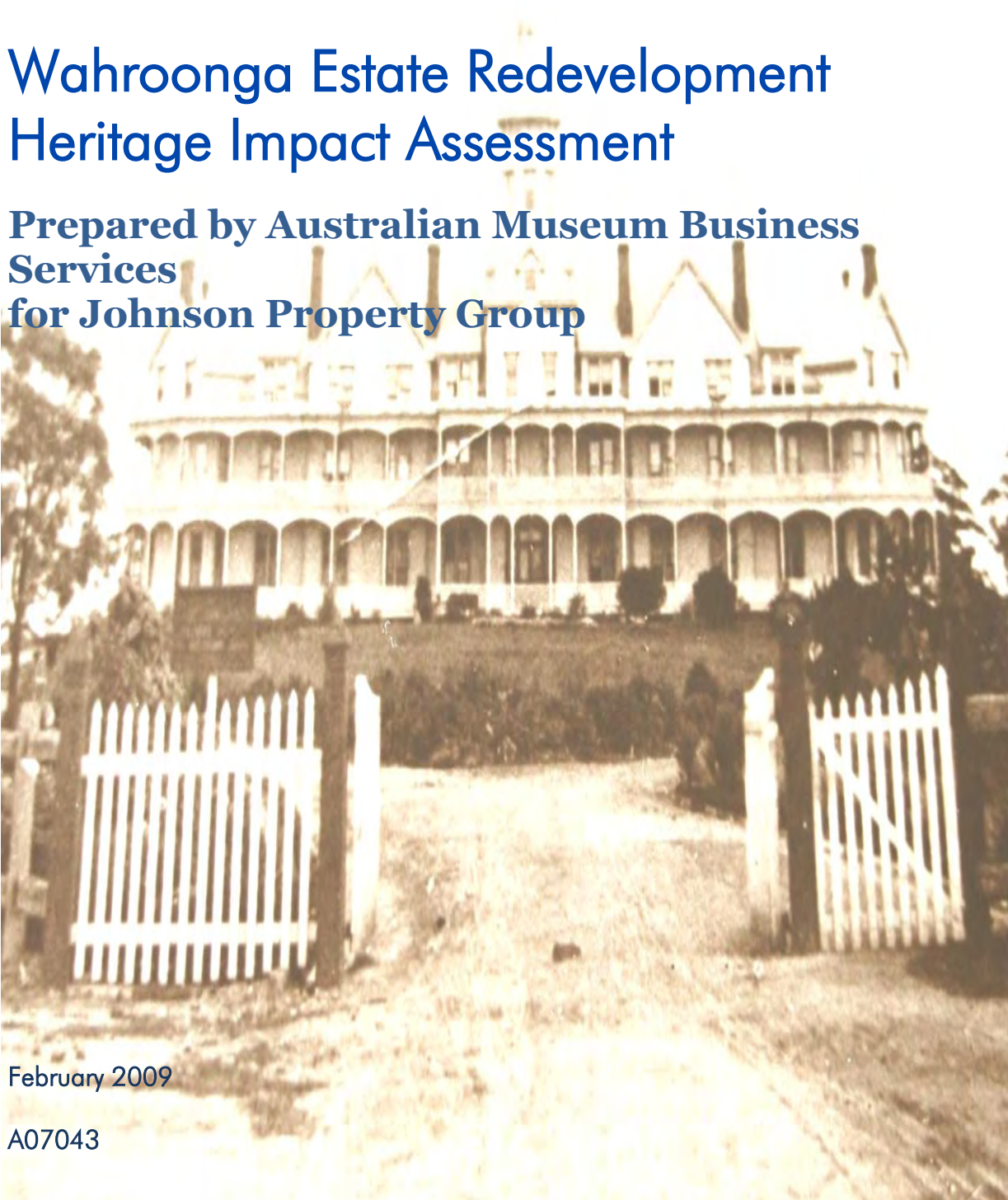


Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment Heritage Impact Assessment

**Prepared by Australian Museum Business
Services
for Johnson Property Group**



February 2009

A07043

Document Information A07043

Citation:	AMBS (2008) Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment: Heritage Impact Assessment. Consultancy report to Johnson Property Group.
Versions:	Version 1: Draft report issued June 2008 Version 2: Second draft report issued July 2008 Version 3: Report issued September 2008 Version 4: Report issued November 2008 Version 5: Report issued February 2009
Recipient:	Wade Morris, Johnson Property Group
Approved by:	Jennie Lindbergh
Cover	The Sanitarium in 1904

Executive Summary

Johnson Property Group Pty Ltd commissioned Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS) to provide professional heritage input into the formulation of an Environmental Assessment Report, State Significant Site Study and concept plan/preferred project report for the proposed Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment, located at the intersection of Fox Valley Road and Comenarra Parkway, in the suburb of Wahroonga. The development project has been designated a major project under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 (EP&A Act) and this study has been undertaken in accordance with heritage best practice and the Director **General's** Requirements (DGRs).

The following recommendations identify the Wahroonga Estate redevelopment commitments to ensuring that the heritage values of the Sydney Adventist Hospital site are protected.

Aboriginal Heritage

The Aboriginal heritage assessment was undertaken in accordance with the DGR:

- *Assess the development against the Department of Environment and Climate Change's draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation.*

In accordance with the DGRs the local Aboriginal community were consulted at all stages of the project and their responses are attached in Appendix C.

No new Aboriginal sites were located during the survey. However, Registered Site 45-6-2040 is located adjacent to Coups Creek. The areas adjacent to the creekline are characterised by sandstone outcrops and dense vegetation traversed by existing formal and informal pathways and service lines. These areas have potential archaeological or cultural sensitivities. The Master Plan identifies that this creekline area of the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment will remain undisturbed and undeveloped. However, should it be determined that the development will encroach into these areas, additional consultation with the local Aboriginal community groups and survey to identify any archaeological sites will be required before any works are proposed.

Recommendation 1

Registered Site 45-6-2040 and the undisturbed areas adjacent to Coups Creek should remain undeveloped, in accordance with the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment Master Plan. Should development of these areas be proposed in the future, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment, in consultation with the local Aboriginal community groups, including archaeological survey of the area, should be prepared prior to design finalisation, in accordance with heritage best practice guidelines.

Historic Heritage

The Adventist Administration Building is the only identified heritage item (local) within the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment. However, the Director General Requirements (DGRs) and this study have identified additional potential heritage items.

- *Heritage Impact Statement assessing impacts on the Adventist Administration Building (local heritage item under KPSO), Mahratta Urban Conservation Area, views from distant sites along the ridge tops on either side of the Lane Cove River (eg Cheltenham and West Pymble) and timber framed houses north of Fox Valley Road for any significance.*

In accordance with the DGRs, this report has assessed the group of timber framed cottages as being an important contributing element in the significance of the Sydney Adventist Hospital site. The cottages have local significance.

Although this report has briefly addressed the impacts arising from the proposed development on those items identified by the DGRs, more detailed assessments of the impacts arising from the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment on these items will be prepared.

Recommendation 2

The impacts of the proposed development will be assessed in individual Statements of Heritage Impact for the Adventist Administration Building, the Mahratta Urban Conservation Area, and the distant views to the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment from the distant ridge tops on either side of the Lane Cove River (eg Cheltenham and West Pymble).

A Statement of Heritage Impact should also be prepared to guide the process of relocation of any timber framed cottages on Fox Valley Road and the use of elements from cottages to be demolished to contribute to refurbishment of cottages. A detailed survey of the cottages, including those in private ownership and not accessed during the course of this study, should be included in this process to determine appropriate elements for re-use.

Recommendation 3

The process of removal, and possible relocation, of timber-framed cottages should be guided by a Statement of Heritage Impact to determine appropriate elements for re-use.

The Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment Master Plan has identified that a number of the buildings, which have been identified as having potential heritage significance, will be removed or relocated. In accordance with heritage best practice, an archival photographic recording will be prepared for these particular elements to Heritage branch standards to ensure that the contribution of these buildings to the historical development of the Sydney Adventists in Wahroonga is not lost.

Recommendation 4

An archival recording should be prepared to ensure that the different phases in the historical development of the Sydney Adventists in Wahroonga, is not lost when important buildings are relocated or removed. The recording should precede removal and be undertaken in accordance with Heritage Branch guidelines.

The subject buildings are 'Bethel', the Shannon wing, the Maternity wing, the California-style Bungalow at 179 Fox valley Road and the 1930s Villa at 175 Fox Valley Road. The recording should also include the physical context, setting, gardens and landscaping of each building.

The archaeological resources of the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment have been assessed as having the potential to make an important contribution to an understanding of the development of the local area from the early twentieth century establishment of the Sanitarium, Bethel and associated accommodation by the Seventh Day Adventists. The historical development of the medical facilities and associated Church, school and accommodation to the present day is represented by the later buildings; the Shannon and Maternity Wing, the site of the second school and accommodation buildings along Fox Valley Road. The research potential, and the heritage significance, of the potential archaeological resources have been assessed to have local significance.

Recommendation 5

The removal of significant buildings and excavations associated with the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment has the potential to expose significant relics with the ability to provide an insight into the historical development of the Sydney Adventists in Wahroonga. Clearance works associated with the proposed development will be supervised and recorded in detail by the nominated excavation director in accordance with Heritage Branch requirements.

The archival photographic recordings and any artefacts exposed during the demolition of buildings have the ability to make a significant contribution to the interpretation of the Sydney Adventist's in Wahroonga. The relocated 'Bethel' Museum would be an appropriate repository for this material and documentation. The historic themes identified in Sections 7.3.1 and recommended archaeological research questions provide a foundation on which to base an interpretation. An Interpretation Strategy should be prepared to guide the appropriate themes, images and texts.

Recommendation 6

The Sydney Adventist Hospital, and associated buildings, is a Wahroonga landmark, which should be the subject of an Interpretation Strategy. The Interpretation Strategy should refer to the identified historic themes for the place and provide guidance in the development of a meaningful interpretation for the site. Contributing interpretive elements will be the archival photographic recording and recovered relics arising from the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment to be housed in the 'Bethel' Museum, or other appropriate site within the Wahroonga Estate.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Preamble

Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS) has been commissioned by Johnson Property Group Pty Ltd to provide professional input into the formulation of an Environmental Assessment Report (EAR), State Significant Site Study (SSSS) and concept plan/preferred project report for the proposed Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment.

The aims of the project are:

- to upgrade and expand the existing health facilities and services;
- to increase the total number of dwellings through a combination of residential densities;
- to provide retirement living including independent living, a hostel and nursing home;
- to provide expanded retail, commercial and recreation opportunities and
- to retain quality open space and bushland.

