157-163 CLEVELAND STREET
REDFERN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

ABORIGINAL ARCHAEOLOGY

CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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FEBRUARY 2010

CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
FOR
HUDSON SQUARE PTY LTD

CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

1.0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



1.1 THE WORK

This report provides an assessment and recommendations for identifying and managing the Aboriginal archaeological resource that may be contained within the proposed redevelopment of the site located at 157-165 Cleveland Street, Redfern. This report and its recommendations fulfil the statutory obligations of the proponent for evaluation of environmental impacts of the project with respect to Aboriginal archaeological resources outlined in the Director General's requirements for a Part 3A project application.

1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Topography, water, vegetation, soil and climate were all critical factors in how Aboriginal people lived in the past. Understanding these factors allows us to predict what sort of archaeological evidence of those past communities is likely to the found and where it will be found. Generally the area is within the Blackwattle Catchment, a widespread area of creeks and streams that flowed towards Blackwattle Bay. The former delta is now buried beneath Wentworth Park. The sloping site running down from east to west indicates the original topography as the land stepped down from the ridges at Surry Hills to the delta.

The development site is located in an area that is at the interface between shale soils and alluvial soils. The alluvium has been deposited by the many creeks and streams of the Blackwattle system that ran through this area. One stream had a watercourse through the southern part of the development site until 1888. The site generally would have supported open Eucalypt forest on shale soils. More specific aquatic plants would have been associated with the watercourses and, particularly, wetlands in the more low-lying and less well drained areas.

Apart from permanent water this is an area that would have supported diverse populations of marine and terrestrial animals that could be hunted for food. The vegetation provided both food and resources to make tools and other implements. It was close to sources of stone used in tool-production. This would have been an area attractive for Aboriginal people for occupation and resource exploitation.

1.3 CULTURAL CONTEXT

Chippendale is within the traditional grounds of the Cadigal or Wangal people who belonged to the larger Dharug language group. Nineteenth century historical evidence identifies land close to the study area as one of Aboriginal occupation and ceremonial use. Archaeological evidence from the area records the use of the area by Aboriginal people for several thousand years.

1.4 IDENTIFIED SITES AND STATUS

An AHIMS search has shown that there are no registered Aboriginal sites within the study area itself, although the southern area of Sydney area is identified as a sensitive archaeological region based on archaeological evidence, environmental data and Aboriginal history. The site is not subject to any native title claim.

1.5 THE POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The types of archaeological evidence that could be found within the development site are most likely to be open camp-sites, artefact scatters, isolated objects, middens, and archaeological deposits. The most likely evidence to be found would be stone tools and the debris from tool-making. This evaluation is based on evidence from earlier studies and the profile that may be extrapolated from similar environments.

1.6 INTEGRITY

Historical land use, including site clearance and the construction of buildings may have degraded or removed any evidence of Aboriginal occupation. It is impossible on the basis of the available evidence to determine whether intact and original top-soil survives on the site. Preserved top-soil is the horizon in which intact archaeological evidence would be found. The presence or absence of this horizon will only be known through more extensive investigation.

1.7 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

If objects of Aboriginal occupation were found within the study area they would have high significance on the basis of their research potential, their value for the present-day Aboriginal community and their ability to interpret this past period of occupation. The importance of the research potential will depend on the type of archaeological site, its integrity and rarity.

1.8 STRATEGIES

On the basis of research, identification of Redfern's pre-European environmental context, an AHIMS search and consideration of the impact of historic land use, the following has been concluded;

- The study area is located in a landscape that is likely to have been occupied and exploited by Aboriginal people. The area presents a moderate to high potential for extant Aboriginal heritage remains. This assessment will be re-evaluated on the basis of site investigation.

- Evidence of this occupation could be preserved within the site in the form of archaeological deposits and objects. These are likely to be associated with any intact top-soil or A horizons within the site.

- The most likely types of sites to be associated with the study area are open-camp sites, middens, artefact scatters and isolated objects.

- European settlement almost certainly has impacted on any Aboriginal archaeological profile but the extent of this impact is impossible to determine on the basis of present evidence.

- The integrity of any archaeological profile is impossible to determine on the basis of the available evidence.

- The proposed development will remove any intact archaeological profile.

- This impact on any Aboriginal archaeological resource may be mitigated by investigation, documentation and liaison with the Aboriginal community.

The following strategies are recommended to respond to these conclusions:

- Identifying the presence or absence of an intact soil profile could be made as part of a test programme of investigation either in conjunction with test excavation for European archaeology, if the results of that work reach an appropriate depth within site, or at the conclusion of salvage excavation for European purposes if that work reveals an intact soil profile.

- The purpose of any test excavation will be to determine whether an Aboriginal heritage resource remains within the site and to provide strategies for its management.

- The results of any test programme should be used to inform any future management of the site.

- If more comprehensive investigation and documentation is required of Aboriginal heritage the work should be carried out within the parameters of the research design described in this report.

- Investigation of Aboriginal heritage should be undertaken in partnership with the relevant Aboriginal community.

- Documentation of any aspect of work relevant to the Aboriginal heritage of the area should be made available to the relevant Aboriginal community groups.

2.0

SCOPE OF WORK



2.1 PROJECT INITIATION

This report has been prepared in response to the proposed redevelopment of land at Redfern. The development will entail the removal of deposits that may impact on archaeological evidence. This report responds to the Director General's Requirements for an application made under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. The requirements called for the preparation of a report to address Aboriginal heritage in accordance with the *Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (2005). This report fulfils that requirement.

The development site is within the Darlington Conservation area identified by the Council of the City of Sydney. At the commencement of this investigation there were no identified archaeological sites of any kind within the study area.

A separate report has been prepared on above-ground heritage values[1]. Another report has been prepared to address the European archaeological potential of this site[2].

This report provides a comprehensive analysis of the potential for Aboriginal archaeological evidence. The analysis and its recommendations fulfil the obligations of the proponent to identify responsible management strategies for archaeological evidence that may be associated with this development site.

[1] Rappoport Pty Ltd (2008): Heritage Impact Statement 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale
[2] CRM (2010); Archaeological Assessment European Archaeology 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale

2.2 THE DEVELOPMENT AREA

The study area is located approximately 3kms south of Sydney CBD, NSW. Geographically it is located near the coast between Port Jackson and Botany Bay. The proposed development site encompasses land bound by Cleveland Street to the north, Abercrombie Street to the west, Hudson Street to the south and Hart Street to the east. It has a street address of 157-163 Cleveland Street and 136-144 Abercrombie Street, Chippendale. The property has the cadastral identification of Lot 50 DP 826153 (western end), Lot 11 DP 531788 (middle section) and Lot 1 DP 449699 (eastern end).

The property is located within the Parish of Alexandria, and the local government area of the City of Sydney. It is within the Darlington Conservation Area.

A former factory and an apartment building currently occupy the development site. Both buildings are now used for the display and storage of sporting equipment and, as well, there are some residential apartments in the Abercrombie Street building.

