compare with the results from previous projects in the area?

Whilst the methodology provides a guide it is not limited to the questions above and other questions may arise (or be fine-tuned) during the course of the work being undertaken.

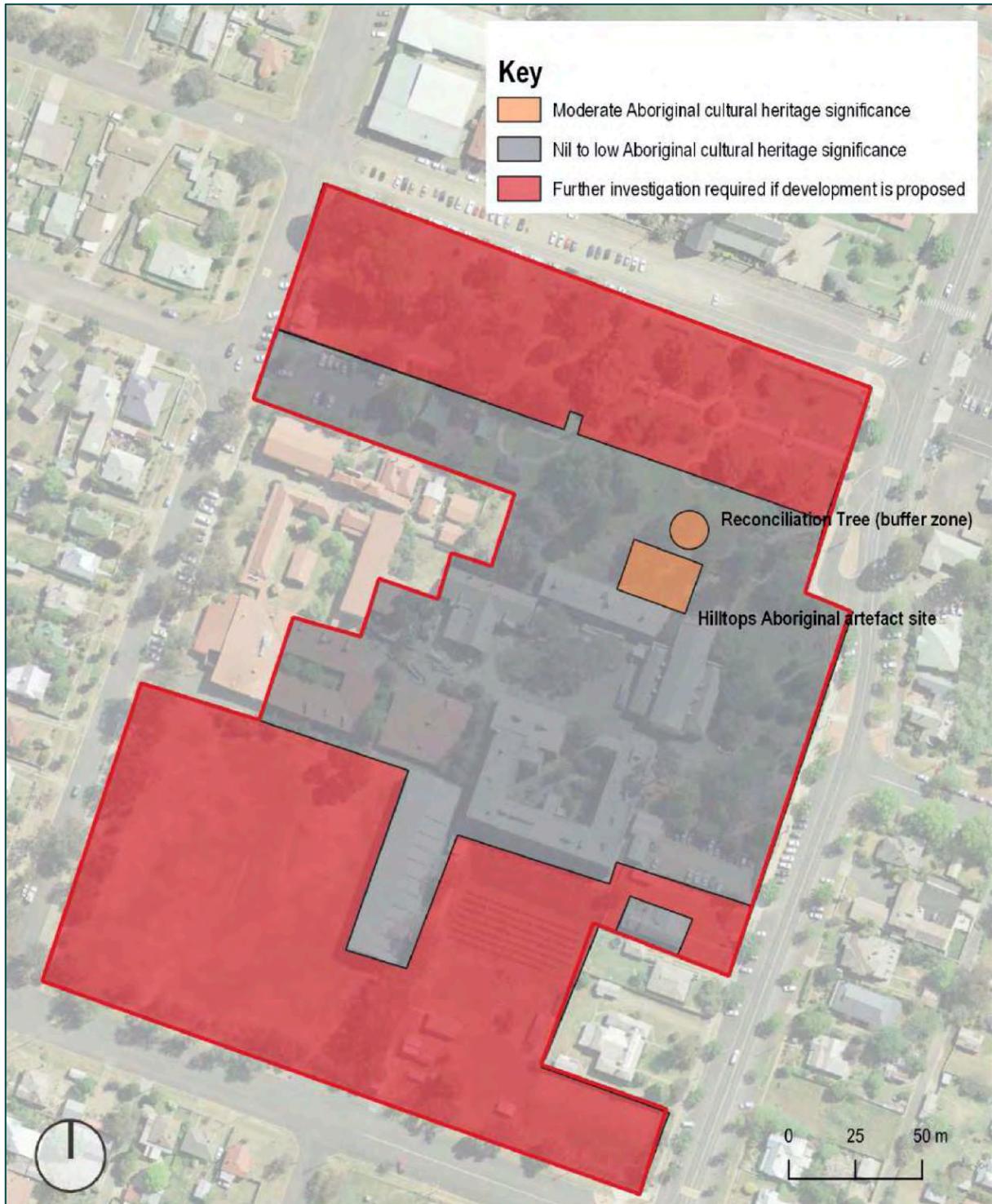


Figure 1: Zones of Aboriginal cultural heritage identified in the EIS (GML 2019: 42).

If required, the **test excavation of areas highlighted in red in Figure 1** will examine the following questions:

- What is the nature, extent and integrity of subsurface cultural deposits within the areas requiring further investigation? How does this compare to results from GML (2019)?
- What are the characteristics of the Young soil landscape within the areas requiring further investigation. How does this compare to results from GML (2019)?
- Are other site features such as hearths, heating ovens, knapping floors or plant and animal remains present?
- Is there archaeological evidence that can be dated?
- Is the archaeological deposit culturally significant?

2. Salvage excavation methodology

Salvage excavation will be undertaken within areas of proposed works at the Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site (AHIMS #50-3-0056) prior to the commencement of construction activities.

All salvage excavations will be limited to the footprint of the proposed works.

Excavation areas

Salvage excavation at Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site (AHIMS #50-3-0056) will start at the back filled square A13 and continue around this pit until either:

- a. the limits of the site have been identified through excavation;
- b. the artefact amounts recorded are below the threshold for expansion of 10 per square metre; or
- c. if a representative sample has been excavated.

All decisions regarding when to terminate excavation in a given excavation area will be undertaken in consultation between the RAPs and the archaeologists participating in the fieldwork.

Excavation procedures

The excavation area will be gridded out with string into 1m by 1m squares and mapped in detail, including recording of surface levels across the area. Each 1m by 1m grid square will be allocated a unique ID code, which will be recorded on all associated paperwork, photographs and finds bags. Photographic recording of the excavation area will be undertaken prior to commencement of excavation.

Excavation will be undertaken by hand using trowels and/or spades, with hand picks, mattocks or similar hand tools utilised where deposits are too compacted for excavation by trowel or spade. Brushes, small tools and coal shovels will be used as required to clean up excavations and/or undertake more delicate work. All excavated spoil will be collected in labelled buckets and sieved according to excavation unit (square and spit/context).

Excavation will proceed in the first instance (i.e. the first grid square in a given excavation area) by 5cm spits. However, if an identifiable stratigraphic feature/context is identified during the course of excavation, then excavation will be conducted according to stratigraphic units. Excavation will then proceed by stratigraphic units wherever feasible, with the use of 5cm spits utilised as a means of exploring new stratigraphic units, including for the purposes of sectioning and/or providing greater vertical control where a stratigraphic unit contains cultural material and is more than 5cm in depth.