The development project has been designated a major project under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 (EP&A Act). Johnson Property Group (JPG) has submitted an application under Clause 6 of the State Environment Planning Policy – Major Projects 2005 (SEPP – Major Projects) for the redevelopment of the Wahroonga Estate. In response to this submission the Director General and Ku-ring-gai have prepared draft environmental assessment requirements (DGRs) under Part 3A. The final Heritage DGRs are as follows:

- *Heritage Impact Statement assessing impacts on the Adventist Administration Building (local heritage item under KPSO), Mahratta Urban Conservation Area, views from distant sites along the ridge tops on either side of the Lane Cove River (eg Cheltenham and West Pymble) and timber framed houses north of Fox Valley Road for any significance.*
- *Assess the development against the Department of Environment and Climate Change's draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact assessment and community Consultation.*

This report addresses the historic and Aboriginal heritage requirements of the DGRs for the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment project.

1.2 Study Area

The Wahroonga Estate study area is located at the intersection of Fox Valley Road and Comenarra Parkway, in the suburb of Wahroonga, south of where the Pacific Highway and Pennant Hills Road meet with the F3 Motorway (see Figure 1.1). The site is within the Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby Local Government Areas (LGAs). The study area comprises approximately 65 hectares and accommodates existing urban development centred along Fox Valley Road, vacant land around the curtilage of the existing buildings, including parking; and urban bushland loosely connected to the Lane Cove National Park and recreation reserve to the south-west over Comenarra Parkway.

The existing uses on the site are:

- Sydney Adventist Hospital and Specialist Clinic;
- Fox Valley General Practitioner and Dentist Clinic;

- Pacific Regional Headquarters of the Adventist Church and Media Network Centre, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency;
- Seventh-day Adventist Churches;
- primary school;
- Normanhurst Adventist Retirement Village; and
- staff housing and student accommodation.

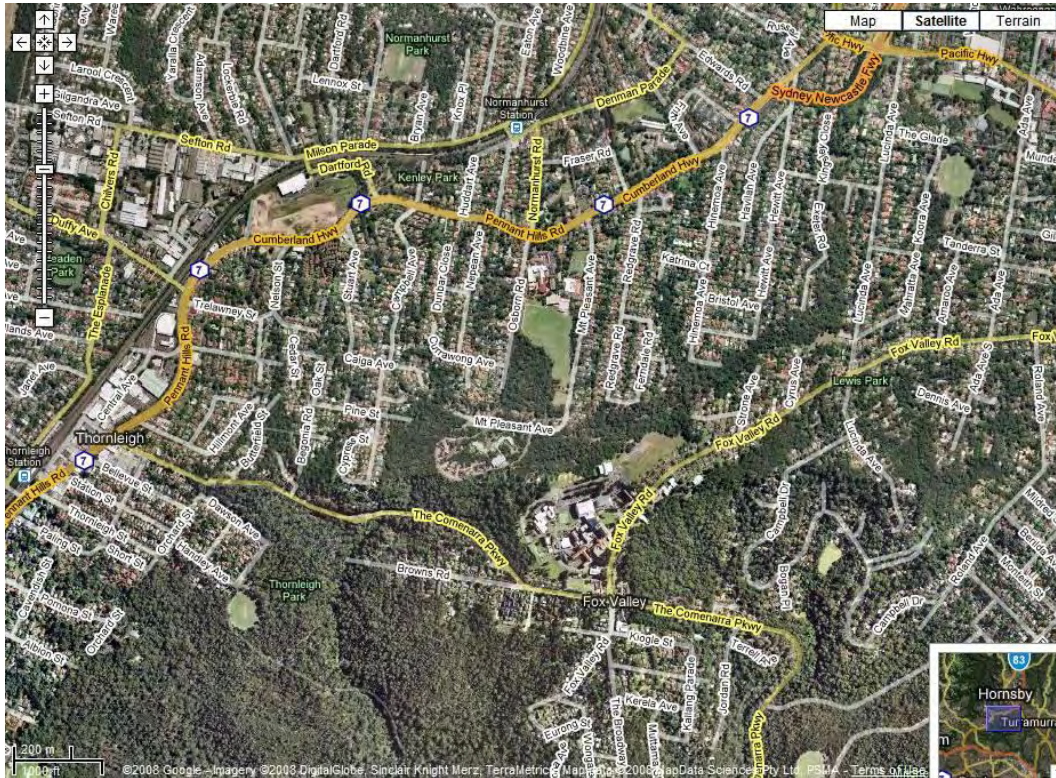


Figure 1.1 General location of the study area at the intersection of Fox Valley Road and Comenarra Parkway.

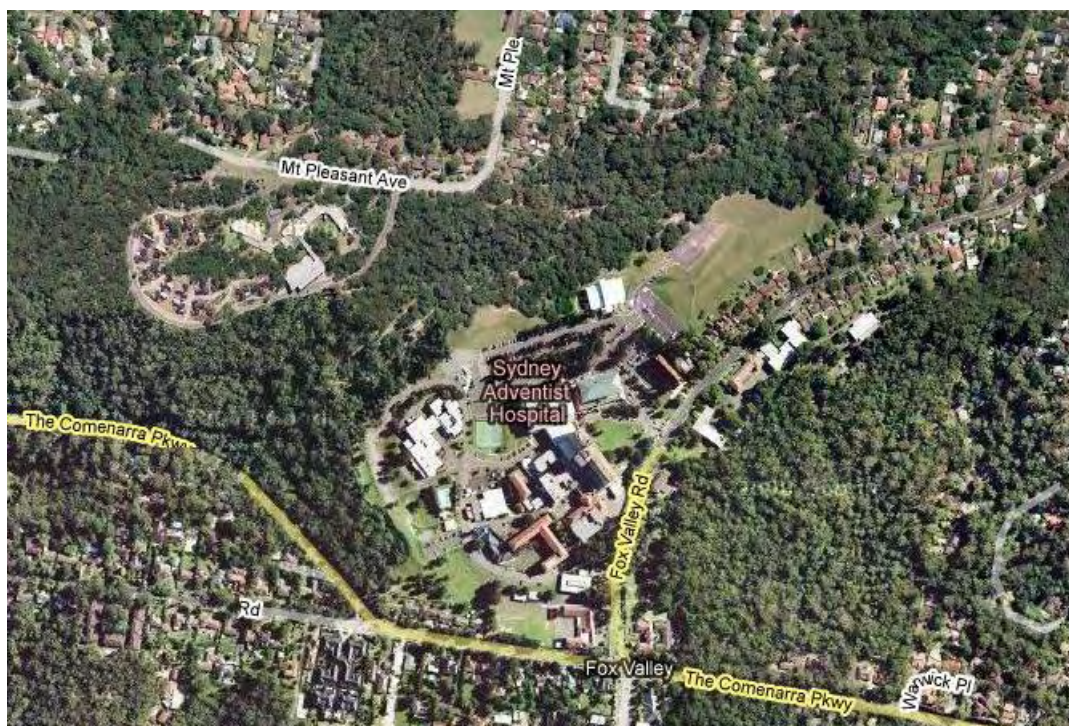


Figure 1.2 The Sydney Adventist Hospital within its immediate environment.

1.3 Addressing the Director General's Requirements

This report is consistent with the principles and guidelines of the Burra Charter (*Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance*). It has been prepared in accordance with current heritage best practice guidelines as identified in the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, documents *NSW Heritage Manual* (NSW HO 1996), *Archaeological Assessment Guidelines* (1996), *Assessing Heritage Significance* (2001), and the Department of Environment & Climate Change (DECC) documents *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Standards and Guidelines Kit* (DEC 1997), *Draft Guidelines For Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC 2005) and *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974: Part 6 Approvals Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* (DEC 2004).

As a major project under Part 3A, the proponent is not required to apply for approvals or permits under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974 or the *NSW Heritage Act* 1977. However, the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC, formerly Department of Environment and Conservation, DEC) and the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning (formerly NSW Heritage Office), are given the opportunity to review Part 3A applications. The DGRs are developed in consultation with the relevant statutory authorities, and the requirements relevant to this study are that an assessment of any impacts on the cultural heritage values arising from the proposed development is undertaken.

1.3.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

The DGRs require that an assessment of the development against the Aboriginal heritage of the area, is prepared in accordance with the draft *Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC 2005). The assessment should demonstrate that effective community consultation has been undertaken in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and making final recommendations, and detailing of measures to avoid or mitigate any impacts on identified Aboriginal heritage items. The aim of this report is to assess potential impacts arising from the proposed development on Aboriginal cultural heritage, and to recommend measures to mitigate these impacts where required.

Key Aboriginal heritage requirements addressed in this study are:

- consultation and liaison with representatives of the local Aboriginal community, in accordance with the draft *Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC 2005);
- location and assessment of the significance of Aboriginal heritage sites and places within the study area and surroundings;
- investigation of the Aboriginal heritage significance of the study area;
- identification of the nature and extent of impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage values across the study area;
- determination of the cultural significance of the study area by integrating the results of the archaeological survey and consultation with relevant Aboriginal groups;
- description of actions to be taken to avoid or mitigate impacts or compensate to prevent unavoidable impacts of the proposed development Aboriginal cultural heritage values; and
- provision of advice regarding potential constraints and opportunities for future development resulting from considerations of Aboriginal heritage.

1.3.2 Historic Heritage

As noted in the DGRs there is only one identified heritage item within the proposed development property boundary. **Schedule 7 ‘Heritage items’ Part 2 ‘Other heritage items’** of the Ku-ring-gai Planning Scheme Ordinance (KPSO) identifies 146-148 Fox Valley Road (see Appendix A). In addition, the following is noted in Schedule 8 ‘Development for Certain Additional Purposes’:

Lots A and D, D.P. 337904, 738 Pacific Highway, Gordon, as shown stippled on the map marked "Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan No. 110" deposited in the office of the Council - office and administration use by the Trans Tasman Union Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The requirement that an assessment of impacts on the significance of the Mahratta Urban Conservation Area, views from distant sites along the ridge tops on either side of the Lane Cove River (eg Cheltenham and West Pymble) and timber framed houses north of Fox Valley Road have also been considered in this study.

All heritage registers and lists have been reviewed to ensure that there are no identified heritage items, which are not included in the DGRs.

Consideration of the local historic environment has included an assessment of the streetscape values and archaeological potential of the section of Fox Valley Road that is within the footprint of the proposed development. In addition a survey of structures considered to have potential heritage value, but not included in the DGRs, has been included in this report to ensure that all potential heritage issues have been addressed.

1.4 Authorship & Acknowledgements

This report was prepared by AMBS Project Officer Jenna Weston, Amanda Dusting, Consultant, prepared the contextual history of the study area and Christopher Langeluddecke, Project Manager, reviewed the Aboriginal Sections. Senior Project Manager Jennie Lindbergh, prepared Section 8 ‘Constraints and Opportunities’, and Section 9 ‘Statement of Commitments’, provided technical input and advice, and reviewed the report.