The proposed development encompasses the full site envelope, an area of approximately 3348 m^2. . The Abercrombie Street building will be retained and adapted for the new development.

Location of the site: Department of Lands Six-Viewer Search

2.3 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Aboriginal heritage has protection under Commonwealth Legislation being the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act (*1984) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (*1999). In New South Wales Aboriginal heritage is protected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* (1974). As well, actions are required to manage Aboriginal heritage under the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* (1979). However, the proponents of the redevelopment of the Chippendale site have sought approval for the project as a Part 3A development under the latter Act. This supersedes these legislative requirements including the possible need to apply for s87 or s90 consents for works that may be required on site. The latter are required by the National Parks and Wildlife Act (1979) to address investigation of Aboriginal archaeological sites and their investigation and removal.

In Part 3A developments the strategies for managing both Aboriginal archaeology and European archaeology are evaluated by the Department of Planning. Comment may be sought from the DECC. In 2005 the DECC published guidelines, *Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants,* that are intended to provide guidelines for Aboriginal cultural impact assessments undertaken for Part 3A projects. The guidelines require a determination of whether the project will impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage, how the assessment was made and a demonstration of the involvement of the Aboriginal community in this evaluation. These guidelines have been adopted for the purpose of this assessment.

It should be noted that while the provisions of a Part 3A approval allow for work to be undertaken without application for s87 or s90 consents the provisions of the NPWS Act with respect to protection of Aboriginal relics still apply; it is an offence to disturb, destroy or deface Aboriginal objects.

Local planning instruments, in this case Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2005 and the City of Sydney Heritage Development Control Plan 2006, both containing requirements for evaluation of archaeological potential, are also superseded by the Part 3A development approval.

2.4 OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

The principal objectives of this report have been to:

- Identify the likelihood of the site containing and archaeological resource that would need to be addressed prior to and/or during the redevelopment of this site;
- Evaluate the significance of that resource;
- Determine protocols and strategies to be put into place as part of the development to ensure the most effective means of managing that resource commensurate with its significance.
- Prepare a report that describes the archaeological potential and significance of this site and the measures required to identify and manage that resource during the course of redevelopment.

To these end the following tasks have been undertaken:

- A search has been made of relevant databases, inventories and registers, including the Aboriginal Heritage Information System (AHIMS) in order to locate identified sites and heritage items of Aboriginal significance in and around the study area;
- Identification and review of previous archaeological investigations and assessments in the near environs;
- Evaluation of environmental and historical information;
- Identification of models for occupation based on the environmental context;
- A determination of the potential archaeological resource;
- Consultation has commenced with the Aboriginal community regarding the social (Aboriginal) value of the study area and any Aboriginal sites and heritage items that might occur within it in accordance with the *Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* prepared by the DECCW;
- An assessment of cultural significance;
- Evaluation of the impact of the proposed development on the potential evidence and significance of Aboriginal occupation.
- Identification of strategies to mitigate any identified impacts.

2.5 IDENTIFIED SITES AND STATUS

An AHIMS search has shown that there are no registered Aboriginal sites within the study area. However, Chippendale and more broadly the southern area of Sydney is known as a sensitive archaeological region. Within a 10 x 10km range a total of sixty-three sites have been identified. The potential has been recognised for buried sites of Aboriginal occupation

to be found within the development area. The development site is not subject to any native title claim.

2.6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Public consultation has commenced with the Aboriginal community regarding the archaeological potential of the site and its cultural value. The DECC *Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* (2005) has been used as the basis for this part of the programme.

The study area falls within the boundaries of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC). It has traditional associations with the Dharug people. A letter from the MLALC supporting the findings of this assessment is included as an appendix.

This process is ongoing and is following the protocols of the guidelines with respect to identifying stakeholders and incorporating the views and comments of the aboriginal community with respect to cultural significance and values and partnership in any future investigation with respect to Aboriginal cultural sites. This process is included in the statement of commitments for the site.

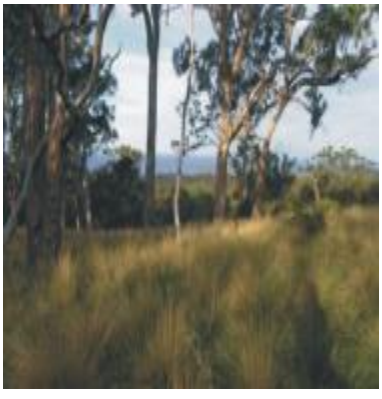
2.7 AUTHORSHIP AND CLIENT

This report has been written by Wendy Thorp (Cultural Resources Management). Angela So has provided research assistance. It has been commissioned by Hudson Square Pty Ltd the proponents of the development. Contemporary images of the site have been taken by Wendy Thorp. The copyright of this document remains with Cultural Resources Management.

The author would like to thank Ms Rebecca McHugh of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council for her assistance.

3.0

THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT



3.1 THE ABORIGINAL LANDSCAPE

Examination of the environmental context of a study area is essential in accurately assessing past Aboriginal land use practices. Aboriginal occupation and exploitation responded to environmental conditions; understanding those conditions allows us to determine what kind of archaeological evidence could be found within a particular area and where it is likely to be found. Understanding a past environment enables us to create models of cultural activity, site distribution patterns and the archaeological potential of any site.

Environment determined the distribution of resources and their availability. These were critical factors in the lives of Aboriginal people. The location of different types of Aboriginal sites such as rock-shelters, middens, open camp-sites, axe grinding grooves and art was strongly influenced by the nature of the landscape, soils, the composition of vegetation and the climate. Other characteristics specific to different land systems and bedrock geology are also influential. These factors affect the availability of fresh drinking water, plant and animal foods, raw materials for stone tools, as well as wood and vegetable fibres used for many items.

Assessment of the study area must also take into account the environmental context of the wider area in which a particular site is found in order to encompass a highly mobile Aboriginal pattern of life. Permanent water, extensive wetlands, moderate climate and the diverse vegetation of pre-European Chippendale would have supported animals that could be hunted for food as well as provided roots and tubers, fruits and seeds to gather. Flowers, scrub and low forest would have provided a feeding ground for a range of game animals and the waterways supplied fish, shellfish, crustaceans, marine mammals, marine turtles, tortoises and waterbirds. Wood and stone provided raw materials for tools and other implements.

Approximately 250 edible species have been identified in the Sydney region[3]. Observations made by early European settlers describe Aboriginal people roasting fern roots, eating small cherry like fruits and consuming the roots of several plant species. Birds, such as the mutton-bird and brush turkey were consumed and it has been recorded by contemporary observers that birds' eggs were a favourite food[4]. Fish and eels were eaten as well as shellfish, crustaceans, mammals and reptiles such as swamp wallabies and lizards[5]. Along the coast marine creatures such as sharks, turtles, dolphins and seals, all rich in proteins, would have been abundant.