Excavation within a given square will terminate when bedrock, clay or other sterile unit indicative of the base of cultural deposits is encountered, or if the excavation becomes unsafe to continue (e.g. presence of hazardous materials or unstable deposits). If there is doubt regarding whether or not the base of cultural deposits has been reached, excavation will continue until at least 20cm of sterile deposit is encountered. All decisions regarding when to terminate excavation in a given grid square will be undertaken in consultation between the archaeologists and the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) participating in the fieldwork.

Excavation would also cease in the event that either of the following occurred:

- Discovery of human skeletal remains or suspected human skeletal remains; or
- Discovery of non-Aboriginal archaeological relics of local or State significance.

With regard to the discovery of human skeletal remains, excavation in the area of the finds would halt and the procedures outlined in Appendix 2 would be followed.

With regard to the discovery non-Aboriginal archaeological relics, excavation in the area of the finds would halt and the Heritage Council of NSW would be notified. Excavation would not recommence until advice had been sought from the Heritage Council of NSW and all relevant approvals/permits had been obtained. All Lantern staff are experienced in the identification and excavation of both Historic and Aboriginal artefacts. Lantern's Director, Bec Parkes is qualified to direct historical excavations. Pending approval from DPIE/Heritage NSW, salvage excavation of Hilltops Aboriginal Artefact site would continue by context rather than spit.

The minimum salvage quota will always be completed within a given excavation area, unless the proposed footprint of impacts has been reduced, in which case the minimum quota will at least be equal to the area of proposed impacts. Decisions regarding when to go beyond the minimum quota will be guided by the results of the excavation. Excavation will continue up until a representative sample of the site is achieved, including characterisation and understanding of stratigraphy, site formation processes and composition of cultural material.

Excavation will be terminated within a given excavation area either upon salvage of the entire area of proposed impacts, retrieval of a representative sample of the excavation area, or completion of the maximum excavation quota, whichever is achieved first. All decisions regarding when to terminate excavation in a given excavation area will be undertaken in consultation between the RAPs and the archaeologists participating in the fieldwork.

All pits/trenches will be backfilled with the excavated spoil upon completion of the salvage excavation.

Sieving

All excavated spoil will be sieved with the use of a 5mm sieve. A 10mm sieve will also be available for use as a nested sieve over the 5mm sieve as required. All suspected artefacts, shell, bone and other cultural material will be bagged according to material type.

Samples of charcoal, gravels or other sieve residue will also be collected where it is deemed that such samples may assist with analysis and interpretation of the excavation.

Bagging

All finds will be bagged by excavation square, excavation unit (spit/stratigraphic context) and material type. Items recorded in situ will be bagged individually with three dimensional coordinates of their location recorded. Fragile/delicate items will be bagged separately with appropriate inert padding/wrapping as required.

All excavation bags will be labelled with the following information as a minimum:

- i. Project name

- ii. Date
- iii. Site
- iv. Salvage excavation
- v. Grid square
- vi. Excavation unit
- vii. Material
- viii. Initials of recorder

Where necessary, advice will be sought from a specialist materials conservator regarding artefact removal, handling, storage, cleaning and stabilisation.

Recording

Excavation recording will at a minimum comprise the following:

- Detailed site plan
- Excavation recording forms for each grid square
- Photographic log
- Section drawings

A detailed site plan will be prepared prior to commencement of excavation. That plan, or copies thereof, will be updated through the excavation with information regarding the progress of excavation including which squares are open, which squares are complete, and patterns observed in site stratigraphy, features, and/or finds.

Excavation recording forms will be completed for each grid square that is opened up. Details recorded on these forms will at a minimum include the following:

- Horizontal and vertical extent of each excavation unit
- Deposit descriptions including grain size, colour, texture, compaction, water content, inclusions, evidence of disturbance, nature of boundaries/relationships between deposits
- Finds summary (e.g. number and type of finds)
- Details of any samples collected (e.g. charcoal, sediment, gravels)
- Locations, including plans, of in situ finds/features
- Notes on interpretation
- Details of photographs taken prior, during or after excavation
- Details of section drawings

In addition to the details recorded on excavation forms of all photographs, a log will be kept of all photographs including photographer, camera ID, details of photograph (e.g. grid square(s)/feature(s)/find(s)), date and direction of photograph. Photographs will at a minimum be taken of each excavation area prior to commencement of excavation, upon completion of salvage, and following backfilling. Photographic records for each grid square will include commencement of each excavation unit, completion of excavation, and details of *in situ* finds and features.

A minimum of one section drawing will be completed for each excavation area. Additional section drawings will be conducted as necessary to record the complexities of stratigraphy and features within a given excavation area. All section drawings will be done to scale on graph paper and include details of deposit descriptions, the nature of boundaries between deposits, samples taken and other relevant features. Photographs will also be taken of excavation walls to supplement the section drawings.

Samples

Samples will be collected during excavation for the purposes of characterising deposits, obtaining samples for radiometric dating (e.g. charcoal, wood, bone, shell and/or OSL), reference examples of background materials such as gravels. A minimum of a single representative set of sediment samples will be collected from at least one grid square in each excavation area. Additional samples will be collected as required to characterise individual features/deposits.

All samples will be recorded on the relevant excavation recording form. All samples will be labelled in accordance with the standard protocols for bagging finds.

Post-excavation analysis

Storage of finds

All materials collected during excavation, including artefacts, midden material and samples, will be stored during the analysis phase in a locked facility at the premises of the archaeologist undertaking the salvage works (e.g. Lantern Heritage Pty Ltd – 3/15 Bega Street, Tathra NSW 2550). Any changes to the location of the stored materials will not be made without agreement from the RAPs and prior notice to OEH.

Artefact analysis

Artefacts collected during excavation may include stone artefacts, flaked glass, and items of European material culture (e.g. nail, glass, ceramics, other metal items). All artefacts will be analysed in accordance with standard archaeological procedures. This may include light brushing to remove excess dirt and/or cleaning with water, depending upon the nature of the item. Digital callipers will be used to measure dimensions to the nearest mm and digital scales will be used to weigh all items to the nearest 0.1 grams. Representative photographs and/or illustrations of individual finds and/or components of the assemblage will be compiled throughout the analysis program.

Following any necessary artefact cleaning, all items will undergo metric recording in accordance with their material and type. Stone artefacts will at a minimum be recorded in accordance with the procedure outlined in the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010b). Additional measurements may also be recorded for some items.