The authors are pleased to acknowledge the help and assistance of Eric Howse, Property Development Manager Australasian Conference Association Ltd and Michael Rigby, Curator Merritt Kellogg Museum and Head Librarian.

2 Environmental Context

Consideration of the effect of environmental factors within the study area may provide a comparative basis for assessing the potential for heritage sites to be present within the study area. This **Section includes an overview of the study area's general geology and topography, soils, hydrology and drainage systems, vegetation, history of land use and level of current disturbance.**

2.1 Topography and Geology

The Fox Valley/Wahroonga area is located on the southern edge of the Hornsby Plateau, which is c.200-220 metres in elevation. The study area itself comprises rolling to steep hills between 50 and 200 metres. It has narrow ridges (200-300m) and hillcrests which grade into moderate to steep sideslopes and narrow drainage lines (80-100 m elevation). Aboriginal occupation was often focussed on prominent landforms such as ridges, which were favourable locations for camping and travelling, and from which surrounding plant and animal resources could be viewed. However, the main ridgeline in the study area is in the area of Fox Valley Road and the Hospital grounds, and as such no evidence of previous Aboriginal occupation is expected to remain. The surrounding slopes are quite steep and therefore unfavourable for camping or extensive travelling, and hence are also considered unlikely to contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

2.2 Geology & Soils

The study area is underlain by Triassic Wianamatta Group Shales, comprising Hawkesbury Sandstone, and the Liverpool Sub-Group of Minchinbury Sandstone and Bringelly and Ashfield Shales. The former consists of sandstone, quartz and some shale, while the latter consists of shale with some sandstone beds (1:250,000 Geological Series Sheet S1 56-5 Sydney). Soils in the study area are the Glenorie and Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes.

Aboriginal people often used outcroppings of Hawkesbury Sandstone as surfaces for art (such as engraving and drawing/painting), and sandstone shelters for camping, in addition to sharpening stone axes/tools on sandstone outcrops located near water (creating grinding grooves).

Sandstone outcrops occur naturally in some parts of the study area, particularly along Coups Creek, and as such it is possible that rock engravings/art sites or axe grinding grooves may be present. The stone also outcrops as cliffs/shelters, and therefore shelter sites may also be present. However, as this stone is unsuitable for artefact manufacture, stone quarry sites will not be present in the study area.

2.3 Hydrology and Drainage

Coups Creek, a second-order tributary of the Lane Cove River, flows through the study area, with an unnamed second-order tributary forming the western boundary. Three first-order tributaries are also present within the study area, and several others occur within 500m. The Lane Cove River begins c.800m south of the study area, widening c.6km to the south east. First-order creeks, Camp and Terra Ulong, and second-order Scout Creek, are all located approximately 1km south west of the study area. In short, the area is well-drained, with ample water to have supported Aboriginal occupation. As such, occupation sites including open stone artefact scatters, and shelters with occupation deposits, may occur within the study area. However, coastal and riverine areas (the Parramatta River located c.10km to the south and the coast c.18km to the east) would have been most frequently occupied for their water and marine food resources.

2.4 Vegetation

The native vegetation of the Wahroonga area would have comprised open forest and open woodland sclerophyll communities, dominated by Sydney blue gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*), blackbutt (*E. pilularis*), red bloodwood (*E. gummifera*), scribbly gum (*E. haemostoma*), stringybark (*E. oblonga* and *E. capitellata*) and banksia (Benson 1980). The eastern part of the study area contains a large population of lantana. Although sections of the study area have been cleared for development, there are sections of urban bushland with mature native vegetation which may allow for the occurrence of scarred or carved trees.

2.5 Land Use and Disturbance

The study area has been used for various purposes, including health, aged care, education and religion, in addition to the construction of roads and other associated infrastructure (see Section 1.2 for existing uses). Major roads include the Comenarra Parkway on the southern boundary of the Estate, and Fox Valley Road which intersects with the Parkway and enters the study area from the north east. Mt Pleasant Ave, Waratah Way and small private roads are also adjacent to the northwestern perimeter of the study area. There are sections of vacant land around existing buildings, including parking, and there is a recreation reserve on the western boundary of the study area, and to the south-west over Comenarra Parkway. a number of paved and unpaved tracks are along and across the length of Coups Creek. Evidence of sewer and stormwater services is also present along Coups Creek.

3 Aboriginal Heritage Context

This Section describes the nature of the known Aboriginal archaeology of the study area and is based on a review of relevant archaeological reports and publications, and a search and review of previously recorded sites in DECC's Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database. In addition, it outlines the extent and preliminary results of Aboriginal community consultation undertaken for the assessment. This review and discussion has been undertaken to allow the development of a predictive model for potential Aboriginal sites within the study area, and to establish a context for a comparative significance assessment.

3.1 Aboriginal Community Consultation

Aboriginal community consultation is an integral part of the assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with DECC guidelines, as outlined in *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974: Part 6 Approvals Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* (DEC 2004), and required by the draft *Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC 2005). A log of the Aboriginal consultation undertaken for this project is provided in Appendix B.

The aims of this consultation process were to:

- allow identification of local Aboriginal community groups and individuals with an interest in being involved in the ongoing consultation process;
- provide the local Aboriginal community with the opportunity to inspect and comment on the Aboriginal sites and values of the study area and be involved in the heritage assessment process;
- identify the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the study area;
- provide an opportunity for the local Aboriginal community to comment on the outcomes and recommendations of draft heritage assessment reporting; and
- integrate Aboriginal heritage values and recommendations for management into the assessment report.

Emails were sent on 9 May 2008 to DECC, the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs Registrar of Aboriginal Owners, the Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council (KMC) and Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) requesting notification of any known Aboriginal groups that should be consulted for the assessment. The HSC identified that the Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation (GTLAC) should be contacted. The RAO identified that the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) should be contacted.

Searches of the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) Registers for the LGAs encompassing the overall study area were undertaken on 9 May 2008. A search of the NNTT register within the Ku-ring-gai LGA identified one non-claimant application, for MLALC, which was approved.

A Search of NNTT register within the Hornsby LGA identified three applications: one non-claimant application, for MLALC, which was approved; one active claimant application for Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation (lodged by Gordon Morton, who is currently part of Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments); and one non-claimant application by NSW Government, which was discontinued.

The only native title claim which was identified as currently valid for the current study area is that lodged by Gordon Morton. As such, Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments (DACHA) was contacted. DACHA identified that the Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation (DCAC) should also be contacted.

In accordance with DECC guidelines, advertisements were placed in the Hornsby & Upper North Shore Advocate on Thursday 8 May 2008, and in the National Indigenous Times on Thursday 15 May 2008. The advertisements sought expressions of interest for participation in the Aboriginal heritage assessment process for the project to be registered. The closing date for registrations was 22 May 2008 and 29 May 2008, respectively.

Contact was made with MLALC, GTLAC, DACHA and DCAC, asking for involvement in the consultation and assessment process, and asking that they notify AMBS of any other known Aboriginal groups or individuals that may wish to be consulted. Each of these four groups indicated that they wished to be involved in the project.

Following this initial consultation, all groups were provided with details of the proposed development and the draft heritage assessment methodology, on 28 May 2008. A representative from each group was invited to participate in the field survey, at which time the fieldwork methodology, the proposed development and available mapping information were discussed with all Aboriginal community representatives (see section 5.1).

Each registered Aboriginal group was given the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Aboriginal heritage assessment report, a copy of which was provided to each group on 18 July 2008. Information, both oral and written, provided by the Aboriginal community groups has been integrated into the assessment and documentation, and also attached to this report (see Appendix C). Each of the four groups have provided written feedback on the draft report, agreeing with the results and recommendations (see Appendix C).

3.2 Regional Archaeological Context

Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney region is likely to have spanned at least 20,000 years, although dates of more than 40,000 years have been obtained from artefacts found in gravels of the Cranebrook Terrace on the Nepean River (Stockton & Holland 1974; Nanson et al. 1987; Stockton 1993). Late Pleistocene occupation sites have been identified on the fringes of the Sydney basin and from rockshelter sites in adjoining areas. Dates obtained from these sites are 14,700 BP at Shaws Creek in the Blue Mountain foothills (Kohen et al. 1984), c.11,000 BP at Mangrove Creek and Loggers Shelter (Attenbrow 1981, 2004), and c.20,000 BP at Burrill Lake on the South Coast (Lampert 1971). The majority of sites in the Sydney region; however, date to within the last 3,000 to 5,000 years, with many researchers proposing that occupation intensity increased from this period (Attenbrow 1987, 2002, 2004; Kohen 1986; McDonald & Rich 1993; McDonald 1994). Such an increase in occupation intensity may have been influenced by rising sea levels, which stabilised approximately 6,500 years ago. Older occupation sites along the now submerged coastline would have been flooded, with subsequent occupation concentrating along, and utilising resources of, the current coastlines and the changing ecological systems of the hinterland (Attenbrow 2002).

3.3 Local Archaeological Context

3.3.1 DECC AHIMS Search

The NSW DECC AHIMS database is maintained by the DECC Cultural Heritage Division, and includes a database and recorded site cards for all Aboriginal sites, items, places and other heritage objects that have been reported to the NSW DECC. It should be understood that this database is not a comprehensive listing of all Aboriginal sites, items or places in NSW. Further, the frequency of sites in a particular area recorded on AHIMS

may be misleading because several sites have been recorded more than once and entered into the database more than once (Koettig 1996:57).

A search of the AHIMS database was undertaken on 30 April 2008, and identified 93 registered Aboriginal sites within a five kilometre area surrounding the study area, the results of which are summarised in Table 3.1 and presented in Figure 3.1.

The most common sites previously recorded in the local area are rock engravings, shelters with art, shelters with archaeological deposit, and axe grinding grooves. These sites are associated with the formation of the Hawkesbury Sandstone in this area, as it outcrops in platforms and shelters which were used by Aboriginal people for these purposes. Apart from engravings, shelter sites and axe grinding grooves, there are a small number of stone artefacts located in the open, and one scarred tree within 5km of the study area (c.2.5km to the south east; see Figure 3.1 and Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 Aboriginal sites previously recorded near the study area.

Site Type	Number Present	Percentage
Rock engraving	31	33.5%
Shelter with art	20	22%
Shelter with deposit	16	17%
Axe grinding groove	13	14%
Shelter with art and deposit	5	5.5%
Axe grinding groove, rock engraving	3	3%
Isolated find	2	2%
Scarred tree	1	1%
Shelter with PAD	1	1%
Axe grinding groove, water hole/well	1	1%
Total	93	100%

Data based on results of a search of the DECC AHIMS database on 30/04/2008

The search indicates that there is one Aboriginal site registered within the study area (45-6-2040; see Figure 3.2). There is also one previously recorded site immediately outside the study area (45-6-2369). The two other sites in closest proximity to the study area are 45-6-2099 and 45-6-0896. All four of these sites were recorded by Dr Val Attenbrow during Stage 1 of the Port Jackson Archaeological Project (Attenbrow 1990; also see section 3.3.2).