There are several descriptions of the southern area of Sydney at the start of European settlement. One noted the relationship between the environment and the Aboriginal people.

"The extensive sheets of fresh water, the luxuriance of the vegetation in the bottoms, and along the edges of the lakes and creeks, and perhaps even the huge mounds of loose sand in which it was so easy to make a nest, and which was always dry and, is compared with clay lands, warm - all tended to attract not only birds and animals of all kinds, but even the black fellows, for whom this region was a sort of paradise"[6].

[3] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records: 40
[4] Ibid: 75-76
[5] Ibid: 40
[6] Sydney Echo June 1890

3.2 CLIMATE

Sydney experiences warm summers and cool winters. The warmest month is January, with an average air temperature on the coast of between 18-25C. The winter is mildly cool, with temperatures rarely dropping below 5C in coastal areas. Rainfall is fairly evenly divided between summer and winter, but is slightly higher during the first half of the year, when easterly winds dominate. It was and is a temperate climate conducive to occupation.

3.3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The study area is located on a relatively gentle slope running from a high point at the east. It reflects the older more irregular topography of the land that sloped down to Blackwattle Bay.

Within the soil landscape it is at the interface between the Tuggerah lakes landscape and the Blacktown landscape but more properly in the latter. This is a landscape described as one of gently undulating rises the slopes have usually a less than 5% incline. Here the soils, based on shale, are usually shallow to moderately deep. Red and brown podsolic soils are found on hill-crests and the upper slopes and in well-drained areas and deep yellow podsolic soils are found on the lower slopes and in poorly drained areas[7].

In the areas that drained watercourses such as the stream that ran through the study area Birrong landscape characteristics could be expected. Here the profile is dominated by silt and clay sized alluvial materials derived from the Wianamatta group. The latter is a sequence of grey shales and sandstones interleaved with each other. The dominant soil types are dark brown pedal silt clay loam, bleached hard-setting clay loam, orange mottled silty clay, brown mottled clay over light grey saline clay. The topsoil is noted to have moderate fertility[8].

The Cooks River catchment lies close to the transitional zone between two major geological groups: Hawkesbury Sandstone and Wianamatta Shale. The Hawkesbury Sandstone Group is composed of beds of quartz-rich sandstone. It reaches a maximum depth of 240 metres just north of Sydney. There is no evidence to suggest that sandstone outcropped within the study area.

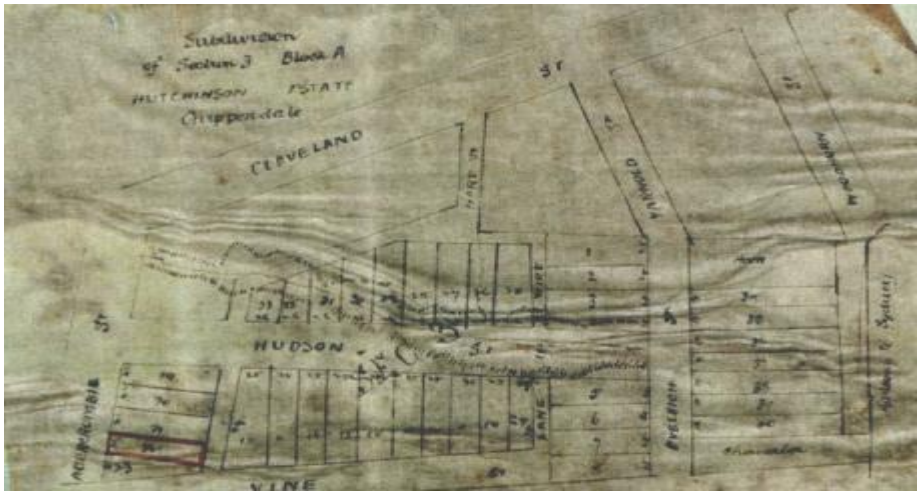
3.4 HYDROLOGY

The most influential factor in the area both for Aboriginal and European use was the presence of plentiful and reliable water. The area is in the catchment of Blackwattle Creek. The central tributary of this waterway originated south of Cleveland Street and joined the eastern arm close to present-day Buckland Street. This eastern waterway rose in Prince Alfred Park. The western arm originated at Sydney University. The flooded delta of this complex system now lies under Wentworth Park. There were numerous secondary streams as well as ponds and lagoons. Swamps were even found in association with some of the creeks. Several surveys

[7] Chapman and Murphy (1989); Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100,000 Sheet
[8] Ibid: 82-84

made during the first half of the nineteenth century record the presence of large swamps and smaller streams close to the study area.

A substantial creek flowed across the southern part of the study area. The majority of the site is on the side-slope of that creek, to the north. The early use of the site for European farming indicates the presence of fertile alluvial deposits.



A sketch plan attached to a subdivision document of 1888 shows the presence of the stream that flowed through the southern part of the study area: LPI, 402-800

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3.5 VEGETATION

All the ecosystems of the area have been significantly altered since European settlement. South Sydney is now a densely populated residential and industrial area; there is virtually no remaining natural vegetation. For this reason the identification of the original native plant communities in Redfern has been based on historical records, community remnants and soil landscape modelling.

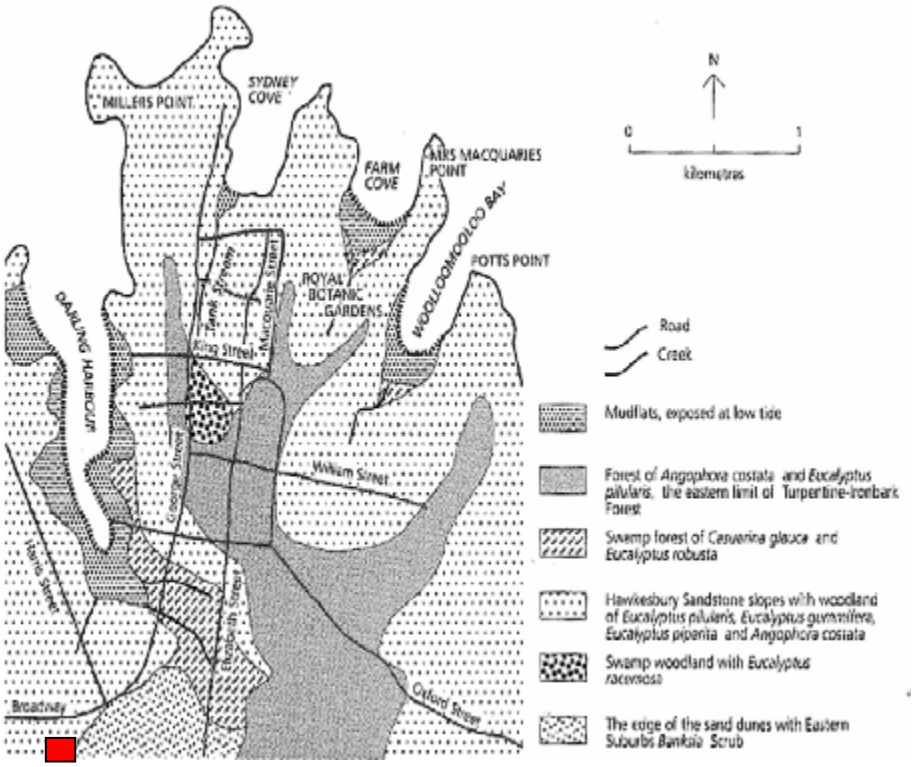
At the time of European settlement Chippendale would have been covered with open Turpentine Ironbark Forest. There would have been trees of between 20-30 metres in height forming an open forest structure. These trees would have included Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*), White Stringybark (*Eucalyptus globoidea*), Red Mahogany (*Eucalyptus resinifera*) and Grey Ironbark (*Eucalyptus paniculata*). Common under-storey shrubs would have included various types of Acacias and Pittosporums[9].