The analysis of the stone artefacts and flaked glass, if present, will be undertaken by a specialist archaeologist with experience in stone artefact analysis. All decisions regarding the necessity for additional measurements and recording (e.g. photography and/or illustration) will be made by the stone artefact specialist and will be led by the research questions specific to that site (e.g. material sourcing/use, technology, chronology and artefact use).

Where possible, RAPs will be invited to participate in the analysis program and training in stone artefact recording and analysis will be made available.

All items of European material culture will be recorded in accordance with standard archaeological procedures including weight, dimensions, form/shape, completeness, material(s), colour(s), modifications, condition and diagnostic features/marks.

Where necessary, advice will be sought from a specialist materials conservator regarding artefact handling, storage, cleaning and stabilisation.

Where necessary, artefact analysis will include the use of a light microscope to inspect material composition and aspects of artefact form/modification.

Where warranted (i.e. where analysis will assist with answering identified research questions), residue and/or usewear analysis will also be conducted.

Analysis of samples

Reference samples will be inspected and recorded in accordance with their material type and rationale behind sample collection. For example, samples of sediment/deposit may have pH, Munsell colour, and grain size composition recorded. Samples of background gravels may be photographed and/or described where relevant to analysis of site formation processes or comparison with the stone artefact assemblage.

Samples collected for the purposes of dating (e.g. charcoal, wood, bone, shell, sediment/deposit) will be evaluated, and where viable samples are identified, a representative selection of samples will be sent to a laboratory for processing. Given that radiometric dating is a destructive process, decisions regarding potential samples will be discussed with RAPs during the fieldwork to ensure that the samples selected are culturally appropriate. All samples of charcoal, wood, bone and shell will be photographed, weighed/measured and described prior to being sent for processing.

The primary aim of dating will be to establish the period(s) of site occupation and/or to ascertain the date of specific features, or phases of site formation.

3. Test excavation methodology

This methodology details the archaeological test excavation procedures to follow if construction activities are proposed in any of the areas requiring further investigation as identified by GML (areas highlighted in red in Figure 1). The Project Archaeologist, in partnership with the RAPs, will make the decision on whether or not test excavations are required as part of the further investigations.

The test excavations will be conducted in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW 2010). Summaries of the excavation methods are provided below, together with an overview of the strategies for test pit placement and expansion.

5.1.1 Test Pits

- The test pits will be excavated by hand (e.g. trowels, spades and other hand tools). This will involve the excavation of 50 x 50cm test units.
- The first test pit will be excavated in arbitrary 5cm spits; the subsequent test pits will then be excavated in either 10cm spits or stratigraphic units (whichever is smaller) to a culturally sterile layer. Depending on the depth of sterile deposits it may be necessary to expand the test pit by one or more 50 x 50cm test units.
- The minimum number of test pits to be excavated will depend on the area of proposed impacts. Test pits will be spaced 20 to 25m apart and the location of pits will be determined in partnership with the RAPs.
- Following completion of a single test unit, the results will be reviewed in terms of horizontal and vertical distributions of artefacts and additional test units will be excavated to further explore concentrations of artefacts and/or confirm absence of artefacts. This will be done both as expansion of existing test units (as per Figure 2) and as pits on additional transects perpendicular to the original transects.
- Photographic and scale drawn records will be kept for all test pits, and where necessary (i.e. to document archaeological features and/or changes in stratigraphy) multiple walls may be recorded.

- Surface levels and final levels for all test pits will be surveyed with a level or total station.
- All test pit locations will be surveyed in through a combination of GPS coordinates and tape and compass, and/or total station survey.
- All excavated material will be collected in buckets by pit and spit and sieved through a 5mm mesh. Decisions regarding termination and/or expansion of a test pit will not be made until all spoil has been sieved.
- All artefactual material will be analysed on site. Artefacts will then be reburied, in one or more of the test pit locations, in accordance with Requirement 26 of the Code of Practice.
- The maximum surface area of all test excavation units will be no greater than 0.5% of the area being investigated,
- Test excavation units will be backfilled as soon as practicable.
- In the event that suspected human remains are identified works will immediately cease and the relevant State Government agencies will be notified.
- test excavations will cease when enough information has been recovered to adequately characterise the nature of the deposit.

