

Coastplan Group

M

Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

LGA: Midcoast Council

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA)

4 October 2019

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Date: 4 October 2019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd (MCH) was commissioned by Coastplan Group to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub located at Cundletown. Over the last five years Midcoast Council have been actively supporting the development of the Northern Gateway Transport Hub north of Cundletown. The immediate intended use of this hub is for road transport-related services/industries given it adjoins the Pacific Highway. Over time it will be connected to other transport forms including air (adjoining Taree Airport) and rail (located in Taree). The Northern Gateway is being developed in two stages. Stage 1 (7 ha) is adjacent to the Pacific Highway at Emerton Close. This land has been rezoned and a development application approved to establish a transport/trucking depot for a regional transport operator. Stage 2 (50 ha) seeks to extend the land available for transport related industries towards the airport. This ACHAR relates to Stage 2.

The project area includes Lot 1 DP 1096868, Lots 1 & 2 DP 733715, Lot 16 DP 613107, Lot 1 DP 1139255 and Lot 681 DP 617842 Emerton Close and Denison Street, Cundletown and consists of flats with a minimal slope grade from south to north with the highest point in the southern portion being 7.5 metres AHD and the lowest, almost level area to the north eastern boundary being 1.5 metres AHD.

The northern half of the project area is situated on quaternary sand, silt, mud and gravels and the southern half is on the Carboniferous Byabbra Beds consisting of lithic sandstone, siltstone, tuff, shale and limestone. The presence of tuff within the geology of the Byabbra Beds indicates that stone materials suitable for manufacturing stone artefacts may occur in various locations throughout the project area. Situated on plain in alluvial plain under unknown on marine, clay, sand lithology and used for improved pasture, the soils consist an A₁ horizon (0-43cm) of dark grey (brownish grey) (7.5YR 4/1) light clay. This overlays the A₂ horizon (43-45cm) of red (bright reddish brown) (2.5YR 5/6) light clay. This overlays the B horizon (45-85cm) of light brownish grey (greyish yellow brown) (10YR 6/2) heavy clay. In terms of fresh water availability and associated resources, the project area is situated approximately 800 metres north of the Manning River at its closets point to the project area and the Dawson River that joint the Manning River at approximately 700 metres south west. The Manning River, a major source of subsistence and medicinal resources for past Aboriginal people, is located to the south and flows north/north east around the project area Within the project area, there are no water sources. What appear to be creeks on topographic maps are in fact man-made drains. With the lack of fresh water available in the project area, there would have been limited resources that would have enabled more that transitory activities such as hunting and gathering and travel to location with reliable fresh water such as the Manning River.

The drainage and vegetation throughout the project area would have supported a limited range of faunal populations including kangaroo, wallaby, goanna, snakes and a variety of birds. A wider variety of resources would have been available in areas in closer proximity to the Manning River, a reliable source of fresh water and associated subsistence and medicinal resources. The project area has been cleared and primarily used for pastoral purposes (grazing), involving the wholesale clearance of native vegetation, the introduction of pasture grass, the construction of dams, housing, fencing, numerous tracks and associated infrastructure (water, electricity, telephone).

Whilst the regional environment provided resources, including raw materials, fauna, flora and water, that would have allowed for sustainable occupation of the area, the project area, being within alluvial flats and no fresh water resources available, the project area may have been suitable for more transitory activities such as hunting and gathering or travel to more reliable water sources and associated subsistence resources such as the Manning River. In relation to modern alterations to the landscape, the use of the majority of the project area for farming purposes can be expected to have had low to moderate impacts upon the archaeological record. European land uses such as clearing,

grazing, ploughing, and the construction of dams, housing and fences may have displaced cultural materials, however in less disturbed areas, it is likely that archaeological deposits may remain relatively intact.

A search of the BCD AHIMS register has shown that 1 known Aboriginal site (artefact) is currently recorded within three kilometres of the project area. No regional studies were available and no local assessments within 3 kilometres of the project area had been undertaken and as such, general models of past Aboriginal land use and occupation was provided as follows:

- the majority of sites are located within 50 metres of a water source and reduce with distance from water;
- artefact densities are highest within 50 metres of a water source and decrease with distance from water;
- the likelihood of finding sites of any size increases with proximity to water and the likelihood of finding large artefact scatters also increases markedly with proximity to water;
- the main site types are artefact scatters and isolated finds;
- the data suggests that elevated landforms in close proximity to water sources were the preferred location for camping, followed by slopes. However, this does not account for vertical movement of artefacts or sites being moved from flooding, flowing creeks etc.
- mudstone, chert and tuff are by far the most common raw material types represented at sites in the region. Quartz is the next most frequently in artefact assemblages followed by volcanic materials, porphyry and petrified wood. Siltstone, rhyolite and porcellanite are relatively rare;
- flakes, broken flakes and flaked pieces are the most common artefact types recorded;
- the vast majority of artefactual material in the region was observed on exposures with good to excellent ground surface visibility.

Within the specific project area, it was predicted that it was possible that isolated finds and small density artefacts scatters reflective of transitory activities such as hunting and gathering and travel to the Dawson or Manning River where resources would have been plentiful allowing for more concentrated areas of occupation and camping. The refinement of this predictive model was dependent upon an investigation of the range of landforms and the occurrence of modern disturbances within the project area.

The survey confirmed the past and present land uses and consisted of previous large-scale clearing and grazing with some ploughing for such activities. The eastern section included a farm house, sheds and associated infrastructure and utilities. Two additional farm houses, shed and associated infrastructure and utilities were located in the mid section that was also a previous dairy farm. There are a number of man-made drains throughout the landscape as well as fences, tracks and dams. Predominantly consisting of open paddocks with grass, sections to the west and south consisted of new growth open woodland. Exposures were low to moderate and no raw materials usually transported into the area and utilised for stone tool manufacture were visible. The overall effective coverage for project area illustrated that the overall effective coverage was 24% with grass being the limiting factor and erosion across the project area being high.

No archaeological sites or Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) were identified during the survey and this is likely due to a number of factors including:

- Distance from reliable water and subsistence resources indicates the project area was unlikely to have been utilised for camping;

- The project area may have been used for travel and/or hunting and gathering which manifest in the archaeological record as very low-density artefact scatters and/or isolated finds; and
- Past and present land uses would have displaced and/or destroyed any evidence of past Aboriginal land use.

As no sites were identified during the survey there are no impacts on the archaeological record and based on the environmental, ethnographic and archaeological contexts as well as the results of the survey, the following recommendations are made:

- 1) The persons responsible for the management of onsite works will ensure that all staff, contractors and others involved in construction and maintenance related activities are made aware of the statutory legislation protecting sites and places of significance. Of particular importance is the National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Aboriginal Objects and Aboriginal Places) Regulation 2010, under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974; and
- 2) Should any Aboriginal objects be uncovered during works, all work will cease in that location immediately and the Environmental Line contacted.

GLOSSARY

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values: traditional values of Aboriginal people, handed down in spiritual beliefs, stories and community practices and may include local plant and animal species, places that are important and ways of showing respect for other people.

Aboriginal Place: are locations that have been recognised by the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment (and gazetted under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*) as having special cultural significance to the Aboriginal community. An Aboriginal Place may or may not include archaeological materials.

Aboriginal Site: an Aboriginal site is the location of one or more Aboriginal archaeological objects, including flaked stone artefacts, midden shell, grinding grooves, archaeological deposits, scarred trees etc.

Artefact: any object that is physically modified by humans.

Assemblage: a collection of artefacts associated by a particular place or time, assumed generated by a single group of people, and can comprise different artefact types.

Axe: a stone-headed axe usually having two ground surfaces that meet at a bevel.

Backed artefact: a stone tool where the margin of a flake is retouched at a steep angle and that margin is opposite a sharp edge.

Background scatter: a term used to describe low density scatter of isolated finds that are distributed across the landscape without any obvious focal point.

Blade: a flake that is at least twice as long as it is wide.

Bondi point: a small asymmetrical backed artefact with a point at one end and backing retouch.

Core: a chunk of stone from which flakes are removed and will have one or more negative flake scars but no positive flake scars. The core itself can be shaped into a tool or used as a source of flakes to be formed into tools.

Debitage: small pieces of stone debris that break off during the manufacturing of stone tools. These are usually considered waste and are the by-product of production (also referred to as flake piece).

Flake: any piece of stone struck off a core and has a number of characteristics including ring cracks showing where the hammer hit the core and a bulb of percussion. May be used as a tool with no further working, may be retouched or serve as a platform for further reduction.

Flaked piece/waste flake: an unmodified and unused flake, usually the by-product of tool manufacture or core preparation (also referred to asdebitage).

Formation processes: human caused (land uses etc) or natural processes (geological, animal, plant growth etc) by which an archaeological site is modified during or after occupation and abandonment. These processes have a large effect on the provenience of artefacts or features.

Grinding stone: an abrasive stone used to abrade another artefact or to process food.

Hammer stone: a stone that has been used to strike a core to remove a flake, often causing pitting or other wear on the stone's surface.

Harm: is defined as an act that may destroy, deface or damage an Aboriginal object or place. In relation to an object, this means the movement or removal of an object from the land in which it has been situated

Holocene: the post-glacial period, beginning about 10,000 B.P.

In situ: archaeological items are said to be "in situ" when they are found in the location where they were last deposited.

Pleistocene: the latest major geological epoch, colloquially known as the "Ice Age" due to the multiple expansion and retreat of glaciers. Ca. 3,000,000-10,000 years B.P.

Retouched flake: a flake that has been flaked again in a manner that modified the edge for the purpose of resharpening that edge.

Stratified Archaeological Deposits: Aboriginal archaeological objects may be observed in soil deposits and within rock shelters or caves. Where layers can be detected within the soil or sediments, which are attributable to separate depositional events in the past, the deposit is said to be stratified. The integrity of sediments and soils are usually affected by 200 years of European settlement and activities such as land clearing, cultivation and construction of industrial, commercial and residential developments.

Taphonomy: the study of processes which have affected organic materials such as bone after death; it also involves the microscopic analysis of tooth-marks or cut marks to assess the effects of butchery or scavenging activities.

Traditional Aboriginal Owners: Aboriginal people who are listed in the Register of Aboriginal owners pursuant to Division 3 of the *Aboriginal Land Register Act (1983)*. The Registrar must give priority to registering Aboriginal people for lands listed in Schedule 14 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* or land subject to a claim under 36A of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

Traditional Knowledge: Information about the roles, responsibilities and practices set out in the cultural beliefs of the Aboriginal community. Only certain individuals have traditional knowledge and different aspects of traditional knowledge may be known by different people, e.g. information about men's initiation sites and practices, women's sites, special pathways, proper responsibilities of people fishing or gathering food for the community, ways of sharing and looking after others, etc.

Typology: the systematic organization of artefacts into types on the basis of shared attributes.

Use wear: the wear displayed on an artefact as a result of use.

ACRONYMS

ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ACHMP	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
BCD	Biodiversity and Conservation Division

BCD AHIMS SITE ACRONYMS

ACD	Aboriginal ceremonial and dreaming
AFT	Artefact (stone, bone, shell, glass, ceramic and metal)
ARG	Aboriginal resource and gathering
ART	Art (pigment or engraving)
BOM	Non-human bone and organic material
BUR	Burial
CFT	Conflict site
CMR	Ceremonial ring (stone or earth)
ETM	Earth mound
FSH	Fish trap
GDG	Grinding groove
HAB	Habitation structure
HTH	Hearth
OCQ	Ochre quarry
PAD	Potential archaeological Deposit
SHL	Shell
STA	Stone arrangement
STQ	Stone quarry
TRE	Modified tree (carved or scarred)
WTR	Water hole

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd (MCH) has been commissioned by Coastplan Group to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub located at Cundletown.

Over the last five years Midcoast Council have been actively supporting the development of the Northern Gateway Transport Hub north of Cundletown. The immediate intended use of this hub is for road transport-related services/industries given it adjoins the Pacific Highway. Over time it will be connected to other transport forms including air (adjoining Taree Airport) and rail (located in Taree). The Northern Gateway is being developed in two stages. Stage 1 (7 ha) is adjacent to the Pacific Highway at Emerton Close. This land has been rezoned and a development application approved to establish a transport/trucking depot for a regional transport operator. Stage 2 (50 ha) seeks to extend the land available for transport related industries towards the airport. This ACHAR relates to Stage 2.

The assessment has been undertaken to meet the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD) formerly the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (DECCW 2010), the OEH Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011), the DECCW Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b) and the brief.

1.2 PROPONENT DETAILS

Northern Gateway Landowners

1.3 THE PROJECT AREA

The project area is defined by the proponent and includes Lot 1 DP 1096868, Lots 1 & 2 DP 733715, Lot 16 DP 613107, Lot 1 DP 1139255 and Lot 681 DP 617842 Emerton Close and Denison Street, Cundletown. The location and extent of the project area is illustrated in Figures 1.1 to 1.3.

Figure 1.1 Regional location of the project area



Figure 1.2 Local location of the project area

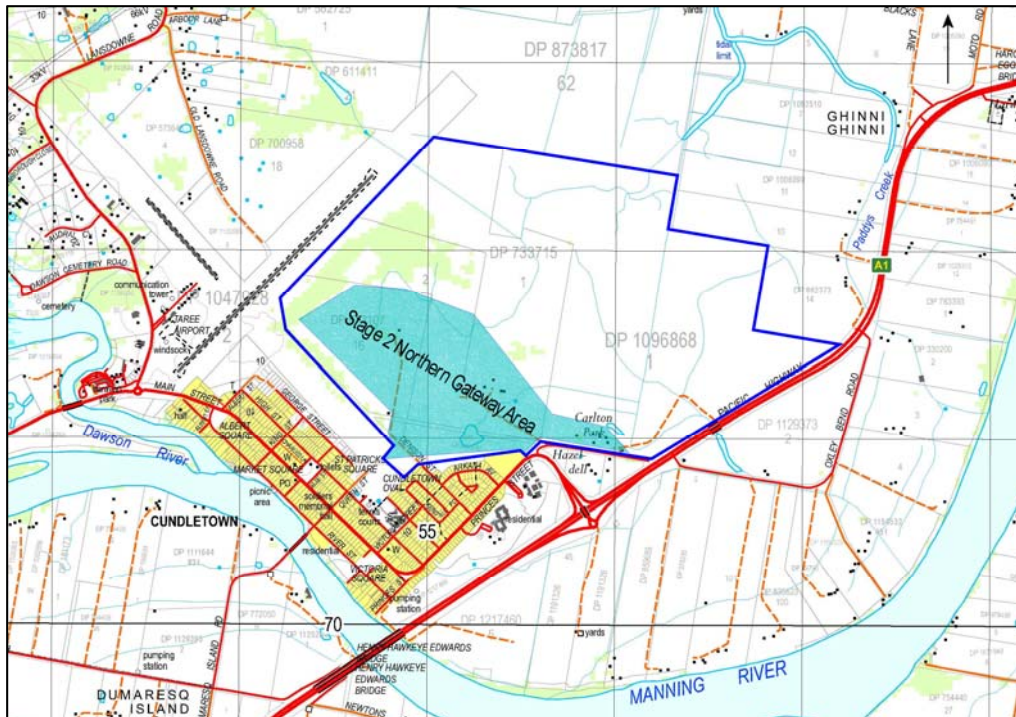


Figure 1.3 Aerial photograph of the project area (nearmap 2018)



1.4 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub is intended for transport-related industries given its proximity to the Pacific Highway. Over time, this hub will be connected to other transport forms including air (adjoining Taree Airport) and rail (located in Taree). Expected uses include a freight

transport facility, truck depot, transport depot, warehouse and distribution centre. The transport hub has an area of 74 ha. Stage 1 has been rezoned and a development application approved for a regional trucking depot. Stage 2 is the subject of this ACHAR with an area of 67 ha.

Any future development of the project will have regard to the requirements and provision of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and any impacts will be managed in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 where required.

1.5 PURPOSE OF THE ARCAHEOLOGIVAL ASSESSMENT

The purpose of the assessment is to assess any archaeological constraints to support the proposal and to provide opportunities and options to ensure any cultural materials present are protected through appropriate mitigation and management.

1.6 OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSESSMENT

The objective of the assessment is to identify areas of indigenous cultural heritage value, to determine possible impacts on any indigenous cultural heritage identified (including potential subsurface evidence) and to develop management recommendations where appropriate. The assessment employs a regional approach, taking into consideration the landscape of the project area (landforms, water resources, soils, geology etc), the regional archaeological patterning identified by past studies, natural processes (e.g. erosion) as well as land uses and associated impacts across the landscape and any associated cultural that may be present.

1.7 PROJECT BRIEF/SCOPE OF WORK

The following tasks were carried out:

- a review of relevant statutory registers and inventories for indigenous cultural heritage including the NSW BCD Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) for known archaeological sites, The National Heritage List, the Commonwealth Heritage List, the Australian Heritage Database, Australia's National Heritage List, The National Trust Heritage Register State Heritage Inventory the and the Midcoast Local Environmental Plan;
- a review of local environmental information (topographic, geological, soil, geomorphological, vegetation, erosion) to determine the likelihood of archaeological sites and specific site types that may be present, prior and existing land uses and associated impacts and site disturbance that may affect site integrity;
- a review of previous cultural heritage investigations to determine the extent of archaeological investigations in the area and identify any archaeological patterns;
- the development of a predictive archaeological statement based on the data searches and literature review;
- identification of human and natural impacts in relation to the known and any new archaeological sites and archaeological potential within the project area;
- consultation with the Aboriginal stakeholders as per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010);
- undertake a site inspection with the participation of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders, and

- the development of mitigation and conservation measures in consultation with the registered Aboriginal stakeholders.

1.8 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The following overview of the legislative framework, is provided solely for information purposes for the client, and should not be interpreted as legal advice. MCH will not be liable for any actions taken by any person, body or group as a result of this general overview and MCH recommends that specific legal advice be obtained from a qualified legal practitioner prior to any action being taken as a result of the general summary below.

Land managers are required to consider the effects of their activities or proposed development on the environment under several pieces of legislation. Although there are a number of Acts and regulations protecting Aboriginal heritage, including places, sites and objects, within NSW, the three main ones include:

- National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974, as amended)
- National Parks and Wildlife Regulation (2009)
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979)

1.8.1 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT (1974, AS AMENDED)

The National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974), Amended 2010, is the primary legislation for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in New South Wales. The NPW Act protects Aboriginal heritage (places, sites and objects) within NSW and the Protection of Aboriginal heritage is outlined in s86 of the Act, as follows:

- “A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object” s86(1)
- “A person must not harm an Aboriginal object” s86(2)
- “A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place” s86(4)

Penalties apply for harming an Aboriginal object, site or place. The penalty for knowingly harming an Aboriginal object (s86[1]) and/or an Aboriginal place (s86[4]) is up to \$550,000 for an individual and/or imprisonment for 2 years; and in the case of a corporation the penalty is up to \$1.1 million. The penalty for a strict liability offence (s86[2]) is up to \$110,000 for an individual and \$220,000 for a corporation.

Harm under the National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974, as amended) is defined as any act that; destroys defaces or damages the object, moves the object from the land on which it has been situated, causes or permits the object to be harmed. However, it is a defence from prosecution if the proponent can demonstrate that;

- 1) harm was authorised under an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) (and the permit was properly followed), or
- 2) the proponent exercised due diligence in respect to Aboriginal heritage.

The ‘due diligence’ defence (s87[2]), states that if a person or company has applied due diligence to determine that no Aboriginal object, site or place was likely to be harmed as a result of the activities proposed for the Project Area, then liability from prosecution under the NPW Act 1974 will be

removed or mitigated if it later transpires that an Aboriginal object, site or place was harmed. If any Aboriginal objects are identified during the activity, then works should cease in that area and BCD notified (DECCW 2010:13). The due diligence defence does not allow for continuing harm.

The archaeological due diligence assessment and report has been carried out in compliance with the NSW DECCW 2010 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.

1.8.2 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE REGULATION (2009)

The National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 provides a framework for undertaking activities and exercising due diligence in respect to Aboriginal heritage. The Regulation (2009) recognises various due diligence codes of practice, including the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW which is pertinent to this report, but it also outlines procedures for Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) applications and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements (ACHCRs); amongst other regulatory processes.

1.8.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 (EP&A ACT)

EP&A Act establishes the statutory framework for planning and environmental assessment in NSW and the implementation of the EP&A Act is the responsibility of the Minister for Planning, statutory authorities and local councils. The EP&A Act contains three parts which impose requirements for planning approval:

- Part 3 of the EP&A Act relates to the preparation and making of Environmental Planning Instruments (EPIs), State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) and Local Environmental Plans (LEPs).
- Part 4 of the EP&A Act establishes the framework for assessing development under an EPI. The consent authority for Part 4 development is generally the local council, however the consent authority may be the Minister, the Planning Assessment Commission or a joint regional planning panel depending upon the nature of the development.
- Part 4, Division 4.1 of the EP&A Act establishes the assessment pathway for State significant development (SSD) declared by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (NSW). Once a development is declared as SSD, the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) will be issued outlining what issues must be considered in the EIS.
- Part 5 of the EP&A Act provides for the control of 'activities' that do not require development consent and are undertaken or approved by a determining authority. Development under Part 5 that are likely to significantly affect the environment is required to have an EIS prepared for the proposed activity.
- Part 5.1 of the EP&A Act establishes the assessment pathways for State significant infrastructure (SSI). Development applications made for SSI can only be approved by the Minister. Once a development is declared as SSI, the SEARs will be issued outlining what issues must be addressed in the EIS.

The applicable approval process is determined by reference to the relevant environmental planning instruments and other controls, LEPs and State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs). This project falls under Part 3.

1.9 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE INVESTIGATOR

Dr. Penny McCardle: Principal Archaeologist & Forensic Anthropologist has 19 years experience in Indigenous archaeological assessments, excavation, research, reporting, analysis and consultation. Six years in skeletal identification, biological profiling and skeletal trauma identification.

- BA (Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology, University of New England 1999
- Hons (Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology): Physical Anthropology), University of New England 2001
- Forensic Anthropology Course, University of New England 2003
- Armed Forces Institute of Pathology Forensic Anthropology Course, Ashburn, VA 2008
- Analysis of Bone Trauma and Pseudo-Trauma in Suspected Violent Death Course, Erie College, Pennsylvania, 2009
- PhD, University of Newcastle, 2019

1.10 REPORT STRUCTURE

The report includes Section 1 which outlines the project, Section 2 provides the consultation, Section 3 presents the environmental context, Section 4 presents ethno historic context, Section 5 provides the archaeological background, Section 6 provides the results of the fieldwork, analysis and discussion; Section 7 presents the development impact assessment, Section 8 presents the mitigation strategies and Section 9 presents the management recommendations.

2 CONSULTATION

As per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (April 2010), MCH followed the four stages of consultation as set out below. All correspondences for each stage are provided in Appendix A.

In relation to cultural significance, MCH recognises and supports the indigenous system of knowledge. That is, that knowledge is not 'open' in the sense that everyone has access and an equal right to it. Knowledge is not always definitive (in the sense that there is only one right answer) and knowledge is often restricted. As access to this knowledge is power, it must be controlled by people with the appropriate qualifications (usually based on age seniority, but may be based on other factors). Thus, it is important to obtain information from the correct people: those that hold the appropriate knowledge of those sites and/or areas relevant to the project. It is noted that only the Aboriginal community can identify and determine the accepted knowledge holder(s) may be not archaeologists or proponents. If knowledge is shared, that information must be used correctly and per the wishes of the knowledge holder.

Whilst an archaeologist may view this information as data, a custodian may view this information as highly sensitive, secret/sacred information and may place restrictions on its use. Thus, it is important for MCH to engage in affective and long-term consultation to ensure knowledge is shared and managed in a suitable manner that will allow for the appropriate management of that site/area. MCH also know that archaeologists do not have the capability nor the right to adjudicate on the spirituality of a particular location or site as this is the exclusive right of the traditional owners who have the cultural and hereditary association with the land of their own ancestors. For these reasons, consultation forms an integral component of all projects and this information is sought from the registered stakeholders to be included in the report in the appropriate manner that is stipulated by those with the information.

2.1 STAGE 1: NOTIFICATION & REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

The aim of this stage is to identify, notify and register Aboriginal people and/or groups who hold cultural knowledge that is relevant to the project area, and who can determine the cultural significance of any Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area. In order to do this, the sources identified by OEH (2010:10) and listed in Table 2.1, to provide the names of people who may hold cultural knowledge that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places were contacted by letter on 1 April 2019. A reply was requested by the 15 April 2019 and it was stipulated that if no response was received, the project and consultation will proceed. Information included in the correspondence to the sources listed in Table 2.1 included the name and contact details of the proponent, an overview of the proposed project including the location and a map showing the location.

Table 2.1 Sources contacted

Organisations contacted	Response
Office of Environment and Heritage	23 groups
P/TLALC	no response
Midcoast Council	no response
Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983	P/T LALC
National Native Title Tribunal	no claims
Native Title Services Corporation Limited	no response
Hunter Local Land Services	no response

Following this, MCH compiled a list of people/groups to contact (Refer to Annex A). As per the Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents (April 2010), archaeologists and proponents must write to all those groups provided asking if they would like to register their interest in the project. Unfortunately, some Government departments written to requesting a list of groups to consult with do not differentiate groups from different traditional boundaries and provide an exhaustive list of groups from across the region including those outside their traditional boundaries.

MCH wrote to all parties identified by the various departments on 24 April 2019, and an advertisement was placed in the Manning River Times 25 April 2019. The correspondence and advertisement included the required information as per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (April 2010) and requested to nominate the preferred option for the presentation of information about the proposed project: an information packet or a meeting and information packet (Refer to Stage 2). The Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) include Mr. Lee Davison.

2.2 STAGE 2: PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The aim of this stage is to provide the RAPs with information regarding the scope of the proposed project and the cultural heritage assessment process.

As Mr. Davidson did not provide their preferred method of receiving information, an information packet was sent and included the required information as per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (April 2010). The pack included the required information as per the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (April 2010) and a written response to the proposed methods was due no later than 10th June 2019.

The information pack also stipulated that consultation was not employment, and requested that in order to assist the proponent in the engagement of field workers, that Mr. Lee provide information that will assist in the selection of field staff who may be paid on a contractual basis). This included, but was not limited to, experience in field work and in providing cultural heritage advice (asked to nominate at least two individuals who will be available and fit for work) and their relevant experience; and to provide a CV and insurance details.

The information pack also noted that failure to provide the required information by the date provided will result in a missed opportunity for the Mr. Lee to contribute to his cultural heritage and the project will proceed.

2.3 STAGE 3: GATHERING INFORMATION ABOUT CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The aim of this stage is to facilitate a process whereby the RAPs can contribute to culturally appropriate information gathering and the research methodology, provide information that will enable the cultural significance of any Aboriginal objects and or/places within the proposed project area to be determined and have input into the development of any cultural heritage management options and mitigation measures. In order to do this, included in the information pack sent for Stage 2, was information pertaining to the gathering of cultural knowledge. This included the following information;

- MCH noted that information provided by RAPs may be sensitive and MCH and the proponent will not share that information with all RAPs or others without the express permission of the individual. MCH and the proponent extended an invitation to develop and implement appropriate protocols for sourcing and holding cultural information including any restrictions to place on information, as well as the preferred method of providing information;
- request for traditional/cultural knowledge or information associated with ceremonial, spiritual, mythological beliefs, traditions and known sites from the pre-contact period;
- request for traditional/cultural knowledge or information regarding sites or places with historical associations and/or cultural significance which date from the post-contact period and that are remembered by people today (e.g. plant and animal resource use areas, known camp sites); and
- request for traditional/cultural knowledge or information in relation to any sites or places of contemporary cultural significance (apart from the above) which has acquired significance recently.

During this process, Mr Davison provided information stating that he used to hunt kangaroo/wallaby in the area with his family (uncles, great uncles and grandfather) and also collected green weed (bait for blackfish) in small creeks in the area, which is a cultural resource for Aboriginal fishing.

2.4 SURVEY

Mr Davison was invited to participate in the survey on 5th September. Unfortunately, Mr. Lee informed MCH on the 4th September he was unable to attend and was looking forward to receiving the report.

2.5 STAGE 4: REVIEW OF DRAFT CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Copies of the DRAFT report were forwarded to Mr Davison for their review and were asked to provide a written or verbal response no later than 8th October 2019.

The cultural values identified in the written responses to the draft report by Mr Davison are presented. Comments received by MCH include.