The wetlands would have had vegetation specific to them. At the shallow edges of the water reeds and rushes would have been found grew along with quick growing herbs. In the outer vegetation zones between the wetlands there were have been shrubs and small paperbark trees[10]. Several of these plants provided useful food resources or materials for creating tools.

The management practices of Aboriginal people over thousands of years had influenced the vegetation in the region. Palynological evidence

[9] Benson and Howell (1990); Taken for Granted: 17
[10] Ibid: 26

recovered from the Quadrant site at Broadway and from the Grace Brothers site in the same area revealed charcoal in sediment layers that must have been deposited as part of an extensive Aboriginal programme of "firestick farming".



The likely pattern of original vegetation in Sydney and the area to the south (study area indicated by red square: Benson & Howell 1990:42

The combined evidence suggests that the landscape familiar to Aboriginal people would have been one of a sloping site on the banks of a substantial and permanent stream. It is likely to have been covered in open stands of tall eucalyptus trees with a lower understorey. Reeds and other aquatic plants would have been found closer to the water. The soil, laid down by alluvial action as well as the shale soils produced from the parent rock, would have been at least 300mm deep and quite fertile. There is no evidence to suggest that there was out cropping rock on the site but there were good supplies of several types of stone useful for tool-making within the area. There was plentiful marine and terrestrial game. It was an ideal place for occupation.

4.0

THE CULTURAL CONTEXT

4.1 POPULATION AND LANGUAGE GROUPS

Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney Basin extends back well into the Pleistocene Era, at least 10,000 years BP. The majority of dated sites in Sydney are less than 5000 years BP. It is thought that the older sites here may have been lost when sea levels rose approximately 6000 years ago subsuming the coastal areas.

Aboriginal people had different affiliations based on culture, population and language. Several distinct Aboriginal groups occupied the Sydney region before the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788.

Aboriginal people, at the time of first contact, identified themselves as being either coastal or hinterland people[11]. Boundaries between these groups were very blurred and difficult for Europeans to understand and record. Body decorations, tool and weapon types as well as particular songs and dances sometimes distinguished groups. Geological or natural landscape features usually defined boundaries. Today, to understand the complex relationships between past Aboriginal groups language is used to define specific populations.

The study area occupies land that was associated with the major language group of the Darug[12]. Alternative spellings include Dharug, Dharuk and Dharook[13]. The Darug coastal dialect extended from the Sydney Peninsula, north of Botany Bay, south of Port Jackson and west to Parramatta. The study area is within the Darug coastal area.

Language groups can further be subdivided into smaller population groups or clans that were associated with smaller areas. The Gadigal (or Cadigal, Kadigal) clan is described as being the traditional clan of the Sydney region including Chippendale although there is some confusion; the Wangal clan might also have been associated with the district[14]. Contemporary observations made by Europeans provide evidence that the Gadigal territory extended from the entrance to the Harbour on the southern side of Port Jackson to Darling Harbour[15].

The Gadigal name could have been derived from a distinct band of people; alternatively it could have been the name of an individual or a chief.

[11] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records: 28-29
[12] Ibid
[13] Murray and White (1988); Dharug and Dungaree
[14] Val Attenbrow (2002); Op Cit: 25
[15] Ibid: 24-25

4.2 POPULATION ESTIMATES

Understanding how many Aboriginal people lived in the Sydney region before Europeans arrived is difficult to estimate. Population estimates are based on observations made by Europeans; Aboriginal groups were highly mobile and avoided the new settlers. Those observations probably represent only a percentage of the actual population.

It has been estimated that at the time of first contact in 1788 there were between 5,000 and 8,000 people around Sydney. Of these about 2,000 belonged to the Darug people, 1,000 people were living between Parramatta and the Blue Mountains and 1,000 more between what is now Liverpool and Campbelltown[16]. Governor Phillip estimated that there were approximately 1,500 Aboriginal people living in the Sydney region.

European settlers brought diseases for which the Aboriginal populations had no immunity particularly influenza and small pox. Epidemics of these diseases are thought to have caused the deaths of well over half of the Aboriginal population of the Sydney district[17]. In this area it has been suggested that the Cadigal/Wangal people were reduced in number from about fifty people in 1788 to three by 1790[18]. Apart from disease the process of colonisation saw Aboriginal people dispossessed of their lands, their food and resources causing starvation and the breakdown of traditional practices.

Those who survived the epidemics were disassociated from their traditional lands and resources. They went on to live a semi-traditional life, often on the boundaries of European settlement. Historical evidence suggests that Chippendale may have been one of those fringe areas (*refer Section 4.6*).

4.3 SOCIAL STRUCTURE and RELIGION

Language groups are thought to have lived in bands or communities of around fifty members. They were highly mobile. Each band retained its own hunting district, and each lived a semi-nomadic lifestyle, regularly changing location within this district. Bands or communities were stratified with elders in the groups having the most influence and authority for decisions[19].

Religion and culture were based on a strong spiritual association with the land and the natural environment. Songs, dances and stories described the formation of the landscape. Art was also used to describe these traditions. This spirituality and relationship with nature is known as *Dreamtime*.

Burial practices are associated with specific landscape settings. Traditional burial practices continued until the 1820's in Sydney[20]. Within this region most Aboriginal skeletal remains have been found around the estuaries (Port Jackson, Botany Bay and Broken Bay) and along the ocean coastline. Of the recorded burials within the Sydney region, 28% were

[16] Murray and White (1988); Dharug and Dungaree
[17] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records: 21
[18] JMCHM (2006); Archaeological Test Excavations at Sydney University Central Site: 09
[19] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records : 61
[20] Ibid; 140

found in rock shelters, 26% in beach and sand dunes and 15% in areas besides bays, lakes, swamps, estuaries and riverbanks[21].

4.4 FOOD AND FIRE

Food was gathered from the land and the rivers and the local environment of Chippendale provided a rich variety of resources for the local community. Subsistence activities were organised according to gender. The men were responsible for hunting possums, fish, birds and kangaroo, often collaborating with other bands to hunt the larger animals. Aboriginal people used many plants including species with edible bulbs or tubers, collectively called yams. Women harvested yams with digging sticks. Food was cooked lightly on open fires or in ovens beneath the ground.