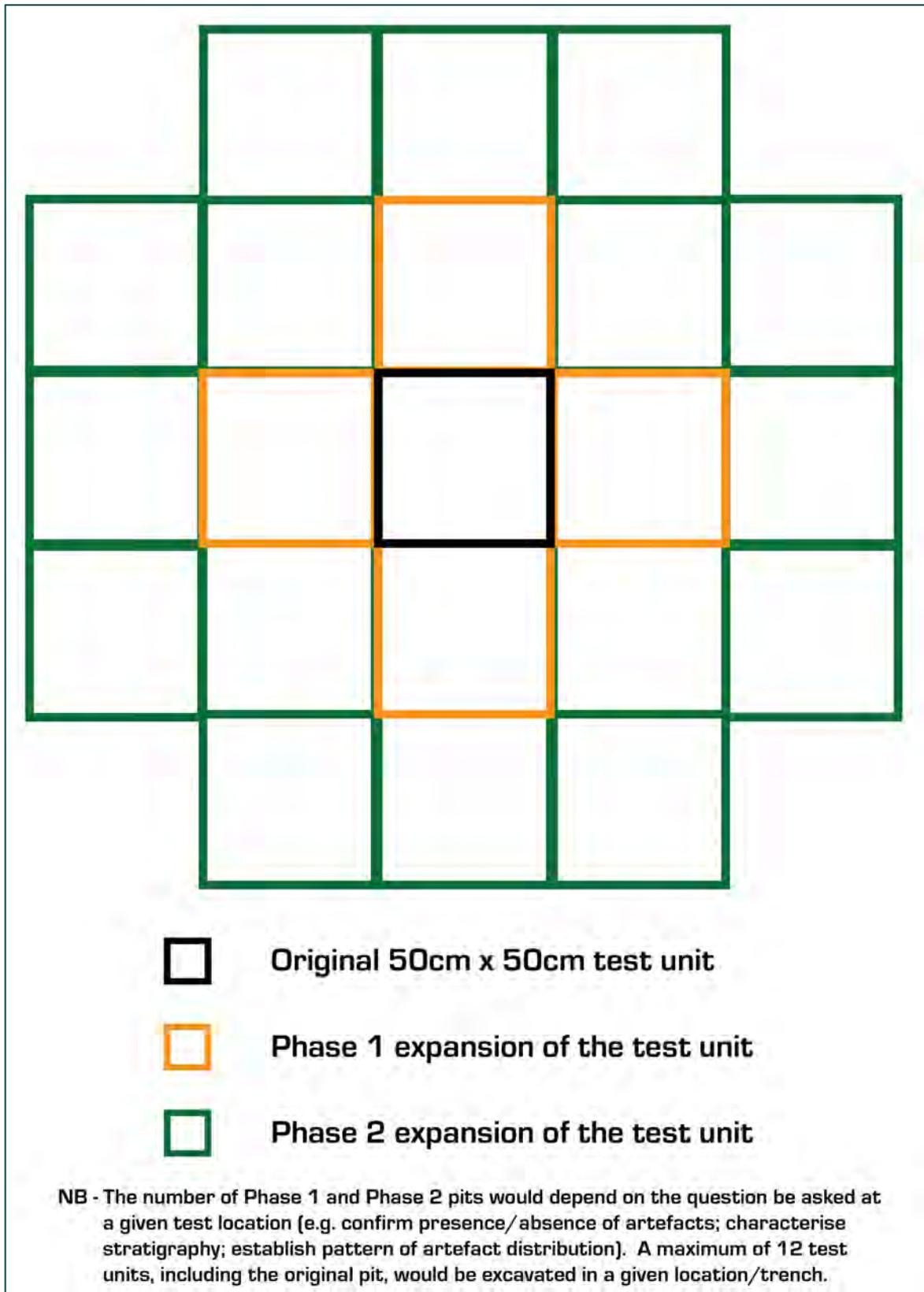


Figure 2: Conceptual plan of potential test unit expansion up to a maximum of 3m².

4. Reporting

A detailed excavation report will be prepared and submitted to Heritage NSW following completion of all post-excavation analysis. The report will include all details of the fieldwork, descriptions of the results of the excavation (including relevant plans, drawings, photographs, tables and graphs), analysis and discussion of the results (including comparative analysis with relevant sites at local, regional and/or national levels), and details of any ensuing recommendations relating to future decisions regarding management or investigation of the sites.

A plain English version of the report will also be prepared. Both versions of the report will be provided to the RAPs for review and comment prior to being finalised and submitted to Heritage NSW.

5. Protocols for discovery of Human Remains

In the event that human skeletal remains, or suspected human remains are found during archaeological excavations, construction activities or any of the ongoing management procedures for Young High School and joint-use community facility, the protocols and procedures outlined in Appendix 2 must be followed.

APPENDIX 2 – UNEXPECTED FINDS PROCEDURE

Unexpected finds procedure - Aboriginal objects or values

In the unlikely event that unexpected Aboriginal objects or values are encountered during construction (such as very high artefact distributions in areas previously assessed to contain low densities), the following steps should be followed:

1. All construction that could potentially harm the Aboriginal objects or values must cease (within 20 metres of the find). Only construction that is required to comply with occupational and environmental health and safety standards and/or to protect the cultural heritage should occur.
2. The person who identified the Aboriginal objects or values must immediately notify the person in charge of the activity. The Project Manager and the HSEQ Manager is to be notified.
3. The item is to be protected by the establishment of a no-go zone.
4. The HSEQ Manager is to notify GHD.
5. If the item is likely to be a human bone, follow the ancestral human remains process and notify the Police.
6. Works may continue outside of the minimum 20 metre barrier.
7. The project archaeologist is to be notified within 24 hours of the discovery.
8. The project archaeologist is to attend site where required and conduct a preliminary assessment and recording of the item. The location and context of the Aboriginal object or value is to be recorded.
9. Within five (5) days of the Aboriginal objects or values being discovered, the archaeologist or the HSEQ Manager is to facilitate the involvement of any relevant RAPs and, in consultation, recommend the most appropriate course of action.
10. Where the item is an Aboriginal object, the discovery must be reported to Heritage NSW (previously DPIE) as soon as practicable.
11. The project archaeologist must assess the scientific significance of the Aboriginal objects or values. If the Aboriginal objects or values are assessed as being of:
 - a) **Low scientific significance** (e.g. isolated artefacts or disperse/small artefact scatters less than three artefacts, eroding earth features) and where avoidance is impossible, no further work is required once the steps outlined above have been completed.
 - b) **Moderate or higher scientific significance**, it is preferable to avoid impact if possible. If avoidance is not possible, a salvage excavation should be undertaken, if relevant. The aims of the salvage excavation will be to obtain as much information as possible from the material and/or deposit.
 - Salvage must occur within 30 working days unless constraints (eg weather) occur. The archaeologist must facilitate the involvement of any relevant RAPs and develop a suitable methodology for salvage excavation in consultation with the RAPs. The location and context of the cultural heritage material must be recorded in detail and an Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Form completed and submitted to Heritage NSW within four (4) months from the end of salvage excavations. A

report detailing the excavation, analysis and results must be provided to Heritage NSW within twelve (12) months of completion of the salvage.

- In the event that Aboriginal objects are salvaged, regardless of significance, they must be curated in accordance with conventional archaeological practice, that is, the material must be identified, packaged, labelled with reference to provenance, appropriately catalogued and packed securely. The proponent must arrange for the secure storage of Aboriginal cultural material in a specified location until it can be transferred to the relevant RAPs or buried in country. A report must be produced to accompany the curated material.
 - Curated Aboriginal objects together with the aforementioned report must be provided to the relevant RAPs within three (3) months of the salvage being completed.
 - If reburial of any cultural material is to take place, it must be in accordance with the relevant RAPs requirements or to the satisfaction of the project archaeologist. The archaeologist must complete and submit any related Aboriginal Site forms to Heritage NSW within 30 days of the reburial taking place.
12. Within 60 days of being notified, complete and submit relevant recording forms to Heritage NSW.
13. Work may commence within the area of exclusion when:
- a) the appropriate protective measures have been undertaken;
 - b) where the relevant Aboriginal cultural heritage records have been updated and/or completed; and
 - c) there is no other prudent or feasible course of action.

Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains

If a burial site or human skeletal material is exposed during works, all relevant procedures for excavation and removal will be undertaken in accordance with the Policy Directive – Exhumation of Human Remains (NSW Department of Health 2008); Skeletal Remains – Guidelines for the Management of Human Skeletal Remains under the *Heritage Act* 1977 (NSW Heritage Office 1998) and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Standards and Guidelines Kit (NPWS 1997).