- Include that local Aboriginal people still use the Manning River for food and medicinal resources such as fish (food) and cobra (food and medicinal)
- Undertake test excavations as even though highly disturbed, artefacts may be present in the project area

All comments received from Mr Davison were considered in the final report, all submissions responded to and the draft report altered to include their comments. Mr Davison was provided a copy of the final report. All documentation regarding the consultation process is provided in Appendix A.

3 LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Documenting and understanding the context of archaeological sites in relation to surrounding terrain features is essential to landscape archaeological studies worldwide (De Reu et al., 2013; De Reu et al., 2011; Turrero et al., 2013) and the nature and distribution of Aboriginal cultural materials in a landscape are strongly influenced by environmental factors such as topography, geology, landforms, climate, geomorphology, hydrology and the associated soils and vegetation (Hughes and Sullivan 1984). These factors influence the availability of plants, animals, water, raw materials, the location of suitable camping places, ceremonial grounds, burials, and suitable surfaces for the application of rock art. As site locations may differ between landforms due to differing environmental constraints that result in the physical manifestation of different spatial distributions and forms of archaeological evidence, these environmental factors are used in constructing predictive models of Aboriginal site locations.

Environmental factors also effect the degree to which cultural materials have survived in the face of both natural and human influences and affect the likelihood of sites being detected during ground surface survey. Site detection is dependent on a number of environmental factors including surface visibility (which is determined by the nature and extent of ground cover including grass and leaf litter etc) and the survival of the original land surface and associated cultural materials (by flood alluvium, erosion etc). It is also dependant on the exposure of the original landscape and associated cultural materials by human impacts (e.g. Aboriginal fire stick farming, clearing, logging, agricultural activities, construction works, mining etc), (Hughes and Sullivan 1984). Combined, these processes and activities are used in determining the likelihood of both surface and subsurface cultural materials surviving and being detected.

It is therefore necessary to understand the environmental factors, processes and activities, all of which affect site location, preservation and detection during surface survey and the likelihood of in situ subsurface cultural materials being present. The environmental factors, processes and disturbances of the surrounding environment and specific project area are discussed below.

3.2 TOPOGRAPHY

The topographical context is important to identify potential factors relating to past Aboriginal land use patterns as not all landforms are suitable camping locations, suitable for the application of rock art etc. The project area consists of flats with a minimal slope grade from south to north with the highest point in the southern portion being 7.5 metres AHD and the lowest, almost level area to the north eastern boundary being 1.5 metres AHD.

3.3 GEOLOGY

The underlying regional geology plays a major role in the structure of the surrounding environment (landforms, topography, geomorphology, vegetation, climate etc), and also influences patterns of past occupation and their manifestation in the archaeological record. This is primarily relevant to past Aboriginal land use in regard to the location of stone resources or raw materials and their procurement for the manufacturing and modification of stone tools.

The processes of sedimentation, uplift, ongoing physical and chemical weathering, re-deposition and volcanic activity have resulted in the formation of a complex landscape in the regional area that incorporates diversity in topography, vegetation and wildlife. For its Aboriginal inhabitants, these

processes have resulted in the presence of caves and ledges suitable for shelter/occupation and the application of rock art. In addition, the area contains deposits of raw materials essential to the manufacture of stone tools as well as locations that provide the rocky creek bed outcrops utilised in the production of ground-edge implements.

The northern half of the project area is situated on quaternary sand, silt, mud and gravels and the southern half is on the Carboniferous Byabba Beds consisting of lithic sandstone, siltstone, tuff, shale and limestone (Hastings 1:250,000 geological map sheet 1970). The presence of tuff within the geology of the Byabba Beds indicates that stone materials suitable for manufacturing stone artefacts may occur in various locations throughout the project area.

3.4 SOILS

The nature of the surrounding soil landscape also has implications for Aboriginal land use and site preservation, mainly relating to supporting vegetation and the preservation of organic materials and burials. The deposit of alluvial and aeolian sediments and colluvium movement of fine sediments (including artefacts) results in the movement and burying of archaeological materials. The increased movement in soils by this erosion is likely to impact upon cultural materials through the post-depositional movement of materials, specifically small portable materials such as stone tools, contained within the soil profiles. The project area is situated on plain in alluvial plain under unknown on marine, clay, sand lithology and used for improved pasture. Slope 2% (estimated), local relief extremely low (< 9m), elevation 2.0 m. Consisting of an A₁ horizon (0-43cm) of dark grey (brownish grey) (7.5YR 4/1) light clay, this overlays the A₂ horizon (43-45cm) of red (bright reddish brown) (2.5YR 5/6) light clay. This overlays the B horizon (45-85cm) of light brownish grey (greyish yellow brown) (10YR 6/2) heavy clay (eSPADE 2019).

3.5 CLIMATE

Climatic conditions would also have played a part in past occupation of an area as well as impacted upon the soils and vegetation and associated cultural materials. In Cundletown, the summers are warm, humid, and wet and the winters are short and cool. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 4°C to 38°C. Rainfall is generally higher and more reliable during summer although soil moisture tends to remain high throughout the year providing good conditions for ground cover growth. Average annual rainfall is highest with 160mm (Murphy 1993:3). During summer, the increased rainfall rate and reduced ground cover is reflected in a proportionately higher risk of erosion.

3.6 WATERWAYS

One of the major environmental factors influencing human behaviour is water as it is essential for survival and as such people will not travel far from reliable water sources. In those situations where people did travel far from reliable water, this indicates a different behaviour such as travelling to obtain rare or prized resources and/or trade. Proximity to water not only influences the number of sites likely to be found but also artefact densities. The highest number of sites and the highest density are usually found in close proximity to water and usually on an elevated landform. This assertion is undisputedly supported by the regional archaeological investigations carried out in the region where by such patterns are typically within 50 metres of a reliable water source.

The main types of water sources include permanent (rivers and soaks), semi-permanent (large streams, swamps and billabongs), ephemeral (small stream and creeks) and underground (artesian). Stream order assessment is one way of determining the reliability of streams as a water source.

Stream order is determined by applying the Strahler method to 1:25 000 topographic maps. Based on the climatic analysis (see Section 2.5), the project area will typically experience comparatively reliable rainfalls under normal conditions and thus it is assumed that any streams above a third order classification will constitute a relatively permanent water source.

The Strahler method dictates that upper tributaries do not exhibit flow permanence and are defined as first order streams. When two first order streams meet, they form a second order stream. Where two-second order streams converge, a third order stream is formed and so on. When a stream of lower order joins a stream of higher order, the downstream section of the stream will retain the order of the higher order upstream section (Anon 2003; Wheeling Jesuit University 2002).

Examination of the Cundletown 1:25,000 topographic map and nearmap indicates that the project area is situated approximately 800 metres north of the Manning River at its closets point to the project area and the Dawson River that joins the Manning River at approximately 700 metres south west. The Manning River, a major source of subsistence and medicinal resources for past Aboriginal people, is located to the south and flows north/north east around the project area. Within the project area, there are no water sources. What appear to be creeks on topographic maps are in fact man-made drains. With the lack of fresh water available in the project area, there would have been limited resources that would have enabled more than transitory activities such as hunting and gathering and travel to location with reliable fresh water such as the Manning River. Local Aboriginal people still use the Manning River for food and medicinal resources such as fish (food) and cobra (food and medicinal).

3.7 FLORA AND FAUNA

The availability of flora and associated water sources affect fauna resources, all of which are primary factors influencing patterns of past Aboriginal land use and occupation. The assessment of flora has two factors that assist in an assessment including a guide to the range of plant resources used for food and medicine and to manufacture objects including nets, string bags, shields and canoes which would have been available to Indigenous people in the past. The second is what it may imply about current and past land uses and to affect survey conditions such as visibility, access and disturbances.

European settlers extensively cleared much of the original native vegetation from the project area and is now dominated by introduced grasses with portions of various vegetation communities that have been identified and mapped by Naturecall (2016). Derived very tall open forest of redgum woodland is located in three location in the project area (far eastern corner, small area along the southern border and a small area along the northern border. A small clump of tall open paperbark swamp forest (is located in the western part of the project area and is dominated by a monoculture of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* with a sparse understorey which is grazed and utilised as a 'cattle camp'. There is also immature swamp forest regrowth at the western side of the project area where management of pasture areas has ceased for approximately five (5) years and is now regenerating with swamp forest vegetation. Finally, an aquatic vegetation community exists in the large dam in the southern part of the project area and along the narrow drainage channel through the site.

The drainage and vegetation throughout the project area would have supported a limited range of faunal populations including kangaroo, wallaby, goanna, snakes and a variety of birds. A wider variety of resources would have been available in areas in closer proximity to the Manning River, a reliable source of fresh water and associated subsistence and medicinal resources.

3.8 LAND USES AND DISTURBANCES

Based upon archaeological evidence, the occupation of Australia extends back some 40,000 years (Mulvaney and Kamminga 1999) whilst Aboriginal people have been present within the Hunter Valley for at least 20,000 years (Koettig 1987). Although the impact of past Aboriginal occupation on the natural landscape is thought to have been relatively minimal, it cannot simply be assumed that 20,000 years of land use have passed without affecting various environmental variables. The practice of 'firestick farming' whereby the cautious setting of fires served to drive game from cover, provide protection and alter vegetation communities significantly influenced seed germination, thus increasing diversity within the floral community.

Following European settlement of the area in the 1820s, the landscape has been subjected to a range of different modifactory activities including extensive logging and clearing, agricultural cultivation (ploughing), pastoral grazing, residential developments and mining (Turner 1985). The associated high degree of landscape disturbance has resulted in the alteration of large tracts of land and the cultural materials contained within these areas. The specific project area has been cleared and primarily used for pastoral purposes (grazing), involving the wholesale clearance of native vegetation, the introduction of pasture grass, the construction of dams, housing, fencing, numerous tracks and associated infrastructure (water, electricity, telephone).

Although pastoralism is a comparatively low impact activity, it does result in disturbances due to vegetation clearance and the trampling and compaction of grazed areas. These factors accelerate the natural processes of sheet and gully erosion, which in turn can cause the horizontal and lateral displacement of artefacts. Furthermore, grazing by hoofed animals can affect the archaeological record due to the displacement and breakage of artefacts resulting from trampling (Yorston et al 1990). Pastoral land uses are also closely linked to alterations in the landscape due to the construction of dams, fence lines and associated structures. As a sub-set of agricultural land use, ploughing typically disturbs the top 10-12 centimetres of topsoil (Koettig 1986b) depending on the method and machinery used during the process. Ploughing increases the occurrence of erosion and can also result in the direct horizontal and vertical movement of artefacts, thus causing artificial changes in artefact densities and distributions. In fact, studies undertaken on artefact movement due to ploughing (e.g. Roper 1976; Odell and Cowan 1987) has shown that artefact move between one centimetre up to 18 metres laterally depending on the equipment used and horizontal movement. Ploughing may also interfere with other features and disrupt soil stratigraphy (Lewarch and O'Brien 1981). Ploughing activities are typically evidenced through 'ridges and furrows' however a lengthy cessation in ploughing activities dictates that these features may no longer be apparent on the surface.

Whilst the impacts of vehicular movements on sites have not been well documented, based on general observations it is expected that the creation of dirt tracks for vehicle access would result in the loss of vegetation and therefore will enhance erosion and the associated relocation of cultural materials. Dumping of rubbish would have impacted on site through vehicular access (tracks) and movement of surface artefacts through the actual 'dumping' of rubbish.

Excavation works required for dam construction and the laying of infrastructure (water, telephone) would require the removal of soils thus displacing and destroying any cultural materials that may have been present. As fence construction and the erection of telegraph poles require the removal of soils for the holes, this would also have resulted in the disturbance and possible destruction of any cultural materials. All of which result in loss of vegetation and erosion to some extent.

3.9 NATURAL DISTURBANCES

The disturbance of cultural materials can also be a result of natural processes. The patterns of deposition and erosion within a locality can influence the formation and/or destruction of archaeological sites. Within an environment where the rate of sediment accumulation is generally very high, artefacts deposited in such an environment will be buried shortly after being abandoned. Frequent and lengthy depositional events will also increase the likelihood of the presence of well-stratified cultural deposits (Waters 2000:538,540).

In a stable landscape with few episodes of deposition and minimal to moderate erosion, soils will form and cultural materials will remain on the surface until they are buried. Repeated and extended periods of stability will result in the compression of the archaeological record with multiple occupational episodes being located on one surface prior to burial (Waters 2000:538-539). Within the duplex soils artefacts typically stay within the A horizon on the interface between the A and B horizons.

If erosion occurs after cultural material is deposited, it will disturb or destroy sections of archaeological sites even if they were initially in a good state of preservation. The more frequent and severe the episodes of erosional events the more likely it is that the archaeological record in that area will be disturbed or destroyed (Waters 2000:539; Waters and Kuehn 1996:484). Regional erosional events may entirely remove older sediments, soils and cultural deposits so that archaeological material or deposits of a certain time interval no longer exist within a region (Waters and Kuehn 1996:484-485).

The role of bioturbation is another significant factor in the formation of the archaeological record. Post-depositional processes can disturb and destroy artefacts and sites as well as preserve cultural materials. Redistribution and mixing of cultural deposits occur as a result of burrowing and mounding by earthworms, ants and other species of burrowing animals. Artefacts can move downwards through root holes as well as through sorting and settling due to gravity. Translocation can also occur as a result of tree falls (Balek 2002:41-42; Peacock and Fant 2002:92). Depth of artefact burial and movement as a result of bioturbation corresponds to the limit of major biologic activity (Balek 2002:43). Artefacts may also be moved as a result of an oscillating water table causing alternate drying and wetting of sediments, and by percolating rainwater (Villa 1982:279). Experiments to assess the degree that bioturbation can affect material have been undertaken. In abandoned cultivated fields in South Carolina, Michie (summarised in Balek 2002:42-43) found that over a 100-year period 35% of shell fragments that had been previously used to fertilise the fields were found between 15 and 60 centimetres below the surface, inferred to be as a result of bioturbation and gravity. Earthworms have been known to completely destroy stratification within 450 years (Balek 2002:48). At sites in Africa, conjoined artefacts have been found over a metre apart within the soil profile. The vertical distribution of artefacts from reconstructed cores did not follow the order in which they were struck off (Cahen and Moeyersons 1977:813). These kinds of variations in the depths of conjoined artefacts can occur without any other visible trace of disturbance (Villa 1982:287). However, bioturbation does not always destroy the stratigraphy of cultural deposits. In upland sites in America, temporally-distinct cultural horizons were found to move downwards through the soil as a layer within minimal mixing of artefacts (Balek 2002:48).

3.10 DISCUSSION

The regional environment provided resources, including raw materials, fauna, flora and water, that would have allowed for sustainable occupation of the area. Within the project area, being within alluvial flats with no fresh water resources available, the project area may have been suitable for transitory activities such as hunting and gathering or travel to more reliable water sources and

associated subsistence resources such as the Manning River. In relation to modern alterations to the landscape, the use of the majority of the project area for farming purposes can be expected to have had low to moderate impacts upon the archaeological record. European land uses such as clearing, grazing, ploughing, and the construction of dams, housing and fences may have displaced cultural materials, however in less disturbed areas, it is likely that archaeological deposits may remain relatively intact.

4 ETHNO-HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Unfortunately, due to European settlement and associated destruction of past Aboriginal communities, their culture, social structure, activities and beliefs, little information with regards to the early traditional way of life of past Aboriginal societies remains.

4.1 USING ETHNO-HISTORIC DATA

Anthropologists and ethnographers have attempted to piece together a picture of past Aboriginal societies throughout the Hunter Valley. Although providing a glimpse into the past, one must be aware that information obtained on cultural and social practices were commonly biased and generally obtained from informants including white settlers, bureaucrats, officials and explorers. Problems encountered with such sources are well documented (e.g. Barwick 1984; L'Oste-Brown et al 1998). There is little information about who collected information or their skills. There were language barrier and interpretation issues, and the degree of interest and attitudes towards Aboriginal people varied in light of the violent settlement history. Access to view certain ceremonies was limited. Cultural practices (such as initiation ceremonies and burial practices) were commonly only viewed once by an informant who would then interpret what he saw based on his own understanding and then generalise about those practices.

4.2 TAREE ETHNO-HISTORIC ACCOUNTS

Horton's map of Aboriginal Australia (Horton, 1996) detailed the boundaries of Aboriginal language groups across the continent. Reference to the Taree area shows that it was within the bounds of the Biripi language group (also spelt Birpai). It ranged from just to the north of Forster-Tuncurry at its southern-most extent, to past Port Macquarie at its northern extent. From the coastline it reached west to the Glenrock area. This traditional language area was bordered to the north by the Dainggatti and Nganyaywana language groups, to the west by the Kamilaroi and Geawegal, and to the south by the Worimi language group. Close to the border of the Biripi traditional language group area, Forster-Tuncurry was defined as being at the northern extent of the Worimi area, which stretched to Port Stephens in the south and Gloucester in the west (Horton, 1996). Having the coast along its eastern border was a boon for both the Worimi and Biripi groups, as it provided rich marine resources for those who lived there. Canoes were used for fishing, with woven nets and lines with shell and bone fish hooks as part of the traditional tool kit (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 18). Quartz flakes were also used to fashion points for fishing spears (Byrne & Nugent, 2004:35). Fish traps were constructed in the river areas to provide a regular source of food. The bags and nets that were regularly used were made from such resources as spun bark fibre and the hair of small marsupials, spun by a small wooden spindle with a hook at one end (Klaver & Heffernan, 1991).

The Biripi traditional country covered a number of different landforms, each with its own resources. As well as undulating bush areas and open woodland plain, there were also bands of rainforest along the Manning River, which was a major water source and an important cultural element within the Biripi landscape. Major creeks flowing from the Manning River were utilised as pathways and

resource gathering areas. Vegetation along the Manning River included cedars, fig trees, tamarind trees, ferns, vines and shrubs. Swamps areas close to the Manning River and along the eastern coastline were also resource rich areas that were regularly utilised. Ethnographic recordings refer to the islands located in the estuary being frequented, with known camps present on Oxley Island (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 16).

Registered sites across the Biripi area attest to the use of the wider landscape, both inland and coastal, in the Aboriginal past. Site types predominantly include artefact scatters across the wider area and shell middens along the coast. The middens attest to the use of coastal resources such as oysters for food, with the refuse deposited following meals accumulating over long periods of time into the remnant deposits. Artefact scatters attest to both the production and use of stone tools, with uses including hunting and preparing animals for food as well as preparing their skins for clothing. Stone tools were hafted to wood and were also often used to shape other wooden implements, such as clubs, spears, spear throwers and boomerangs. Other tools included tomahawks, nulla nullas and shields (Klaver & Heffernan, 1991; Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 35).

One site previously identified as a traditional camping area at Saltwater, to the south of Old Bar, was noted as a place of continuity for the local Aboriginal community, as it was used over thousands of years, with recordings of contemporary community use as well within the same ancient space (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 6). Access to traditional Dreaming locations became restricted, as did access to resources, due to encroaching settlement. Other elements within the landscape were imbued with cultural significance on into contemporary times, as local resident Ella Simon described of her experiences growing up in the area in the early 1900s. She noted that she was told that a rock in Wallis Lake was the embodiment of a clever woman, known as 'Granny Rock', and that heavy rain would result from touching a forbidden mangrove tree on the beach, an isolated growth near Blackhead (Simon, 1987).

Some information was recorded about the ceremonial life of the Biripi people by early settlers, describing totemic beliefs and practices. This included a description of a cabra ground used for male initiation, an area that consisted of two rings surrounding carved trees. The bark of the trees was described as especially carved for such ceremonies with the ritual musical instrument known as a bull roarer used during the initiation. Corroborees were also known to occur, with fires and dancing described, prior to 1900 (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 33-34). Male initiation rites in pre-contact times included body scarification and the knocking out of a boy's front tooth (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 46). Women were described as wearing cloaks made from animal skins, while men wore waist bands. Other cultural decoration included tattoos, nose piercings with bone adornments, body painting, hair styling and headdresses (Klaver & Heffernan, 1991).

The Dreaming was understood in traditional Biripi culture as the time when Ancestral Beings shaped the landscape. Totems were used by the Biripi as classifications that tied people to the plants and animals of the natural world. Some totems that were used included the crab, shark, eagle, stingray, kangaroo, bass and porpoise. Those people belonging to a particular totem were forbidden to hunt or eat that animal and performed ceremonies related to its protection. Totemic groups also defined lineage and family history, as well as how different totemic groups interacted with each other (Robinson, 2011).

Burial practices varied over time and from location to location, with burial grounds having been described along waterways such as Koala Creek, between the Cross and Bully Mountains, in dunes, and later in historic cemeteries. Oral history described a burial ground in Wingham where Aboriginal warriors and elders were buried in a sitting position (Klaver & Heffernan, 1991). Grave robbing is known to have occurred in the area, perpetrated by early settlers and explorers claiming ethnographic research as their motivation (Byrne & Nugent, 2004).

The first white explorers moved through Biripi country in 1818, with settlement following soon after. Radical changes to Aboriginal life started around 1826 in the Manning Valley, accelerating from the 1830s to the 1860s. Steel fish hooks were an early commodity of trade, adopted readily by Aboriginal people across the area (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 17). Tobacco, tea, rum and steel hatchets were other items traded between the settlers and the Biripi people (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 24). As contact increased conflict also resulted, with at least two massacres in the area, the first in 1835 at Belbora, where damper laced with dingo poison was given to Aboriginal people, the second in the same year, when a group of Aboriginal people were driven off a cliff at Mount McKenzie, near the headwaters of the Gloucester River, now part of the Barrington Tops National Park (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 22). By the 1880s access to traditional resource areas had been restricted by the settlers and Aboriginal people became increasingly dependent on work from the invading economy, working as labourers for farmers and cedar getters. At the same time segregation became institutionalised and reserves were set up where Aboriginal people were forced to reside, such as the one at Purfleet established in 1900.

The Biripi area holds numerous post-contact sites, including missions, fringe camp areas at the edges of Taree and Wingham and the reserve at Purfleet. These locations are an important reflection of the changed lifestyles in the historical period as Aboriginal people were excluded both from the majority of their former country and from the settler community. Aboriginal community focus was instead contained within new areas that were defined by the invaders rather than being attached to cultural significance (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 6). Oral history records demonstrate that these camps and settlements were still surrounded by circles used as traditional country, defined in one study as “backyard zones” and regarded as extensions of the camps and settlements (Byrne & Nugent, 2004: 123). Despite the impact that settlers had on traditional culture, it has continued to survive through the Aboriginal people that still live in the area today. In recent times various strategies have been implemented to preserve traditional culture and allow it to thrive in the contemporary landscape. In 2011 the North Coast Institute of TAFE at Taree ran a course using the Accelerated Second Language Acquisition (ASLA) teaching method to spread the use of the traditional Gathang language (of which Biripi was a dialect). The course was based on Amanda Lissarrague’s book, a dictionary and recording of grammar of the Birrbay, Guringay and Warrimay languages (Lissarrague, 2010; Manning River Times, 2011). It is indicative of the strength and resilience of traditional culture that remains vibrant and vital in the lives of Aboriginal people in the Manning Valley area to this day.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

A review of the archaeological literature of the region, and more specifically the Taree/Cundletown area and the results of an BCD AHIMS search provide essential contextual information for the current assessment. Thus, it is possible to obtain a broader picture of the wider cultural landscape highlighting the range of site types throughout the region, frequency and distribution patterns and the presence of any sites within the project area. It is then possible to use the archaeological context in combination with the review of environmental conditions to establish an archaeological predictive model for the project area.

5.1 REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

No regional based archaeological assessments were available and as such a general broad based regional archaeological context and summary is provided. In summary, despite the recognised limitations of utilising previous studies as the basis for generalisations regarding archaeological patterning, the following broad predictions can be made for the region:

- a wide variety of site types are represented in the project area with open campsites and isolated artefacts by far the most common;
- lithic artefacts are primarily manufactured from mudstone and silcrete with a variety of other raw materials also utilised but in smaller proportions;
- sites in proximity to ephemeral water sources or located in the vicinity of headwaters of upper tributaries (1st order streams) have a sparse distribution and density and contain little more than a background scatter;
- sites located in the vicinity of the upper reaches of minor tributaries (2nd order streams) also have a relatively sparse distribution and density and may represent evidence of localised one-off behaviour;
- sites located in the vicinity of the lower reaches of tributaries (3rd order creeks) have an increased distribution and density and contain evidence that may represent repeated occupation or concentration of activity;
- sites located in the vicinity of major tributaries (4th and 5th order streams/rivers) have the highest distribution and densities. These sites tend to be extensive and complex in landscapes with permanent and reliable water and contain evidence representative of concentrated activity; and
- sites located within close vicinity at the confluence of any order stream may be a focus of activity and may contain a relatively higher artefact distribution and density.

Within the region, a broad range of site types are represented including artefact scatters, isolated artefacts, scar trees, grinding grooves and water holes. Within the areas covered by the regional studies, the range of available landforms has been sampled. In regional terms, site distribution is extremely closely linked to topography, with elevated landforms with access to reliable water exhibiting the highest concentrations of sites.

However, it must be emphasised that the vast majority of the areas assessed by the afore-mentioned regional studies are in a variety of topographic and geological contexts and some vary considerably from the specific project area which is located in an alluvial context. Thus, whilst a number of trends have been identified, the relevance of these patterns for the specific project area is limited.

There are a number of factors which affect site location and that are beyond human control. Shelter sites, grinding grooves and engravings are site types typical of the “sandstone country” however, their presence is limited to areas containing suitable sandstone outcrops and therefore such sites are not expected within an alluvial context such as the project area.

5.2 BCD ABORIGINAL HERITAGE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

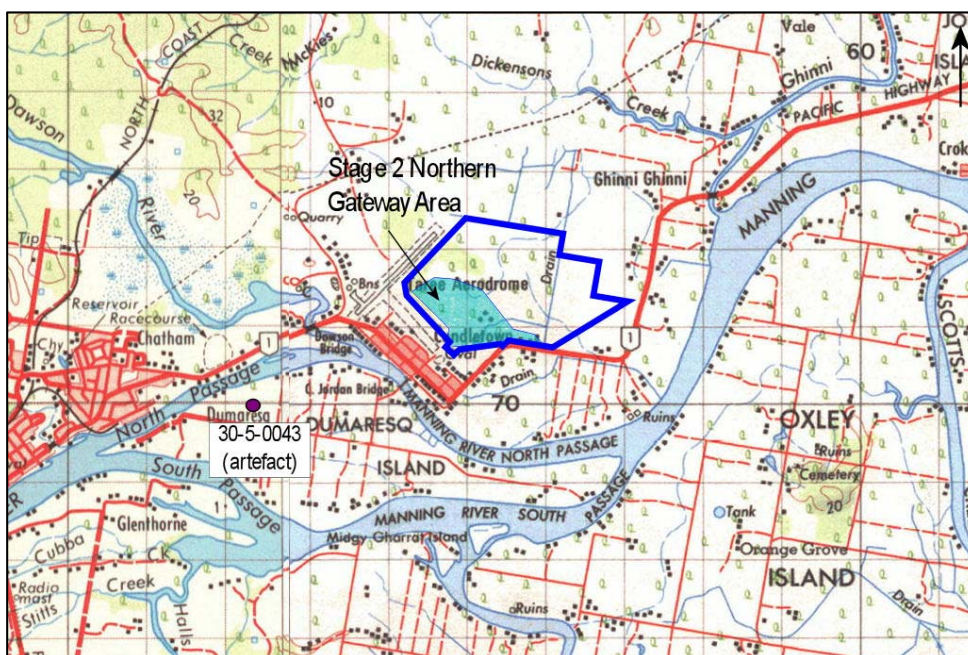
MCH note that there are many limitations with an AHIMS search. Firstly, site coordinates are not always correct due to errors and changing of computer systems at OEH over the years that failed to correctly translate old coordinate systems to new systems. Secondly, BCD will only provide up to 110 sites per search, thus limiting the search area surrounding the project area and enabling a more comprehensive analysis and finally, few sites have been updated on the BCD AHIMS register to notify if they have been subject to a s87 or s90 and as such what sites remain in the local area and what sites have been destroyed, to assist in determining the cumulative impacts, is unknown.

In addition to this, other limitations include the number of studies in the local area. Fewer studies suggest that sites have not been recorded, ground surface visibility also hinders site identification and the geomorphology of the majority of NSW soils and high levels of erosion have proven to disturb sites and site contents, and the extent of those disturbances is unknown (i.e. we do not know if a site identified at the base of an eroded slope derived from the upper crest, was washed along the bottom etc: thus altering our predictive modelling in an unknown way). Thus, the BCD AHIMS search is limited and provides a basis only that aids in predictive modelling.