Site 45-6-2040 is a shelter within a cliff approximately 6m above the Coups Creek creekline with small areas of soil deposit laid down through seepage into the back of the shelter. Two flaked quartz artefacts and a small fragment of bone were identified in the shelter.

Site 45-6-2369 is a shelter located in a gully within the flood zone of an unnamed second-order tributary of the Lane Cove River (on the western boundary of the study area). One artefact, a bipolar-like piece of quartz, was located, in addition to several small pieces of burnt bone. It is likely that this bone dates to European use of the shelter, as it was occupied in the Depression according to the local resident who took Dr Attenbrow to the shelter for the recording (AHIMS Site Card 45-6-2369).

Site 45-6-2099 is a large shelter, of which part of the floor at the southern end had been blasted away during the construction of a sewer pipeline. Two stone artefacts were located in the dripline at the northern end of the shelter. Attenbrow notes that this shelter is visible from the Comenarra Parkway where it crosses over Coups Creek/Lane Cove River (at the south west end of the current study area).

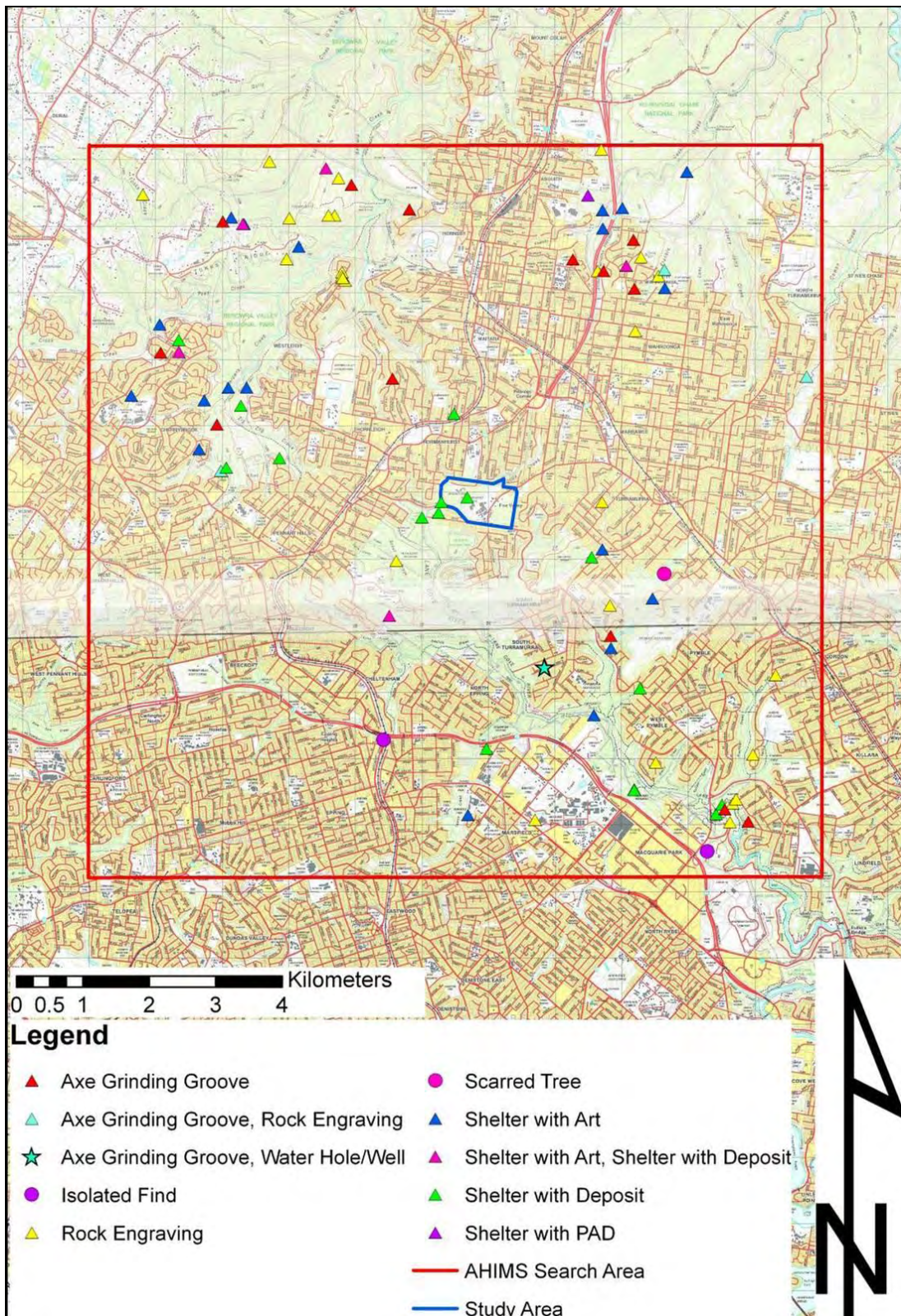


Figure 3.1 Location of registered Aboriginal sites within 5km of the study area. Data based on results of a search of the DECC AHIMS database on 30/04/2008

Site 45-6-0896 is a shelter located on a steep slope 30m above the Lane Cove River. One stone artefact was seen by the previous recorder of the site, but was not relocated during Attenbrow’s visit.

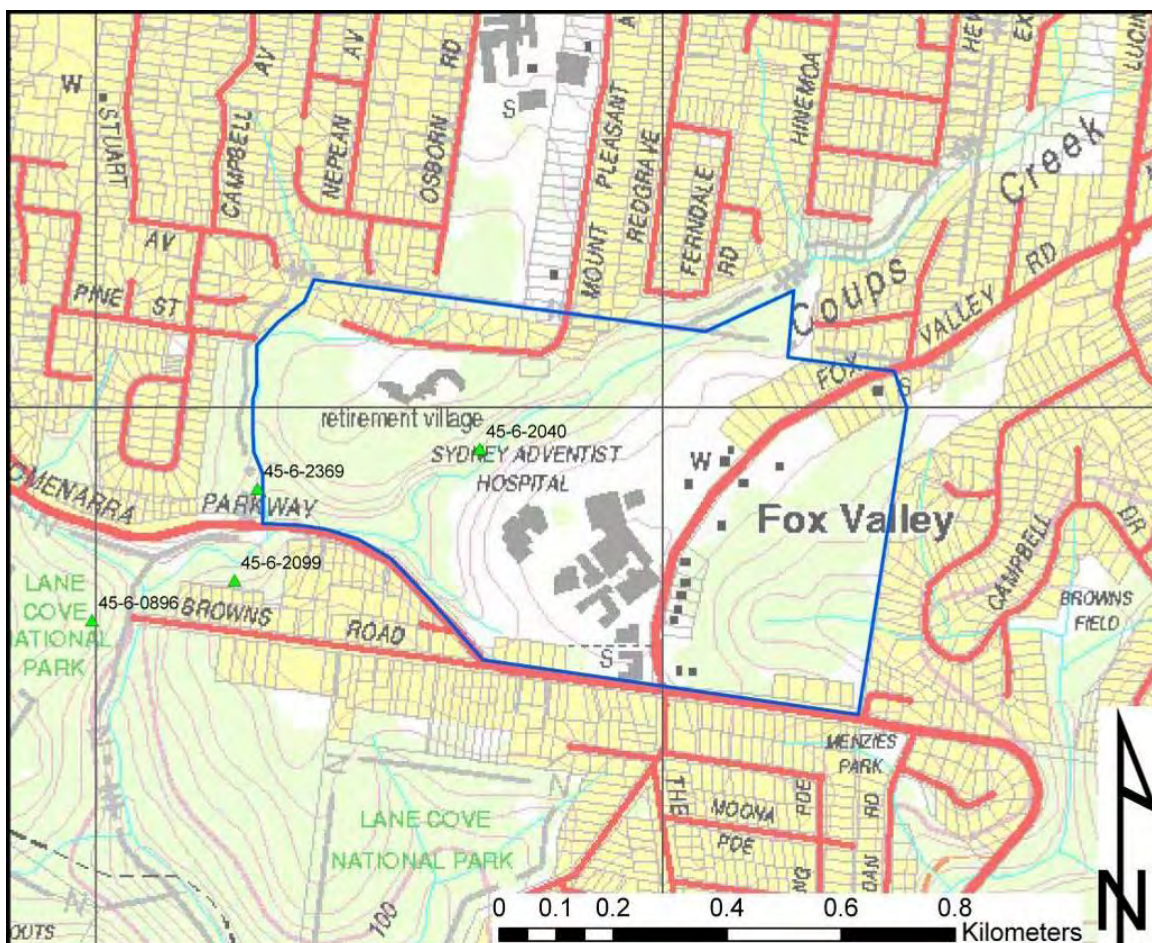


Figure 3.2 Location of registered sites in closest proximity to the study area.

3.3.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

There have been several archaeological investigations in the general vicinity of the study area. The majority of these studies are summarised in Appendix D, while the investigations that are most relevant to the study area are outlined in the following paragraphs. Archaeological assessments within 2-3km of the study area have tended to find little or no evidence of Aboriginal occupation (Brayshaw 1999; Mills 1999; Navin Officer 2005; Smith 1987a). However, this is likely to be a reflection of the early urban development of the inland area of North Sydney (including Wahroonga) which would have precluded the preservation of sites and the necessity for archaeological assessment, rather than an indication of less intense Aboriginal occupation of the area. Further, within the Hornsby Shire it has been found that many sites have been destroyed by previous development (with the current study area identified as developed), that sites within reserves can be subjected to severe impact (for example the destruction of art by graffiti), and that sites within areas of residential development are likely to have been heavily impacted (Koettig 1996:58).

In addition, excavations within 4-5km of the study area, particularly in the Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook area, have revealed substantial Aboriginal occupation deposits, specifically within rockshelters (Greer 1985; Haglund 1995; McDonald 1985a; McDonald & Brayshaw 1984). Stone artefacts tend to be manufactured predominantly of quartz and silcrete, with a much lesser use of materials like mudstone, chert, quartzite and fine-grained siliceous stone. Evidence of use of the bipolar stone knapping technique is most commonly found in addition to microlithic/Bondaian technology (ibid; NPWS 1990).