Human skeletal remains must be handled in accordance with the *Public Health Act* 1991 (NSW). Management of the remains is to be determined through liaison with the appropriate stakeholders (NSW Police Force, forensic anthropologist, Heritage NSW, Heritage Division, DPC, DP&E, registered Aboriginal parties, a suitably qualified archaeologist, etc.)

The process below is to secure the skeletal remains until the remains are managed by the relevant authorities and stakeholders

The following process is to be followed:

- as soon as remains are exposed, work is to halt immediately, and the remains are not to be touched or interfered with in any way;
- establish an appropriate (minimum 10m) no go zone around the find;
- contact the HSEQ Manager, who will notify GHD and contact local police or the Coroner;
- Notify the project archaeologist and the NSW Environment Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide available details of the remains and their location;

- a physical or forensic anthropologist should inspect the remains *in situ*, and make a determination of ancestry (Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal) and antiquity (pre-contact, historic or forensic);
- if the remains are identified as forensic the area is deemed as crime scene and will be handed over to police control; or
- if the remains are considered to be Aboriginal, an Archaeological Management Plan will be prepared. An assessment will also occur to determine whether the impact is consistent with the Infrastructure Approval, or if modification is required; or
- if the remains are non-Aboriginal (historical) remains (i.e. a 'relic' under the *Heritage Act 1977*), the site is to be secured and Heritage NSW is to be contacted and an Archaeological Management Plan will be prepared.

Where human skeletal remains uncovered during project activities are to be removed, this will be undertaken in a sensitive and dignified manner. Approval from NSW Health, under the *Public Health Act 1991* (NSW), will be required prior to removing/exhuming any skeletal remains. Controlled excavation and removal by the site archaeologists and other appropriate specialists (forensic anthropologist, registered Aboriginal parties, NSW Police Force, as appropriate) will be undertaken in accordance with relevant guidelines and any requirements of Heritage NSW and NSW Health.

Rebecca (Bec) Parkes BA (Hons), PhD
Director/Principal Archaeologist

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PERSONAL SUMMARY

I have over 20 years' experience in archaeology, and professional heritage management. Over the past two decades, I have worked on sites across New South Wales, South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory, and the Northern Territory as well as in South America and Europe. My expertise in archaeology and heritage management comes not only through professional employment as a consultant, but also from an ongoing involvement in lecturing and practical training at the Australian National University (ANU) and Macquarie University. I have expertise and experience in both Aboriginal and historical archaeology, including experience as a primary Excavation Director on a range of different projects that have included testing, monitoring and broad area salvage works.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc (Chair of NSW/ACT Chapter)

Australia ICOMOS - International Council on Monuments and Sites

Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand

World Archaeological Congress

Australian Archaeological Association

Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology

Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology, Australasia

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

PhD, The Australian National University 2007

Thesis: The World is a Mosque: Landscape Archaeology and Islam in al-Andalus and el Valle de Lecrín.

BA Honours, The Australian National University ANU 1997

First Class Honours in Archaeology, major in Arabic.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Director/Principal Archaeologist, Lantern Heritage (2017-Present)

Lantern Heritage was established in July 2017. Transition to the director of an independent heritage consultancy firm has enabled me to focus on delivery of high-quality personalised service, tailored to client needs. The services I offer include: heritage legislation advice, methodology development, government agency liaison, community liaison, research, heritage assessments, impact assessments, desktop reviews, site surveys, test and salvage excavation, conservation management plans, site interpretation, archival recording, and GIS mapping.

Recent/Current contracts include:

- Snowy 2.0 Main Works Historical and Natural Heritage Management for Future Generation Joint Venture on behalf of Snowy Hydro.
- Bundilla Bullock's Flat archaeological assessment and S140 application.
- Wild Dog Fence Extension Project along the NSW-SA border: Aboriginal and historical assessments for NSW Government.
- Aboriginal and historical excavations and salvage measures at Kalaru and Murunna Point for Bega Valley Shire Council.
- Survey and assessment of mining settlement at Ruined Castle – Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute/Macquarie University.
- Tura Headland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and AHIP Application for Bega Valley Shire Council.
- Heritage assessment and preliminary management plan for the Runnyford Fish Trap – Department of Primary Industries.
- Excavation Director for Snowy 2.0 historical mitigation works – on behalf of NSW Archaeology.
- Concord Oval: Excavation director for test pitting and monitoring at the site of the Longbottom Convict Stockade – on behalf of NGH.
- Interpretation Plan for Well Station Road, ACT – Elton Consulting Pty Ltd.
- Statements of Heritage Impact for Section 60 applications at various railway stations for Australian Rail Track Corporation and Stantec.
- European cultural heritage assessment and significance review of "The Valley" homestead complex, ACT – Elton Consulting Pty Ltd.
- European cultural heritage assessment of Sunset Ruins, Googong, NSW – on behalf of Past Traces.
- Directing salvage excavations and surface collection of Aboriginal sites for the Murray to Broken Hill Pipeline - on behalf of Niche Environment and Heritage Pty Ltd.
- Scoping and Development of ANU Master of Archaeology Internship Program.

Principal Archaeologist, Navin Officer Heritage Consultants (2009-2017)

My role at Navin Officer Heritage Consultants (NOHC) entailed managing multiple project teams, directing survey and excavation teams, supervising and training staff, client liaison and marketing, quoting and budgeting, Aboriginal consultation, preparation of excavation permits, report editing, research and methodology design, review of report templates in response to legislation changes, review and updating of field equipment and GIS development. Examples of projects include:

Pacific Highway Upgrade, Iluka Road to Ballina salvage program 2014-2017 – Excavation director for a multidisciplinary team undertaking salvage excavations across a series of complex and high significance Aboriginal sites spanning late Pleistocene through to Holocene and proto-historic/contact periods.

Googong Subdivision, 2010-2017 – Lead archaeologist and excavation director for the historical investigations. Designed, organised and directed various test and salvage excavations across a series of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century sites. Collaborated with conservators, museum specialists, artists and heritage builders to deliver CMP, site reconstruction, interpretation and artefact curation.

Moorebank Intermodal Terminal, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) assessments including Aboriginal and historical test excavations 2011-2014 – Directed test excavations at early twentieth century military sites and across a series of Aboriginal sites. Co-authored both the Aboriginal and European heritage assessment reports, including statements of significance for all historical heritage items.

Sessional Lecturer, The Australian National University (2019)

Assisted with the design and delivery of a two-week workshop for undergraduate and masters level students on professional archaeology skills. The course included both classroom and field based learning with an emphasis on bridging the gap between traditional academic course-work and the skills and knowledge required for employment as a consultant archaeologist.