The new terminology for site names including (amongst many) an ‘artefact’ site encompasses stone, bone, shell, glass, ceramic and/or metal and combines both open camps and isolated finds into the one site name. Unfortunately, this greatly hinders in the predictive modelling as different sites types grouped under one name provided inaccurate data.

A search of the BCD AHIMS register has shown that 1 known Aboriginal site (artefact) is currently recorded within three kilometres of the project area. The AHIMS results are provided in Appendix B and the location of the site is shown in Figure 5.1.

Figure 5.1 Location of AHIMS site



5.3 HERITAGE REGISTER LISTINGS

The National Heritage List, the Commonwealth Heritage List, the Australian Heritage Database, Australia's National Heritage List, The National Trust Heritage Register State Heritage Inventory and the Midcoast Local Environmental Plan have no Aboriginal objects, sites or places listed.

5.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

No assessments have been undertaken within 3 kilometres of the project area and as such previous assessments of the Taree boarder area (Rich 1990a, b; Collins 1998; Leon, Maskin and Donovan 2004; Irish 2006; MCH 2018) have been utilised to gain an understanding of the archaeological context, the local and regional character of past Aboriginal land uses and its material traces in the environment.

Rich (1990a) undertook a management study of Aboriginal historic sites located in north east NSW. The resulting report clarified that the work was intended as an early step in coming to terms with the nature, scope and significance rather than being a definitive study of all sites. The study area, defined as being north east NSW, was divided into six smaller sub regions, being the Hunter Valley, the Tamworth – Quirindi region, the North West Slopes, the Northern Tablelands, the Mid North Coast and the Far North Coast. The work of identifying sites was undertaken via literature review, reference to the NPWS sites register, historic research of secondary sources and consultation with Aboriginal people. The focus was on historic Aboriginal sites, including such site types as contact, mission, massacre, reserve, station and cemetery. This research resulted in the identification of 311 potential historic Aboriginal sites in the study area. The potential sites that were identified included six first contact sites, nine food places, one quarry, three belief sites, 30 ceremonial sites, eight tribal battle sites, seven traditional style burials, 20 Aboriginal burial grounds, four Aboriginal burials in white cemeteries, four Aborigines killed sites, 38 Aborigines massacred sites, 26 whites killed sites, three whites massacred sites, five warfare structure sites, 14 contact and invasion period camp sites, 45 fringe and station camp sites, two house sites, three pre 1880 reserve and mission sites, 14 managed station sites, 66 pre 1950 reserve sites, 32 post 1950 reserve sites, 26 rural employment sites, three industrial employment sites, one courthouse, five homes/orphanages, two Native Police depot sites, one Police Tracker station, 15 schools and two other institution sites. Rich stated that the site labels used to categorise these locations was suggestive only. Rich noted that the number of potential site features added up to 389, but many of these features were grouped within a single location, making the total number of site locations 311. Rich noted that there had been no previous discussion on assessing the significance of historic Aboriginal sites and based discussion on factors including the significance to Aboriginal people, representativeness, potential for research, creative or technical accomplishment, landscape setting and public significance. Significance assessments varied across the types of sites, as did site registration since some locations had physical remains whereas others were locations of past events without tangible physical links. It was concluded that there were places where Aboriginal people had modified and altered their culture to adapt to white invasion, but that their culture continued to be distinct from White Australia with considerable scope for further research on Aboriginal culture, history and associated sites. Rich recommended that if new legislation were adopted that the definition of an Aboriginal site should be amended to include Aboriginal places of special significance, resource places, cultural heritage items reported in literature or by Aboriginal people and deposits, objects or material evidence relating to Aboriginal habitation. It was recommended that handicrafts made for sale that were more than 50 years old should be given protection along with resource places and sites without any apparent physical remains but which had been identified by literature references or by Aboriginal people. It was further recommended that appropriate indexing within the NPWS sites database, inclusion of sites in environmental impact studies and planning studies be undertaken.

Rich (1990b) undertook an archaeological survey of a proposed road alignment known as the Taree Traffic Relief Route. The road deviation was proposed to be undertaken off the existing Old Bar Road located to the north of Purfleet. The purpose of the road deviation was to allow traffic on the Pacific Highway to bypass Taree. The design had also been undertaken to increase safety by removing some of the sharp bends which were present in the existing section of the Pacific Highway. The study area comprised a section of road alignment located to the south-east of Taree on the mid-north coast of NSW, assessed to a width of 400 metres along its extent.

The topography of the study area included ranges, low hills and floodplain. It also included Dumaresq Island, situated within the Manning River. The underlying geology consisted of the Koorainghat Beds and the Belbora Beds, which included sandstone, shale, laminite, greywacke and tuff. The proposed route crossed over the Manning River and Ghinni Ghinni Creek. It was also located in proximity to Halls Creek (but did not cross its extent). Swamp land and unnamed tributaries were also present. Although vegetation had been cleared throughout the larger area, with logging a known past activity, there were a variety of species and extant mature vegetation present at the time of this assessment. These included stringybarks and casuarinas as well as an understorey of geebung shrubs and grasses.

A search of the AHIMS register identified 36 sites from an area of approximately 110 square kilometres, stretching from Nabiac and Diamond Beach in the south to Diamond Head and South Brother in the north. The identified sites included modified trees, stone arrangements, burials and middens as well as ceremonial and mythological sites. No previously recorded sites were present within the bounds of the study area. The survey identified 12 sites (Table 5.1) and two European historic sites were also noted (two timber getter tree stumps and the old Ghinni Ghinni post office). It was noted that vegetation cover had limited the ground surface visibility during the survey and that it was likely that other sites could occur within the study area.

Table 5.1 Summary of sites (Rich 1990b)

Site	Site type	Landform	Distance to water	Stream order	Artefacts /features	Disturbance	Subsurface potential
Site 1: Blue Hole	waterhole and washing area	spur slope	0 m	not provided	swimming/washing hole	fire trail and quarrying	no
Site 2: Purfleet Cemetery	burials	flat	80 m	unnamed creek	cemetery	burials	no
Site 3	modified tree and water hole	not provided	40 m	unnamed tributary of Halls Creek	1 scar on bloodwood tree and water hole 10 m away	not provided	no
Site 4	modified tree	hillslope	100 m	unnamed tributary of Halls Creek	1 scar on grey gum	white ants	no
Site 5: Gillawarra Campsite and Corroboree Ground	ceremonial	Foot slope	5 m	Halls Creek estuary	ampsite and corroboree ground	not provided	no

Site 6	artefact scatter and modified tree	creek bank	adjacent	Halls Creek	13 artefacts & 1 scar on bloodwood tree	vegetation clearance	yes
Site 7	modified trees	low lying swamp	0 m	swamp associated with Halls Creek	3 paperbark modified trees	not provided	no
Site 8	artefact scatter	spur	5-250 m	Halls Creek	18	track	yes
Site 9	artefact scatter	ridge	0-200 m	Halls Creek	25	vegetation clearance & track	yes
Site 10	modified tree	ridge	300 m	Halls Creek	2 scars	not provided	no
Isolated Find Kiwarrak Rest Area	isolated artefact	ridge	1.8 km	Koorainghat Creek	1 mudstone flake with use wear & retouch	roadway	no
Possible Canoe Tree	possible modified tree	not provided	250 m	Ghinni Ghinni Creek	1 x 3m long scar	vegetation clearance	not provided

Site 2 (Purfleet cemetery), Site 5 (Gillawarra historic campsite) and Site 9 (especially the section of it on the spur north of the survey line) were assessed as being of high significance. Site 1 (Blue Hole), Site 3 (modified tree with possible historical association), Site 6 (artefact scatter with modified tree) and Site 7 (modified trees) were defined as having moderate significance. Modified tree Sites 4 and 10 and artefact scatter Site 8 were defined as being of low significance.

Based on the findings Rich recommended that the Traffic Relief Route should be redesigned and repositioned to the west of Site 1 (Blue Hole), east of Site 2 (Purfleet cemetery), east of Site 3 (modified tree), and south of the slashed survey line from 40 metres to the south of Halls Creek to 900 metres north of Halls Creek in order to protect Sites 5, 6, 7 and the densest part of Site 9. It was recommended that if possible, Sites 4 and 10 should be avoided. An application for a permit to destroy the remainder of sites was stated as required prior to works commencing, with such mitigation measures as monitoring and the surface collection of the isolated artefact site to be considered. It was further recommended that if any further sites were found during monitoring, they should be salvaged.

Collins (1998) undertook an archaeological survey of a study area proposed for impacts associated with a realignment of the Pacific Highway. The realignment was proposed to bypass the village of Cooperook and create a new crossing of the Lansdowne River approximately 21 kilometres to the north of Taree on the NSW mid-north coast. A large quantity of fill was needed to form the planned dual carriageway embankments and it was proposed that these should come from the cut batters on the Taree Bypass to the south of Purfleet. The topography of the study area consisted of a moderate to steep ridge system with slopes, crests and a ridgeline which formed the watershed between creeks flowing northward into the Manning River and creeks flowing south into Khappinghat Creek. The underlying geology consisted of Carboniferous sedimentary rocks of the Koorainghat Beds which contained lithic sandstone, greywacke, laminite, tuff and shale. Vegetation in the study area included

regenerated grassland and open dry sclerophyll forest dominated by grey gum, grey ironbark, forest oak, spotted gum, white mahogany, blady grass, bracken fern and introduced species like lantana and paspalum. A search of the AHIMS register identified 13 sites within a five-kilometre radius of the study area. These included artefact scatters, modified trees, an isolated artefact and post-contact sites. One unregistered isolated artefact was identified within the study area, but outside the proposed area of impact. It was predicted that sites likely to occur in the study area included quarries (due to the presence of raw material outcrops), artefact scatters and isolated artefacts. Although no quarries were identified the prediction about site likelihood being artefact based proved to be correct. One mudstone core was identified on an upper slope 250 metres from reliable water during the survey and was located outside the project area. As no sites were found within the study area, no site-specific recommendations were necessary. No further survey work or subsurface investigation were considered to be warranted, but it was noted that isolated artefacts could occur in areas where the topsoil was still present, particularly on crests and upper slope landforms. It was recommended that the proposed fill extraction proceed without heritage constraint, with all relevant contractors and employees to be advised of their legal obligations with regard to Aboriginal cultural materials. Stop work procedures were recommended to be instigated should unexpected finds be identified during works.

Leon, Maskin and Donovan (2004) were commissioned to undertake an archaeological investigation of a proposed water main replacement on Old Bar Road between Taree and Old Bar in the mid North Coast region of NSW. The topography of the study area included modified areas, such as existing road corridors, a recreational motor vehicle speedway, a cemetery and residential areas. Vegetation had been cleared in the study area, but examples of open forest system were present in the surrounding region. A search of the AHIMS register identified 22 sites within five kilometres of the study area and included artefact scatters and middens. It was predicted that site types such as artefact scatters, middens, modified trees and ceremonial areas could be present in the study area. Two new sites were identified, conforming to aspects of the predictive model. The survey results are summarised below in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2 Summary of sites (Leon, Maskin and Donovan 2004)

Site	Site type	Landform	Distance to water	Stream order	Artefacts /features	Disturbance	Subsurface potential
WMR Old Bar 1	isolated artefact	slope	not provided	not provided	1	road & cemetery	no
WMR Old Bar 2	isolated artefact	slope	not provided	not provided	1	road & cemetery	no

It was recommended that the identified sites be protected, with permits required if any impacts to them were proposed to occur. Stop work procedures were recommended should any unexpected finds be identified during works.

Irish (2006) undertook an Aboriginal archaeological survey and heritage impact assessment for a study area totalling 11 hectares in size. This study area was proposed for the development of a highway service centre. The study area was located adjacent to the Pacific Highway Interchange approximately four kilometres to the south-southeast of Taree on the mid-north coast of NSW. The topography consisted of floodplain to the north and a broadly east-west tending ridge to the south. The study area was in the northern foothills of this ridge, on the western side of a low spur separating the course of two tributaries of Halls Creek, flowing north into the Manning River. The closest

watercourse was the western tributary known as Wollards Creek, with Kooringat Creek also in the vicinity. The underlying geology consisted of the Carboniferous Period sediments of the Kooringat Beds which included lithic sandstone, greywacke, tuff, laminite and shale as well as Belbora Beds which included lithic sandstone, tuff, laminite and agglomerate. Vegetation had been cleared across the study area but was likely to have previously contained eucalypt species, blackbutt, tallowwood, ironbark, mahogany, spotted gum, stringybark, bloodwood, casuarina and acacia. A search of the AHIMS register identified 17 sites within a 10-kilometre radius of the study area. These comprised of eight artefact scatters, five modified trees, two waterholes/wells, one mythological site and one historical cemetery. One site, a post-contact well, was identified as occurring within the bounds of the study area. It was noted that the overall lack of archaeological data made it premature to make predictions about likely Aboriginal site distribution. It was stated that it was unlikely that the subject land was intensively used by Aboriginal people and predicted that only artefact scatter and isolated artefact sites were likely to occur. The survey identified high levels of disturbance across much of the study area from past vegetation clearance, track use, limited earthworks and the natural erosion of soil deposits. Erosion meant that in situ subsurface deposits were unlikely to be extant. One isolated artefact site was identified outside the study area and beyond the proposed area of impact. It was recommended that the previously recorded post-contact well site should be protected from impacts by the retention of a five-metre radius buffer zone. No other archaeological constraints were identified. Purfleet-Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council produced a separate cultural report which further called for avoidance and protection of the isolated artefact identified outside the study area. Stop work procedures and further consultative work were recommended to be undertaken should unexpected finds be identified during works.

MCH (2018) undertook an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for an amendment to Greater Taree LEP 2010 (GTLEP 2010) which would increase the area of employment-related land in the Manning River Drive Employment Precinct, south of Taree, generally in accordance with Mid Coast Council's Draft Manning Valley Local Strategy. The project area included 50 Eriksson Lane (Lot 2 DP 827097), 51 Glenthorne Road (Lot 50 DP 863972) and 55 Glenthorne Road, Taree South (Lot 2 DP 573214). Located on Quaternary sand, silt, mud and gravel and consists of very gentle slopes that form flats towards the northern end of the project area, one 3rd order creek (Stitts Creek) was located through the far northern portion of the project area, one 2nd order creek in the southern half of the project area and one 1st order roughly through the centre of the project area. The closest reliable water source was the Manning River located approximately 900 metres to the north of the project area. The project area has been cleared and primarily used for pastoral purposes (grazing), involving the wholesale clearance of native vegetation, the introduction of pasture grass, the construction of dams, housing, fencing, numerous tracks and associated infrastructure (water, electricity, telephone). A search of the OEH AHIMS register has shown that 26 known Aboriginal sites are currently recorded within five kilometres of the project area and include artefacts, scar trees, Aboriginal Ceremonial and dreaming, shell middens, burials and PADs. Within the project area, the landscape would have provided some subsistence resources during times of heavy rain, which was likely suited to small scale camping by small groups of people over short periods of time as well as hunting and gathering and travel to the more reliable Manning River. It is possible that isolated finds and small density artefacts scatters maybe located along and within 50 metres of Stitts Creek and the 2nd order creek in the south of the project area. The survey confirmed the past land uses and additional disturbances along the 2nd order creek that included a dam. The effective coverage for project area illustrates that overall effective coverage was low at 13.39% with grass being the limiting factor and erosion across the project area is minimal. No sites were identified during the survey. Given the known extent and content of sites typically situated on elevated land in close proximity to reliable water sources, the very gentle slope overlooking Stitts Creek and flood plain was likely to have been utilised for small to moderate groups of people for camping. Identified as TS/PAD1, this area of archaeological potential is located in the eastern end of the project area and includes the very

gentle slope on the western side of Stitts Creek. The eastern side consisted of flood plains and would not have been suitable for camping. The PAD extends from the upper flood plain reaches and for approximately 50 metres. This PAD appeared to have been subject to minimal disturbances and is an elevated landform overlooking the Creek (3rd order) and as such had potential to contain in situ cultural materials.

5.4.1 LOCAL & REGIONAL CHARACTER OF ABORIGINAL LAND USE & ITS MATERIAL TRACES

Based on the previous assessments of the wider Taree area, the summary below provides an indication of what may be expected in terms of site location and distribution. Based on previous work it is also clear that the majority of sites contain stone artefacts. This is to be expected due to stone's high preservation qualities.

- the majority of sites are located within 50 metres of a water source and reduce with distance from water;
- artefact densities are highest within 50 metres of a water source and decrease with distance from water;
- the likelihood of finding sites of any size increases with proximity to water and the likelihood of finding large artefact scatters also increases markedly with proximity to water;
- the main site types are artefact scatters and isolated finds;
- the data suggests that elevated landforms in close proximity to water sources were the preferred location for camping, followed by slopes. However, this does not account for vertical movement of artefacts or sites being moved from flooding, flowing creeks etc.
- mudstone, chert and tuff are by far the most common raw material types represented at sites in the region. Quartz is the next most frequently in artefact assemblages followed by volcanic materials, porphyry and petrified wood. Siltstone, rhyolite and porcellanite are relatively rare;
- flakes, broken flakes and flaked pieces are the most common artefact types recorded;
- the vast majority of artefactual material in the region was observed on exposures with good to excellent ground surface visibility.

Based on information gained from previous studies within a three-kilometre radius of the project area, it can be expected that:

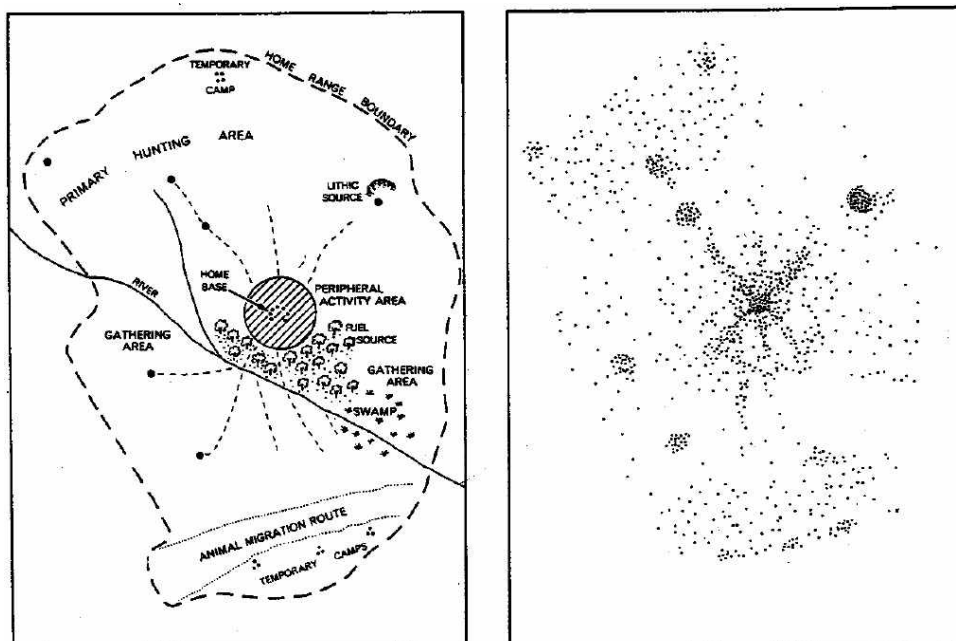
- the likelihood of locating sites increases with proximity to water;
- the likelihood of finding large sites increases markedly with proximity to water;
- a variety of raw materials will be represented though the majority of sites will be predominated by mudstone and silcrete;
- a variety of artefact types will be located though the majority will be flakes, flaked pieces and debitage;
- grinding grooves will be located along or near water sources;
- the likelihood of finding scarred trees is dependent on the level of clearing in an area and
- the majority of sites will be subject to disturbances including human and natural.

These findings are consistent with models developed for the area.

5.5 MODELS OF PAST ABORIGINAL LAND USE

The main aim of this project is to attempt to define both the nature and extent of occupation across the area. As a result, the nature of the analysis will focus on both the landform units and sites. The purpose of this strategy is to highlight any variations between sites and associated assemblages, landforms and resources across the area treating assemblages as a continuous scatter of cultural material across the landscape. In doing this, it is possible to identify variation across the landscape, landforms and assemblages that correspond with variation in the general patterns of landscape use and occupation. Thus, the nature of activities and occupation can be identified through the analysis of stone artefact distributions across a landscape. A general model of forager settlement patterning in the archaeological record has been established by Foley (1981). This model distinguishes the residential 'home base' site with peripheral 'activity locations'. Basically, the home base is the focus of attention and many activities and the activity locations are situated away from the home base and are the focus of specific activities (such as tool manufacturing). This pattern is illustrated in Figure 5.2. Home base sites generally occur in areas with good access to a wide range of resources (reliable water, raw materials etc). The degree of environmental reliability, such as reliable water and subsistence resources, may influence the rate of return to sites and hence the complexity of evidence. Home base sites generally show a greater diversity of artefacts and raw material types (which represent a greater array of activities performed at the site and immediate area). Activity locations occur within the foraging radius of a home base camp (approximately 10 km); (Renfrew and Bahn 1991). Based on the premise that these sites served as a focus of a specific activity, they will show a low diversity in artefacts and are not likely to contain features reflecting a base camp (such as hearths). However, it is also possible that the location of certain activities cannot be predicted or identified, adding to the increased dispersal of cultural material across the landscape. If people were opting to carry stone tools during hunting and gathering journeys throughout the area rather than manufacturing tools at task locations, an increased number of used tools should be recovered from low density and dispersed assemblages.

Figure 5.2 Foley's model (L) and its manifestation in the archaeological record (R), (Foley 1981).



5.6 PREDICTIVE MODEL FOR THE PROJECT AREA

Due to issues surrounding ground surface visibility and the fact that the distribution of surface archaeological material does not necessarily reflect that of sub-surface deposits, it is essential to establish a predictive model.

Previous archaeological studies undertaken throughout the region, the OEH AHIMS register and the environmental context provide a good indication of site types and site patterning in the area. This research has shown that occupation sites (artefact scatters and isolated finds) are the most frequently recorded site type and are commonly located along or adjacent to watercourses, and on relatively flat to gently sloping topography in close proximity to reliable water. Sites with higher artefact densities are similarly concentrated within fifty metres of watercourses. Within the local area, previous assessments within a similar environmental context indicate that, within a well-watered context, there is high potential for archaeological material to be present on level, typically well-elevated landforms that provide ready access to low-lying waterlogged areas and the associated resources.

Within the specific project area, it is possible that isolated finds and small density artefacts scatters maybe located in the project area and reflect transitory activities such as hunting and gathering and travel to the Dawson or Manning River where resources would have been plentiful allowing for more concentrated areas of occupation and camping. The refinement of this predictive model will be dependent upon an investigation of the range of landforms and the occurrence of modern disturbances within the project area.

5.7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL IN THE PROJECT AREA

Based on archaeological sites registered in the region and the results of past archaeological studies, two sites types are likely to occur throughout the project area:

- **Artefact scatters**

Also described as open campsites, artefact scatters and open sites, these deposits have been defined at two or more stone artefacts within 50 metres of each other and will include archaeological remains such as stone artefacts and may be found in association with camping where other evidence may be present such as shell, hearths, stone lined fire places and/or heat treatment pits. These sites are usually identified as surface scatters of artefacts in areas where ground surface visibility is increased due to lack of vegetation. Erosion, agricultural activities (such as ploughing, grazing) and access ways can also expose surface campsites. Artefact scatters may represent evidence of;

- Large camp sites, where everyday activities such as habitation, maintenance of stone or wooden tools, manufacturing of such tools, management of raw materials, preparation and consumption of food and storage of tools has occurred;
- Medium/small camp sites, where activities such as minimal tool manufacturing occurred;
- Hunting and/or gathering events;
- Other events spatially separated from a camp site, or
- Transitory movement through the landscape.

Artefact scatters are a common site type in the locality and the broader region. There is potential for very low artefact scatters to occur within the project area and may reflect past Aboriginal land uses such as transitory activity such a shunting and gathering. There is also the potential for such sites to be impacted on through past impacts including previous clearing and farming activities.

- **Isolated finds**

Isolated artefacts are usually identified in areas where ground surface visibility is increased due to lack of vegetation. Erosion, agricultural activities (such as ploughing) and access ways can also expose surface artefacts. Isolated finds may represent evidence of;

- Hunting and/or gathering events; or
- Transitory movement through the landscape.

Isolated finds are a common site type in the locality and the broader region. There is potential for isolated artefacts to occur across the project area and across all landforms. There is also the potential for such sites to be impacted on through past impacts including previous clearing and farming.

6 RESULTS

6.1 METHODOLOGY

The survey areas were surveyed on foot by the archaeologist and registered Aboriginal stakeholder representatives in accordance with the proposed methodology provided to the stakeholder for review. The survey focused on areas of high ground surface visibility and exposures (erosional features, man-made drains, tracks, cleared areas).

6.2 LANDFORMS

McDonald et al (1998) describes the categories of landform divisions. This is a two layered division involving treating the landscape as a series of 'mosaics'. The mosaics are described as two distinct sizes: the larger categories are referred to as landform patterns and the smaller being landform elements within these patterns. Landform patterns are large-scale landscape units, and landform elements are the individual features contained within these broader landscape patterns. There are forty landform pattern units and over seventy landform elements. However, of all the landform element units, ten are morphological types. For archaeological investigations they divide the landscape into standardised elements that can be used for comparative purposes and predictive modelling. As outlined in Section 3, the project area includes three landforms: flats and very low gently slopes

6.3 SURVEY UNITS

For ease of management, the project area was surveyed as one survey unit based on land uses and disturbances. The project area had been previously cleared and used for grazing with some ploughing for such activities. The eastern section includes a farm house, sheds and associated infrastructure and utilities. Two additional farm houses, shed and associated infrastructure and utilities were located in the mid section that was also a previous dairy farm. There are a number of man-made drains throughout the landscape as well as fences, tracks and dams. Predominantly consisting of open paddocks with grass, sections to the west and south consisted of new growth open woodland. Exposures were low to moderate and no raw materials usually transported into the area and utilised for stone tool manufacture were visible. Examples of the project area are provided in Figures 6.1 to 6.8.

Figure 6.1 Eastern section facing west



Figure 6.2 Eastern section (west of farm house) facing west



Figure 6.3 Man-made drain through the east towards the middle of the project area



Figure 6.4 Eastern paddock facing south east



Figure 6.5 Northern section facing north west



Figure 6.6 Northern paddock facing north



Figure 6.7 Western open woodland facing north



Figure 6.8 Paddock area in western woodland area (facing north)



6.4 EFFECTIVE COVERAGE

To determine the effectiveness of an archaeological survey, the visibility and exposure conditions for each survey unit is calculated to provide an effective coverage amount. Effective coverage is an estimate of the amount of ground observed considering local constraints on site discovery such as vegetation and leaf litter and erosion. There are two components to determining the effective coverage: visibility and exposure.

Visibility is the amount of bare ground on the exposures which may reveal artefacts or other cultural materials, or visibility refers to 'what conceals'. Visibility is hampered by vegetation, plant or leaf litter, loose sand, stony ground or introduced materials (such as rubbish) On its own, visibility is not a reliable factor in determining the detectability of subsurface cultural materials (DECCW 2010/783:39).

The second component in establishing effective coverage is exposure. Exposure refers to 'what reveals'. It estimates the area with a likelihood of revealing subsurface cultural materials rather than just an observation of the amount of bare ground. Exposure is the percentage of land for which erosion and exposure is sufficient to reveal cultural materials on the surface (DECCW 2010/783:37). The effective coverage for the project area was determined for both visibility and exposure ratings and Table 6.1 details the visibility rating system used.

Table 6.1 Ground surface visibility rating

Description	GSV rating %
Very Poor – heavy vegetation, scrub foliage or debris cover, dense tree or scrub cover. Soil surface of the ground very difficult to see.	0-9%
Poor – moderate level of vegetation, scrub, and / or tree cover. Some small patches of soil surface visible in the form of animal tracks, erosion, scalds, blowouts etc, in isolated patches. Soil surface visible in random patches.	10-29%
Fair – moderate levels of vegetation, scrub and / or tree cover. Moderate sized patches of soil surface visible, possibly associated with animal, stock tracks, unsealed walking tracks,	30-49%

erosion, blow outs etc, soil surface visible as moderate to small patches, across a larger section of the project area.	
Good – moderate to low level of vegetation, tree or scrub cover. Greater amount of areas of soil surface visible in the form of erosion, scalds, blowouts, recent ploughing, grading or clearing.	50-59%
Very Good – low levels of vegetation / scrub cover. Higher incidence of soil surface visible due to recent or past land-use practices such as ploughing, mining etc.	60-79%
Excellent – very low to non-existent levels of vegetation/scrub cover. High incidence of soil surface visible due to past or recent land use practices, such as ploughing, grading, mining etc.	80-100%
Note: this process is purely subjective and can vary between field specialists, however, consistency is achieved by the same field specialist providing the assessment for the one project area/subject site.	