An important feature of Aboriginal economy was the practice of burning the underbrush. It has been argued that this regular burning may have maintained an environment particularly suitable for tuber-producing species[22]. Fire promoted the growth and flowering of tuberous plants such as orchids and lilies.

Fire was also used as an aid to hunting. Europeans reported that fire was used to smoke out game from tree-cover. Even in open paddocks, to the west of Sydney, up to sixty men would form a large circle, set fire to the grass, and spear animals as they tried to escape[23]. Archaeological evidence supports the use of fire in this area as a means of managing the environment.

4.5 MATERIAL CULTURE

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The material culture of the Aboriginal people of the Sydney area was diverse using materials derived from plants and animals, marine resources and stone. Raw materials were used in combination; for example, a spear shaft made from a grasstree spike could be tipped with a hardwood point or a stone, bone, shell or hardwood barb.

Stone, and shell artefacts are often the only physical items to remain in the archaeological record and the only tangible indication of the material culture of Aboriginal Australia. Stone was commonly used for tools and is the material most often found on archaeological sites in the Sydney region. It was used for axe heads, spear barbs and for woodworking tools, amongst other things. Archaeological investigation has resulted in the recognition of changes in the types of stone tools used by Aboriginal people in NSW through time spanning a period of 15,000 years. For this reason stone tools are one of the most valuable means of dating archaeological sites and, therefore, how long ago Aboriginal people were using a particular place.

[21] Ibid; 141
[22] Kohen and Downing (1992); *Aboriginal Use of Plants on the Western Cumberland Plain Sydney Basin*. Naturalist No. 1: 4
[23] Benson and Howell (1990); Taken for Granted the Bushland of Sydney and Its Suburbs.

Apart from the tools themselves, a common feature of the Aboriginal archaeological landscape is evidence of tool production. These are known as knapping sites. “Knapping” is the term given to the work in making a tool by striking smaller blades from a large stone core. Knapping creates a large amount of debris, both discarded cores and the stone flakes that fall from either the core or as a smaller tool is shaped. Both large and small scatters are known, representing different scales of activities.

4.6 HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

The newly arrived Europeans made many observations of Aboriginal people and many images of their lives were recorded; these provide an invaluable resource for understanding Aboriginal culture particularly in association with archaeological evidence.

Most of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century European observations of Aboriginal life in Sydney concern the immediate town settlement around Sydney Cove. It is rare to get detailed descriptions of activities and lives on the fringe of town.

With respect to southern Sydney one later nineteenth century record was made of Aboriginal life as it was in the early years of the nineteenth century. It centred on what is now Redfern Park and environs, just to the south-east of the study area. This place was said to be a great meeting place for Aboriginal people and,

“*was one of their great feasting grounds as well as the scene of many a hard-fought battle. Owing to the disturbances which were constantly taking place in the town… the Governor gave instructions that no waddies or spears were to be brought within a mile of the boundaries of the town. The clearing at Redfern, being nicely adjacent, was chosen by the natives as the place of meeting for the settlement of disputes…This was also the spot where the blacks were punished by their comrades for breaches of tribal laws….Round the edges of the clear were the camping grounds of the blacks and little do people known who live in comfortable houses with steam trams running past their doors realize that they are sleeping on the houses and graves of the aborigines*” [24].

The observation confirms that dispossession of traditional lands and the impact of disease caused Aboriginal people to form new groups and new patterns of occupation. It is also clear that Aboriginal people were an important presence in this area in the post-Contact period particularly as Chippendale remained largely undeveloped and sparsely occupied for many years.

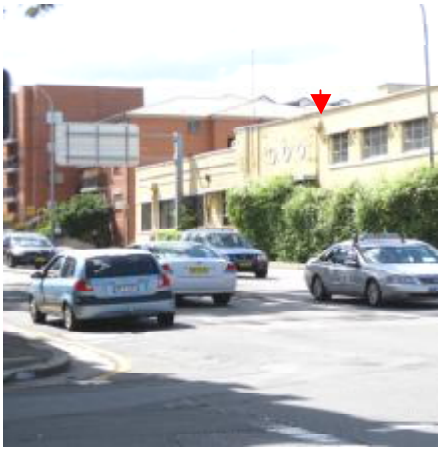
[24] The Memoirs of Obed West; 46

5.0

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

5.1 THE SITE

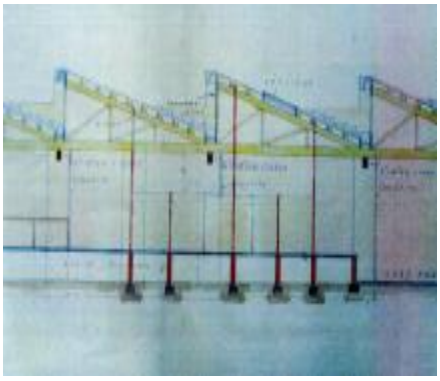
5.1.1 THE COO-EE CLOTHING FACTORY



The study area is approximately 3348m^2 in size. There are three distinct built components to the site.

The eastern third of the site, with frontages to Cleveland Street, Hudson Street and Hart Street, is the site of the factory constructed in 1938 for the Coo-ee Clothing Company. The image to the left shows the original factory and its junction with the slightly later factory building (red arrow).

The building has been described as a "moderate example of Inter-War Functionalist style of architecture" with several distinctive features of the type[25]. It was noted to have had several interior modifications to accommodate later uses.



This building is show on the original design drawing to be largely constructed on a flattened platform of introduced fill (shown from the original plan drawings to the left, middle).

The interior of the building has been fitted for its current purpose but it still retains the same floor, above the street level, as planned; there are no basements or sub-floor levels in the building (*see bottom view*) but there is a cart dock in the south-eastern corner opening to Hudson Street.

The factory is by occupied Bursill Sportsgear.

[25] Rappaport Pty Ltd (2008); Statement of Heritage Impact Proposed Development at 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale.: 06

5.1.2 THE SECOND FACTORY

The centre of the block is occupied by a second factory built a very short time after the Coo-ee Clothing Company building; possibly it was even built for it although there are references to Kraft occupying the building from quite early. The new building, which abuts the eastern wall of the first factory, was obviously designed to be sympathetic to the existing factory; it takes its style and even decorative elements from the other building. However, when first built it was quite distinct from the clothing factory; it had a face brick façade while the first factory was rendered and painted, differences obvious from the view of the two buildings in 1945 (*middle view*).

There are no original plans found for this structure but it appears that, like the first factory, it was built on fill above the older ground surface. The floor level of the building is over a metre above the external footpath.

The building has an entrance from Cleveland Street (visible in the top view) and it has a cart – dock on Hudson Street (*bottom view*). It is presumed that this dock was also built on the original ground level.