Sessional Lecturer, The Australian National University (2008)

Designed and ran a course for undergraduate and postgraduate students on landscape archaeology research, survey, assessment and interpretation. This course included an introduction to various survey methods, identification and recording of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal sites and site complexes, digital and hand drawn mapping, and use of topographic maps and GPS based tools for navigation.

Senior Archaeologist, NSW Archaeology (2007-2009)

As a senior archaeologist for NSW Archaeology I was responsible for assisting with report writing, directing/supervising excavations, managing smaller surveys and leading survey teams on larger projects. I also provided specialist expertise in historical archaeology including research, site identification, site recording, significance and impact assessments.

Assistant/Guest Lecturer, The Australian National University (2005-Present)

Ongoing role to provide various lectures and training on theoretical and practical aspects of archaeology for undergraduate and postgraduate classes within the School of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Graduate Demonstrator, The Australian National University (2001-2006)

Supervised excavations and instructed students in all aspects of excavation and field recording.

Sub-Consultant Archaeologist, Sole Trader (2001-2009)

Contracted by various consultancy firms across the ACT and NSW to undertake or assist with surveys, excavation, stone artefact analysis, report writing, mapping and artefact illustration.

Assistant Archaeologist, Various Projects (1995-1999)

Worked as an assistant archaeologist or a volunteer on various Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal projects across NSW and South Australia.

FIELD EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW

Historical Archaeology

I have 25 years' experience working on the survey, excavation, assessment and interpretation of nineteenth and early twentieth century historical sites in southeast Australia. Between 1995 and 2006 I participated in seven field schools run by the ANU at the Kiandra goldfields in Kosciuszko National Park. That included four seasons as an excavation supervisor, training undergraduate and postgraduate students in broad area excavation techniques and total station survey.

Between 2002 and 2008 I was involved in various roles (Graduate Demonstrator, Assistant Lecturer, Sessional Lecturer) with the Landscape Archaeology course at the ANU. This course comprised a focus on survey and interpretation of nineteenth century towns, mining settlements, pastoral landscapes and transport infrastructure.

As a consultant archaeologist, I have worked on a wide variety of historical sites across NSW and the ACT. This work has encompassed extensive surveys, archival recording, monitoring, test and salvage excavations, and conservation management plans. Typically, the sites I have worked on have related to the more ephemeral rural aspects of non-Aboriginal settlement in Australia. As such, I have developed a broad

knowledge base of Australian historical site types and associated material culture, and particular expertise in identifying, investigating and assessing rural archaeological features. Examples of projects I have been involved with and my roles include:

- 2019-present Concord Oval (Primary Excavation Director): monitoring, test and salvage excavations at the Concord Oval, Canada Bay, Sydney – Site of the Longbottom Convict Stockade.
- 2019 Lobs Hole/Ravine (Primary Excavation Director): developed the field methodology and ran a six month program of salvage excavations and archival recording across a range of sites and features at the former Ravine Township and broader Lobs Hole mining landscape as part of the management and mitigation of heritage impacts for Snowy 2.0 Early Works.
- 2018 Moonbah/Jindabyne (Project Manager/Lead Archaeologist): detailed total station survey, archival photography and associated reporting for an early twentieth century sawmill complex and nineteenth century farm homestead.
- 2018 Ruined Castle/Jamison Valley, Blue Mountains (Survey Supervisor): provided specialist support to Macquarie University and the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute to assist with the identification and recording of a late nineteenth to early twentieth century mining settlement.
- 2017 Googong (Primary Excavation Director): broad area salvage excavation at three rural nineteenth/twentieth century sites including the original Googong schoolhouse.
- 2016 Googong (Primary Excavation Director): test excavation at four rural nineteenth/twentieth century sites.
- 2012 Steele Barracks, Moorebank (Primary Excavation Director): test excavation of early twentieth century military infrastructure including accommodation facilities and military earthworks.
- 2012 Googong (Project Manager/Secondary Excavation Director): broad area salvage together with detailed archival recording and dismantling of the ruins of a late nineteenth century slab hut. Project also included site reconstruction, conservation and interpretation.
- 2011 Berry (Primary Excavation Director): test excavation at late nineteenth to early twentieth century Butter Factory.
- 2011 Goulburn (Secondary Excavation Director): Monitoring of machine excavation at an early nineteenth century Veterans' Allotment and at the State Heritage listed Kenmore Psychiatric Hospital.
- 2010 Clear Hills, Shellharbour (Primary/Secondary Excavation Director): Monitoring, salvage and archival recording of a late nineteenth century farm homestead and associated outbuildings.
- 2009-2017 Various Projects (Lead Archaeologist/Project Manager): archival recording of the Frederickton Butter Factory, Ferry Lane WWI Memorial Avenue, Bathurst Migrant Camp, Chaffey Dam mining landscape and township, Cotter Dam Trout Hatchery and various other rural sites.
- 2007 Marulan (Field Assistant): broad area salvage at the Old Marulan Hotel.
- 2006 Kiandra (Graduate Demonstrator/Site Supervisor): survey and broad area excavation of the Mounted Police Barracks and nearby latrines.
- 2004 Kiandra (Graduate Demonstrator/Site Supervisor): survey and broad area excavation of a mid-nineteenth century sly-grog house on Township Hill.
- 2003 Kiandra (Graduate Demonstrator/Site Supervisor): detailed post-fire survey of the extended settlement and mining landscape at Township Hill. Broad area excavation of two nineteenth century miners' huts on Township Hill.
- 2001 Kiandra (Graduate Demonstrator/Site Supervisor): supervised excavation of a Chinese miner's hut and a nearby butchery refuse pit.
- 1995- 2001 Various Projects (Field Archaeologist): assisted with broad area excavation at various nineteenth century mining settlements including the Kiandra Hotel, Yan's Store at Kiandra, Kiandra Dance Hall, Chinese camps at Flanagan's Flat and Adjungbilly, European miners' residences at Reno, Snowball, Gobarralong, and Adjungbilly.

Aboriginal Archaeology

While my academic research had a strong historical focus, Indigenous archaeology has always formed a major component of my professional employment. Since 1996 I have worked on survey, test excavation and salvage excavation at various Pleistocene, Holocene and contact period sites. This has included survey of artefact scatters, middens, stone arrangements, rock art, rock shelters, scarred trees and stone quarries in a diverse range of landscapes from the coast, to the tablelands and highlands, to the arid interior. As such, I am experienced in the identification of sites and potential archaeological deposits in various environmental settings. I have over ten years' experience in directing Aboriginal excavations, including mechanical testing, hand excavation, and broad area salvage. I am also recognised and respected for my expertise in designing excavation methodologies and managing large scale excavation programs.

PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, THESES AND PAPERS

Refereed papers:

2018 Parkes, R., S. A. Ross, A. Sobotkova, T. Evans, P. Crook, S. Lupack, G. Karskens, F. Leslie, and J. Merson. Accepted 26 September 2018. 'Ruined Castle Shale Mining Settlement, Katoomba NSW: Report on a Pilot Survey'. *Australasian Historical Archaeology: Journal of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology*, Vol. 36, 2018: 86-92.

2009 Parkes, R. Traces of the Cameleers: landscape archaeology and landscape perception, *Australasian Historical Archaeology: Journal of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology*, Vol. 27, 2009: 87-97.

Theses:

2007 *The World is a Mosque: Landscape Archaeology and Islam in al-Andalus and el Valle de Lecrín*, unpublished PhD thesis, School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra.

1997 *Of Camels and Cameleers: The Archaeology of Afghan Settlements in Australia*, unpublished Honours thesis, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra.

Other publications:

2020 - Dunbar L. A., R. Parkes, C. Gant-Thompson, and D. Tybussek eds. *Yachay Wasi: The House of Knowledge of I. S. Farrington*, BAR International Series 2962.

2020 - Parkes, R. 'Mountains as Mihrab, Directionality in Islamic Landscapes' in *Yachay Wasi: The House of Knowledge of I. S. Farrington* edited by L. A. Dunbar, R. Parkes, C. Gant-Thompson, and D. Tybussek., BAR International Series 2962, pp. 149-168.

2001 Camel camps and mining towns: archaeology and the role of Afghan cameleers in Australian mining, *Proceedings of the Australian Mining History Association Conferences 1997-2000*, Crawley, WA. pp. 16-22.

Technical Field Reports:

2006 *Excavations at the Kiandra Gold Commissioner's Camp: KGQ-II - Mounted Police Barracks*. Report to the School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra.

2004 *Excavations at Township Hill, Kiandra: KTH-V-2004*. Report to the School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra.

2003 *Kiandra Field School Excavations: Preliminary report on the excavation of KTH-I-2003 - Mining Huts*. Report to the School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra.

Examples of Consultancy Reports:

NSW Wild Dog Fence Extension Project (SA Alignment), Preliminary Assessment, Report to the Department of Regional NSW, co-authored with Alistair Grinbergs and Cass Venn.

Runnyford Fish Trap – Management Plan. Report to NSW Department of Primary Industries prepared by Lantern Heritage 2020, co-authored with Tom Knight.

Replacement of Signal Huts – Bundanoon Railway Station & Yard Group: Archival Recording. Report to Australian Rail Track Corporation prepared by Lantern Heritage 2020, co-authored with Alistair Grinbergs.

Proposed Upgrades at Murunna Point, Wallaga Lake and Blackfellows Lake, Kalaru - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. Report to Bega Valley Shire Council, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2019.

Lake Street Shared Pathway, Merimbula- Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment. Report to Bega Valley Shire Council, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2019

Googong: Neighbourhood 2 NSW - Salvage Excavations at Historic Sites GH5A, GH5B, & GH7A. Report to PEET prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants 2019 – co-authored with Adrian Cressey.

Somersby Organics Recycling Centre: Preliminary Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment. Report to Davis Earthmoving and Quarrying, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2019.

Wallaga Lake Ecotourism Development: Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment. Report to KEEPLAN prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

Casino Railway Station and yard group: Statement of Heritage Impact. Report to ARTC prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

Burgmann Anglican School, The Valley Campus – Historical Cultural Heritage Assessment. Report to Elton Consulting, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

Burgmann Anglican School, The Valley Campus – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment. Report to Elton Consulting, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

Gammon Place Site – Heritage Impact Statement. Report to Dabyne Planning Pty Ltd, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018 – co-authored with Gary Estcourt.

Wollondibby Mill Site – Heritage Impact Statement. Report to Dabyne Planning Pty Ltd, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018 – co-authored with Gary Estcourt.

North Tura Beach Coastal Reserve Upgrade - Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment. Report to Bega Valley Shire Council, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018 – co-authored with Elle Lillis and James Carr.

Employment Pathways: Masters' Level students within the School of Archaeology and Anthropology and the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies. Report to The Australian National University, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

River Murray to Broken Hill Pipeline, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan 3 of 4, Chainage 11 1500 to Chainage 157000, Coombah, prepared by Niche Environment and Heritage for WaterNSW 2018 – co-authored with Clare Anderson.

River Murray to Broken Hill Pipeline, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment 3 of 4, Chainage 11 1500 to Chainage 157000, Coombah, prepared by Niche Environment and Heritage for WaterNSW 2018 – co-authored with Isabel Tickle, Phil Roberts and Rebecca Vartto.

"Sunset" Residential Development Googong European Heritage Assessment. Report to Genium Civil Engineering on behalf of Past Traces Pty Ltd, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2018.

Tathra to Kalaru Bike Path Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment. Report to Bega Valley Shire Council, prepared by Lantern Heritage 2017

Woolgoolga to Ballina Upgrade Project: Woodburn-Broadwater Additional Works, Broadwater Landfill Asbestos Capping Layer, Due Diligence Assessment of Heritage Impacts. Report to See Civil on behalf of Pacific Complete prepared by Lantern Heritage 2017.

Woolgoolga to Ballina Upgrade Project: Woodburn-Broadwater Additional Works, Due Diligence Assessment of Heritage Impacts. Report to See Civil on behalf of Pacific Complete prepared by Lantern Heritage 2017.

Woolgoolga to Ballina Upgrade Project: Woodburn-Broadwater Service Road Utilities Adjustment Works, Consistency Assessment of Heritage Impacts. Report to See Civil on behalf of Pacific Complete prepared by Lantern Heritage 2017.

Thackaringa Cobalt Project Additional Resource Definition Drilling: Due Diligence Heritage Assessment and Survey. Report to Broken Hill Prospecting Ltd prepared by Lantern Heritage 2017

Archaeological Test Excavation, Googong Township: Neighbourhood 2 (NH2), NSW Historic Sites GH5A-B and GH7A-B. Report to Googong Township Pty Ltd prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants 2017 – co-authored with Travis Gottschutzke.