As indicated in Table 6.2, the effective coverage for project area illustrates that overall effective coverage being 24% with grass being the limiting factor and erosion across the project area being high. The disturbances included clearing, farms, fences, grazing and dams, all of which have impacted upon the landscape and associated cultural materials through removal and displacement.

Table 6.2 Effective coverage for the investigation area

SU	Landform	Area (m2)	Vis. %	Exp. %	Exposure type	Previous disturbances	Present disturbances	Limiting visibility factors	Effective coverage (m2)
1	disturbed	946,000	30%	80%	erosion, tracks, ploughing, grazing, dams	erosion, tracks, ploughing, grazing, dams, farms	grazing, tracks, farms	grass, leaf litter	227,040
Totals		946,000							227,040
Effective coverage %									24.00%

The level and nature of the effective survey coverage is considered satisfactory to provide an effective assessment of the Aboriginal sites identified and those potentially present within the investigation area. The coverage was comprehensive for obtrusive site types (e.g. grinding grooves and scarred trees) but somewhat limited for the less obtrusive surface stone artefact sites by surface visibility constraints that included vegetation cover and minimal exposures.

In view of the predictive modelling (Section 5) and the results obtained from the effective coverage, it is concluded that the survey provides a valid basis for determining the probable impacts of the proposal and formulating recommendations for the management of the identified sites and potential Aboriginal sites.

6.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND PADS

No archaeological sites or Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) were identified during the survey and this is likely due to a number of factors including:

- Distance from reliable water and subsistence resources indicates the project area was unlikely to have been utilised for camping;

- The project area may have been used for travel and/or hunting and gathering which manifest in the archaeological record as very low-density artefact scatters and/or isolated finds; and
- Past and present land uses would have displaced and/or destroyed any evidence of past Aboriginal land use.

6.6 INTERPRETATION & OCCUPATION MODEL

Given the fact that no sites were identified and the project area was disturbed, it is not possible to discuss site interpretation or occupation models.

6.7 REGIONAL & LOCAL CONTEXT

Given the fact that no sites identified, it is not possible to discuss the regional or local archaeological contexts.

6.8 REASSESSMENT OF THE PREDICTIVE MODEL

Given the fact that no sites were identified and the project area is disturbed, it is not possible to reassess the predictive model. Although it is likely that due to the absence of fresh water, the lack of sites may be interpreted as supporting the predictive model of the area being utilised for transitory activities. Such activities leave minimal archaeological evidence across the landscape and if such evidence was present, it is likely to have been highly disturbed through past and present land uses.

6.9 CONCLUSION

It is well established that proximity to water was an important factor in past occupation of the area, with sites reducing in number significantly away from water with most sites located within 50 metres of the tributaries. The project area is located approximately 800 metres from Manning River and associated subsistence resources. The project area was unsuitable for sustained camping but may have been utilised for transitory movement or hunting/gathering activities only.

In relation to modern alterations to the landscape, previous large-scale clearing, grazing and dairy farming can be expected to have had moderate impacts upon the archaeological record. Natural factors such as erosion would also have impacted on the archaeological record, all of which would have displaced cultural materials and the likelihood of in situ cultural materials is very low.

7 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

The archaeological record is a non-renewable resource that is affected by many processes and activities. As outlined in Section 3 and 6, the various natural processes and human activities would have impacted on archaeological deposits through both site formation and taphonomic processes. Chapter 4 describes the impacts within the project area, showing how these processes and activities have disturbed the landscape and associated cultural materials in varying degrees.

7.1 IMPACTS

Detailed descriptions of the impacts are provided in Section 1.5 and the results of the survey in Section 6. The OEH Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (2010:21) describes impacts to be rated as follows:

- 1) Type of harm: is either direct, indirect or none
- 2) Degree of harm is defined as either total, partial or none
- 3) Consequence of harm is defined as either total loss, partial loss, or no loss of value

As no sites were identified during the survey there are no impacts on the archaeological record.

8 MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Specific strategies, as outlined through the DECCW (2010b) Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010b), the Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH 2011), and the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW 2010c), are considered below for the management of the identified site within the project area.

One of the most important considerations in selecting the most suitable and appropriate strategy is the recognition that Aboriginal cultural heritage is very important to the local Aboriginal community. Decisions about the management of sites and potential archaeological deposits should be made in consultation with the appropriate local Aboriginal community.

8.1 CONSERVATION/PROTECTION

The BCD is responsible for the conservation/protection of Indigenous sites and they therefore require good reason for any impact on an indigenous site. Conservation is the first avenue and is suitable for all sites, especially those considered high archaeological significance and/or cultural significance. Conservation includes the processes of looking after an indigenous site or place so as to retain its cultural significance and are managed in a way that is consistent with the nature of peoples' attachment to them.

As no sites have been identified and the project area is disturbed through previous clearing, grazing and dairy farming, conservation/protection is not required.

8.2 FURTHER INVESTIGATION

An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is no longer required to undertake test excavations (providing the excavations are in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations in NSW). Subsurface testing is appropriate when a Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) has been identified, and it can be demonstrated that sub-surface Aboriginal objects with potential conservation value have a high probability of being present, and that the area cannot be substantially avoided by the proposed activity. However, testing may only be undertaken as per the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW 2011) and discussions/consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

As no sites have been identified and the project area is disturbed through previous clearing, grazing and dairy farming, further investigations are not justified.

8.3 AHIP

If harm will occur to an Aboriginal object or Place, then an AHIP is required from the BCD. If a systematic excavation of the known site could provide benefits and information for the Aboriginal community and/or archaeological study of past Aboriginal occupation, a salvage program may be an appropriate strategy to enable the salvage of cultural objects. The AHIP may also include surface collection of artefacts.

As no sites have been identified and the project area, an AHIP is not required.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 GENERAL

- 1) The persons responsible for the management of onsite works will ensure that all staff, contractors and others involved in construction and maintenance related activities are made aware of the statutory legislation protecting sites and places of significance. Of particular importance is the National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Aboriginal Objects and Aboriginal Places) Regulation 2010, under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974; and
- 2) Should any Aboriginal objects be uncovered during works, all work will cease in that location immediately and the Environmental Line contacted.

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APPENDIX A

Aboriginal Stakeholder Consultation

Date	Consultation type	OEH requirement	Consult stage	RAP/Agency	Contact person	Description
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council PTLALC)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Registrar of Aboriginal Owners (RAO)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Midcoast Council (MC)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted NTSCORP Ltd		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
1/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	MCH contacted Hunter Local Land Services (HLLS)		Letter to identify Aboriginal parties. Requested response no later C.O.B. 15/4/2019
2/4/19	Letter/e-mail	4.1.2	1	NNTT contacted MCH		No Identified Aboriginal parties
3/4/19	Letter/e-mail	4.1.2	1	RAO contacted MCH		Identified Aboriginal parties: Purfleet Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council
10/4/19	Letter	4.1.2	1	OEH contacted MCH		Identified Aboriginal parties: 23
	e-mail	4.1.2	1	PTLALC		No response
NA		4.1.2	1	NTSCORP		Do not provide lists of possible stakeholders
NA		4.1.2	1	GSLs		Do not provide lists of possible stakeholders
15 April 2019 C.O.B. Request for groups to consult with closed						
25/4/19	Public notice	4.1.3	1	All registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs)		Public notice in Manning River Times and requested registration no later than 10/5/19.
24/4/19	Letter & email	4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.2.1	1	All RAPs	those provided from sources above	Formal letter to identified RAPs. Letter requested registration of interest in the project, project outline, maps and asking for the preferred method to receive information (meeting/mail/email). Required registration by C.O.B. 7/5/2019
6/5/19		4.1.7, 4.1.8	1	Lee Davison		Registered for the project
10 May 2019 C.O.B. Registration for project closed						

Date	Consultation type	OEH requirement	Consult stage	RAP/Agency	Contact person	Description
13/5/19	letter	4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7	2 & 3	All RAPs		Formal letter and information packet sent to 4 identified RAPs. Information packet included project outline, project area, critical timelines, impacts, brief cultural, environmental and archaeological context, proposed methods of investigation, proposed methods of gathering cultural knowledge, and maps. A response the proposed methodology was required registration by C.O.B. 10/6/2019
3/6/19	e-mail & letter	4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7	2 & 3		Lee Davison	Responded to the information packet and supported the methods
10 June 2019 C.O.B. Response to information packet closed						
14/7/19	Letter		3	Lee Davison		Lee Davison sent a letter of invitation to attend and participate in the survey and test excavation if required on 5/8/2019
16/7/19	email	4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7	2 & 3			Responded he will try to have someone attend the survey
4/9/19	email			MCH		MCH send confirmation for survey
4/9/19	email			Lee Davison		Notified MCH was unable to attend survey and looked forward to receiving the report.
5 August 2019 Commencement of field work						
11/9/19	email & letter	4.3.5; 4.3.6; 4.3.7 4.4.1; 4.4.2; 4.4.3	3 & 4	Lee Davison		Draft report, sent to Lee Davison for review
4/10/19	email & letter	4.3.5; 4.3.6; 4.3.7 4.4.1; 4.4.2; 4.4.3	3 & 4			suggested some changes to draft report and suggested test excavation
4/10/19	email			MCH		MCH thanked Lee for his response. MCH also explained that in order to undertake test excavations, they need to be targeted in areas with potential and given the level of high disturbances as well as distances from resources, it is not possible to identify any areas with potential.
8th October 2019 C.O.B. Response to Draft Report Closed – Closed early due to early response on the 4th October 2019						
4/10/19		4.4.4; 4.4.5	4	Lee Davison		Final report sent to Lee Davison
4th October 2019 C.O.B. Assessment Complete						



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1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
NTSCORP Limited
information@ntscorp.com.au

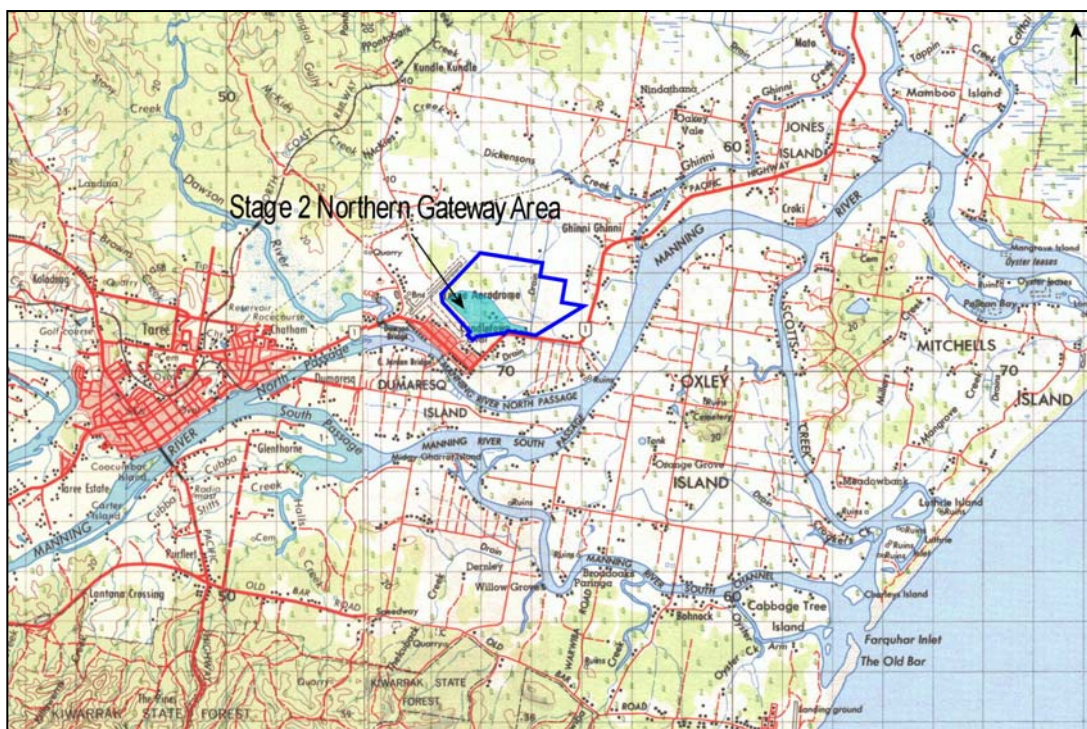
Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, (Stage 1, s4.1.1 to 4.1.2), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the project area



In order to comply with the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, in particular Stage 1 (s4.1.2) - we are writing to advise you of the proposal and ask whether you could provide details of any Aboriginal groups or individuals that your organisation is aware of who may have an interest in the investigation area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Should you have this information, we request that you provide the names and contact details of these Aboriginal people/organisations, in writing, to the undersigned either via written correspondence or email (mcheritage@iprimus.com.au) within 14 working days of receipt of this letter.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, and the minimal time requirements as stated in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation is not aware of any such interested parties.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist



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1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
Office of Environment & Heritage (Archaeology)
rog.hcc@environment.nsw.gov.au

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1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
Hunter Local Land Services
toby.whaleboat@lls.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

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Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
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1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
National Native Title Tribunal
GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au

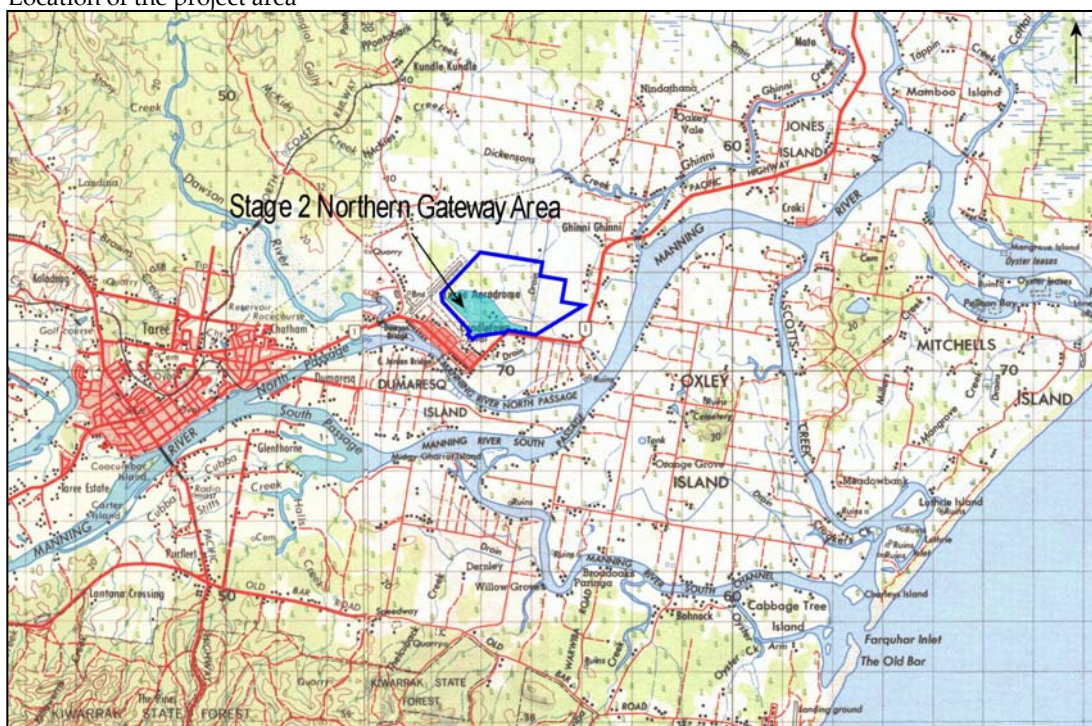
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Location of the project area



In order to comply with the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, in particular Stage 1 (s4.1.2) - we are writing to advise you of the proposal and ask whether you could provide details of any Aboriginal groups or individuals that your organisation is aware of who may have an interest in the investigation area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Should you have this information, we request that you provide the names and contact details of these Aboriginal people/organisations, in writing, to the undersigned either via written correspondence or email (mcheritage@iprimus.com.au) within 14 working days of receipt of this letter.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, and the minimal time requirements as stated in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation is not aware of any such interested parties.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist



Request for Search of Tribunal Registers

Search for overlapping interests i.e.: Is there a native title claim, determination or land use agreement over this land?

Please note: the NNTT cannot search over freehold land.

For further information on freehold land: [Click Here](#) (NNTT website)

1. Your details

NAME:	Penny McCardle
POSITION:	Archaeologist
COMPANY/ORGANISATION:	McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd
POSTAL ADDRESS:	PO Box 166, Adamstown NSW 2289
TELEPHONE:	0412 702 396
EMAIL:	mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
YOUR REFERENCE:	Cundletown
DATE OF REQUEST:	1/4/2019

2. Reason for your request

Are you a party to a native title proceeding?

Yes No

Please provide Federal Court/Tribunal file number/or application name:

OR

Do you need to identify existing native title interests to comply with the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) or other State/Territory legislation?

Yes No

Please provide brief details of these obligations here:

OEH requirements

3. Identify the area to be searched

If there is insufficient room below, please send more information on a Word or Excel document.

Mining tenure

State/Territory: NSW

Tenement ref/s: _____

OR

Crown land / non-freehold tenure

Tenure type: Lease Reserve or other Crown land

State/Territory: _____

Lot and plan details: _____

Pastoral Lease number or name: _____

Other details: (Town/County/Parish/

Section/Hundred/Portion): _____

Email completed form to: GeospatialSearch@nntt.gov.au



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council
admin@ptlalc.com.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, (Stage 1, s4.1.1 to 4.1.2), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the project area



In order to comply with the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, in particular Stage 1 (s4.1.2) - we are writing to advise you of the proposal and ask whether you could provide details of any Aboriginal groups or individuals that your organisation is aware of who may have an interest in the investigation area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

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Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, and the minimal time requirements as stated in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation is not aware of any such interested parties.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
Midcoast City Council
council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

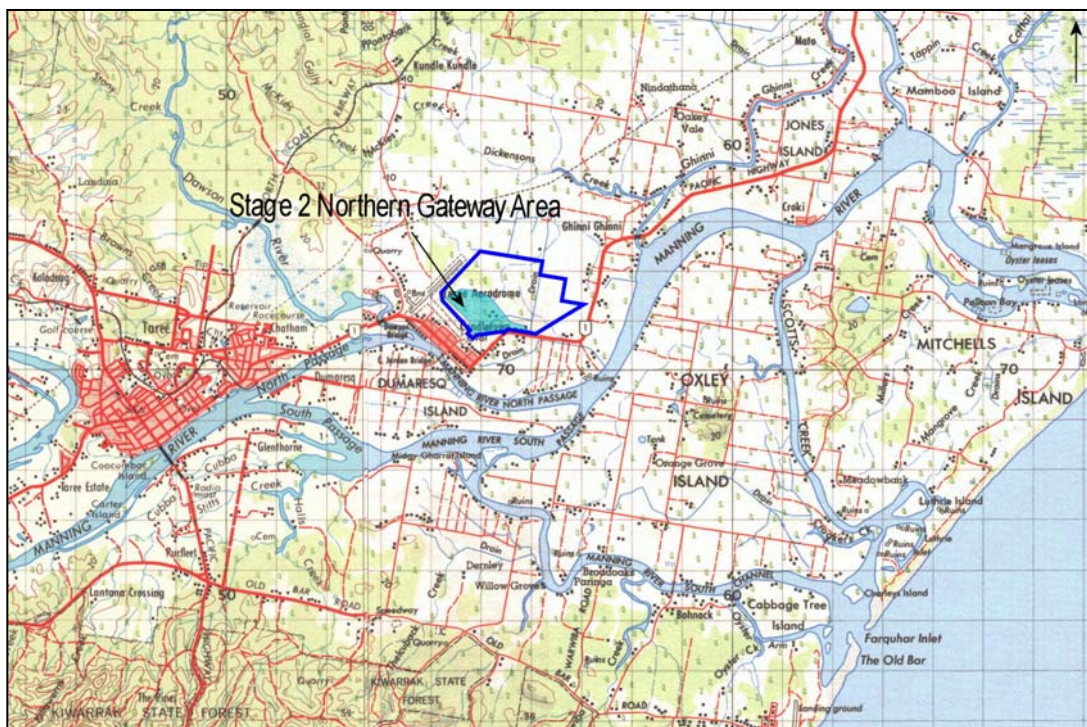
Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

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Location of the project area



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Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

1 April 2019

Sir/Madam
Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983
jodie.rikiti2@oralra.nsw.gov.au

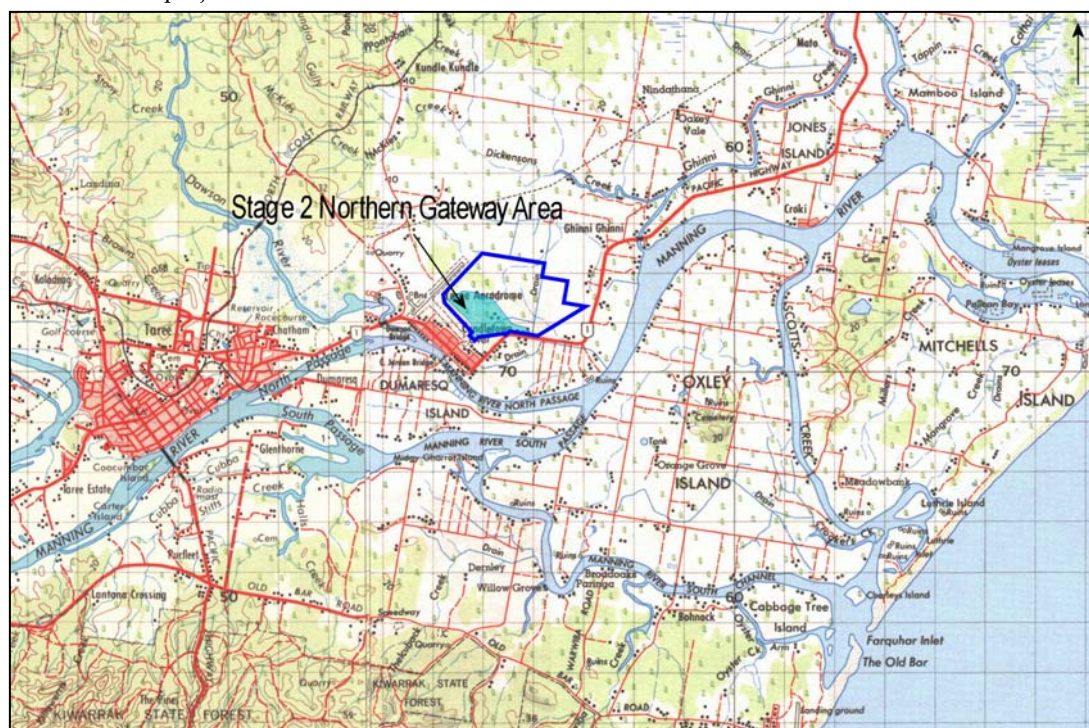
Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

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As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, (Stage 1, s4.1.1 to 4.1.2), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the project area



In order to comply with the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*, in particular Stage 1 (s4.1.2) - we are writing to advise you of the proposal and ask whether you could provide details of any Aboriginal groups or individuals that your organisation is aware of who may have an interest in the investigation area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

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Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

Penny McCardle

From: Geospatial Search Requests <GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2019 6:09 PM
To: 'Penny McCardle'
Subject: RE: SR5640 - search - SR5640

UNCLASSIFIED

Native title search – NSW Parcels – Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub

Your ref: Cundletown - **Our ref:** SR5640

Dear Penny McCardle,

Thank you for your search request received on 01 April 2019 in relation to the above area. Based on the records held by the National Native Title Tribunal as at 02 April 2019 it would appear that there are no Native Title Determination Applications, Determinations of Native Title, or Indigenous Land Use Agreements over the identified area.

Search Results

The results provided are based on the information you supplied and are derived from a search of the following Tribunal databases:

- Schedule of Native Title Determination Applications
- Register of Native Title Claims
- National Native Title Register
- Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements
- Notified Indigenous Land Use Agreements

At the time this search was carried out, there were **no relevant entries** in the above databases.

Please note: There may be a delay between a native title determination application being lodged in the Federal Court and its transfer to the Tribunal. As a result, some native title determination applications recently filed with the Federal Court may not appear on the Tribunal's databases.

The Tribunal accepts no liability for reliance placed on enclosed information

The enclosed information has been provided in good faith. Use of this information is at your sole risk. The National Native Title Tribunal makes no representation, either express or implied, as to the accuracy or suitability of the information enclosed for any particular purpose and accepts no liability for use of the information or reliance placed on it.

Cultural Heritage Searches in NSW

The National Native Title Tribunal (the Tribunal) has undertaken steps to remove itself from the formal list of sources for information about indigenous groups in development areas. The existence or otherwise of native title is quite separate to any matters relating to Aboriginal cultural heritage. Information on native title claims, native title determinations and Indigenous Land Use Agreements is available on the Tribunal's website.

Interested parties are invited to use Native Title Vision (NTV) the Tribunal's online mapping system to discover native title matters in their area of interest. Access to NTV is available at

<http://www.nntt.gov.au/assistance/Geospatial/Pages/NTV.aspx>

Training and self-help documents are available on the NTV web page under "Training and help documents". For additional assistance or general advice on NTV please contact GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au

Additional information can be extracted from the Registers available at <http://www.nntt.gov.au/searchRegApps/Pages/default.aspx>

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on the free call number 1800 640 501.

Regards,

Geospatial Searches

National Native Title Tribunal | Perth

Email: GeospatialSearch@nntt.gov.au | www.nntt.gov.au

From: Penny McCardle <mcheritage@iprimus.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 8:37 AM
To: Geospatial Search Requests <GeospatialSearch@NNTT.gov.au>
Subject: SR5640 - search

Dear sir/madam,

Please see the attached request.

Kind regards,

Penny McCardle

Archaeologist & Forensic Anthropologist



PO Box 166,
Adamstown 2289 NSW
P: 0412 702 396
mcheritage.com.au

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering the email to the intended recipient, you have received this email in error. If so, please immediately notify us by reply email to the sender and delete from your computer the original transmission and its contents. Any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing or copying of this email and any file attachments is strictly prohibited. Thank you for your assistance.

3 April 2019

By email: mheritage@iprimus.com.au

Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist
PO Box 166
ADAMSTOWN NSW 2289

Dear Ms McCardle,

Request - Search for Registered Aboriginal Owners

We refer to your letter dated 1 April 2019 ("Letter") regarding an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposed development at Cundletown, NSW as indicated on the map attached to the Letter.

Under Section 170 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* the Office of the Registrar is required to maintain the Register of Aboriginal Owners (RAO). A search of the RAO has shown that there are not currently any Registered Aboriginal Owners in the project area.

We suggest you contact Purfleet Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council on 02 6552 4106 as they may be able to assist you in identifying Aboriginal stakeholders who wish to participate.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Loane
Project Officer, Aboriginal Owners
Office of the Registrar, ALRA



DOC19/277441-1
Northern Gateway Transport Hub, Cundletown

Ms Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au@

Dear Penny

Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub, Cundletown – Aboriginal Stakeholder List

In response to your request under Section 4.1.2(a) of the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010), please find attached a list of known Aboriginal parties that have self-nominated for Mid Coast Council Local Government Area (LGA). Please note the following information with respect to Aboriginal consultation for your project.

Aboriginal stakeholder lists maintained by OEH are comprised of self-nominated individuals and organisations

Please note that the attached list is comprised only of self-nominated individuals and Aboriginal organisations who could have an interest in your project. The list is not vetted by OEH. As the list comprises only of self-nominated individuals and Aboriginal organisations, it is not necessarily an exhaustive list of all Aboriginal parties who may hold an interest in the project. Further consultation in accordance with step 4.1.2 of the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010) is required to identify Aboriginal people who may hold either cultural or historical knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects or places within your proposed project area.

Aboriginal stakeholder lists may cover multiple Local Aboriginal Land Council boundaries

Please note that the attached list may contain two or more Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) that occur in the LGA. Please review the boundary of your specific project area and ensure you consult with all LALC(s) that overlap with your project area. OEH does not require you to contact any LALCs on the attached list that you determine are wholly located outside your project area.