In 1989-90, Attenbrow undertook Stage 1 of the Port Jackson Archaeological Project, which involved documentary research on previous archaeological work done in the catchment, detailed recording of registered sites and some field survey of areas where no sites had been registered. Stage 2 involved further research of regional issues through excavation of certain sites. During Stage 1 of this project, Attenbrow recorded the four sites which are registered in closest proximity to the study area, including site 45-6-2040 which is located within the study area (see Figure 3.2). Overall, Attenbrow classified six sites as having excellent research potential, 48 as having good potential, and 151 as having poor to nil potential. Each of the four sites closest to the study area was considered to have poor to nil potential for further research or excavation.

Cosmos Archaeology assessed a section (Precinct 6) of the abandoned B2-B3 Freeway corridor, which was proposed for rezoning from “County Road Reservation”, to allow residential development for the Wahroonga Estate in accordance with the May 2004 Master Plan. This area is located in the south eastern part of the current study area, which is heavily vegetated (see Figure 3.3). **Cosmos Archaeology’s survey area comprised a 5.244ha “strip of uncleared, relatively steep terrain, traversing the middle and lower slopes of a western flowing creek gully” (2004:ii).** No sites were identified during the survey, and the area was assessed as having low archaeological sensitivity and potential, given the site patterning of the Ku-ring-gai area and the topography of the study area (“steep terrain underlain by Wianamatta Shales and ‘poor quality’ Hawkesbury Sandstone and access only to an ephemeral watercourse”; Cosmos Archaeology 2004:iv).

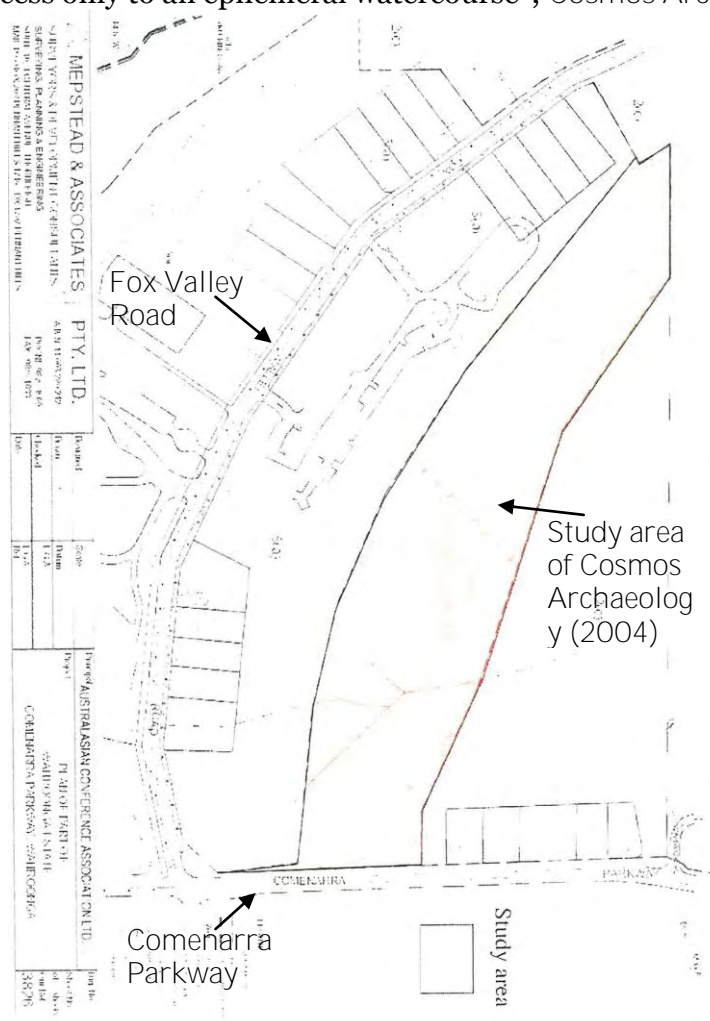


Figure 3.3 Location of Cosmos Archaeology’s study area (2004:Figure 1.2).

Apart from the Port Jackson Archaeological Project, several regional studies have been undertaken in the vicinity of the study area (see Koettig 1996; McDonald 1985b, 1987, 1990, 1994; NPWS 1990). Koettig undertook a study of Aboriginal heritage sites in the Hornsby LGA in 1996, McDonald carried out the Sydney Basin Rock Art Project, over several years, for the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS, now DECC) and as part of her doctoral research, and NPWS completed an Aboriginal Sites Planning Study for the Lane Cove River State Recreation Area in 1990.

A study of the Sydney region reveals that Aboriginal sites are distributed across the whole range of physiographic units and environmental zones, although certain types of sites may be more frequently associated with certain parts of the landscape (for example, shelter sites are particularly common in areas of Hawkesbury Sandstone), and different parts of the landscape contain different resources, which may be seasonally available or highly localised (Koettig 1996). Hence, although no middens are registered on the AHIMS within 5km of the current study area, they are common in the Port Jackson region around the shores of bays, rivers, harbours and the coast, in areas where shellfish are available. Accordingly, Attenbrow noted that the Port Jackson archaeological record is different to that of the Cumberland Plain, partly because of the different resources in these areas (1990:30). Attenbrow found, from a review of excavation work in the Port Jackson area, that Aboriginal people were living around the harbour foreshores gathering shellfish at least 4,500 years ago, that the number and species of shellfish represented in middens varied according to distance from the harbour mouth, and that a change from exploitation of predominantly cockle (*Anadara trapezia*) to predominantly oysters (*Saccostrea commercialis*) appears to have occurred over time in this region (ibid.). She also found that most middens are located within 10m of the high water level, and that burials were placed in open middens as well as in middens within rockshelters. In the same year, the NPWS (1990) observed that regional excavations of coastal sites with midden layers indicated the exploitation of a variety of sea and land resources.

It should also be recognised that the archaeological evidence within any particular site can vary considerably in quantity and the range of evidence present, and that the number of sites or amount of archaeological evidence found in any specific area varies. Further, the distribution of presently recorded sites in some areas is unlikely to be indicative of the original distribution of Aboriginal sites and therefore may not be a reliable guide to the occupation history of that area (Koettig 1996). Accordingly, without professional archaeological assessment of an area, the sites most likely to have been recorded are those which are most obvious to non-professionals, such as rockshelters and art sites. For example, Table 3.2 shows the distribution of sites that had been recorded in the Hornsby Shire in 1996.

Nevertheless, Hawkesbury Sandstone does outcrop in and underlie the local area of Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai (including the current study area). Therefore, it may be expected that occupation deposits will most frequently be found in rockshelters, and that art (including engravings) and axe grinding grooves will be present in the area as it contains the appropriate resources (sandstone). Further, the Sydney Basin Rock Art Project revealed that most shelters with art are located on hilltops (with some found on valley bottoms and ridgetops), approximately a quarter of shelter with art sites are associated with known archaeological deposit, most rock engravings are located on horizontal sandstone exposures on ridgetops or slopes (or occasionally in valleys), and approximately 13% of rock engravings are associated with axe grinding grooves (McDonald 1985b, 1987, 1990, 1994). However, it should be noted that some sites cannot be detected through inspection of the ground surface or rock surfaces alone, and that shelters without visible occupation deposit may be sites (Koettig 1996:57).

Table 3.2 Aboriginal sites recorded in the Hornsby Shire in 1996.

Site Type	Number Present	Percentage
Rock engravings	81	34%
Shelters with art	58	25%
Axe grinding grooves	25	11%
Rock engravings associated with axe grinding grooves	13	5%
Shelters with deposit	12	5%
Shelters with midden	10	4%
Shelters with art and midden	7	3%
Open middens	6	2.5%
Shelters with art and rock engravings	5	2%
Rock engravings associated with middens	4	2%
Stone arrangements	2	1%
Open stone artefact scatters	2	1%
Shelters with deposit and axe grinding grooves	2	1%
Shelters with deposit and rock engravings	2	1%
Shelters with midden and axe grinding grooves	1	0.5%
Carved trees	1	0.5%
Rock engravings associated with middens and axe grinding grooves	1	0.5%
Shelters with art and deposit	1	0.5%
Shelters with isolated finds	1	0.5%
Total	234	100%

Koettig 1996:29 (Table 6)

It is recognised that, although sites may be found in all topographic units and in all parts of the landscape, the areas with particularly high archaeological sensitivity within this region are the estuarine foreshore, creeklines with sandstone beds, sandstone platforms/outcrops larger than 5m², sandstone cliffline or isolated boulders more than 2m high, and creek flats on sandstone, alluvium or shale (Koettig 1996:57, 75). Despite the high level of disturbance that has occurred generally within the region, and particularly in some parts of the study area, many sites (or parts of them) are often in relatively good condition, and sites close to (as opposed to within) residential development can survive well (Koettig 1996:58),

3.4 Aboriginal Heritage Site Prediction Modelling

On the basis of the registered archaeological sites in the region and the review of previous archaeological studies, the following conclusions can be drawn regarding the potential presence and location of Aboriginal heritage sites within the landscape of the study area:

- sites most likely to be present within the study area are shelters with occupation deposit (of which one is currently known to be present in the study area) or open stone artefact sites/isolated finds. These sites are most likely to occur along Coups Creek or along the second-order tributary which forms the western boundary of the study area. However, any such sites may have been disturbed (and hence not *in situ*) by the urban development and general disturbance that has occurred;
- axe grinding grooves, rock engravings or art sites may be present on the sandstone outcrops in the study area (with axe grinding grooves more likely to be present in the western and central parts of the study area, where stone outcrops near creeklines), however it is unlikely that any such sites are preserved, particularly given that previous investigations of the study area have failed to identify any;
- the presence of a few mature trees indicates that scarred or carved trees may be present in the study area; and

- the presence of some ground exposure indicates that any open sites remaining in the study area may be visible during a site visit.

3.4.1 Sites Unlikely to be Present

The following site types have not previously been recorded within the local region, and are unlikely to be present within the current study area:

- the lack of suitable stone outcrops indicates that stone quarry sites will not be found in the study area;
- it is unlikely that midden deposits will be present within the study area, as the creeklines do not appear to support shellfish
- burials are unlikely to occur in the area as they are usually found in association with open middens or in rockshelters with midden deposit; and
- ceremonial sites (including stone arrangements and bora grounds) are unlikely to be present in the area given the long history of disturbance resulting from the development of the hospital and residential areas.

4 Historic Context

4.1 Background

Shortly after the landing of the First Fleet in 1788, Captain John Hunter and Captain Arthur Phillip led expeditions north of Sydney Cove into the tribal lands of the Guringgai people searching for fresh water and land suitable for agriculture. Initially, the Ku-ring-gai area was exploited for timber by both land grantees and timber contractors. Timber contractors and timber-getters leased large tracts of land and cleared the area of timber suitable for building purposes; often using convict labour. William Henry was the first white settler in the area, occupying land called Millwood Farm on Blue Gum Creek by 1814. By the 1820s, Joseph Fidden had become a ferryman rowing sawn timber from government sawpits on the Lane Cove River to Sydney and dropping off supplies to settlements on his way back. Fidden established a **wharf (Fidden's Wharf) on the Lane Cove River** which was known as a supply source for sly grog and other provisions.