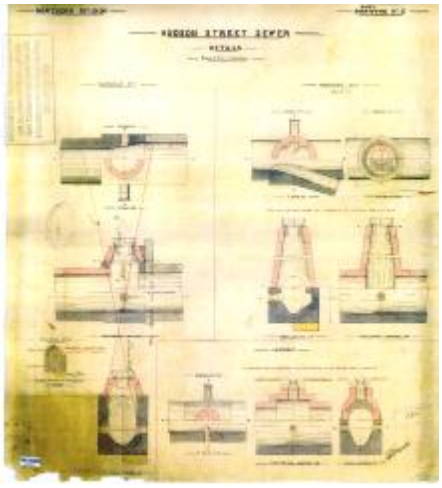
5.1.3 ABERCROMBIE STREET APARTMENT BUILDING

The Abercrombie Street frontage is completely encompassed by an apartment building constructed there in 1996. This building is constructed over the sites of the hotel and three cottages constructed here in 1903 and 1881.

The building has a rounded corner at the Abercrombie and Cleveland Street intersection (*top view*). It is built hard against the western wall of the second factory; the south-western corner of the building at the Hudson Street intersection is shown in the middle view.

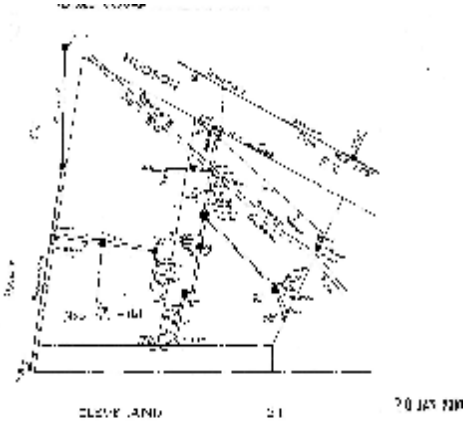
There are no basements levels in the building.

5.1.4 SERVICES



The earliest identified service within the site is the oviform sewer constructed over the alignment of the former stream in 1888. Plans indicate that there is a lamp-hole and manhole within the boundaries of the site that give access to this sewer. These entry points are under the buildings. The design drawings for this sewer are show to the left. The drain is still in use.

There is no evidence to show what, if any services were placed in the site to service the several businesses and houses that occupied the site during the later part of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth century. It could be anticipated that drains and pipes were part of each property or at least some of those properties but there is no information to identify specific types or locations. Similalry, there is no evidence to determine how water was supplied to the site; piped, tanks or wells.



The present factories have a number of drains running under them, which can be seen in the diagram to the left. These services certainly have been cut into the introduced fill lying under the buildings but it is impossible to assess their impact on any intact archaeological profile beneath this deposit.

5.2 NINETEETH CENTURY EUROPEAN HISTORY

The buildings that now occupy the site represent only approximately the last seventy years of development. Before their construction the site was subject to constant European use from at least the 1830s and possibly before. There is some possibility that the land may have first been alienated for European purposes in 1799-1800 as part of a grant made to John Boxley. The evidence for this association is anecdotal but factual references do support the claim. Boxley established a farm on his land but the details of its improvements are unknown. The first formal title was made in 1819. This was for a grant of 95 acres probably acquired in 1815 by William Chippendale. Chippendale improved his land with buildings and crops but there is no evidence to indicate whether these works encompassed the study area although it is more than likely that some form of agriculture was established on or close to the study area. He sold the property in 1821. The new owner, Solomon Levey, appears to have done little or nothing with this part of the property. It began to be subdivided in the 1820s.

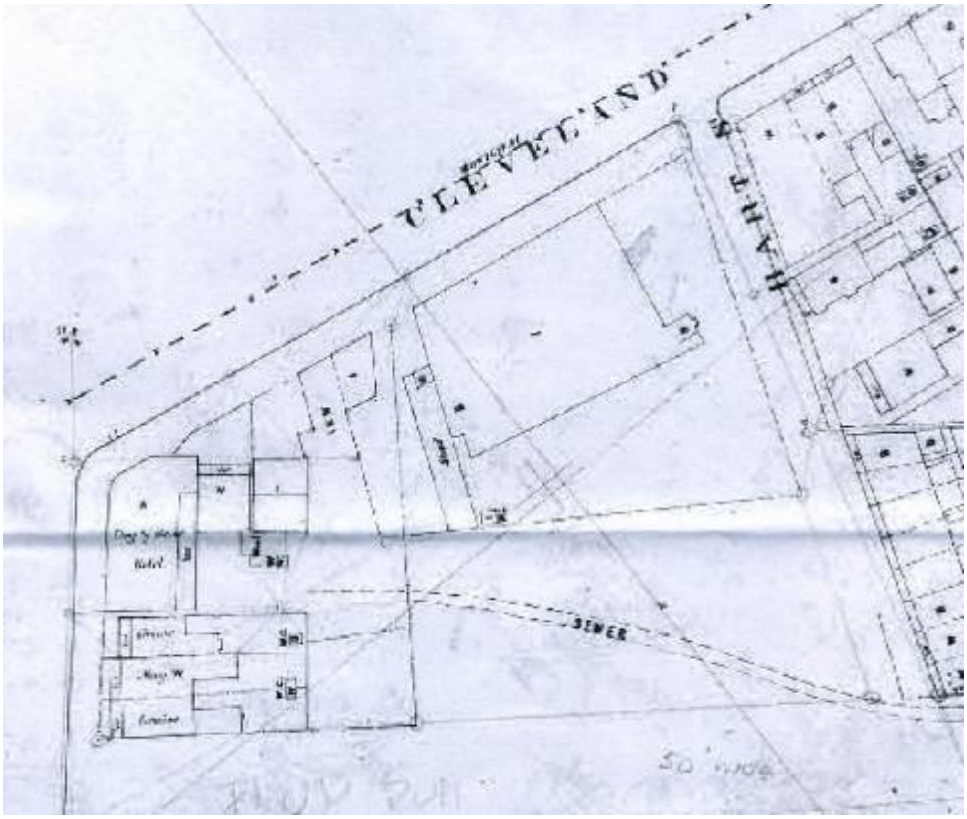
The new owner of the land that encompasses the study area was William Hutchinson who purchased the majority of this block in 1834 and the Cleveland Street frontage in 1838. Hutchinson leased most of his new purchase to small farmers and gardeners. The study area was largely used by W. William as a market garden. It was fenced and divided into paddocks. The triangular street frontage was also fenced into allotments and a large building was constructed at what is now the present-day intersection of Cleveland and Hart Streets. Its purpose, form and appearance are unknown. These improvements were developed between 1838 and c. 1840. The building was still present in 1844.