Ensure you document the consultation process

Please ensure all consultation undertaken in accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010) is documented within an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR). This must include copies of all correspondence sent to or received from all Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) throughout the entire consultation process. Omission of these records in the final ACHAR may cause delays in the assessment of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application or a major project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and could require parts of the consultation process to be repeated if the evidence provided to OEH

does not demonstrate that the consultation process has been conducted in accordance with our consultation requirements.

Demonstrate that reasonable consultation attempts have been made

Please ensure you provide evidence to demonstrate that reasonable attempts have been made to contact the relevant parties identified through step 4.1.2 of the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010). If this evidence is not provided, OEH may deem that the consultation process has not complied with the consultation requirements. Similarly, the proponent is required to record all feedback received from RAPs, along with the proponent's response to the feedback. Where concerns or contentious issues are raised by RAPs during the consultation process, OEH expects that reasonable attempts are made to address and resolve these matters, however OEH acknowledges that in some cases, this may not be achievable. In the case where conflict cannot be resolved, it is the responsibility of the proponent to record these differences and provide the necessary information in their ACHAR with their AHIP application or major project ACHAR.

Consultation should not be confused with employment

As outlined in Section 3.4 of the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010), 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 an application. OEH does not have any role with respect to commercial engagement. Where RAPs are engaged commercially to provide field services as part of an assessment process, that is a matter for the proponent to manage as they see fit. However, if a proponent is proposing to undertake consultation processes or elicit cultural information from RAPs during the course of conducting a field survey, OEH considers this to form part of the consultation process, and expects that all RAPs would be afforded the opportunity to be involved in the process.

Contacting our office

To ensure we can respond to enquiries promptly, please direct future correspondence to our central mailbox: rog.hcc@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. S. Goode". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

GILLIAN GOODE
Archaeologist
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Conservation and Regional Delivery Division

10 April 2019



Attachment A

Hunter Central Coast Branch - Aboriginal Stakeholder List for Mid Coast Council LGA

Please note that this list is valid at the time of sending only and should not be used for subsequent projects.

Organisation	First name	Surname	Address 1	City	State	Post code	Landline	Mobile	Email
A1 Indigenous Services	Carolyn	Hickey	10 Marie Pitt Place	GLENMORE PARK	NSW	2745		0411 650 057	Cazadirect@live.com
Birpai Local Aboriginal Land Council	CEO		14 Aston Street	PORT MACQUARIE	NSW	2444	02 6584 9066		birpailalc@midcoast.com.au
Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation	Carroll-Johnson	Marilyn	PO Box 3340	ROUSE HILL	NSW	2155	0288 244 324	0415 911 159	corroboreecorp@bigpond.com
D F T V Enterprises	Derrick	Vale Snr	5 Mountbatten Close	RUTHERFORD	NSW	2320		0438 812 197	deckavale@hotmail.com
Didge Ngunawal Clan	Paul Boyd	& Lilly Carroll	7 Siskin St	QUAKERS HILL	NSW	2763		0426 823 944	didgengunawalclan@yahoo.com.au
Forster Local Aboriginal Land Council	CEO		10 Breckenridge Street	FORSTER	NSW	2428	02 6555 5411		info@forsterlalc.org.au
Hunters & Collectors	Tania	Matthews	U211 Walowa St	NARRABRI	NSW	2390		0409 193 612	Tamatthews10@hotmail.com
Karuah Indigenous Corporation	David	Feeney	1/7 Mustons Rd	KARUAH	NSW	2324	02 4997 5952	0421 114 853	karuahindigenous@outlook.com
Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council	CEO		16 Muston Road	KARUAH	NSW	2324	02 4997 5733		karuahaboriginal@bigpond.com
Kawul Pty Ltd trading as Wonn1 Sites	Arthur	Fletcher	619 Main Road	GLENDALE	NSW	2285	02 4954 7751	0402 146 193	Wonn1sites@gmail.com
Lakkari NTCG	Mick	Leon	C/- 4/39 Short Street	FORSTER	NSW	2428		0402 751 584	doowakee@gmail.com

Organisation	First name	Surname	Address 1	City	State	Post code	Landline	Mobile	Email
Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated	David	Ahoy	5 Killara Drive	CARDIFF SOUTH	NSW	2285		0421 329 520	lowerhunterai@gmail.com
Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Ryan Johnson	& Darleen Johnson-Carroll	PO Box 246	SEVEN HILLS	NSW	2147		0497 983 332	murrabidgeemullangari@yahoo.com.au
Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.	Anthony	Anderson	7 Vardon Road	FERN BAY NSW	NSW	2295	02 4928 1910	0402 827 482	murroomainc1@gmail.com
Myland Cultural & Heritage Group	Warren	Schillings	30 Taurus Street	ELERMORE VALE	NSW	2287		0431 392 554	warren@yarnteen.com.au
Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd	Leonard	Anderson OAM	22 Popplewell Road	FERN BAY NSW	NSW	2295		0431 334 365	lennie.anderson011@bigpond.com
Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council	CEO		Lots 1-3 Old Pacific Highway	PURFLEET	NSW	2430	02 6552 4106		admin@ptlalc.com.au
Roger Matthews Consultancy	Roger	Matthews	105 View Street	GUNNEDAH	NSW	2380		0455 671 288	
Wattaka Wonnarua CC Service	Des	Hickey	4 Kennedy Street	SINGLETON	NSW	2330	02 6573 3786	0432 977 178	deshickey@bigpond.com
Widescope Indigenous Group	Steven	Hickey	73 Russell Street	EMU PLAINS	NSW	2750		0425 230 693 0425 232 056	Widescope.group@live.com
Yinarr Cultural Services	Kathleen	Steward Kinchela	Lot 5 Westwood Estate	MERRIWA	NSW	2329		0475 436 589	yinarculturalservices@bigpond.com dontminemeay@gmail.com
	Lee	Davison	4 Old Bar Road	OLD BAR	NSW	2430		0450 180 680	leedavison114@yahoo.com.au
	Kevin	Duncan	95 Moala Parade	CHARMHAVEN	NSW	2263	02 4392 9346	0431 224 099	kevin.duncan@bigpond.com



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

24 April 2019

A1 Indigenous Services
Carolyn Hickey
10 Marie Pitt Place
GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745

Dear Carolyn,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

24 April 2019

Birpai Local Aboriginal Land Council
CEO
14 Aston Street
PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

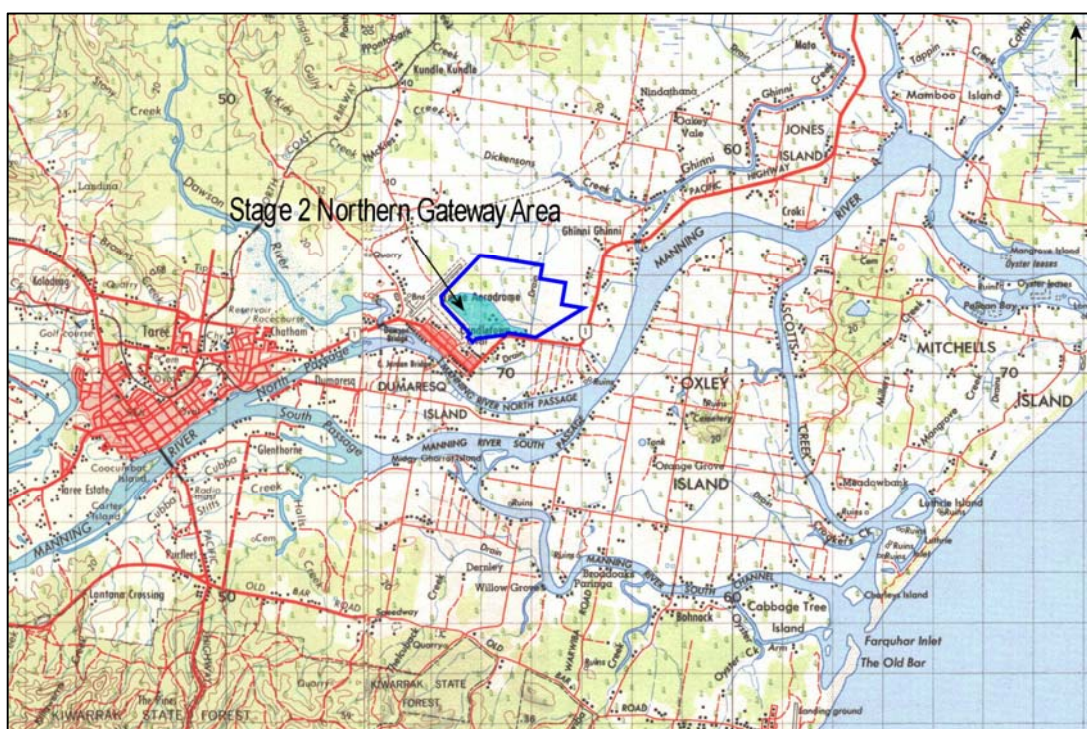
Dear CEO,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc).
YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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P: 0412 702 396

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24 April 2019

Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation
Carroll- Johnson Marilyn
PO Box 3340
ROUSE HILL NSW 2155

Dear Carroll- Johnson,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

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Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

D F T V Enterprises
Derrick Vale Snr
5 Mountbatten Close
RUTHERFORD NSW 2320

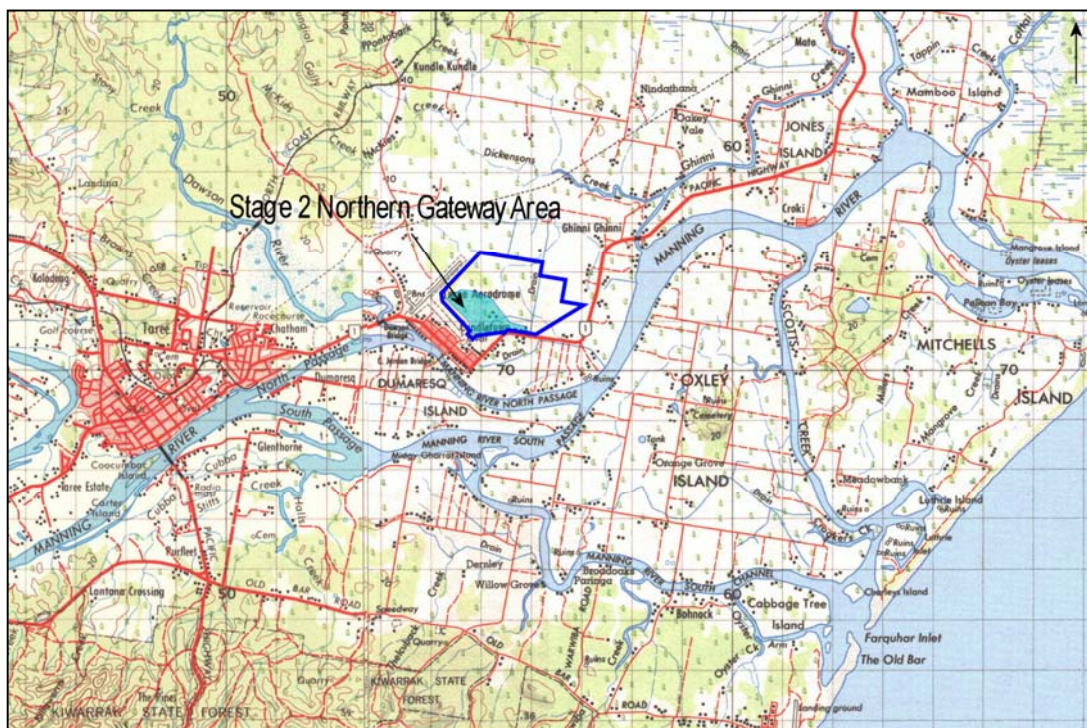
Dear Derrick,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc).
YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Didge Ngunawal Clan
Paul Boyd & Lilly Carroll
7 Siskin St
QUAKERS HILL NSW 2763

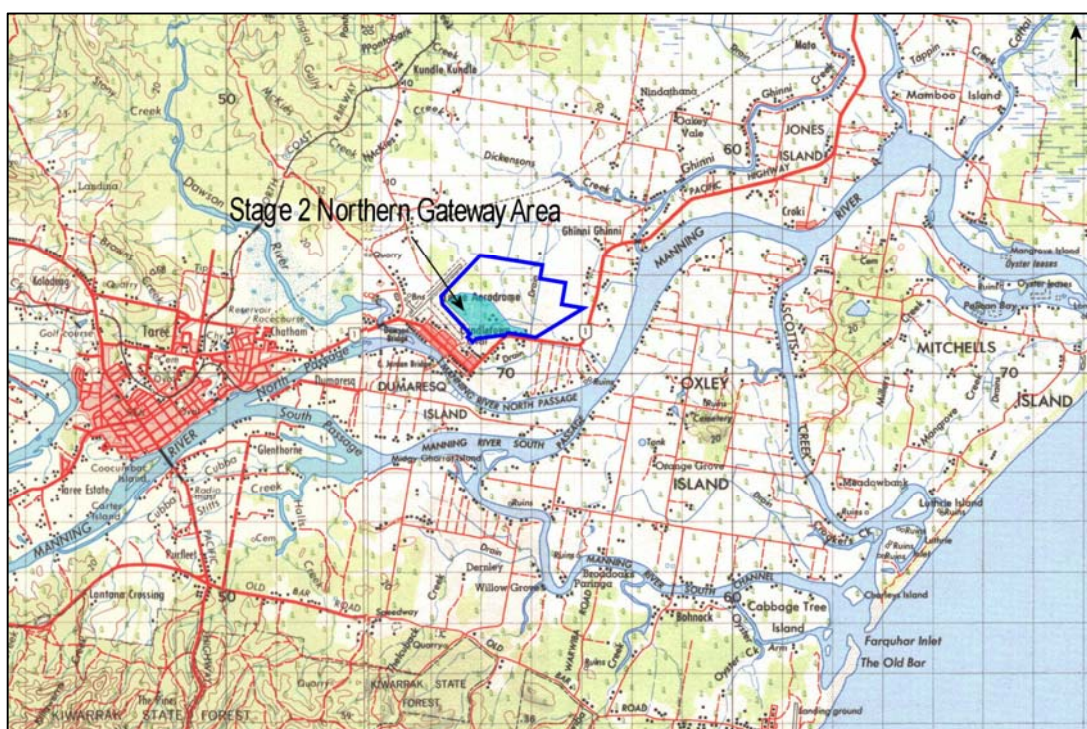
Dear Paul Boyd,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

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c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc).
YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

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24 April 2019

Forster Local Aboriginal Land Council
CEO
10 Breckenridge Street
FORSTER NSW 2428

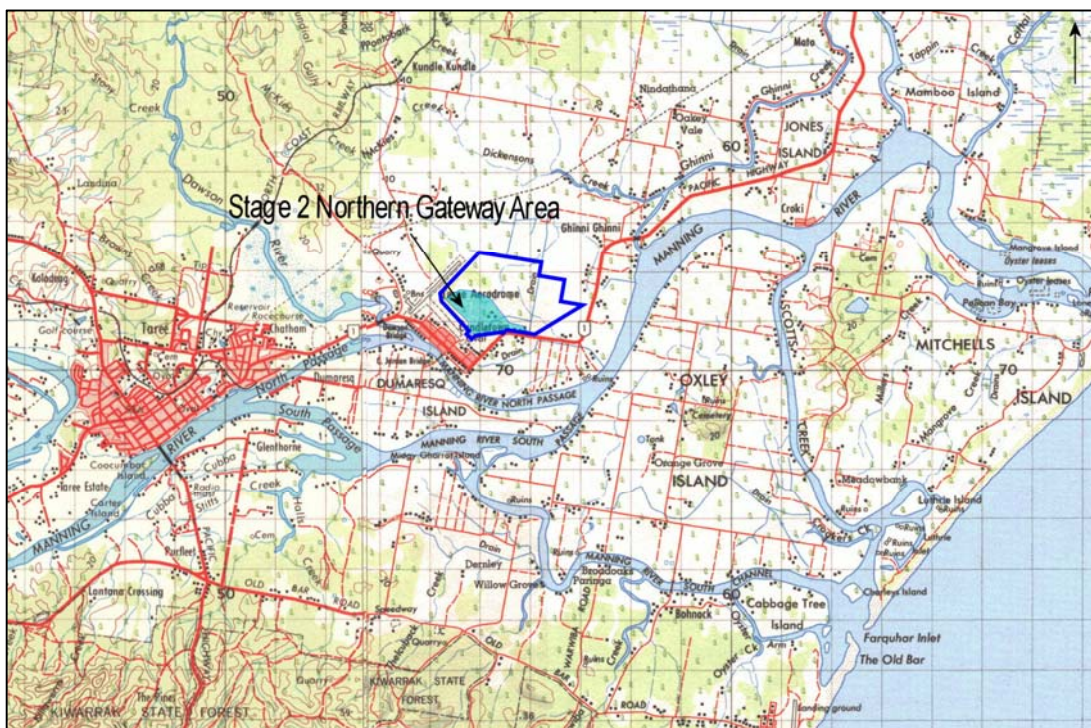
Dear CEO,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

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Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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P: 0412 702 396

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24 April 2019

Hunters & Collectors
Tania Matthews
U211 Walowa St
NARRABRI NSW 2390

Dear Tania,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Karuah Indigenous Corporation
David Feeney
1/7 Mustons Rd
KARUAH NSW 2324

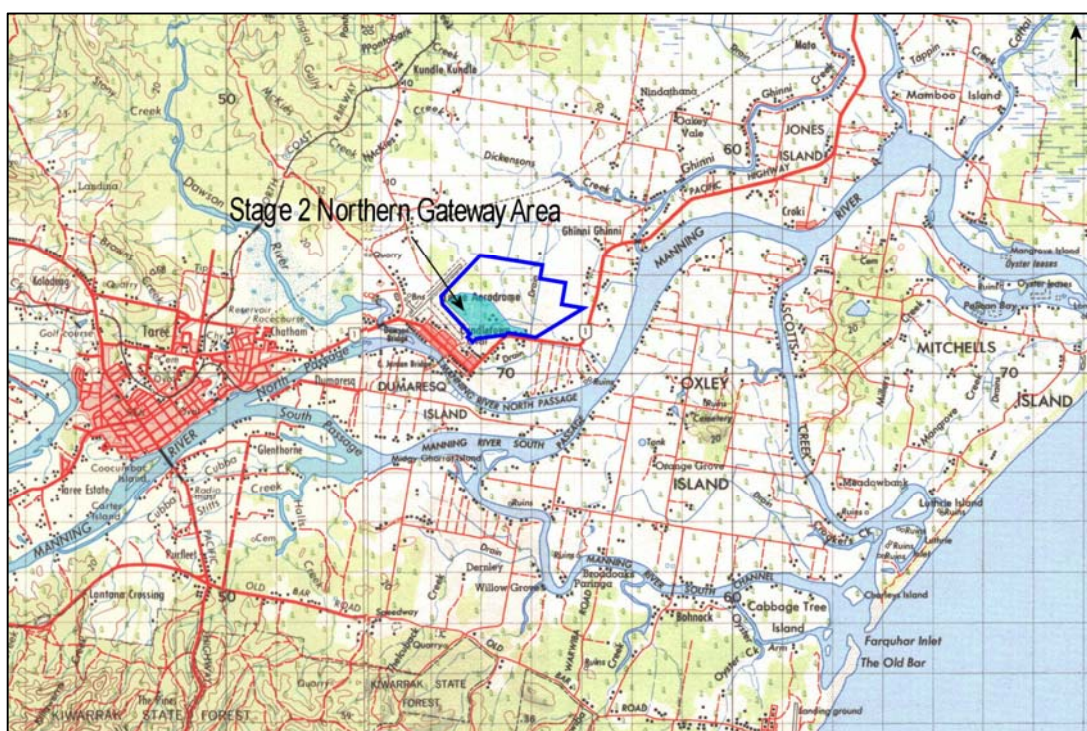
Dear David,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____



5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council
CEO
16 Muston Road
KARUAH NSW 2324

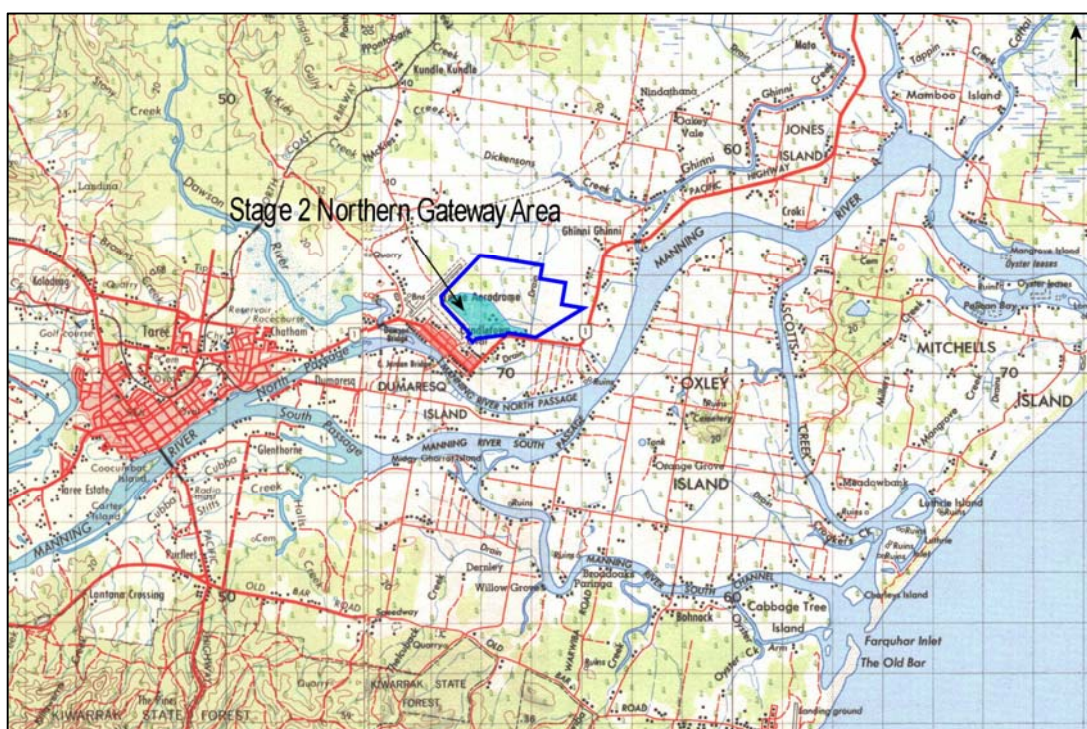
Dear CEO,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

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A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Kawul Pty Ltd trading as Wonn1 Sites
Arthur Fletcher
619 Main Road
GLENDALE NSW 2285

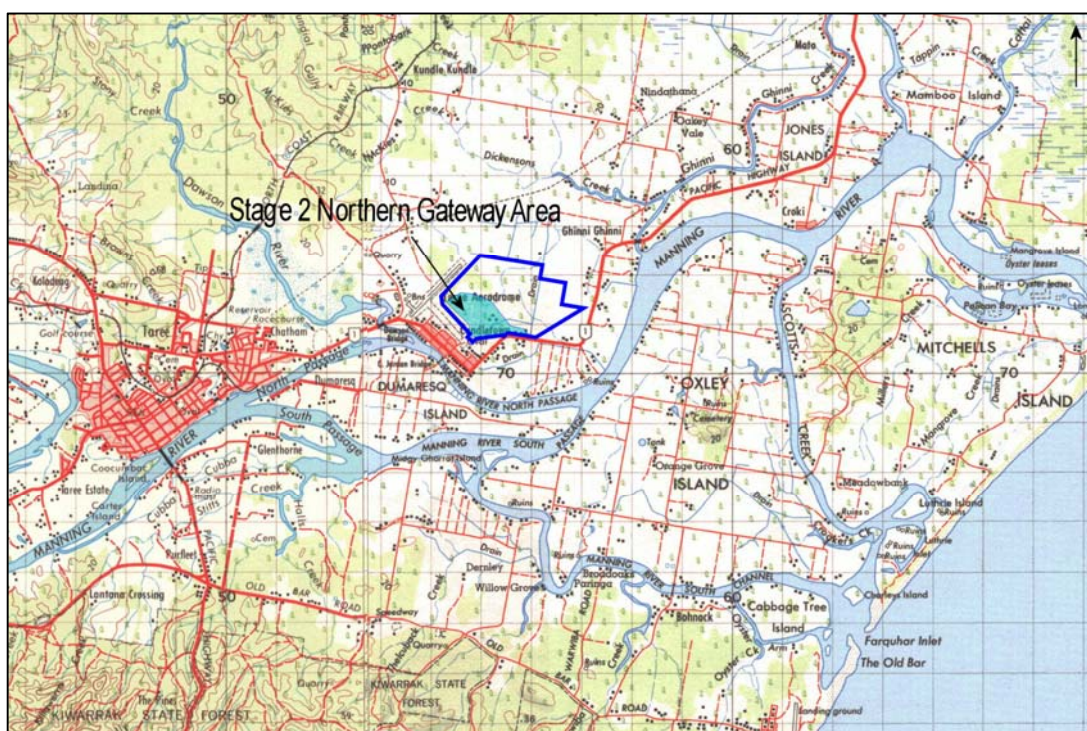
Dear Arthur,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

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mcheritage.com.au

24 April 2019

Lakkari NTCC
Mick Leon
C/- 4/39 Short Street
FORSTER NSW 2428

Dear Mick,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Lower Hunter Aboriginal Incorporated
David Ahoy
5 Killara Drive
CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

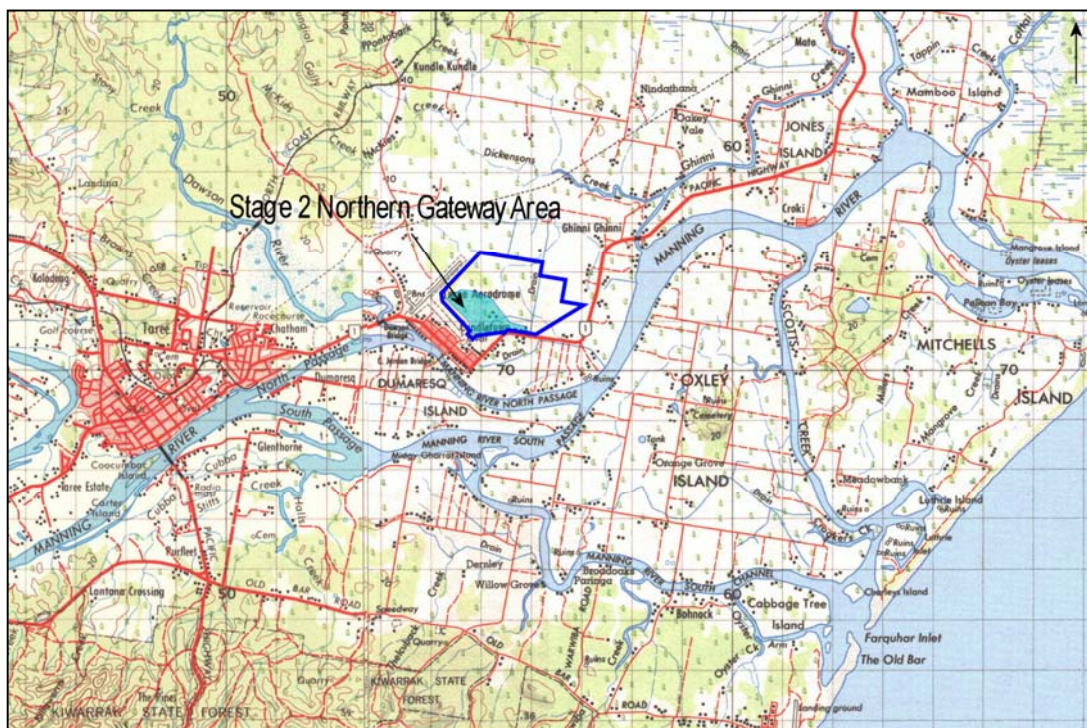
Dear David,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

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McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation
Ryan Johnson & Darleen Johnson-Carroll
PO Box 246
SEVEN HILLS NSW 2147

Dear Ryan Johnson,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Mur-Roo-Ma Inc.
Anthony Anderson
7 Vardon Road
FERN BAY NSW NSW 2295