The earliest defined roads in the area were the Lane Cove Road (later Gordon Road then the Pacific Highway) and the road to Pittwater, now Mona Vale Road. The Lane Cove Road was a track formed along a known Aboriginal route along the ridge identified as the **'spine' between the main waterways of Middle Harbour and the Lane Cove River**. From 1805 when the first land grants in the area were surveyed they were located to either side of the spine (Figure 4.1).



Figure 4.1 The Gordon 1883 parish map showing subdivisions of the Fox Valley Wahroonga area south of the Gordon Road (Pacific Highway). The study area is located on each side of the Fox Valley Road.

After land in the area was cleared of timber, some permanent settlements were established where grantees planted orchards. Settlement then focussed on locales such as Pymble, where Robert Pymble, one of the first and most influential settlers, had taken up permanent residence on his land grant of 600 acres in what is now the suburb of Pymble, and Gordon where John Brown who was known as the Squire and had been a successful timber-getter, resided on his holdings as an orchardist.

Much of the land remained as large grant portions until 1876, when smaller holdings were subdivided into Lots of 10–40 acres and farmed as orchards or market gardens. The arrival of the railway in 1890 saw further subdivisions of the larger holdings. Townships developed along the railway alignment with a proliferation of subdivisions encouraging urban development clustering around the stations. Subdivided blocks tended to be half acre lots close to the stations, allotments of one to four acres were further from the railway line and larger blocks, featuring large residences, on the periphery. By 1893, the railway line efficiently connected these northern settlements to the city via Milsons Point. Businesspeople and professionals, keen to escape the congestion and relatively unhealthy living conditions of inner city suburbs, were attracted to the area. Townships developed their own infrastructure, including schools, shops and churches. Each subdivision created a massive increase in population.

A feature of the Ku-ring-gai district is that it has designated space for parkland bordering residential development; these include the Ku-ring-gai Chase Parkland reserved in 1896, Fiddens Wharf Reserve on the Lane Cove River and Davidson Park at Middle Harbour. By 1953, Ku-ring-gai Council had adopted a proposal that no land in the area should be zoned industrial and that corridors of bush should be retained along creek routes (GML 2000:27). The housing styles characterising the area include examples of Federation, Georgian revival, Californian Bungalow, Spanish Mission and Stockbroker Tudor in the inter war period of the 1920s and 30s. The post war period saw the continued expansion of the area with further population increases, although the subdivision had slowed. The general pattern of residential development of the area is that of large single dwellings with leafy gardens on large blocks of land surrounded by areas of native bushland.

4.2 Fox Valley, Wahroonga

The Fox Valley Road lies within the Parish of Gordon in Fox Valley area of Wahroonga. In the Aboriginal (Guringgai) language Wahroonga means “our home”, and Fox Valley **Road was named for John Brown’s** Fox Ground estate (Ramage 2003:166). Fox Valley **Road is one of the earliest roads in the area as shown on Mitchell’s 1835 Parish of Gordon** map and the Wells county of Cumberland map of 1840, and was well defined by 1859 when allotments were sold in the area (GML 2000:237).

One of the earliest landholders in the vicinity was the emancipist, Thomas Hyndes. From 1803, Thomas Hyndes was squatting on an area of land at Lane Cove, which he was exploiting for timber-getting. Hyndes was forced to move from the land, as it had been granted to Robert Pymble, but was subsequently granted 640 acres in 1838, in what is now known as Wahroonga (see Figure 4.2). By the 1840s, he had increased his holdings to 3000 acres by leasing 2000 acres, which was later granted to John Terry Hughes. Fox **Valley Road passed through Hyndes’ leasehold**, cutting through to the Lane Cove Road. Other grantees and landholders in the area included John Terry Hughes, Frederick Wright Unwin, Samuel Henry Horne, Aaron Pierce and John Brown. The grants to Hyndes, Horne and Brown lie adjacent to the study area (Figure 4.2). In 1857, John Brown purchased more land in the vicinity and eventually acquired Hyndes’ original grant of 640 acres. On the 1893 Parish map, this parcel of 640 acres was named the Fox Ground Estate. By the 1850s timber-**getter John “Squire” Brown**, had established a sawmill on Browns Road (now the Comenarra Parkway) adjacent to his holdings. Timber-getting, as well as being a lucrative source of income, was a common means of opening up and preparing land for settlement, with bullock drays transporting timber to wharfs, **such as Fidden’s or Hyndes**, on the Lane Cove River to be transported to Sydney. **The remains of Brown’s timber business were demolished in 1980 (GML 2000:237).**



Figure 4.2 Detail of the 1897 Gordon parish map. The Fox Valley Road is clearly identified and the site of the future Sydney Adventist Hospital to each side of the road. Thomas Hynde's and John Brown's lands are indicated.

To the north of Fox Valley Road in 1857, Charles Leek purchased land and started fruit growing on land previously owned by Samuel Horne (see Figure 4.1). Part of this property later formed the Leeks Orchard Estate subdivision, which included the establishment of Elizabeth Street and Strone Avenue adjacent to the study area (see Figure 4.3).

By the 1860s, settlement in the area had developed **around Pearce's Corner** where two roads intersected (modern day Pennant Hills Road and the Pacific Highway). The coming of the railway in 1890 further encouraged settlement with the Census of 1891 showing 57 residents in the area, and by 1911 this had increased to 350 residents (Ramage 1991:17).

In the early 1900s, residential settlement at Wahroonga comprised large houses, with extensive gardens, on blocks of three to twenty acres with half-acre residential blocks developing along main thoroughfares. Some of the very large estates were eventually acquired by churches and schools whilst others were subdivided (Ramage 1991:17). Some of these grand estates survive, albeit in a modified form, such as Mahratta and Purulia. Mahratta is located at the corner of Fox Valley Road and the Pacific Highway and Purulia is at 16 Fox Valley Road.

Mahratta, built in 1941 by T. A. Field, replaced an earlier two-storey house and is one of the finest Art Deco mansions in Sydney and was designed by Douglas S Agnew. The area surrounding Mahratta has been designated as Ku-ring-gai Urban Conservation Area Precinct 26, Mahratta, Wahroonga. The Mahratta precinct consists of an area of large

single-storey houses from the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. The southern border of the Mahratta precinct lies adjacent to the study area.

Purulia was designed and built by architect William Hardy Wilson from 1912-13. Wilson designed Purulia as a “maidless” house where servants were not required. At the time it was built there were many objections to the stark simplicity of the house which is now listed on the SHR and considered by many as an architectural masterpiece (Heritage Branch Website online database).

By 1917, subdivision along the east side of the Fox Valley Road appears in the Gordon parish map, indicating that the Leek’s Orchard Estate was subdivided and sold in the early twentieth century (see Figure 4.3 and Figure 4.4)

The Fox Valley area south of Browns Road remained largely bush and farmland until the late 1950s but was well developed into a residential area by 1974 when the Comenarra Parkway was completed.

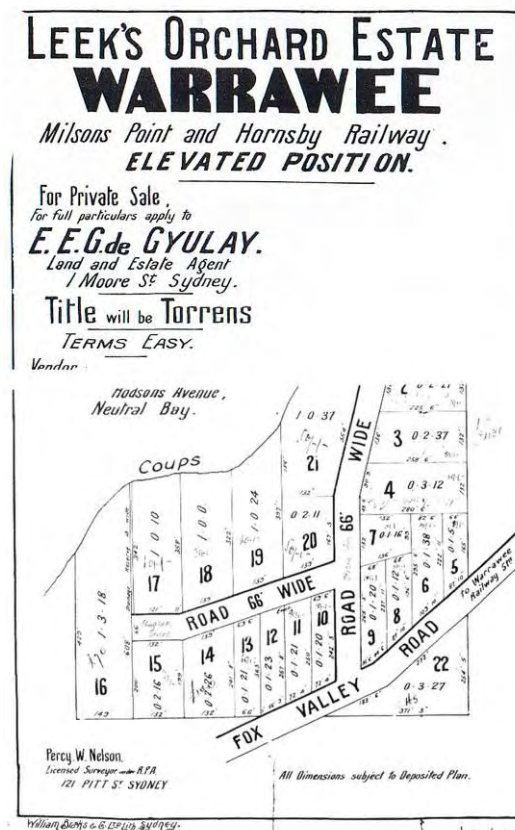


Figure 4.3 Undated subdivision plan of Leek's Orchard Estate on Fox Valley Road (Gordon Municipal Library).



Figure 4.4 1917 Gordon parish map. Subdivision on the Fox Valley Road is indicated.

4.3 The Fox Valley Area

The area later occupied by the Sydney Adventist Hospital and associated facilities comprises part of land first granted to free settler Alexander Bowman on 22 September 1821 (Lot 31), and Lots 29 and 30, originally owned by Thomas Rothwell (Figure 4.4). The site is an area of approximately 170 acres (65 hectares); Lot 29 (49 acres), Lot 30 (49 acres 2 rods) and Lot 31 (72 acres) (see Figure 4.6). It is probable that the land was originally exploited for timber-getting and that the area close to Fox Valley Road may have been planted with orchards in the later nineteenth century; however, it is not known if the lots were ever occupied. The **land was described in August 1899 as “a promising parcel of orchard and bush” (Patrick 2003:27)**. The blocks were purchased from Mr and Mrs Richard Evans in 1899 by the founders of the Seventh Day Adventist community in Sydney, now known as the Australasian Conference Association (Ramage 1991:165).

4.4 The Adventists in Australia

The Seventh Day Adventist Church was co-founded by Ellen and James White and Joseph Bates, in the United States of America, from 1844 to 1863. Ellen White, in particular, **advocated a philosophy of ‘healthful living’ in her writings and the fledgling faith adopted a holistic attitude to the wellbeing of the body.**

In 1865, a band of eleven Seventh Day Adventists arrived in Australia, lead by Stephen Haskell. The party arrived in Melbourne and began a publishing enterprise, the Echo Publishing House, which was later renamed Signs Publishing Company. By 1890, the Adventists had also established themselves in Sydney, establishing an educational program that eventually offered primary, secondary and tertiary studies. The Avondale College, or Avondale School for Christian Workers, and later the Australasian Missionary College was established at Cooranbong near Newcastle in 1897. The Adventists also began a food company manufacturing a range of health foods known as the Sanitarium Health Food Company.