Hutchinson made a will in 1844 dividing his land into six blocks, each to be inherited by one of his children. The study area falls within Block A of this subdivision and was inherited by a daughter, Elizabeth Bowman in 1846. By the mid-nineteenth century there appears to have been little change to the use of the study area. The same building (or perhaps a replacement for it) occupied the Cleveland Street frontage and the majority of the block was leased, by this date, to Thomas Hart. A small lane had been made from Cleveland Street to Hart's land; this was the beginning of Hart Street. There is no evidence to show how or for what purpose Hart was using his land.

From the 1850s through to the 1870s Sydney's economy massively expanded through the discovery of gold that, in turn, created a huge increase in the population. Previously undeveloped and sparsely developed land was now sought for development. Places such as Chippendale met these demands. Archival evidence suggests that the development of the block for residential and commercial purposes happened quickly, possibly within two years c. 1880-1882. There is a possibility that some of the land was used for storage but essentially the history of use of the site in the 1870s is unknown. By 1882 most of the building stock that would occupy the site throughout the last quarter of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century had been constructed there.

By this time Chippendale was largely a semi-industrial place with housing for the workforce interspersed between the factories and yards. Small businesses were established to support this population. The development of the study area is a perfect example of this demographic. By 1882 it encompassed a small number of cottages, a large hotel and industrial buildings. It was unusual in that a portion of it was not developed due to the presence of the stream that still ran through the southern part of the

allotment. In 1888 this stream was diverted into a brick oviform sewer that still exists within the site. In the early years of the twentieth century the Hudson Street frontage, lying over the sewer, was developed for use by an asphalting company and other small businesses.



Survey of the site prepared in 1882 and revised up to 1888 showing cottages and a hotel on Abercrombie Street, industrial buildings on Cleveland and the open land to the south; the sewer took the place of the stream. Hudson Street still did not exist in 1882:Sydney Water, PWD 87-1544.

By the early decades of the twentieth century Chippendale was largely home to small manufacturing businesses. In 1938 a small factory was built at the corner of Hart and Cleveland Streets for the Coo-ee Clothing Company, a business entirely in keeping with the local demographic. This was the beginning the twentieth century profile described earlier in this section.

5.3 SURFACE EVIDENCE

There is no visible surface evidence of any underlying archaeological resource. The site slopes down to the west, which is visible on Cleveland Street. The buildings follow this topography but within the envelope of each an artificial level has been created by the introduction of fill on which the majority of the factory has been built.

View east showing the sloping ground at Cleveland Street.

5.4 GEO-PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

There have been no geo-technical tests made of the site therefore there is no specific physical evidence to describe the profile. Assessments of the site using evidence from investigations close to the development area suggest that a typical profile is likely to encompass and sand and fill to depths of up to three metres. Below these deposits will be alluvial clay and sandstone bedrock[26].

The potential for deep deposits of alluvial soil indicate that caution should be exercised on the site. Excavations at places such as the Quadrant with a similar geological profile to that of the development site have shown that the deeper alluvial deposits might have survived to a higher degree than is usually the case on sites of extensive European occupation and that these deeper deposits have the potential to contain ancient soil profiles with associated Aboriginal sites of considerable antiquity.

[26] Jeffery and Katauskas Pty Ltd (2008); Geotechnical Assessment for Proposed Mixed Development at Corner Cleveland and Abercrombie Streets; 04

5.5 PREDICTIVE MODELS

Aboriginal lives in the past were mobile and responded to their environments. Understanding how specific activities were related to different environments is the basis for determining what sort of archaeological evidence could be found in any particular place. This is particularly true in urban environments where there is no surface indication of those past lives and the environment has been greatly altered to that which Aboriginal people would have experienced in the past.

For these reasons predictive models have been developed that provide the links between particular environments, the activities that Aboriginal people undertook in response to those environments and, the type of archaeological evidence that could be expected to survive from those activities. The most important of those in relation to Chippendale are outlined in the following sections.

5.5.1 MCDONALD'S STREAM ORDERING MODEL: THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER

The importance of permanent, reliable, clean water cannot be over-estimated in explaining movements and activities of past Aboriginal populations. This model explains that not only is the presence of water important but the type of the water source is also an important consideration for specific activities. The model states that the larger and more permanent the water source the larger and more complex the archaeological evidence around it will be; this is related to long term occupation due to the security of permanent water and the more abundant food and raw materials likely to be found close by. Temporary or casual occupations of a site are more likely to occur on smaller and less permanent water sources. "Stream order" refers to the permanence of the water supply; a high order stream is a permanent resource and a low order stream or water supply more ephemeral.

Stream order modelling can be used as a predictive tool to anticipate the potential for Aboriginal camp locations in the landscape. It can also be used to forecast the potential nature and complexity of sites, distribution, the range of activities carried out in particular areas, frequency and, or duration of occupation at any given site. The models have been tested by excavation of several sites[27]. Excavation also demonstrated that surface indications were no guarantee of what could be found within the ground; test excavation is an important part of evaluation.

Generally, artefacts in the area of a higher order stream reflect a greater range of activities including tool use, manufacture, maintenance, food processing and quarrying. These sites tend to be more complex because they were the focus for large groups over a long period of time. Smaller groups could also use them repeatedly over a long period. Artefacts associated with lower order streams represent a lesser range of activities such as isolated tool knapping or tool discards. Sites on ephemeral or temporary water lines are likely to be used casually or for short periods of time by smaller groups or individuals[28].

[27] J.McDondald (1997): Interim Heritage Management Report ADI Site St Marys; 133
[28] J.McDondald (1997): Interim Heritage Management Report ADI Site St Marys; 115, 134-135

5.5.2 FORAGER SETTLEMENT PATTERN: DISTRIBUTION BASED ON ACTIVITY

A general site distribution model has been developed for Aboriginal populations of the Cumberland Plain. The model is based on activities and divides sites into two categories; 'main camps' and 'activity areas'.

Main camps represent a resident population probably in close proximity to a good permanent source of water with shelter. The majority of artefacts are deposited close to the camp. There is movement through the landscape to gather resources at known locations. These sites will have a smaller amount of artefacts because of the more smaller amount of time associated with the occupation. Finally there will be a much smaller scatter of artefacts throughout the rest of the landscape. In short, the closer a site is to permanent fresh water the greater the likelihood of finding complex archaeological sites. Identifying the type of activity can be based on artefact counts and distribution[29].

5.5.3 ATTENBROW'S SYDNEY HABITAT

This model defines Sydney in terms of two broad environments; coast and coastal hinterland. The coastal zone is the ocean shoreline, Port Jackson, Broken Bay, Port Hacking and Botany Bay. The coastal hinterland is everything else from 30km inland to the foot of the Blue Mountains, Parramatta and Georges River[30]. The study area lies within an estuarine area in the coastal zone.

The model is based on the assumption that there was a focus of activities along waterways. These waterways include the ocean and estuarine shoreline of the coast and the riverbanks and creek lines of the coastal hinterland. The premise is supported by contemporary observations and archaeological evidence[31].

Raw materials for the manufacture of stone tools were also important in determining population movements. It has been noted on several sites within Sydney that stone used for tools must have bee traded from more distant places.