Moorebank Intermodal Terminal; Aboriginal Heritage Assessment. Report to Parsons Brinckerhoff prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants 2014.

Moorebank Intermodal Terminal; European Heritage Assessment. Report to Parsons Brinckerhoff prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants 2014.

Reconstructed GH14 Settlers Hut and Interpretation Area, Googong New Town, NSW - Conservation Management Plan, Report to CIC Australia prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2014.

Moorebank Intermodal Terminal – Liverpool City Council Northern Powerhouse Land - Aboriginal Subsurface Testing, Report to Parson Brinckerhoff on Behalf of the Department of Finance and Deregulation prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants 2014.

Wallerawang to Orange 132kV transmission line reconstruction project, cultural heritage assessment. Report to GHD for TransGrid prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2014.

Wallerawang to Orange 132kV transmission line reconstruction project - Statement of Heritage Impact for the Bathurst Migrant Camp, Report to GHD for TransGrid prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2014.

GH14 Salvage Excavation, Googong New Town. Report to Canberra Investment Corporation prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2013.

Foxground and Berry Bypass, Princes Highway Upgrade: Non-Aboriginal (historic) heritage assessment. Report to NSW Roads and Maritime Services, prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2012.

Monitoring and Salvage at Clear Hills Farm, Dunmore, Report to Australand prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2012.

Highlands Source Project Monitoring of Construction Impacts at: Kenmore Psychiatric Hospital and Veterans' Allotments, Goulburn. Report to GHD prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2012.

Highlands Source Project: Subsurface Testing and Salvage at Aboriginal Sites between Goulburn and Wingecarribee Reservoir, NSW, report to GHD prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2012.

Kempsey Bypass, Pacific Highway Upgrade: Archaeological Subsurface Testing and Collection Program. Report to Kempsey Bypass Alliance prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2011.

Highlands Source Project, Water Transfer from Wingecarribee Water Supply Reservoir to Goulburn Water Treatment Plant: Cultural Heritage Assessment. Report to GHD prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2010.

Pacific Highway Upgrade, Kempsey Bypass Project: Ferry Lane Management Plan, report to Kempsey Bypass Alliance prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2010.

ACT Water Security Program Enlarged Cotter Dam, Cotter Trout Hatchery (ECRH7) Archival Recording: European Heritage – CMP Program. Report to Bulk Water Alliance prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2010.

Peelwood Copper – Zinc Mine Peelwood, NSW: Cultural; Heritage Assessment. Report to Sultan Corporation prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2010.

Statement of Significance: Towong, Murray Bridge Crossing. Report to the Roads and Traffic Authority prepared by nghenvironmental, 2007.

ACT Rural Villages Sustainability Report: Cultural Heritage Study. Report to McCann Property and Planning prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2004.

Googong Local Environmental Study: Cultural Heritage Component. Report to Willana Associates prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2003.

Dibden, J. and R. Parkes

Snowy 2.0 Main Works Heritage Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact. A report to Snowy Hydro Limited prepared by NSW Archaeology 2019.

Comber, J. and R. Parkes

Highland Source Project: Statement of Heritage Impact: Veterans' Allotments, Goulburn. A report to GHD and Goulburn Mulwaree Council, prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2011.

Highland Source Project: Statement of Heritage Impact: Kenmore Psychiatric Hospital, Goulburn. A report to GHD and Goulburn Mulwaree Council, prepared by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2011.

Examples of Conference Papers and Sessions:

A Field School in Professional Practice: the ANU Oaks Estate Project, paper co-authored with Catherine Frieman and presented at the *Disrupting the Learning Dystopia: Resolving the Discord between Education and Industry* session of the AAA Conference at the Gold Coast, 10th-13th December 2019.

The Archaeology of Beer and Fluidity of Meaning, paper presented in the *World of Experimental and Experiential Archaeology in Australia* session co-chaired with Fiona Hook, Alice Mora and Darren Griffiths at the AAA Conference in Melbourne, 6th-8th December 2017.

The Clarence and Richmond River Valleys: interweaving archaeology and cultural connections. Session co-chaired with Joshua Madden at the AAA Conference in Gosford, 6th-8th December 2016.

Consistency of approach in archaeological consulting: the assessment of the Aboriginal cultural landscape between Woolgoolga and Ballina. Paper presented with Georgia Wright, Joshua Madden and Erin Williams at the AAA Conference in Freemantle, 2nd – 4th December 2015.

Mechanically Digging by Hand vs Bespoke Mechanical Pits. Invitational Paper presented to the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc., 27th March 2015.

Landscapes of Change: Rethinking the Role of Documents in Landscape Interpretation. Session co-chaired with Travis Gottschutzke, at the AAA/ASHA Joint Conference in Cairns, 1st -3rd December 2014.

A Nineteenth Century Hut in A Twenty-first Century Neighbourhood, paper presented at the AAA Conference in Coffs Harbour, 1st – 4th December 2013.

The Auger Bites Back: A review of the auger and other mechanical excavation techniques, paper presented at the AAA Conference in Wollongong, 9th – 13th December 2012.

The Archaeology of Religion, Ritual and Ceremony, Session co-chaired with Julie Dibden and Tom Knight, at the AAA Conference in Toowoomba, 1st- 3rd December 2011.

Augering Well: Introducing the Bucket Auger, paper presented with Tim Maloney at the AAA Conference in Batemans Bay, 10th – 13th December 2010.

Traces of the Cameleers, paper presented at the combined AIMA/ASHA/AAMH Conference in Adelaide, 24th-27th September 2008.

Afghans in the Australian Landscape, paper presented at the British Australian Studies Association conference at the University of Wales, Lampeter, 3rd-6th September 1997.

CERTIFICATES, LICENCES AND OTHER TRAINING

4WD training: Drive and recover a 4WD vehicle (Getabout Training Services SRODRV001B)

Emergency First Aid:

HTLAID003 Provide first aid

HTLAID002 Provide basic emergency life support

HTLAID001 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation

HLTAID005 Provide first aid in remote situations

Construction Induction: CGIO1307425SEQ1 (NSW) Issued: 14/08/09

LANGUAGES SKILLS

Spanish – professional working proficiency

Arabic – elementary proficiency

AWARDS/PRIZES/SCHOLARSHIPS

University Medal in Archaeology, The Australian National University

Peter May Prize for Archaeology, The Australian National University

Australian Postgraduate Award for PhD research at the ANU

ANU Supplementary Scholarship for PhD research the ANU