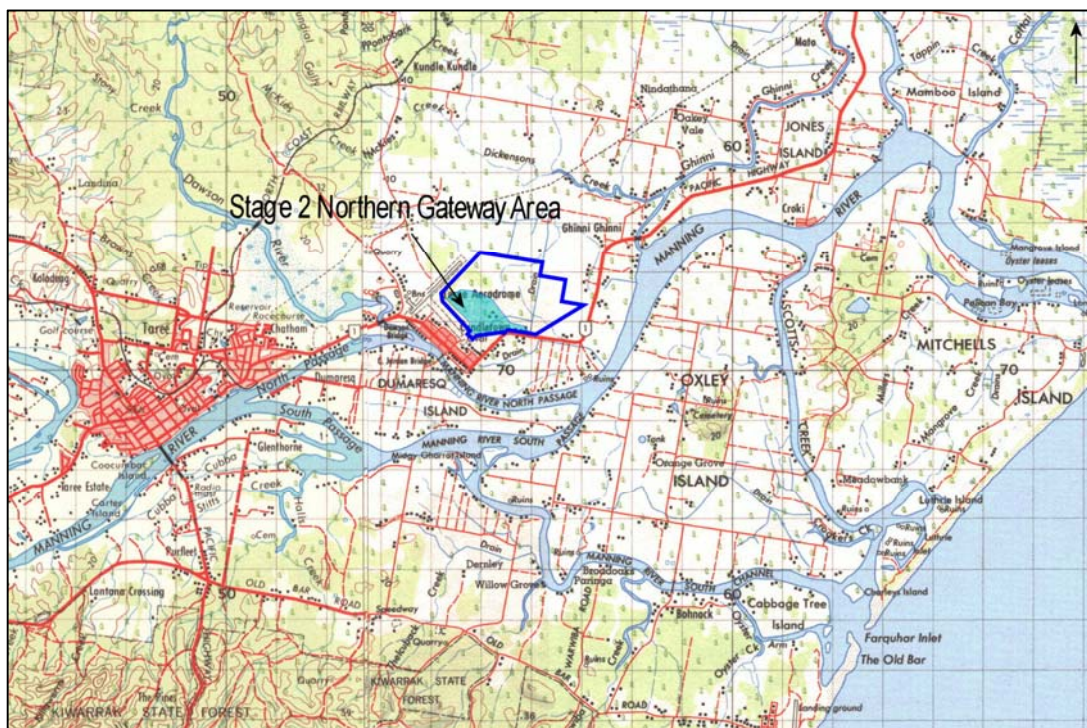
Dear Anthony,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

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If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

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2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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mcheritage.com.au

24 April 2019

Myland Cultural & Heritage Group
Warren Schillings
30 Taurus Street
ELERMORE VALE NSW 2287

Dear Warren,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

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Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

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McCardle Cultural Heritage
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Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____



5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Nur-Run-Gee Pty Ltd
Leonard Anderson OAM
22 Popplewell Road
FERN BAY NSW NSW 2295

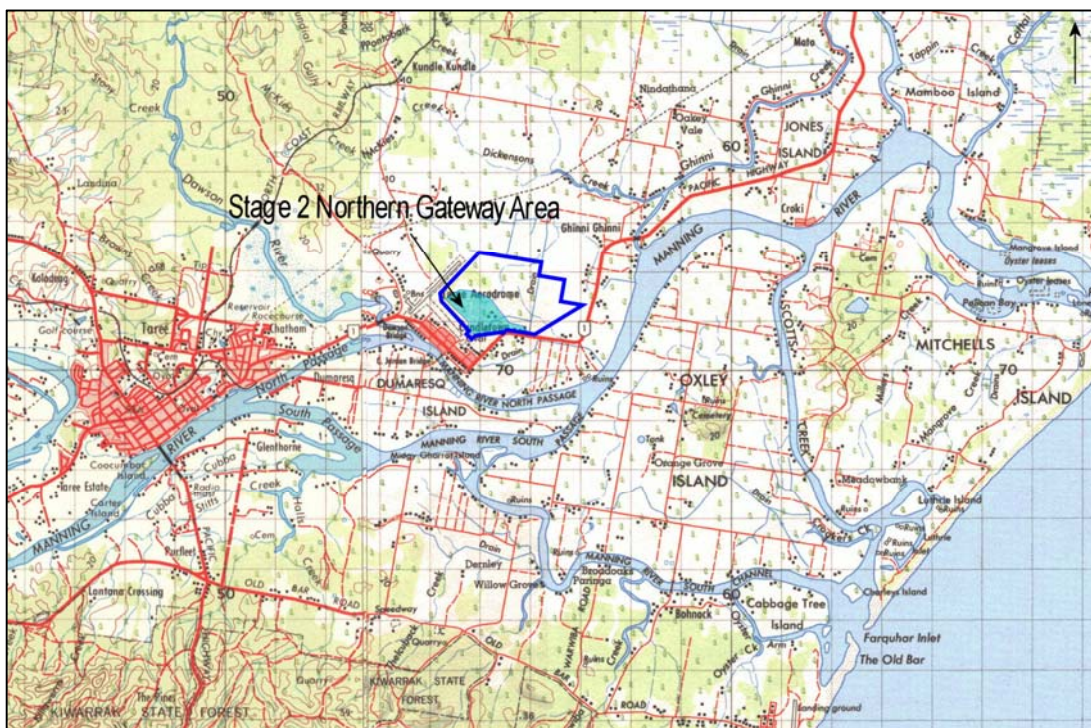
Dear Leonard,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council
CEO
Lots 1-3 Old Pacific Highway
PURFLEET NSW 2430

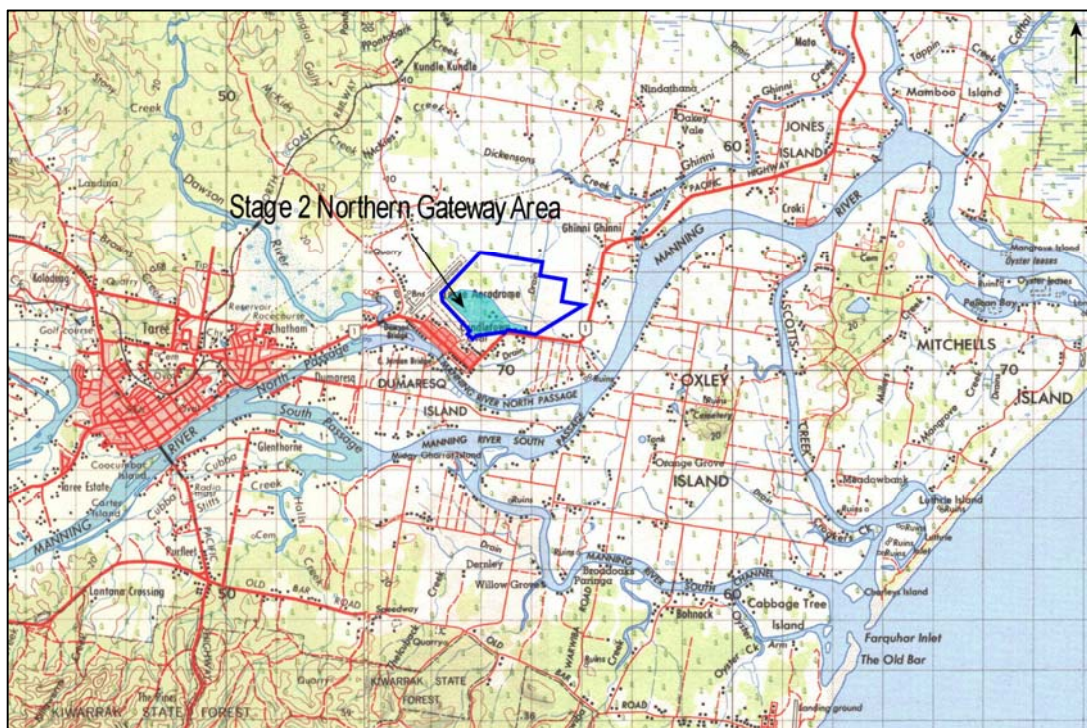
Dear CEO,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Roger Matthews Consultancy
Roger Matthews
105 View Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

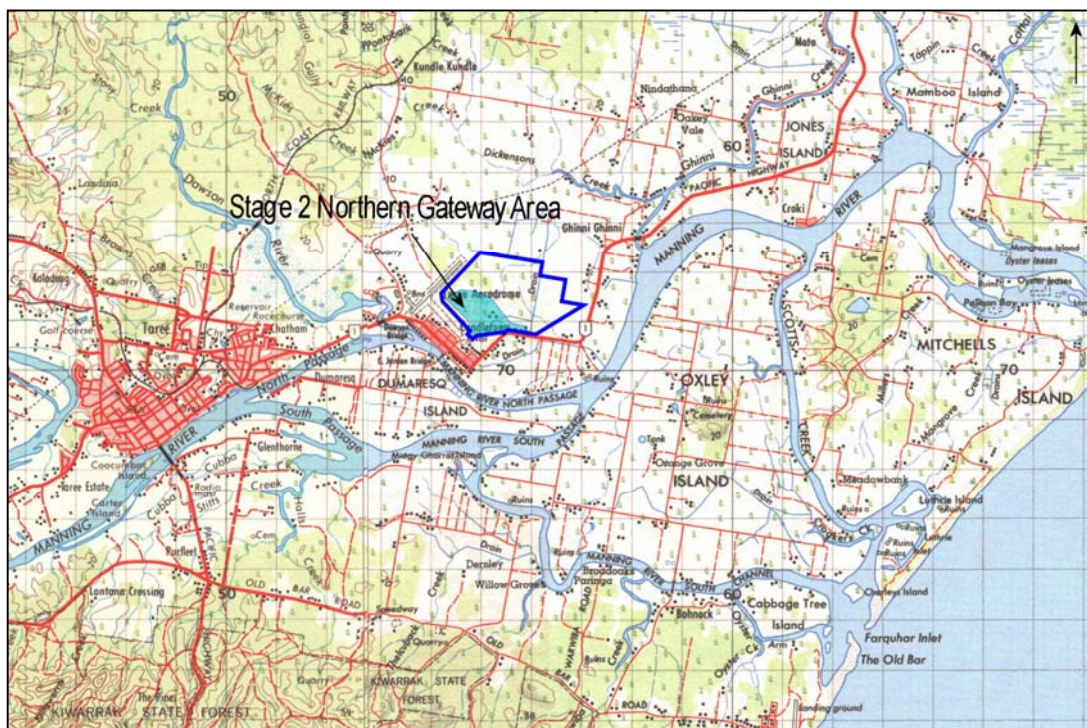
Dear Roger,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____



5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Wattaka Wonnarua CC Service
Des Hickey
4 Kennedy Street
SINGLETON NSW 2330

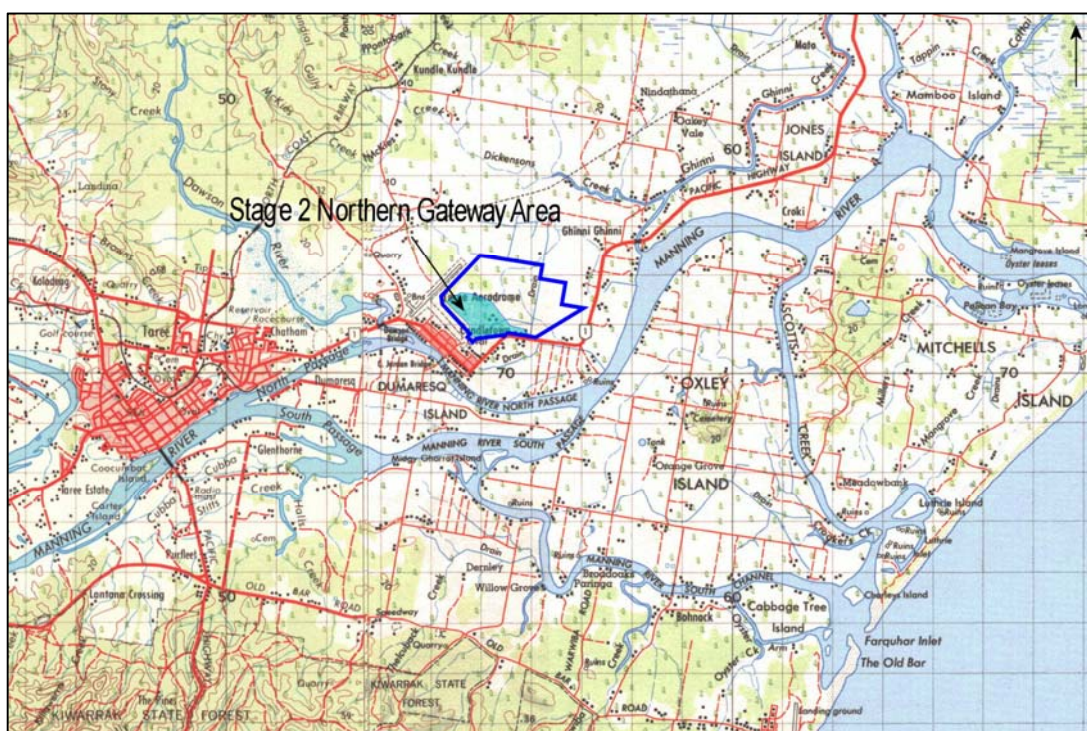
Dear Des,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

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McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

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4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

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3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

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2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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24 April 2019

Widescope Indigenous Group
Steven Hickey
73 Russell Street
EMU PLAINS NSW 2750

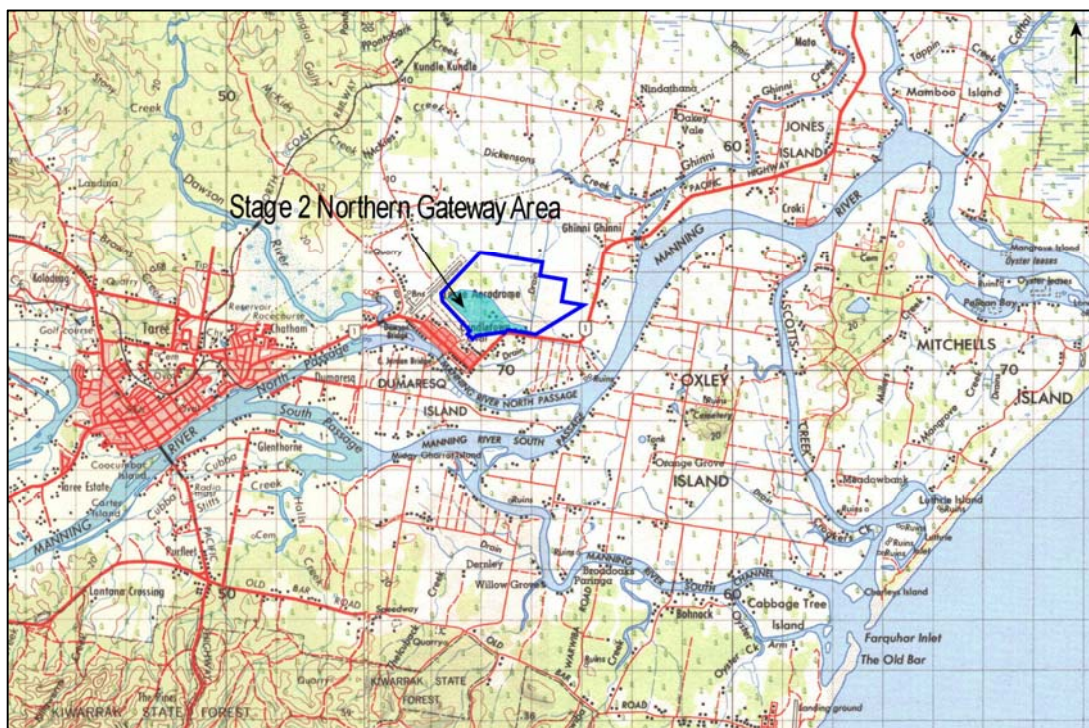
Dear Steven,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
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mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

24 April 2019

Yinarr Cultural Services
Kathleen Steward Kinchela
Lot 5 Westwood Estate
MERRIWA NSW 2329

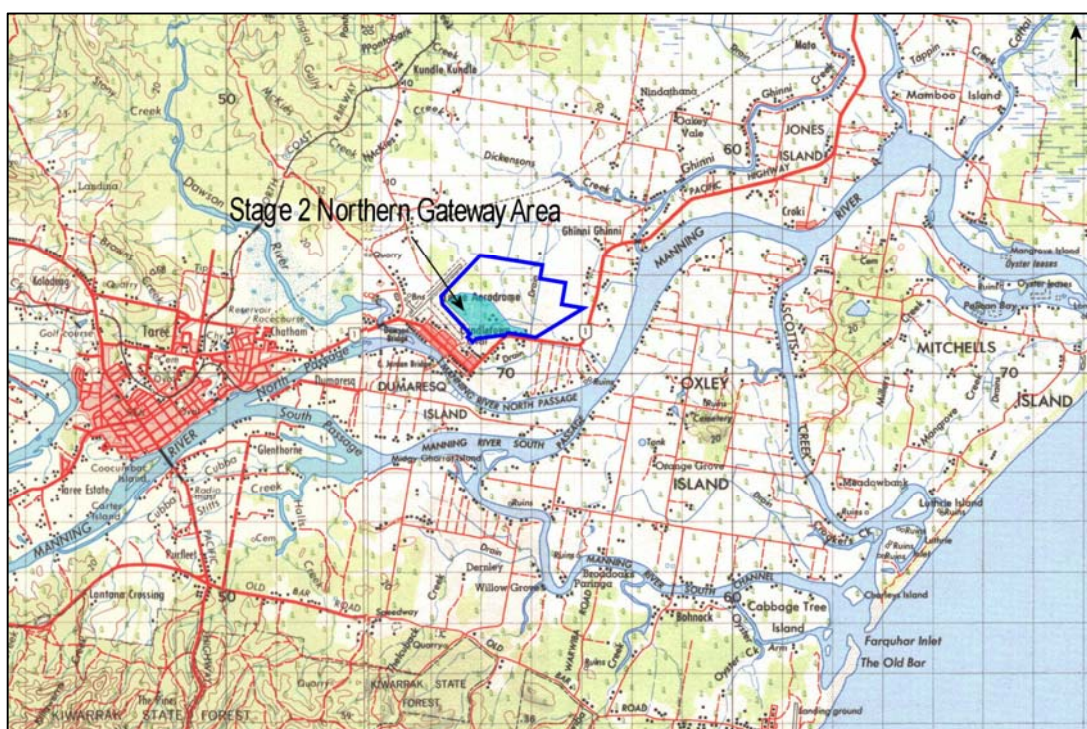
Dear Kathleen,

**RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH
Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)-
Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown**

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

- 1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO
- 2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO
- 3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

- a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____



5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



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P: 0412 702 396

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24 April 2019

Lee Davison
4 Old Bar Road
OLD BAR NSW 2430

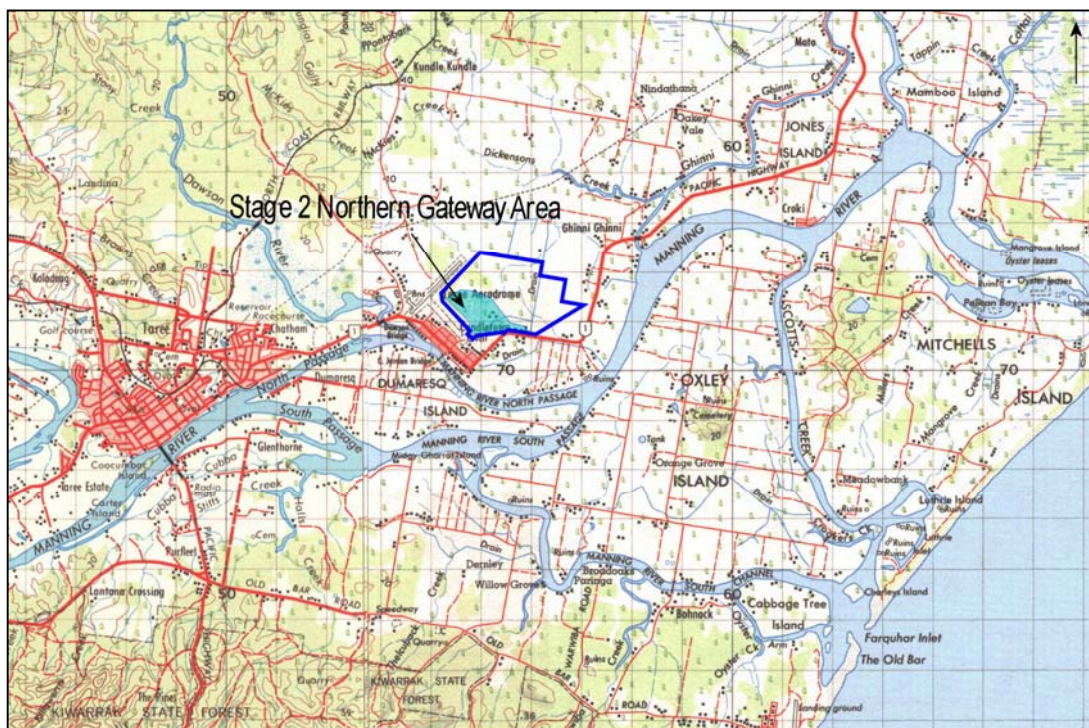
Dear Lee,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)– Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

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Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

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All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

5) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO



MCCARDLE
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PO Box 166
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24 April 2019

Kevin Duncan
95 Moala Parade
CHARMHAVEN NSW 2263

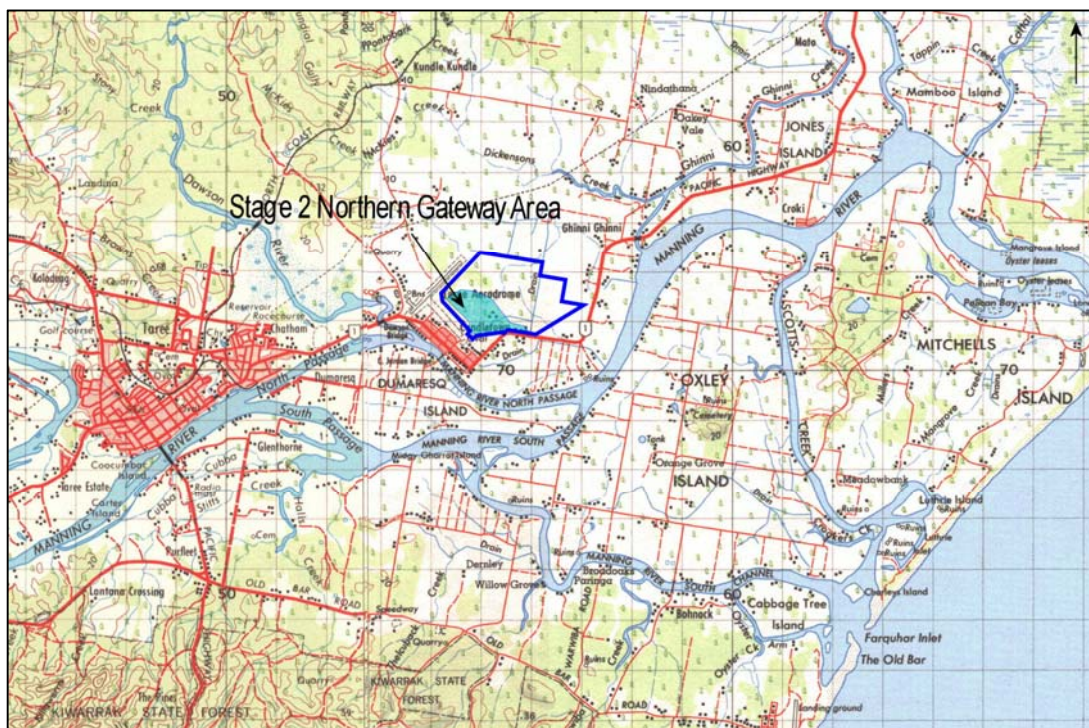
Dear Kevin,

RE: Written notification of project proposal and registration of interest as required under OEH Aboriginal Cultural heritage Consultation requirements fro proponents 2010 (Stage 1)– Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH have been engaged by Coastplan Group (Suite 5/4 South St, Tuncurry NSW 2428) to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application if required for a proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown, Midcoast Local Government Area (LGA).

As per the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010, Stage 1* (s1.3 to 4.1.8), MCH and the proponent are seeking community consultation with indigenous knowledge holders relevant to the project area who can determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Location of the study area



The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an AHIP (if required) and to assist the Director General of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

This is an invitation for Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in a process of community consultation. As per the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (s 4.1.5, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8), you are advised of the following:

- unless otherwise specified, if you register your interest, your details will be provided to OEH and the LALC;
- the LALC's who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must do so as an Aboriginal organisation not an individual;
- where an Aboriginal organisation representing Aboriginal people, who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and that is relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the proposed project area who wish to register, must nominate a contact person **and** provide written confirmation and contact details of this person or persons.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

A number of questions are attached to assist MCH and the proponent in identifying traditional knowledge holders who are holders of specific detailed traditional knowledge, traditional knowledge holders who are holders of general traditional knowledge and knowledge holders who have knowledge based on other sources (such as but not limited to, ethnographic information, archaeological assessments, filed experience). MCH respectfully ask that you read the questions and provide your answers if you choose to register an interest in the project. MCH also sincerely apologise if you take offence to any questions or the manner in which we are guided to identify traditional knowledge holders; no offence is intended.

Should you wish to register your interest in this project, please register in writing no later than C.O.B. 7 May 2019 to:

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown, NSW, 2289

If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the project information. You may wish to have a non paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive information packet through the mail, fax or e-mail. If a preferred method is not nominated, all information will be forward by mail, e-mail or fax.

Please note that in order to adhere to time constraints, the absence of a response by the prescribed timeline, will be taken by the proponent as your indication that your organisation does not wish to register for this project.

All information provided will be included in the consultation component of the assessment report unless otherwise stated it is confidential.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: Northern gateway Transpoty Hub at Ciundletown



The project area lies within Biripi traditional lands.

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

If you are a descendant of, or represent a descendant of the Biripi people, please answer the questions below (circle yes/no).

1) Are **you** part of a current Native Title Claim where the project area is located within? YES/NO

2) Are **you** a descendant of the Biripi people? YES/NO

3) Are **you** a knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes please clarify further:

a) I am a traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

b) I am a traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO

c) I am a knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc).
YES NO

4) Do **you represent** a traditional knowledge holder? YES/NO

If yes, please provide details of whom you represent. You must provide written confirmation of those individual(s) whom you act on behalf of.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

6) Do **you represent** a knowledge holder of recent information? YES/NO

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please nominate when you would like to provide any knowledge:

1) Before the survey YES/NO

2) During the survey YES/NO

3) After the survey (within a week after the survey due to time consideration for preparing the draft reports) YES/NO

If you are not a descendant of the Biripi people and would still like to register an interest in the project please answer the questions below.

1) Are you a knowledge holder (whereby you obtain your knowledge through written records such as ethnographic information, archaeological reports, field experience). YES/NO

2) Do you have a specific or general interest in the project? If so, please outline your interest. YES/NO

Notification of project proposal and registration of interest under OEH Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (Stage 1) – Proposed Rezoning for Northern Gateway Development

McCardle Cultural Heritage (MCH) have been engaged by the Northern Gateway Landowners to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) and Section 90 Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application, if required, for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at:

Lot 1 DP 1098686
Lot 1 DP 733715
Lot 2 DP 733715
Lot 16 DP 613107
Lot 681 DP 617842
Lot 1 DP 1139255

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of the AHIP application, if required, and to assist the Director General of OEH in his or her consideration and determination of the application should an AHIP be required.

In compliance with the OEH policy - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 - MCH would like to extend an invitation to Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the proposed project area and who can determine the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed project to register an interest in the consultation process for this project.

Written registrations must be forwarded to MCH (PO Box 166, Adamstown NSW 2289; email: mcheritage@primus.com.au or fax 02 4950 5501) **no later than COB 10 May 2019.**

All registered parties will then be contacted to discuss the project in compliance with the OEH policy. If you register your interest in this project, please also nominate your preferred option to receive the initial information. You may wish to attend a non-paid meeting and receive an information pack, or receive an information pack through the mail, or by fax or email.

Any parties to register are advised that, unless otherwise requested, their details will be forwarded to OEH and the relevant LALC within 28 days of the closing date of registration and in compliance with the OEH policy.

6 May, 2019

Lee Davison
5/109 Pacific Pde
Dee Why NSW 2099
leedavison114@yahoo.com.au
0450 180 680

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown NSW 2289

Dear Penny,

Re: Registration to participate in Aboriginal community consultation for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown.