In the USA, Adventists Dr John Harvey Kellogg and Dr William Keith Kellogg had set a precedent in their enterprises in healthcare and health food manufacture at their

Sanitarium at Battle Creek Michigan. In 1896, the Australian Adventists made a foray into the world of healthcare in Sydney from Beechwood, a seven-roomed cottage in Ashfield, and began operating a 'hydro-pathic' clinic The Health Home. Alfred and Emma Semmens, **who had undertaken nursing training at the Kellogg's Battle Creek Sanitarium**, operated the establishment. By 1897, they had moved to larger premises at Summer Hill and had rented Meaford, a sixteen-room house, and two other houses Lindo and Mayne Hall. Following the arrival of Dr Edgar Caro, the Health Home was renamed The Sydney Medical and Surgical Sanitarium and business flourished. Nurse training was an integral part of the Adventist scheme and by 1898, there were fifteen nurses in training at Summer Hill and 32 in training at the Avondale School for Christian Workers at Cooranbong. By 1899, it was decided to build a medical and surgical sanitarium in the vicinity of Sydney to replace the Summer Hill premises. Dr Merritt Kellogg, the elder half-brother of the Michigan Kelloggs, came to Australia in the 1890s, having served as a missionary in the South Pacific (see Figure 4.5). Merritt Kellogg ultimately drew up the plans and supervised the construction of the new Sanitarium at Wahroonga.

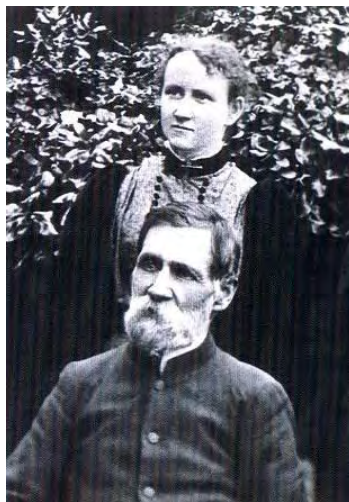


Figure 4.5 Merritt Kellogg and his wife Eleanor Nolan (Patrick 2003:14).

4.5 The Adventists at Wahroonga

John Radley of Castle Hill, a recent Adventist convert, was asked to inspect sites that might be suitable for the construction of the proposed new sanitarium building.

In 1898, Adventist founder Mrs Ellen White and her son Pastor W. C. White travelled in **Radley's horse and cart from Thornleigh Station to inspect a promising parcel** of land on Fox Valley Road (Figure 4.6). The land was an orchard owned by Mr and Mrs Richard Evans and it was decided to purchase the land over a period of 12 months and to launch on a building program estimated at a cost of £8,000 (Ramage 1991:165). Dr Merritt Kellogg designed the original timber building, which was constructed largely through volunteer labour (Figure 4.7). Although not completed, the building opened on 1 January 1903 as the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital.



Figure 4.6 Detail of the 1917 Gordon parish map with the Wahroonga Sanitarium clearly identified on Thomas Rothwell's Lots 29 and 30 and Alex Bowman's Lot 31 to the west.

The Sydney Sanitarium became known as The San and was developed as a health home, or centre for wellbeing, promoting remedial agencies. The San was advertised as "A Thoroughly Equipped Medical Institution and an Ideal Health and Recreative Resort" (Patrick 2003:259). Patients at the Sanitarium tended to stay for periods of two to three weeks taking advantage of recreational pursuits such as croquet, tennis and bushwalking. Meals at the Sanitarium were vegetarian with vegetables, fruit and dairy products provided from the hospital's own working market garden, orchard and prize winning dairy herds (Figure 4.8). After opening its doors the Sanitarium continued to develop and expand throughout the twentieth century. During WWII, the American Army was keen to take over the Hospital for the use of servicemen for rest and recuperation; however, they were unsuccessful (Patrick 2003:96).



Figure 4.7 The San as it appears on a 1928 nurses' certificate with the 1920 Shannon wing and orchards on the right (Patrick 2003:31).



Figure 4.8 The 1920s orchards and surrounding pasture at the San in the 1960s (Patrick 2003:84, 120).

Growing numbers of patients and changes in health practices over the years have prompted the expansion of the hospital with an increasing emphasis on medical and surgical procedures, and building programs that reflect these changes. The original building was extended and added to several times and new buildings constructed where old buildings could not be adequately adapted. By the 1960s, **Kellogg's original hospital** building was deemed a fire hazard and was demolished in 1973. A new tower block was constructed and the hospital underwent a name change from The Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital to the Sydney Adventist Hospital. By 1978 an independent commission inspected the facilities and the hospital became the first private hospital in NSW to be accredited by Australian Council of Hospital Standards.

The Adventists also used the site to develop their primary and secondary education philosophies by locating an Adventist school within the property. At the same time tertiary education was also addressed as the hospital continued to develop as a nurse training facility, and it was the first hospital in Australia to train men as student nurses.

The site of the Sanitarium became the headquarters of the Australasian Conference Association of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Within the Adventist Church there are many local congregations that come together to form Conferences. These Conferences then join to form Union Conferences headed by ten General Conferences, one of which is the Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific Conference located at 148 Fox Valley Road. The Australasian Conference Association is the owner of the study area.

The Australasian Conference Association also own and operate the Sanitarium Health Food Company. Begun in 1898 in Melbourne with a vision to help people “learn to stay well” the company has manufacturing facilities at Cooranbong and since 1987 the Sanitarium Health Food Company head office has been housed in Fox Valley Road next to the Australasian Conference Association headquarters.

4.6 Development of the Sydney Adventist Hospital

4.6.1 The Sanitarium

The first hospital building, a three-storey structure of weatherboard and tile on brick foundations designed by Dr Merritt Kellogg, opened 1 January 1903 (see Figure 4.9). The building was constructed of timber, as this was deemed drier and therefore supposedly healthier than brick (Patrick 2003:18). The structure was not quite complete and the

external weatherboards had only been covered with primer paint at the time of opening. Nurses and staff resided in the upper storey of the building with patients housed on the first floors, with dining and treatment rooms on the ground floor. At the time of opening there was no glass in the staff quarters' windows and floors and doors were covered with Hessian and only a few patient rooms were completed (Patrick 2003:16). Originally planned to cater for one hundred patients, lack of funds reduced that expectation such that when finished, it was capable of accommodating up to seventy patients only.

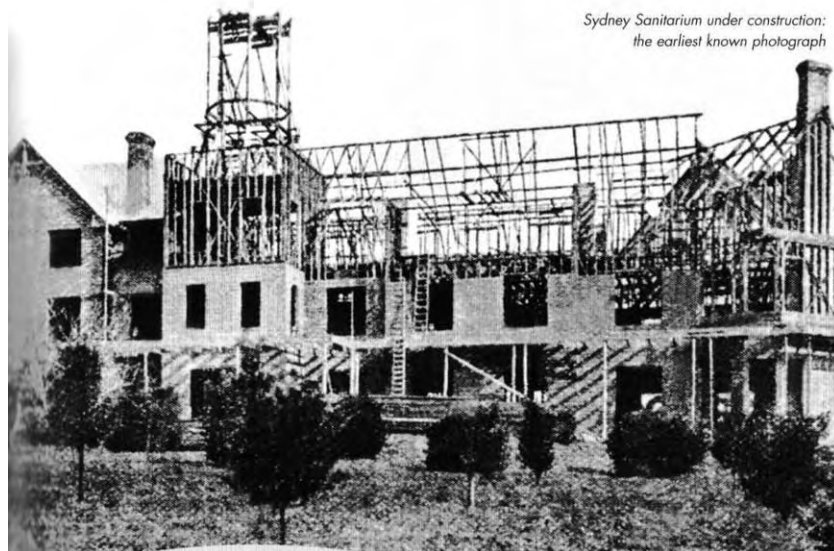


Figure 4.9 The first Sanitarium building under construction before 1903 (Patrick 2003:9).

The entry to the SAN has changed over the years. The first entry comprised a simple post and picket fence and gates, which are extant in 1910, but have been replaced by 1913 by a more ornate gate and fence with panels of woven metal ribbon, though the original posts have been retained (Figure 4.10).



Figure 4.10 A 1910 postcard of the Sanitarium with the original post and picket fence and entry gate to Fox Valley Road and 1913 photograph with new fencing and entry gates (right, Merritt Kellogg Museum; left, Patrick 2003:19).

On 10 January 1919, a fire engulfed the central tower of the hospital building, patients were evacuated and the local fire brigade succeeded in stopping the fire from spreading. The tower and two rooms were destroyed and four nurses lost all of their belongings (Patrick 2003:84). The tower was rebuilt with some changes in its design (Figure 4.11).



Figure 4.11 Original tower built 1903, rebuilt tower after the fire of 1919. Note the change in window form (Patrick 2003:25).

A porte-cochere was added to the entranceway of the Sanitarium in about 1936. At the same time decorative timber fretwork on the verandas was removed and the turned veranda posts were replaced by square columns similar to those of the new portico (Figure 4.12) (Patrick 2003:85).



Figure 4.12 The 1936 porte-cochere. Decorative fretwork and turned veranda posts have been replaced by this time (Merritt Kellogg Museum).

A photograph of the SAN taken in 1940 shows the new porte-cochere and what appears to be the new entry framed by brick columns (Figure 4.12). It is also worth noting that even at this late date the hospital was still growing its own crops (Figure 4.13). It seems likely that 1936 was a period of expansion and building activity.



Figure 4.13 The Sanitarium photographed in 1940 showing the 1936 additions (Merritt Kellogg Museum collection).

With continued success and increases in patronage, and to meet these demands, the building was first extended in 1920 with the addition of a new wing and again in 1933 (see below).

4.6.2 Bethel

In 1915, a small weatherboard cottage was built as a maternity wing, or birthing centre. The cottage was named Bethel meaning “house of God” (Figure 4.14). With construction of the new maternity wing in 1933, the cottage was used as a staff residence. The cottage now houses the Merritt Kellogg Museum.



Figure 4.14 Bethel before and after the verandahs were infilled (an additional weatherboard cottage is seen in the left image (Patrick 2003:27, 189)).

Adjacent to Bethel was another weatherboard cottage, presumably also serving as staff accommodation which was removed at some time after 1943.

4.6.3 The Shannon Wing

In 1920, prompted by increasing demands on the hospital, a new wing was built to the west of the Sanitarium. Unlike the Sanitarium, the new wing was a three-storey brick building with a rooftop terrace. It was designed to accommodate 31 patients, a lounge room and a new operating theatre (Patrick 2003:85). This building was renovated in 1955 with funds from Arthur Shannon who donated £7,000, and the building was henceforward named after him. In 1977, a new concrete block was added to the southern end of the Shannon to house oncology and radiotherapy. The Shannon wing now houses administration offices and the morgue (Figure 4.15).