Thank you for your letter inviting me to register for the above project. I am writing to confirm my interest in consultation as a cultural knowledge holder and on behalf of family members.

My interest for consultation is based on my family and cultural connection to the Biripi area which encompasses the proposed project area. I was born Biripi in Taree and learned of the Biripi boundaries, cultural traditions, practices and values through my grandfather Warner Saunders, my mother Veronica Saunders and aunties and uncles of the Saunders and Ridgeway families. In discussions and lessons with my grandfather and uncles, I am aware that sites of Biripi cultural significance surround the project area.

I register on behalf of my family to ensure the best interests are considered for culturally significant objects, places and values that may be impacted due to the construction of the proposed Transport Hub, including the future management of those objects, places and values if identified.

My family do not object in you providing our details to the Purfleet-Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council (PTLALC). I support the PTLALC and this registration in no way undermines their position in promoting and protecting Aboriginal heritage under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act.

As stated above, I register on behalf of my family and as such, will consult with family members to ensure the knowledge within our family is used for the purposes of the preservation and/or conservation of significant objects, places or values within the Biripi area. My grandfather, who was a well-respected elder of our community, has unfortunately passed away, and so two men I will mostly involve in consultation for this project are my uncles Dean Saunders and Gary Ridgeway.

My two uncles mentioned, and I have all been passed knowledge from my grandfather, who was Uncle Dean Saunders' father, along with other elders within our families.

I have also gained knowledge from previous archaeological studies within the Biripi area.

We are not part of a Native Title Claimant group.

You can communicate and send all correspondence to me via the email, postal address and phone number above.

I look forward to working with you and your staff on this project for the best interests of Biripi heritage. Please don't hesitate in calling me for any further information regarding my registration or the proposed project.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Davison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background behind the text.

Lee Davison



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

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13 May 2019

Mr. Lee Davison
leedavison114@yahoo.com.au

Dear Lee,

RE: OEH Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (Stage 2 & 3) – Presentation of information about the proposed project and request for comment on the proposed methods of investigation - Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

McCardle Cultural Heritage (MCH) would like to thank you for registering your interest in this project. MCH sent a letter extending an invitation to register your interest and asking if you would prefer to have a meeting to discuss the project or have an information pack sent to you. As MCH did not receive your preferred option, we are posting the information packet.

In order for the proponent to fulfil its cultural heritage consultation requirements per the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (Stage 2; s 4.2.1 to 4.2.4; Stage 3, s 4.3.1 to 4.3.7) please find enclosed an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Information Packet that the proposed project including, but not limited to, details of the proposed the project including maps indicating the impact areas , an outline of the impact assessment process, summary of the cultural, environmental and archaeological contexts, a site specific predictive model, details of the proposed methodology, the roles and responsibilities of all parties, and provide an opportunity for you to identify and raise any cultural concerns, perspectives and assessment requirements you may have.

MCH would appreciate your input on;

- The proposed methodology
- Any Aboriginal objects and/or place(s) of cultural value within the investigation area and/or any issues of cultural significance you are aware of
- Any protocols and/or restrictions you may wish to implement in relation to any information you may like to provide, and
- Any other factors you consider relevant to the heritage assessment;

Please make your written submission to MCH by close of business 10th June 2019. The absence of a response by the requested timeline will be taken as your indication that your organisation has no comments regarding the above.

As all communications, including phone calls, faxes, letters, and e-mails must be included in the consultation component of the report as per the OEH requirements, please ensure that any items that you or your group deem confidential are either stated at the beginning of a conversation or stamped/written on each piece of paper communicate.

MCH looks forward to your response and working with you on this project. Please do not hesitate to contact myself on 0412 702 396 should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

Enclosures:

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Information Packet

M

Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

LGA: Midcoast Council

**Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
Information Packet**

13 May 2019

McCARDLE CULTURAL HERITAGE PTY LTD

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Report No: J19033 Info Pack

Approved by: Penny McCardle

Position: Director

Signed: 

Date: 11 May 2019

This report has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services described in the contract or agreement between McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd (MCH), ACN: 104 590 141, ABN: 89 104 590 141, and Coastplan Consulting. The report relies upon data, surveys, measurements and specific times and conditions specified herein. Any findings, conclusions or recommendations only apply to the aforementioned circumstances and no greater reliance should be assumed or drawn by Coastplan Consulting. Furthermore, the report has been prepared solely for use by Coastplan Consulting and MCH accepts no responsibility for its use by other parties.

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GLOSSARY

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values: traditional values of Aboriginal people, handed down in spiritual beliefs, stories and community practices and may include local plant and animal species, places that are important and ways of showing respect for other people.

Aboriginal Place: are locations that have been recognised by the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment (and gazetted under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*) as having special cultural significance to the Aboriginal community. An Aboriginal Place may or may not include archaeological materials.

Aboriginal Site: an Aboriginal site is the location of one or more Aboriginal archaeological objects, including flaked stone artefacts, midden shell, grinding grooves, archaeological deposits, scarred trees etc.

Harm: is defined as an act that may destroy, deface or damage an Aboriginal object or place. In relation to an object, this means the movement or removal of an object from the land in which it has been situated

Traditional Aboriginal Owners: Aboriginal people who are listed in the Register of Aboriginal owners pursuant to Division 3 of the *Aboriginal Land Register Act (1983)*. The Registrar must give priority to registering Aboriginal people for lands listed in Schedule 14 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* or land subject to a claim under 36A of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

Traditional Knowledge: Information about the roles, responsibilities and practices set out in the cultural beliefs of the Aboriginal community. Only certain individuals have traditional knowledge and different aspects of traditional knowledge may be known by different people, e.g. information about men's initiation sites and practices, women's sites, special pathways, proper responsibilities of people fishing or gathering food for the community, ways of sharing and looking after others, etc.

1 INTRODUCTION

McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd (MCH) has been commissioned by Coastplan Group to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub located at Cundletown.

Over the last five years Midcoast Council have been actively supporting the development of the Northern Gateway Transport Hub north of Cundletown. The immediate intended use of this hub is for road transport-related services/industries given it adjoins the Pacific Highway. Over time it will be connected to other transport forms including air (adjoining Taree Airport) and rail (located in Taree). The Northern Gateway is being developed in two stages. Stage 1 (7 ha) is adjacent to the Pacific Highway at Emerton Close. This land has been rezoned and a development application approved to establish a transport/trucking depot for a regional transport operator. Stage 2 (50 ha) seeks to extend the land available for transport related industries towards the airport. This ACHAR relates to Stage 2.

The assessment will determine the potential impacts upon the indigenous cultural heritage within the development area. It is intended that any areas of indigenous cultural heritage value will be identified and appropriate management recommendations will be established through consultation with the registered Aboriginal parties.

In compliance with the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (Stage 2, s4.21 to 4.2.4 and Stage 3 s4.3.1 to 4.3.7), this Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information Packet provides information about the proposed project including, but not limited to, details of the proposed the project including maps indicating the impact areas, an outline of the impact assessment process, cultural context, summary of the environmental and archaeological contexts, a site specific predictive model, details of the proposed methodology the roles and responsibilities of all parties, and provide an opportunity for you to identify and raise any cultural concerns, perspectives and assessment requirements you may have.

The assessment has been undertaken to meet the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010a*, the *OEH Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW 2011*, the *OEH Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales 2010b*, and the brief.

1.1 CONSULTATION

Consultation will be undertaken as per the OEH *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* and will be detailed in the Aboriginal Cultural heritage Assessment report.

1.2 PROJECT AREA

The project area is defined by the proponent and includes Lot 1 DP 1096868, Lots 1 & 2 DP 733715, Lot 16 DP 613107, Lot 1 DP 1139255 and Lot 681 DP 617842 Emerton Close and Denison Street, Cundletown. The location and extent of the project area is illustrated in Figures 1.1 and 1.3.

Figure 1.1 Location of the project area

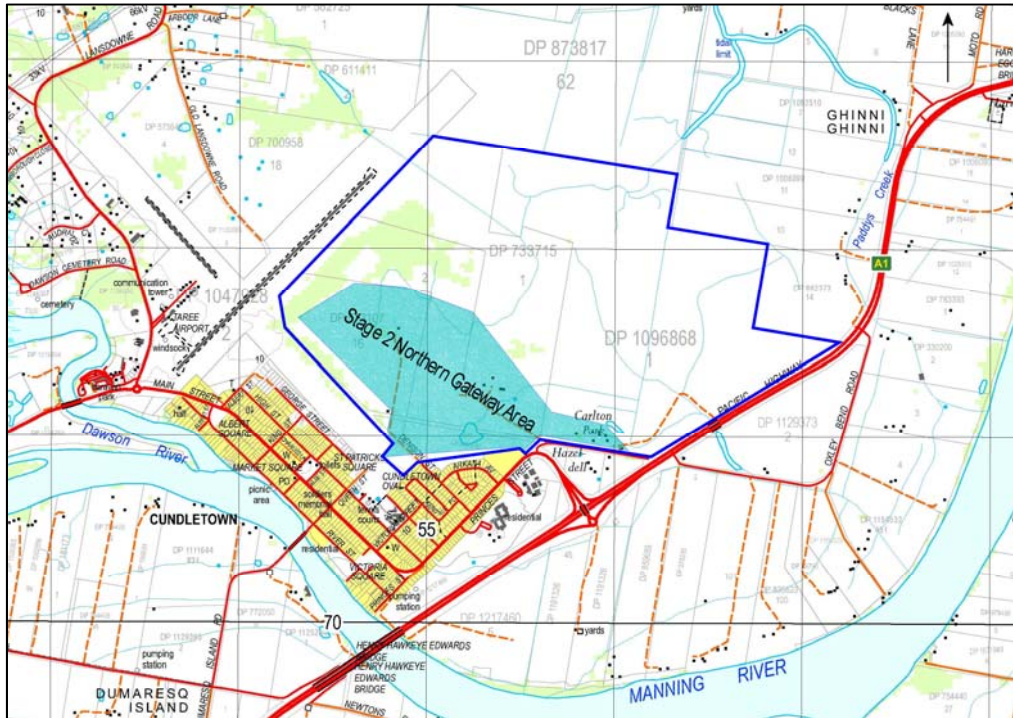


Figure 1.2 Aerial photograph of the project area



1.3 PROJECT OUTLINE AND IMPACTS

The proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub is intended for transport-related industries given its proximity to the Pacific Highway. Over time, this hub will be connected to other transport forms including air (adjoining Taree Airport) and rail (located in Taree). Expected uses include a freight transport facility, truck depot, transport depot, warehouse and distribution centre. The transport hub has an area of 74 ha.

Stage 1 has been rezoned and a development application approved for a regional trucking depot. Stage 2 is the subject of this ACHAR with an area of 67 ha.

1.4 CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT TIME LINES

The proponent wishes to commence works as soon as possible but also acknowledges the need to undertake indigenous cultural heritage investigations on the site. Ideally these would be undertaken prior to any works commencing on the site, however, it would be possible to stage the development to exclude areas identified for investigation until the investigations are complete.

1.5 CRITICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL TIMELINE

The following Table indicates the timelines critical for the archaeological assessment. However, please note that consultation may be increased or decreased depending on response times and knowledge sharing.

1.1 Archaeological timeline

Stages	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Stage 1: consult.										
Stage 2: survey										
Stage 3: reporting										
Stage 4: finalisation										

2 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

The environmental context provides a background to the landforms and potential resources that may have been available in the past. The land uses also assists in an understanding of potential impacts they would have had on the landscape and associated cultural materials. This information is utilised with the archaeological context in order to ascertain a reliable predictive model of not only sit location and site type, but also the likelihood of survivability within that landscape.

The northern half of the project area is situated on quaternary sand, silt, mud and gravels and the southern half is on the Carboniferous Byabba Beds consisting of lithic sandstone, siltstone, tuff, shale and limestone. The presence of tuff within the geology of the Byabba Beds indicates that stone materials suitable for manufacturing stone artefacts may occur in various locations throughout the project area. The project area consists of flats with a minimal slope grade from south to north with the highest point in the southern portion being 7.5 metres AHD and the lowest, almost level area to the north eastern boundary being 1.5 metres AHD. Located on plain in alluvial plain under unknown on marine, clay, sand lithology and used for improved pasture, soils consist of an A₁ horizon (0-43cm) of dark grey (brownish grey) (7.5YR 4/1) light clay, this overlays the A₂ horizon (43-45cm) of red (bright reddish brown) (2.5YR 5/6) light clay. This overlays the B horizon (45-85cm) of light brownish grey (greyish yellow brown) (10YR 6/2) heavy clay.

Examination of the Cundletown 1:25,000 topographic map and nearmap indicates that the project area is situated approximately 800 metres north of the Manning River at its closets point to the project area. The Manning River, a major source of subsistence and medicinal resources for past Aboriginal people, is located to the south and flows north/north east around the project area. Within the project area, there are five 1st order and two 2nd order creeks, all of which would have provided limited resources that may have been suitable for hunting and gathering with main camps in close proximity to the Manning River.

In relation to modern alterations to the landscape, the use of the majority of the project area for farming purposes can be expected to have had low to moderate impacts upon the archaeological record. European land uses such as clearing, grazing, ploughing, and the construction of dams, housing and fences may have displaced cultural materials, however in less disturbed areas, it is likely that archaeological deposits may remain relatively intact.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The archaeological background provides context to the project area and wider cultural landscape in which the project area is situated. It identifies known sites, their landform location and proximity to subsistence resources. It also provides the nature and extent of known sites as well as their distribution across the landscape, thereby enabling a site specific predictive model to be developed.

A search of the OEH AHIMS register has shown that 1 known Aboriginal site (artefact) is currently recorded within three kilometres of the project area. Researching both the regional and local archaeological contexts, the following archaeological patterning is evident:

- the majority of sites are located within 50 metres of a water source and reduce with distance from water;
- artefact densities are highest within 50 metres of a water source and decrease with distance from water;
- the likelihood of finding sites of any size increases with proximity to water and the likelihood of finding large artefact scatters also increases markedly with proximity to water;
- the main site types are artefact scatters and isolated finds;

- the data suggests that elevated landforms in close proximity to water sources were the preferred location for camping, followed by slopes. However, this does not account for vertical movement of artefacts or sites being moved from flooding, flowing creeks etc.
- mudstone, chert and tuff are by far the most common raw material types represented at sites in the region. Quartz is the next most frequently in artefact assemblages followed by volcanic materials, porphyry and petrified wood. Siltstone, rhyolite and porcellanite are relatively rare;
- flakes, broken flakes and flaked pieces are the most common artefact types recorded;
- the vast majority of artefactual material in the region was observed on exposures with good to excellent ground surface visibility.

3.1.1 PREDICTIVE MODEL

Just as the environmental context and the results of the regional and local archaeological contexts have assisted in formulating a predictive model, the predictive modeling has assisted in formulating the field investigation methodology (Section 4).

Based on the AHIMS search and both the regional and local archaeological contexts, it was predicted that within the specific project area, within the specific project area, it is possible that isolated finds and small density artefacts scatters maybe located within 50 metres of drainage lines and reflect transitory activities such as hunting and gathering and travel to the Dawson or Manning River where resources would have been plentiful allowing for more concentrated areas of occupation and camping. The refinement of this predictive model will be dependent upon an investigation of the range of landforms and the occurrence of modern disturbances within the project area.

4 METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

There are two methods of investigation including the gathering of cultural significance knowledge and archaeological assessment. These are briefly outlined below.

4.1 GATHERING OF INFORMATION OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

MCH and the proponent understand that unlike the written word, Aboriginal cultural knowledge is not static, but responds to change through absorbing new information and adapting to its implications. Aboriginal cultural knowledge is handed down through oral tradition (song, story, art, language and dance) from generation to generation, and preserves the relationship to the land (DECCW 2010).

Specific details and parts of cultural knowledge are usually held and maintained by individuals or within particular family groups. Although the broader community may be aware of the general features of that knowledge, it is not a common practice within Aboriginal society for detailed cultural knowledge to be known in the broader community or within Aboriginal community organisations. However, at times these organisations may defer to particular individuals or family groups as being the knowledge-holders of particular sets of cultural knowledge about places or the environment (DECCW 2010).

Proposed methods of gathering information of cultural significance are provided in the Cultural Heritage information packet.

All responses to the cultural information packet will be considered in the final methods which will adapt accordingly. Any other changes to the methods may occur on site in order to adapt to unforeseen field conditions.

4.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

This entails an archaeological assessment of the proposed project area. It includes the gathering of both environmental and archaeological information to gain an understanding of the environment, disturbances and provide a predictive model for the proposed project area.

Following the completion of the survey, a report that includes detailed environmental and archaeological background, results, discussion, the cultural significance as determined by the registered Aboriginal parties and mitigation measures will be provided to all registered parties for their review. This will also include opportunities for the registered Aboriginal parties to provide feedback on any management or mitigation recommendations. All registered parties will also be required to provide their own report/letter within a specified time and a copy of the final report will be provided to all parties. A summary of the regional and local archaeological contexts is provided in order to assist in the development of a predictive model for the project area that will in turn assist in determining the survey methodology/strategy.

5 PROPOSED METHODS OF GATHERING INFORMATION ABOUT CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

There are two methods of investigation including the gathering of information about cultural significance and an archaeological assessment. The archaeological assessment was discussed in the Archaeological information packet provided to you. The gathering of information about cultural significance for the Cultural heritage Assessment is briefly outlined below.

5.1 GATHERING OF INFORMATION OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The aim of the cultural heritage assessment is to facilitate a process whereby RAPs can;

- 1) Contribute culturally appropriate information
- 2) Contribute to the proposed methodology
- 3) Provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the project area to be determined.

MCH and the proponent understand that unlike the written word, Aboriginal cultural knowledge is not static, but responds to change through absorbing new information and adapting to its implications. Aboriginal cultural knowledge is handed down through oral tradition (song, story, art, language and dance) from generation to generation, and preserves the relationship to the land (DECCW 2010).

Specific details and parts of cultural knowledge are usually held and maintained by individuals or within particular family groups. Although the broader community may be aware of the general features of that knowledge, it is not a common practice within Aboriginal society for detailed cultural knowledge to be known in the broader community or within Aboriginal community organisations. However, at times these organisations may defer to particular individuals or family groups as being the knowledge-holders of particular sets of cultural knowledge about places or the environment (DECCW 2010).

In some cases the information provided may be sensitive and MCH and the proponent will not share that information with all registered Aboriginal parties or others without the express permission of the individual. MCH and the proponent would like to develop and implement appropriate protocols for sourcing and holding cultural information.

5.2 IDENTIFYING KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS

The aim is to identify Traditional Owners/traditional knowledge holders who have knowledge that is relevant to the project area so that any potential effects of the project or activity on the Indigenous heritage values of objects and/or places can be identified.

It also aims to identify Indigenous people who may not necessarily be Traditional Owners/traditional knowledge holders but who do have interests in the area so that any effects of the project or activity on the Indigenous heritage values of objects and/or places, such as mission stations and historic buildings, will be identified.

MCH understands it is the Indigenous custom to elect knowledge holders and it is traditionally the Indigenous people who nominate who speak for country. Unfortunately, some RAPs and Government Departments have placed the onus of identifying traditional knowledge holders onto proponents and archaeologists. In order to do this, MCH are guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010), the Burra Charter (2013) and Ask First (2002) which provide guidelines to identify traditional knowledge holders.

Knowledge holders are defined as follows:

- a) Traditional knowledge holder of specific, details knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- b) Traditional knowledge holder of general knowledge pass directly by a traditional knowledge holder in a traditional manner YES/NO
- c) Knowledge holder of recent information obtained through other means (such as, but not limited to, ethnographic sources, internet searches, assessment reports, personal experience etc). YES/NO

Knowledge holders have been initially identified through the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010), Stage 1 (S. 4.1.1 to 4.1.2) that seeks to identify, notify and register Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Additionally, knowledge holders were sought to be identified through the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010), Stage 1 (S. 4.1.3 to 4.1.8) that sought to identify, notify and register Aboriginal people who identify as knowledge holders (using the above defined knowledge holder criteria) who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places in the area of the proposed project.

Native Title Claimant Groups/individuals are acknowledged as knowledge holders due to the requirements through the Native Title Registration process. Native Title Claimant groups/individuals are also asked to further define the knowledge holder using the above defined knowledge holder criteria.

This process ensures consistent consultation for all RAPs and adheres to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010).

5.3 IDENTIFYING CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Cultural significance is embodied in the place—in its fabric, setting, use, associations and meanings. It may exist in: objects at the place or associated with it; in other places that have some relationship to the place; and in the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or that are dependent on the place. A place may be of cultural significance if it satisfies one or more of these criteria. Satisfying more criteria does not mean a place is necessarily more significant.

Only Aboriginal people who are descendants of the people from the traditional lands in which the project is situated can identify the cultural significance of their own cultural heritage.

The cultural significance of a place is assessed by analysing evidence gathered through the physical investigation of the place, research and consultation for this project in line with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010), Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW 2010) and the ICOMS Burra Charter (2013).

Part of the process is to evaluate its qualities against a set of criteria that are established for this purpose. The criteria used include those set out by the Burra Charter (see below).

5.4 VALUES AND QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

The following values and questions are derived from the Burra Charter (2013) to facilitate your consideration when providing information on the cultural significance of any Aboriginal objects(s) and/or place(s). The criteria discussed below are a means to assess cultural significance in order to meet the Government Departmental requirements. MCH understands that the method of assessing cultural

significance presented may not be culturally appropriate and considered offensive to some; it is not intended to be so.

There are five terms or values, which are listed alphabetically in the Burra Charter, and are often included in Australian heritage legislation. Criteria are also used to help define cultural and natural significance, and there is now a nationally agreed set of heritage assessment criteria and each of these criteria may have tangible and intangible aspects and it is essential that both are acknowledged.

The five criteria include Aesthetic value, Historic value, Scientific value, Social value and Spiritual value. These are discussed below along with some questions for consideration when you consider reporting on the cultural significance.

5.4.1 AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. It is how we respond to visual and non-visual aspects such as sounds, smells and other factors that can have a strong impact on your thoughts, feelings and attitudes. It may also include consideration of the form, scale, colour, texture and material and its beauty (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

When considering the aesthetic value and significance of a site and/or PAD, some questions to consider may include:

- Does the object or place have special compositional or uncommonly attractive qualities involving combinations of colour, textures, spaces, massing, detail, movement, unity, sounds, scents?
- Is the object or place distinctive within the setting or a prominent visual landmark?
- Does the object or place have qualities which are inspirational or which evoke strong feelings or special meanings?
- Is the object or place symbolic for its aesthetic qualities: for example, does it inspire artistic or cultural response, is it represented in art, photography, literature, folk art, folk lore, mythology or other imagery or cultural arts?
- Does the object or place display particular aesthetic characteristics of an identified style or fashion?
- Does the object or place show a high degree of creative or technical achievement?

5.4.2 HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The historic value encompasses all aspects of history. For example it may include the history of aesthetics, art, science, society and spirituality. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of subsequent treatment (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

When considering the historic value and significance of a site and/or PAD, some questions to consider may include:

- Is the object or place associated with an important event or theme in Awabakal and/or your history?
- Is the object or place important in showing patterns in the development of Awabakal and/or your history locally, in a region, or on a state-wide, or national or global basis?
- Does the object or place show a high degree of creative or technical achievement for a particular period?
- Is the object or place associated with a particular person or cultural group important in the history of the local area, state, nationally or globally?

5.4.3 SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

The scientific value refers to the information content of a place and its ability to reveal more about an aspect of the past through examination or investigation of the place, including the use of archaeological techniques. The relative scientific value of a place is likely to depend on the importance of the information or data involved, on its rarity, quality or representativeness, and its potential to contribute further important information about the place itself or a type or class of place or to address important research questions (Australia ICOMOS 2013). Whilst the scientific value and significance will be discussed in detail in the Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment report, it is important to consider this value when assessing the cultural values and significance of an object and/or place.

When considering the scientific value and significance of a site and/or PAD, you may consider:

- Would further investigation of the place have the potential to reveal substantial new information and new understandings about people, places, processes or practices which are not available from other sources?

5.4.4 SOCIAL VALUE

Social value refers to the associations a place has for a particular community or cultural group and the cultural or social meaning it has for that community or cultural group (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

When considering the social value and significance of a site and/or PAD, some questions to consider may include:

- Is the object or place important as a local marker or symbol?
- Is the object or place important as part of Awabakal community identity or the identity of another particular cultural group?
- Is the object or place important to the Awabakal people, community or other cultural group because of associations and meanings developed from long use and association?

5.4.5 SPIRITUAL VALUE

Spiritual value embraces the intangible values and meanings embodied in or evoked by a place which gives importance to the spiritual identity, or traditional knowledge, art and practices of a cultural group. Spiritual value may also be reflected in the intensity of aesthetic and emotional responses or community associations, and be expressed through cultural practices and related places (Australia ICOMOS 2013). The qualities of the place may inspire a strong and/or spontaneous emotional or metaphysical response in people, expanding their understanding of their place, purpose and obligations in the world, particularly in relation to the spiritual realm (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

When considering the spiritual value and significance of a site and/or PAD, some questions to consider may include:

- Does the object or place contribute to the spiritual identity or belief system of the Awabakal or another cultural group?
- Is the place a repository of knowledge, traditional art or lore related to spiritual practice of the Awabakal people or another a cultural group?
- Is the object or place important in maintaining the spiritual health and wellbeing of Awabakal people or another culture or group?
- Do the physical attributes of the object or place play a role in recalling or awakening an understanding of an individual or a group's relationship with the spiritual realm?

- Do the spiritual values of the object or place find expression in Awabakal cultural practices or human-made structures, or inspire creative works?

5.5 PROVIDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE INFORMATION

It is difficult to provide options that will ensure every individual's needs are met. In light of this, the following proposed options are provided in no way the only options available. If you have alternative ways of providing your knowledge and cultural significance information please notify MCH to ensure we can facilitate your requirements where appropriate.

It is acknowledged and understood that the methods and options discussed are not traditional customs and some may take offence. MCH sincerely apologises for any offence taken as none is intended.

- 1) Discussion in the field during the survey
- 2) Written documentation (letter, e-mail, fax)
- 3) Meeting to discuss and/or provide written documentation
- 4) Formal interview with specific questions/answers and/or discussions
- 5) Phone conversation
- 6) Skype conversation
- 7) Using the attached form/questioner

5.6 PROPOSED CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

MCH will undertake the cultural heritage assessment as traditional knowledge holders/Traditional Owners and contemporary knowledge holders will be identified as set out above. The cultural heritage assessment will include, but not be limited to:

- Background ethnographic, historic and contemporary research of the Aboriginal people of the area, including but not limited to, past land uses, resources, customs and traditions where the information is available to examine connection to country throughout the past and into the future;
- Discussions with knowledge holders and those who identify themselves as having an interest in the project, taking into account that Indigenous people may have differing degrees of knowledge about heritage places and their importance;
- Discussion will also take place during the survey (as well as throughout the project) as requested by some knowledge holders;
- An additional focused field survey if required to identify, locate and record any Indigenous heritage values of objects and/or places in a manner that is appropriate;
- The writing of a cultural heritage assessment report with the knowledge holders and RAPs ensuring the content is appropriate and sensitive to the knowledge holders; and
- All detailed information provided will be confidential unless otherwise stipulated by the knowledge holders, however, in order to protect any Indigenous heritage values of objects and/or places, their location must be known (not necessarily documented in detail or mapped) in order to discuss the appropriate mitigation and management options and recommendations.

5.7 FORMS

You will find forms attached for your convenience. However, if you prefer to use your own please feel free to do so. Please ensure that these are either filled out in full or your own forms/letters answer the questions and return to MCH no later than 10th June 2019.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION METHODS

6.1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of the investigation is to determine whether subsurface cultural material exists in the areas identified as having archaeological potential. The detection of surface material will drive the management recommendations and mitigation measures to ensure that any significant cultural resources are identified and protected where possible or is subject to minimal impact by the proposed development.

The Archaeological investigation will be carried out in accordance with the OEH policy - 2010, Section 2 and the OEH policy - *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*.

6.1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY & REPORT

Overall, the assessment will include, but not limited to, the following;

The provision of an Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment Report that will include:

- Project background, including project description, detailed maps, legislative context, qualifications of the investigator
- Consultation outlining the process as per the OEH Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010
- Landscape context including, landforms, soils, geology, geomorphology, water sources, fauna and flora, history of land use and impacts and, natural impacts
- Archaeological context including review of previous regional and local work in the area, AHIMS search, summary and discussion of the local and regional character of Aboriginal land use and its material traces, occupation model and site specific predictive model
- Results that will include the survey results (see below for proposed survey methodology), detailed descriptions of landforms (survey units), vegetation cover, exposures, land uses and disturbances, site(s) and PAD(s). It will also include any analysis and discussion
- An assessment of scientific values and significance assessment
- An impact assessment
- Management and mitigation measures
- Recommendations
- References
- Appendices will include the AHIMS results and community consultation log and communications

6.1.3 PROPOSED SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The survey methodology is in accordance with the OEH policy - *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales 2010*, Section 2.2. This proposed methodology is subject to variation due to unforeseen field conditions/constraints.

- Survey units identified based on landforms
- Transects will be via foot with the survey team spaced at 5-10 metres apart across the entire investigation area of impact
- Ground surface visibility recorded for each survey unit and given a % rating of vegetation cover
- Exposures recorded for each survey unit given a % rating of exposure and exposure type
- Using the effective coverage and exposure information, calculate the effective survey coverage for each survey unit and the entire investigation area

- Disturbances recorded for each survey unit
- Take representative photographs of survey units
- All sites and/or PADs recorded in each survey unit and accurately mapped

Sites and their boundaries will be defined as;

- The spatial extent of the visible objects or direct evidence of their location
- Obvious physical boundaries where present such as, but not limited to, mound sites, middens, ceremonial grounds, disturbances (i.e. road, building)
- Identification by the Aboriginal community on the basis of cultural information

All sites and PADs will include, but not limited to, the following:

- Site type and content
- Survey unit (landform)
- Distance from water sources
- Vegetation cover (if any)
- Exposure (if any)
- Disturbances (if any)
- GPS co-ordinates
- Identified site boundaries
- Potential for in situ deposits
- Photographs (with a metric scale)

6.1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The assessment is designed to address a number of research hypothesis. The research questions listed below derive from Kuskies (2005) detailed work in the region and are used here for consistency in analysis and discussions as well as local and regional comparative research.

- What past Aboriginal activities occurred within the project area?
- What types of past Aboriginal occupation occurred within the project area (e.g. transitory movement, hunting, gathering, camping etc)?
- Were the types of activity and nature of occupation related to environmental factors (e.g. landforms, proximity to reliable water)?
- Does spatial patterning of activity areas occur within the project area?
- Did single or multiple episodes of occupation occur within the project area?
- Did episodes of occupation occur at different times over the whole time-span of occupation in the region within the project area?
- Is there potential for older evidence of occupation (i.e. early Holocene)?
- How intensive was occupation of the sites, in both a local and regional context?
- Did microblade and microlith production occur on the sites?
- Were other tools manufactured on the sites?

- Was maintenance of tools conducted on site?
- Was knapping of flakes largely casual and opportunistic, meeting requirements on 'as needed' basis?
- What raw materials were favoured for use on site within the project area and why?
- Did thermal alteration of raw materials occur within the project area?
- How does the evidence and inferred human behaviour represented within the project area compare with evidence from other locations in the region?
- How does the evidence relate to the regional and local models of occupation?

7 ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS OF PARTIES

The roles, responsibilities and functions of all parties are outlined below and is taken from DECCW (2010).

7.1 OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE (OEH)

The Director General of OEH is the decision-maker who decides to grant or refuse an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application. If an AHIP is issued, conditions are usually attached and OEH is responsible for ensuring the AHIP holder complies with those conditions. When considering an application under Part 6 of the NPW Act, the Director General will review the information provided by proponents in line with its internal policies and procedures to assess potential or actual harm to Aboriginal objects or places (DECCW, 2009).

The Environment Protection and Regulation Group (EPRG) of OEH is responsible for administering the regulatory functions under Part 6 of the NPW Act. OEH expects that proponents and Aboriginal people should:

- be aware that Part 6 of the NPW Act establishes the Director General or delegate of OEH as the decision-maker; and
- recognise that the Director General's (or delegates) decisions may not be consistent with the views of the Aboriginal community and/or the proponent. However, OEH will consider all relevant information it receives as part of its decision-making process.

7.2 PROPONENT

All proponents operate within a commercial environment which includes:

- strict financial and management issues, priorities and deadlines;
- the need to gain community support in order to secure any necessary approval/consent/licence/permit to operate;
- the need for clearer processes and certainty of outcomes;
- the need for suitable access to land for the purpose of their development project;
- the need to work efficiently within the project's time, quality and cost planning and management parameters; and
- the need for culturally appropriate assessment findings relevant to their project.

Under these requirements, proponents should undertake the following:

- bring the registered Aboriginal parties or their nominated representatives together and be responsible for ensuring appropriate administration and management of the consultation process;
- consider the cultural perspectives, views, knowledge and advice of the registered Aboriginal parties involved in the consultation process in assessing cultural significance and developing any heritage management outcomes for Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s);
- provide evidence to OEH of consultation by including information relevant to the cultural perspectives, views, knowledge and advice provided by the registered Aboriginal parties; and
- accurately record and clearly articulate all consultation findings in the final cultural heritage assessment report.

7.3 REGISTERED ABORIGINAL STAKEHOLDERS

The interests and obligations of Aboriginal people relate to the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage. It is only Aboriginal people who can determine who is accepted by their community as being authorised to speak for Country and its associated cultural heritage. Where there is a dispute about who speaks for Country, it is appropriate for Aboriginal people, not OEHL or the proponent, to resolve this dispute in a timely manner to enable effective consultation to proceed.

Aboriginal people who can provide information about cultural significance are, based on Aboriginal lore and customs, the traditional owners or custodians of the land that is the subject of the proposed project area. Traditional owners or custodians with appropriate cultural heritage knowledge necessary to make informed decisions who wish to register as an Aboriginal party are those people who:

- continue to maintain a deep respect for their ancestral belief system, traditional lore and customs;
- recognise their responsibilities of their community, knowledge and obligations to protect and conserve their culture and heritage and to care for their traditional lands or country; and
- have the trust of their community, knowledge and understanding of their culture and permission to speak about it.

The registered Aboriginal parties should undertake the following;

- ensure the appropriate cultural knowledge holder is providing the appropriate information;
- uphold and respect the traditional rights, obligations and responsibilities of Aboriginal people within their own boundaries and not to infringe in other areas or Aboriginal people outside their own boundaries;
- consider and provide the proponent the cultural perspectives, views, knowledge and advice during the consultation process, assessing cultural significance and developing any heritage management outcomes for Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s); and
- need to work efficiently within the project's time and provide feedback in a timely manner.

7.4 LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCILS

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) and Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) have statutory functions relevant to the protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage under the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983. These requirements do not extend the role of NSWALC and LALCs in the significance assessment process. That is, these requirements do not provide NSWALC and/or LALCs any additional or specific decision-making role in the assessment of significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) that are subject to an AHIP application under Part 6 of the NPW Act.

LALCs may choose to register an interest to be involved in the consultation process, or may assist registered Aboriginal parties to participate in the consultation process established by these requirements. In order to ensure effective consultation and the subsequent informed heritage assessment, LALCs are encouraged to identify and make contact with Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge in their area.

7.5 EMPLOYMENT

The proponent may engage a number of Aboriginal representatives from the registered parties (based on the size and nature of the project) to participate and assist in the fieldwork component of this project. If you would like to be considered for paid field work please answer the selection criteria attached and ensure you attach certificates of currency for the relevant insurances, CV(s), any certificates and references. MCH will then pass this information onto the proponent for their consideration to make the selection for

fieldwork participants should they wish to do so. MCH will ensure all Aboriginal parties are invited to participate in fieldwork; however paid participation is determined by the proponent.

7.6 FORMS

You will find forms attached for your connivance. However, if you prefer to use your own please feel free to do so. Please ensure that these are either filled out in full or your own forms/letters answer the questions and return to MCH no later than 10th June 2019.

REFERENCES

Australian Heritage Commission. 2002. Ask First. A Guide to respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values.

Australian International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). 2013a. The Burra Charter.

Australian ICOMOS. 2013b. The Practice Note – Understanding and assessing cultural significance

Australian ICOMOS. 2013c. The Practice Note – The Burra Charter and archaeological practice

Australian ICOMOS. 2013d. The Practice Note – The Burra Charter and Indigenous cultural heritage management

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW). 2010a. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, Sydney.

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW). 2010b. *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, Sydney.

Appendix A

MCH would like to clearly state that, should you wish to provide feedback in another form, you are encouraged to do so. You are under no obligation to complete the current form.

However, should you wish to use this form, please complete, sign and return to MCH using one of the following;

Fax: 4952 5501

e-mail: mcheritage@iprimus.com.au

Postal address: MCH

PO Box 166

Adamstown, NSW 2289

ABORIGINAL STAKEHOLDER SITE OFFICER APPLICATION

Position description

A site officer must demonstrate that they have satisfactorily participated in previous archaeological fieldwork with an archaeologist. A trainee site officer does not need to demonstrate previous archaeological experience. Site officers must be able to:

- undertake direction from the project archaeologist
- work in a range of climates wearing protective clothing
- work in teams with a wide range of people
- identify a broad range of Aboriginal objects across the landscape

To qualify as a site officer, appropriate training in identifying Aboriginal objects must have been undertaken (such as the Office of Environment and Heritage's (OEH) sites awareness training course, or other relevant secondary or tertiary studies) or equivalent knowledge or experience must be demonstrated.

The duties of the site officer under the direction of the project archaeologist may include, but not limited to:

- walking the project area
- meeting general and site-specific Occupational Health and Safety requirements

Selection criteria

The proponent will offer positions based on the following key selection criteria:

- an individual's ability to undertake the tasks specified above
- an individual's availability to undertake the activity (physically able to undertake field work)
- an individual's experience in undertaking similar activities. Applications may be subject to a reference check
- individuals with demonstrated cultural knowledge relevant to the local area
- individuals who can demonstrate they can communicate the results of the field work back to their managers and RAPs
- In addition to a consideration of the key selection criteria, the Proponent may give preference to applicants who live locally.

The proponent is under no obligation to offer site officer positions based on an individual's association with a cultural group or area. The proponent makes no guarantee that registered parties will be engaged to undertake archaeological field activities. The number of site officer positions available will be based on need as described in the archaeological methodology. However, MCH will ensure all registered stakeholders are invited to participate in the survey regardless of engagement arrangements between the stakeholder(s) and the proponent. Applicants will be notified whether they have been successful or unsuccessful in their application.

Engagement

The Proponent selects and has final approval on who will be engaged as a site officer. Successful applicants will be engaged to provide the services through a written contract that will be provided at a later date. The proponent will only engage Service Providers with NSW workers compensation insurance, public liability insurance, and comprehensive motor vehicle insurance or third party property damage insurance.

Payment

The proponent will pay the Service Provider at a rate that will be based on the project budget. The quoted rate is the rate to be paid by the Proponent to the Service Provider - not to the individual site officer/trainee site officer. The site officer/trainee site officer will be paid by the Service Provider at a rate agreed to by the Service Provider and the site officer/trainee site officer. Payment will only be made for the provision of the services (actual hours worked), and not for the time spent travelling to and from site. Payment will be made upon the receipt of a cultural heritage report and receipt of your response to the draft report.

ABORIGINAL SITE OFFICER APPLICATION FORM

Northern Gateway Transport Hub, Cundletown

An Aboriginal site officer application form must be filled out for each individual seeking engagement as a site officer.	
Name of organisation (if relevant)	
Name	
Contact number	
Mailing address	
Email address	
Fax	
Position applied for	Site officer <input type="checkbox"/> Trainee Site Officer <input type="checkbox"/>
Please list any formal qualifications or relevant experience to the position applied for (attach documentation as required)	
Please list any previous archaeological, sites, survey, excavation or other relevant experience (attach additional sheets as required)	
Please provide the contact details of at least one archaeologist (other than the project archaeologist) who can be contacted as a referee	
INSURANCES	
Public Liability	Expiry date: (attach certificate of currency)
Worker Compensation	Expiry date: : (attach certificate of currency)
Comprehensive Motor Vehicle	Expiry date: : (attach certificate of currency)
Failure to provide up to date Certificate of Currencies will prevent you participating in any fieldwork. MCH may have received copies previously, however, they must be provided for each project.	
OCCUPATIONAL Health & SAFETY (OH&S)	
<p>All participants are required to comply with MCH and the proponents OH&S requirements.</p> <p>This includes high visibility clothing, hat, sunscreen and steel caped boots. You will be advised of any additional requirements.</p> <p>This also includes appropriate and acceptable behaviour at all times.</p> <p>Failure to comply will prevent you from participating in the field work.</p>	

COMMENTS ON PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

Northern Gateway Transport Hub, Cundletown

I, _____ (please insert your name) of _____ (please insert the name of your group), **agree to the methodology** outlined by MCH in relation to gathering information about cultural significance:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Position within organisation: _____

I, _____ (please insert your name) of _____ (please insert the name of your group), **do not agree to the methodology** outlined by MCH in relation to gathering information about cultural significance for the following reasons (please explain your reasons for disagreeing):

I would like to suggest the following (please provide your reasoning): _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Position within organisation: _____

PROVIDING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Northern Gateway Transport Hub, Cundletown

Company Name): _____

Contact: _____

Postal address: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date: _____

I would like to provide knowledge about cultural significance using the following method(s). Please tick your preferred method(s):

- 1) Discussion in the field during the survey
- 2) Written documentation (letter, e-mail, fax)
- 3) Meeting to discuss and/or provide written documentation
- 4) Formal interview with specific questions/answers and/or discussions
- 5) Phone conversation
- 6) Skype conversation
- 7) Using the attached form/questioner

Other: Please provide details:

3 June, 2019

Lee Davison
5/109 Pacific Pde
Dee Why NSW 2099
leedavison114@yahoo.com.au
0450 180 680

Penny McCardle
McCardle Cultural Heritage
PO Box 166
Adamstown NSW 2289

Dear Penny,

Re: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment information Packet for the proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown.

Thank you for the information packet including the methodology for the archaeological assessment of the above project.

After reviewing the information packet I have the following comments:

- I agree with the methodology proposal regarding the assessment of the proposed project area (area to be impacted), but would suggest that private property owners within the project study area are asked of their knowledge of any Aboriginal items/places (maybe they have stories past down from their relatives), and if they are in possession of any Aboriginal artefacts that have been found on their properties.
- The township of Cundletown may be an indication of a place of substantial past Aboriginal occupation, if this is the case; I see potential for the identification of archaeological evidence within the proposed project area.
- I used to hunt kangaroo/wallaby in the area with my family (uncles, great uncles and grandfather). I have no doubt that the area was used for hunting purposes during early European arrival and prior to; therefore there may be evidence of this activity still present.
- I have collected green weed (bait for blackfish) in small creeks in the area, this is a cultural resource for Aboriginal fishing. This should be included as a site type to be identified as part of the site survey investigations.

Is MCH or the proponent able to indicate how many site officers will be required for the site survey?
I will provide details for site officer application separately.

Please don't hesitate in contacting me for any further information you require.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Davison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background behind the text.

Lee Davison



MCCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

14 July 2019

Lee Davison
leedavison114@yahoo.com.au

Dear Lee,

RE: OEH Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (Stage 3) – Survey invitation and letter of engagement- Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH would like to organise the survey for the above-named project for the 5/9/2019 starting at 9am meeting at 39 Emerton Close, Taree. We anticipate work will be complete within half a day, however, please be advised this time may change.

As part of the assessment process the proponent require an appropriate person from your organisation to participate in the survey of the study area to identify known or potential cultural heritage features. A cultural heritage report must be prepared following the survey and receipt of the draft archaeological report within the required 28 days review period. The cultural heritage report will identify known or potential Aboriginal objects or places and/or any other cultural heritage matters that may be affected by the project.

MCH wishes to reiterate our intent to positively engaging with the local Aboriginal community. In this spirit an invitation has been extended to all registered applicants to attend the survey. If you accept the terms outlined in the Letter of Engagement (attached) please sign the Letter of Engagement and return to McCardle Cultural Heritage. Participation in the program is dependent on the receipt of the Letter of engagement and insurance certificate of currencies.

As all communications, including phone calls, faxes, letters, and e-mails must be included in the consultation component of the report as per the OEH requirements, please ensure that any items that you or your group deem confidential are made apparent to your field representative prior to field work to ensure that information remains confidential if required. Failure to disclose that information is confidential may result in the information being included in the report.

Should you have any questions regarding these terms and conditions or the project please contact myself on 0412 702 396.

Yours sincerely,
for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd



Dr. Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

Aboriginal Site Officer/Trainee Site Officer

Letter of Engagement

Northern Gateway Landowners wishes to engage Lee Davison (Service Provider) to provide one Site Officer to undertake an archaeological survey of the proposed rezoning for the Northern Gateway Development.

The proponent and Service Provider agree to the terms and conditions of the engagement as follows:

Services

The Service Provider will engage the one Site Officer to undertake the following:

- Archaeological survey of the project area
- a cultural heritage report and invoice within 28 days of receiving the draft report from MCH

Fees

The proponent will pay the following Fees to the Service Provider for Services:

- \$75.00 + GST per person per hour for work undertaken by a Site Officer

Payment will be within 28 days of receipt of a correct invoice and cultural heritage report. Invoices are to be provided at the end of the month.

Invoices are to be addressed to:

Northern Gateway Landowners

C/o: MCH

mcheritage@iprimus.com.au

Time sheets

The Service provider must ensure that the Site Officers sign a time sheet at the start and finish of each day the Services are provided. Fees will not be paid unless time sheets for each Site Officer has been completed. The archaeologist will have a time sheet that may be used.

Work performance

The Service Provider must ensure that the Site Officers are fit for work, undertake the Services in a timely manner, with reasonable care, skill and professionalism and in accordance with all applicable laws and any reasonable directions or requirements made by the proponent and/or MCH.

Absences

All field staff must call MCH the evening before work to notify their absence for the following day and organise for a replacement. If no notice is provided, that staff members place in the field team will be suspended until MCH are notified they will be back at work. It is the responsibility of the Service Provider to organise a replacement site officer from the list of persons provided to MCH at the start of the project.

Proponent and MCH property

All materials and equipment provided by MCH or the proponent during the term of engagement remain the property of MCH or the proponent and must be returned upon completion of the Services or termination of the agreement.

Confidentially

All information provided by MCH or the proponent to the Service Provider and/or Site Officer in relation to the services or the business or operations of the proponent and MCH are confidential. The Service Provider will ensure it and the Site Officer keep such information confidential at all times (including after the completion of the Services) and must not disclose it to any other person without the prior written consent from the proponent and/or MCH.

OH&S Requirements

Before commencement of work you must provide MCH with certificate of currencies for Workers Comp and Public Liability. Field representatives participating in the survey will be required to wear steel cap boots, long pants and long shirt (hi-visibility) with appropriate sun protection including a hat. It is recommended that participants bring adequate amounts of food and water for the day.

Early termination

The proponent reserves the right to terminate this agreement at any time by giving 1 week written notice to the Service Provider. If the proponent terminates this agreement under this clause, then, subject to satisfactory performance of the Services, the proponent will pay the Service provider a proportionate part of the Fee according to the amount or proportion of Services supplied up to the date of termination.

No subcontracting

The Service Provider must not subcontract the provision of the Services without the proponent's prior written consent.

Insurances

The Service Provider must provide certificates of currency for Workers Comp, Public Liability and Comprehensive Motor vehicle insurances prior to the Services being provided.

Indemnity and release

The Service Provider undertakes the Services at its sole risk and the proponent and MCH will not be liable for any loss, damage, injury or death sustained by any person as a result of the Services being provided.

The Service provider indemnifies and releases the proponent and MCH against any loss the proponent or MCH suffers or any claims made against the proponent or MCH by any person arising out of the provisions of the Services except to the extent that any loss or claims arise from any negligence by the proponent or MCH.

Variations

No changes to these terms can be made without the prior written agreement with the proponent.

Exclusion of other terms

This letter contains the sole agreement of the parties and all other terms are excluded.

If you agree that the contents of this letter correctly set out the terms of engagement between the proponent and your organisation then please sign both copies, keep one for yourself, and return the other signed copy to MCH within 10 days.

Acceptance (rezoning for the Northern Gateway Development)

Signed by Lee Davison

**I/we agree to the terms set out in this letter and acknowledge that it forms a binding legal contract.
I/we declare that I/we are authorised to sign this letter on behalf of Lee Davison.**

Please provide your ABN:

Signature of Witness

Signature of authorised person

Print name of Witness

Print name of authorised person

Print title and position of authorised person

Date:

Date:

Penny McCardle

From: Lee Davison <leedavison114@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 July 2019 1:45 PM
To: Penny McCardle
Subject: Re: Cundletown survey

Hi Penny,

Thanks for the invitation to participate in the survey at Cundletown. I will advise soon whether one of our representatives will be attending.

Lee Davison
0450 180 680

On Sunday, July 14, 2019 12:55 PM, Penny McCardle <mcheritage@iprimus.com.au> wrote:

Hi Lee,

Please see the attached.

Kind regards,

Dr. Penny McCardle
Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist



PO Box 166,
Adamstown 2289 NSW
P: 0412 702 396
mcheritage.com.au

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

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Penny McCardle

From: Penny McCardle <mcheritage@iprimus.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 September 2019 1:02 PM
To: 'Lee Davison'
Subject: RE: Cundletown survey

Hi Lee,

Just confirming the survey tomorrow starting at 9am.

Kind regards,

Dr. Penny McCardle

Archaeologist

Forensic Anthropologist



PO Box 166,
Adamstown 2289 NSW
P: 0412 702 396
mcheritage.com.au

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Executive Summary

Paragraph 3 – The Manning River, a major source of subsistence and medicinal resources for ‘past’ Aboriginal people... I would suggest that this is changed to reflect that local Aboriginal people still use the Manning River for food and medicinal resources such as fish (food) and cobra (food and medicinal).

2.2 Stage 2

In paragraph 2 my surname is spelt incorrectly, and in paragraphs 3 and 4 I am referred to as Mr Lee, not Mr Davison.

2.3 Stage 3

Last paragraph – I am referred to as Mr Lee, not Mr Davison. It appears that this continues throughout the report.

3.8 Land Uses and Disturbances

I would argue that European land use practices within the project area such as farming, ploughing, fence installation, dam and infrastructure construction would not have caused enough erosion to allow artefact movement to disappear from the project area.

These practices alone do not remove Aboriginal cultural/archaeological material.

Recommendations

I suggest that some test excavation is conducted to identify and/or exclude the potential for Aboriginal archaeology.

Property owners are asked if they, or their family members have found any Aboriginal artefacts and have them in their possession.

Penny McCardle

From: Penny McCardle <mcheritage@iprimus.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 October 2019 2:30 PM
To: 'Lee Davison'
Subject: RE: Cundletown survey

Hi Lee,

No problem, thank you for your response.

Your name has been fixed in the report (apologies for that), the resources still used today are also included as requested.

In relation to test excavations, in order to undertake test excavations, we have to justify to BCD why it would be undertaken. Test excavations need to be targeted in areas with potential and given the level of high disturbances as well as distances from resources, it is not possible to identify any areas with potential in this case.

I will forward you a copy of the final report this afternoon.

Thank you for your time on this, your input has been valuable.

Kind regards,

Dr. Penny McCardle

Archaeologist

Forensic Anthropologist



PO Box 166,
Adamstown 2289 NSW
P: 0412 702 396
mcheritage.com.au

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M^CCARDLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE

4 October 2019

PO Box 166
Adamstown 2289 NSW
mcheritage@iprimus.com.au
P: 0412 702 396

mcheritage.com.au

Mr. Lee Davison
leedavison114@yahoo.com.au

Dear Lee,


RE: OEH Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (Stage 4 –Final Cultural Heritage Assessment - Proposed Northern Gateway Transport Hub at Cundletown

MCH and Northern Gateway Landowners (Proponent) would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your involvement in the above-named project. Your time and input have been instrumental throughout the project

As outlined in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010), Stage 4 (S. 4.4.5) please find enclosed copy of the final Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for your records.

We look forward to continue working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely,
for McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd


Dr. Penny McCardle
Principal Archaeologist
Forensic Anthropologist

APPENDIX B

AHIMS search results

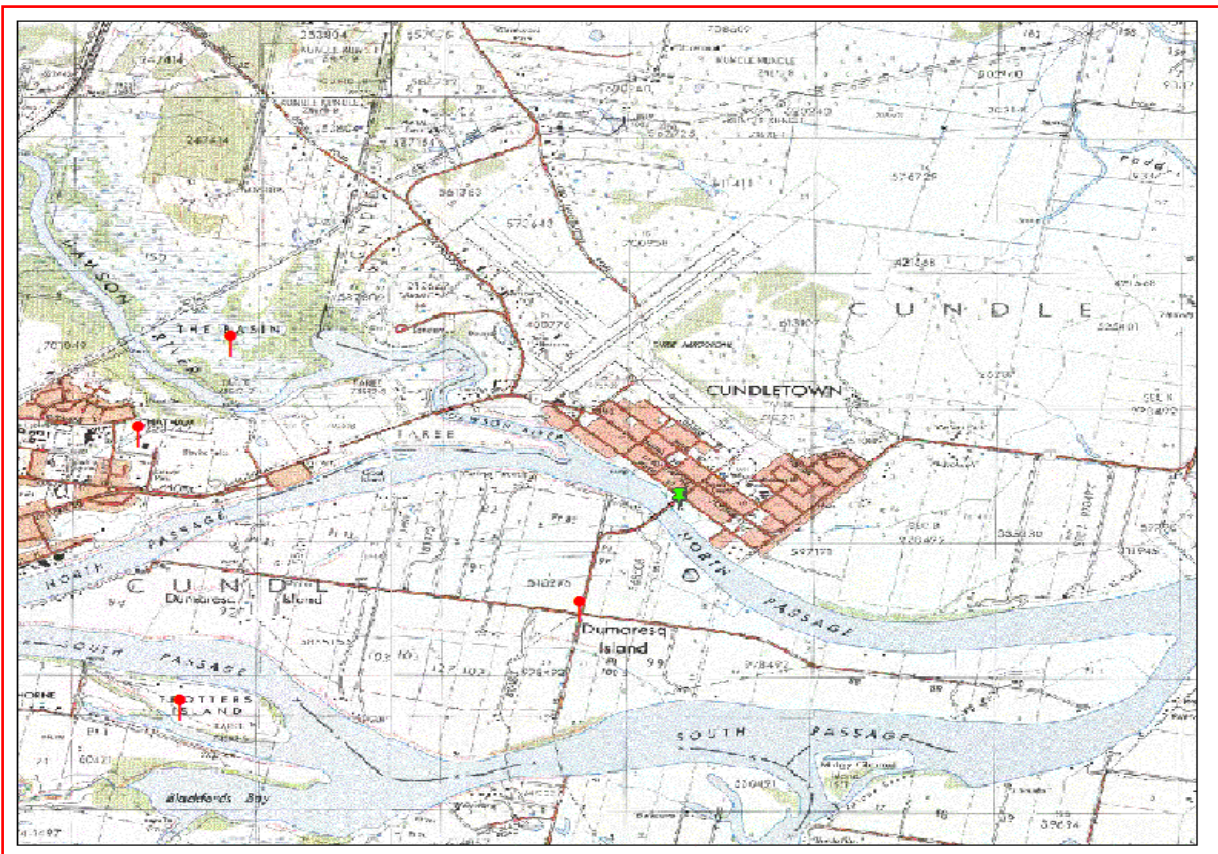
Penny Mccardle
Po Box 166
Adamstown New South Wales 2289
Attention: Penny Mccardle
Email: mheritage@iprimus.com.au

Date: 02 April 2019

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 451000 - 457000, Northings : 6468000 - 6474000 with a Buffer of 50 meters. Additional Info : assessment, conducted by Penny Mccardle on 02 April 2019.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

1	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the [NSW Government Gazette \(http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette\)](http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Office of Environment and Heritage's Aboriginal Heritage Information Unit upon request

Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not to be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Office of Environment and Heritage and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date. Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.



AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

<u>SiteID</u>	<u>SiteName</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Site Status</u>	<u>SiteFeatures</u>	<u>SiteTypes</u>	<u>Reports</u>	
30-5-0043	TTRR 14;	AGD	56	452260	6470000	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site		
	Contact	Recorders	Ms.Jacqueline Collins						Permits	612	

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 02/04/2019 for Penny Mccardle for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 451000 - 457000, Northings : 6468000 - 6474000 with a Buffer of 50 meters. Additional Info : assessment. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 1

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