Figure 4.15 The Shannon “splendid new wing” opened on 3 May 1920 (Patrick 2003:24).

4.6.4 The South Wing

An “addition to the Sanitarium replete with every modern device for the treatment of disease” was officially opened in 1933 (Patrick 2003:95). The new South Wing was built to house the Maternity Wing (Figure 4.16). The wing was also developed to include surgical facilities with physiotherapy and hydrotherapy on the ground floor.

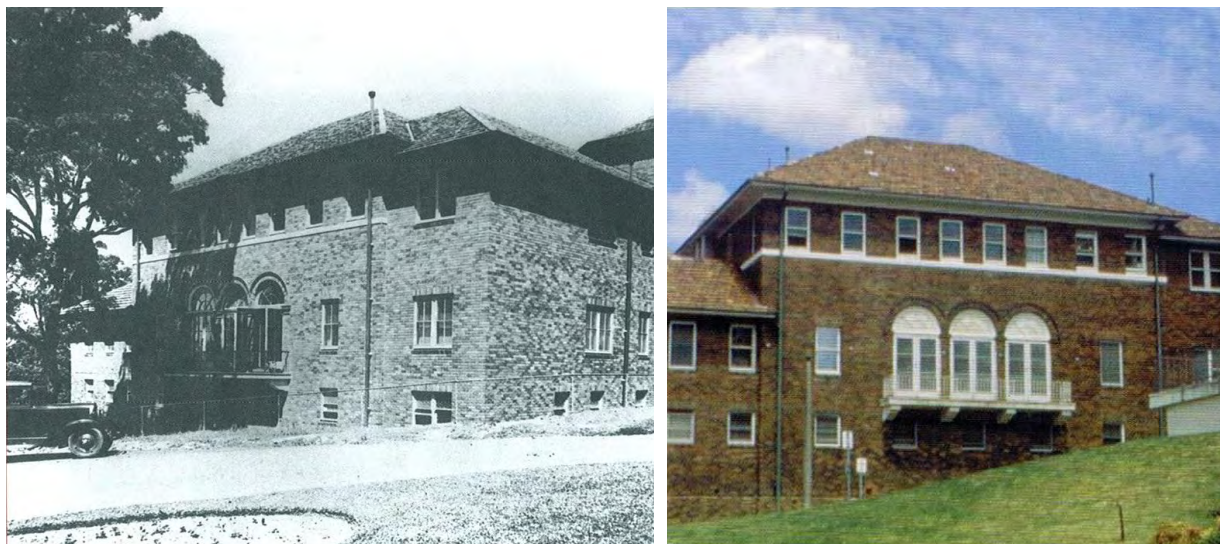


Figure 4.16 Two views of the new south wing opened on 18 July 1933 (Patrick 2003:91, 38).

Built of brick with a terra-cotta tile roof with fan-light windows, the new wing reflects the style of the 1931 Australasian Conference Association Office (discussed below). When opened, it was unfinished and was not completed until a decade later. The new facility included fifteen medical beds and ten obstetric beds, with separate treatment areas for men and women. This wing was the first stage in a building program instigated by the then head of the hospital, Dr Charles Harrison (Patrick 2003:95). The building was extended in 1989-1990 to include physiotherapy and hydrotherapy, as well as an \$8.7 million maternity wing upgrade. The new additions have been added onto the original brick structure.



Figure 4.17 The San as it appears on a 1942 nurses' certificate with the Shannon to the right and the 1933 wing on the left (Patrick 2003:31).



Figure 4.18 The Sydney Sanatorium c.1950 (Merritt Kellogg Museum).

4.6.5 Other Buildings

In the 1920s, a barn was built on the site of what is now the Jacaranda Lodge. This barn was later expanded to become the farm manager's house (see Figure 4.19).

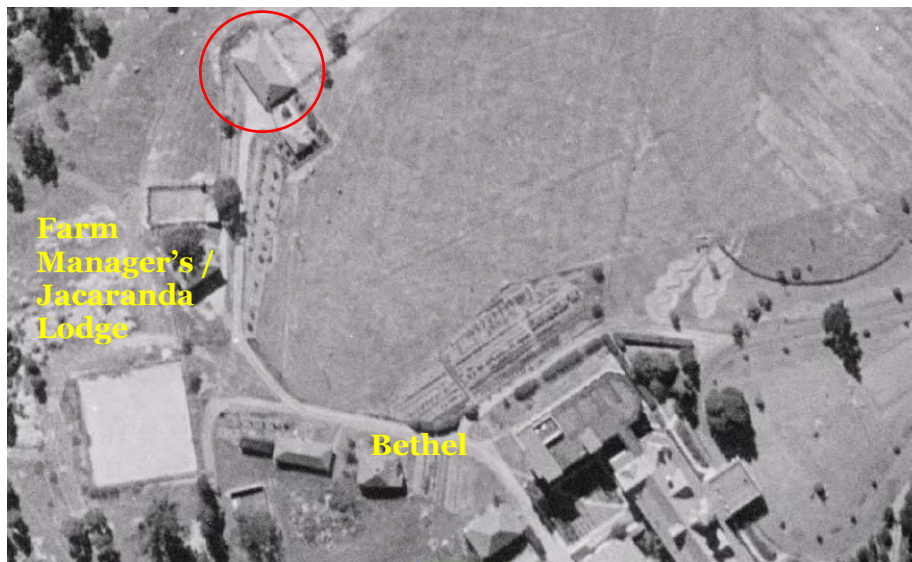


Figure 4.19 1943 aerial showing the cottage next to Bethel and the cottage and shed (now beneath the current staff car park upper left), also a two-storey building, possibly the farm manager's house, which became Jacaranda Lodge. Both the cottage and the two-storey house were still standing in a photo c.2003 (see Figure 4.35).

During the Second World War a structure to the rear of the main hospital building was built as an air raid shelter constructed on the site of the original gymnasium (Figure

4.20) (Patrick 2003:96). The air raid shelter now houses information systems and formerly linen.

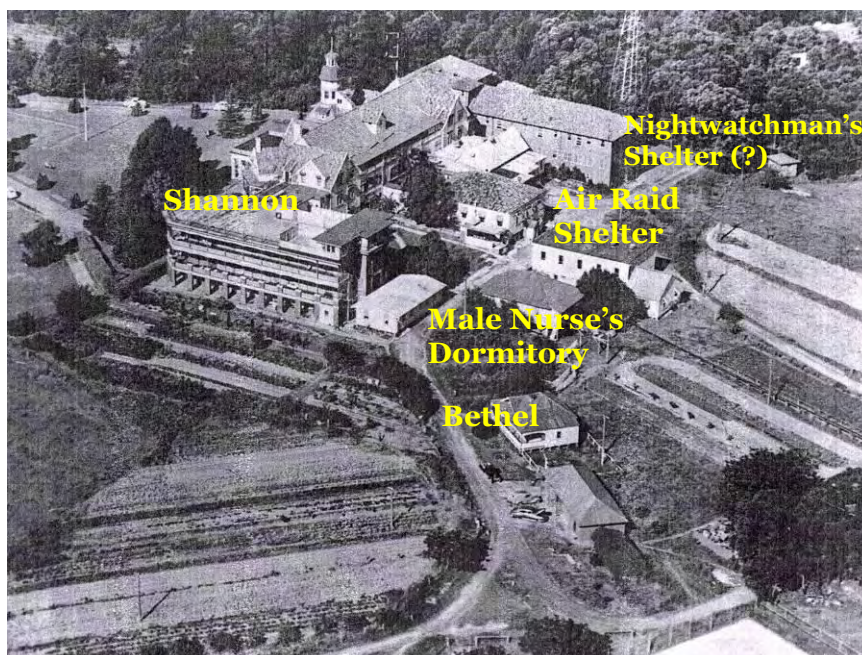


Figure 4.20 Aerial photograph c.1950 (Source: Merritt Kellogg Museum).

4.7 Staff and Associated Facilities

The aim of the Sydney Adventist Hospital included care of staff, and facilities were constructed to house medical staff and to maintain their physical and spiritual well-being.

4.7.1 *The Australian Conference Association*

The Australian Union Conference headquarters moved from Burwood to Wahroonga, into a cottage built on the crest of the hill at 146 Fox Valley Road near the Sanitarium. The house was called Mispah ('beacon or watchtower'). Opened on 20 February 1911, and extended in 1914, the building was later called Sanhaven and was demolished in 1987 to make way for the Sanitarium Health Food Company Office. The house was located adjacent to the 1931 Conference Administration building (Figure 4.21).



Figure 4.21 Sanhaven, the original Australasian Union Conference Office on Fox Valley Road, built 1910, demolished 1986 (Cook 1991:393).

The Australasian Conference Association Office was opened on 1 September 1931 at 148 Fox valley Road, to replace the original office of Sanhaven (Figure 4.22). The two storey brick building is roofed with terra-cotta tiles is a handsome edifice in the interwar Georgian revival style with fan-light windows and timber detailing of the interior.



Figure 4.22 Australasian Conference Association Office at 148 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga (Heritage Branch Website).

4.7.2 The Church

Church services were held in the gymnasium, at the rear of the main hospital building, until the first church was constructed and dedicated on 12 July 1912. The church was 50 feet by 30 feet and was set on brick foundation with a super-structure of Australian mahogany weatherboards and corrugated iron roof (Figure 4.23). The church was built largely with volunteer labour and was enlarged on 9 January 1932. Cook suggests that the church may have been temporarily relocated to vacant land on the opposite of the road and used as a youth hall; however, available photographs from the period do not support this suggestion (Cook 1991:392). The church was removed in the 1960s.



Figure 4.23 The first church on opening day 12 July 1913 (Patrick 2003:26).

Between 1955 and 1958 the new Church building was erected adjacent to the main entry to the Sanitarium. The Church was a modern building built of face brick, but retains its link with the past in the reuse of the wooden pews from the original weatherboard

church. The Church has been provided with brick pillars, reflecting those at the Sanitarium entry (Figure 4.24-Figure 4.25). Although the church was constructed on the site of 'Coorajeba' it appears that some of the original plantings on the site have been retained (Figure 4.29).



Figure 4.24 The gates at the San's Fox Valley Road entrance.



Figure 4.25 The 1958 Sydney Adventist Church on Fox Valley Road.

4.7.3 Gymnasium

Physical fitness programs were an integral component of the nursing training provided by the hospital, and soon after 1903, a gymnasium was built (Figure 4.26). Nursing staff could also often be seen exercising on the front lawn of the hospital, where croquet and tennis courts were present from 1913. Church services and graduation ceremonies for nurses were also held in the gymnasium until 1913, when a new church was constructed. The gymnasium was replaced in WWII by the air raid shelter.



Figure 4.26 Saturday night exercises in the gymnasium (Patrick 2003:34).