[29] R. Foley (1981); *A Model of Regional Archaeological Structure*. Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 47: 1-17
[30] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records: 26
[31] Ibid: 56

5.6 REGIONAL CONTEXT

5.6.1 THE SYDNEY BASIN

To assist in understanding how Aboriginal people used specific places evidence from regional and local sites is evaluated to provide evidence of those specific economic and social patterns. It helps to provide more specific evaluations for sites.

In a regional context the study area falls within the Sydney basin. Aboriginal occupation here dates at least to the Pleistocene period. The oldest undisputed site at Shaw's Creek near Penrith has been dated to 14700 years BP. The oldest coastal site to date has been found at the Prince of Wales Hospital (8400 years BP). The vast majority of dated sites in the Sydney region are less than 5000 years old. It has been argued that this cluster could represent intensification in occupation and increase in population. As well, changes in the sea-level led to much of the old coast line being inundated; many older sites might have been lost by the change in water level.

Over 4000 sites have been registered with the DECCW for the Sydney Basin. This assemblage demonstrates that the distribution, density and size of sites is largely dependent on the environmental context. The predictive models described in Section 5.5 refer to this association between environment and activity and, thus, archaeological site. It is acknowledged though that the impact of European settlement has acted to remove much of the evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the same area.

Within the Sydney CBD the types of sites recorded included a rock engraving at Dawes Point, open camp-sites at Angel Place, William Street and the Westpac site in Kent Street, middens at the Liylvale Hotel in Cumberland Street and at Bennelong Point. The majority of these sites have been identified during excavation of European profiles. The Aboriginal archaeology has survived in remnant pockets of top-soil under or between historic deposits of occupation. It is a pattern that does demonstrate the potential for Aboriginal archaeology to survive even substantial periods of development over a long period.

Probably the most relevant example to the present study area was the excavation of historic deposits at Angel Place in the CBD. This site was located on land that had been adjacent to the Tank Stream. Excavation revealed a total of 54 Aboriginal objects that survived within the topsoil. The artefacts encompassed several artefact types (core reduction, small flakes and heat effected debitage), raw materials (silcrete, indurated mudstone and chert) it suggests that the land next to the stream was a continuous complex occupation site.

5.6.2 SOUTH SYDNEY

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal activity was unearthed in southern Sydney as early as the 1880s. Just to the south at Sheas Creek dugong bones with possible butchery marks were found as well as ground-edge hatchet heads[32]. Like Chippendale, this was a site of permanent water and

[32] Val Attenbrow (2002); Sydney's Aboriginal Past Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records: 66

wetlands and the evidence found there infers that this environment was used not only for hunting but butchery and food processing as well. A source of silcrete, a stone commonly used by Aboriginal people to manufacture stone implements is known to have occurred in Newtown and been traced within the Sydney region. This resource would have been easily available to Aboriginal people in Chippendale.

Apart from this early find there have been no specific archaeological investigations undertaken in Chippendale and very few in the areas around it. The most important of these are discussed in the following sections.

REDFERN RSL (2009)

An assessment of the potential of this site for Aboriginal archaeology was made in 2009[33]. It was considered that the environment was conducive to Aboriginal occupation but the impact of European occupation on potential evidence required investigation. Subsequently excavation of part of the site for the European profile revealed that as part of the first period of urban development the top-soil of the site was comprehensively removed to expose the clay which was then used as a base for hard surfaces. There was no potential left for any evidence of Aboriginal occupation to remain within the site.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (2007)

An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed National Indigenous Development Centre was undertaken in March 2007. This site is located on land bounded by Phillip, George and Cope Streets in Redfern. The study, which was based on geo-technical testing, identified a layer of fill that was deposited over ancient Aeolian sands. It was concluded that due to the Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity of the Redfern locality there were potential subsurface archaeological deposits still present below the fill[34]. These have not been tested.

REDFERN COURTHOUSE AND POLICE STATION (2007)

An Aboriginal heritage impact statement for the site of the Redfern court-house and police station was carried out in August 2007. Its purpose was to determine the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the site. Also based on geo-technical testing, the assessment identified a layer of fill covering the site. It was concluded that the existence of any extant subsurface archaeological deposits still present below this fill could not be absolutely determined on the basis of the available evidence but was unlikely to be found there [35].

EXCAVATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY (2006)

A series of test pits in the central part of the site found that European development had effectively stripped the site of top-soil to some depth. Only one flaked silicified tuff artefact was found in eleven pits. The site was

[33] CRM (2008); Archaeological Assessment Aboriginal Archaeology 157-159 Redfern Street Redfern
[34] AHMS (2007); Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment of the National Indigenous Development Centre, Redfern.
[35] Austral Archaeology (2007); Desktop survey for Redfern Community Health Centre Enviornmental Assessment for Project Appalication

considered to have no or absolutely minimal potential for locating intact Aboriginal archaeology.

QUADRANT SITE (2001-2002)

Excavation revealed a 15 x 10m area of remnant topsoil beneath introduced fill which included a truncated topsoil 100-300mm thick. The excavation revealed seven worked quartz pieces and six, flaked silcrete pieces. It was concluded that most of the artefacts were likely to have been deposited here due to post-contact processes including soil erosion and European site formation.

BROADWAY AND MOUNTAIN STREET ULTIMO (2001)

An Aboriginal Archaeological assessment was made of a development site on Broadway and Mountain Street, Ultimo. The study was intended to assess the potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological material at this site. It concluded that due to the archaeological sensitivity of the area, in particular due to its proximity to Blackwattle Creek there was the potential for extant evidence of Aboriginal occupation. Subsequent archaeological excavation found a landscape disturbed by European works but still containing evidence of Aboriginal occupation in the form of flaked stone artefacts.

GRACE BROTHERS BROADWAY (1997)

An archaeological investigation of Aboriginal occupation was undertaken at the Grace Brothers store on Broadway. The assessment determined that European development had likely destroyed part of the Aboriginal archaeological record. However, excavation at this site later revealed some intact deposits of Aboriginal archaeological material.

To date archaeological evidence recovered from sites in the southern part of Sydney has been extremely limited largely due to the impacts, both direct and environmental, of European occupation. Intact evidence of Aboriginal occupation is very rare and only survives in intact soil profiles that survive between or below European deposits.

5.7 AHIMS SEARCH RESULTS

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) managed by the DECC has no Aboriginal sites listed for the study area or its immediate environs. There are a total of sixty-three sites listed in a 10 x 10km radius of the site. Eight different site types were recorded in these places being: stone artefacts, shell middens, earth mounds, art, archaeological deposits, burials, ceremonial sites and resource sites.

The lack of identified sites does not indicate that the study area is sterile of archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation. It indicates that the site has not been subject to earlier investigation or assessment. It also indicates the limited amount of archaeological activity within Chippendale and the impact of past development on sites that may have once contained evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

5.8 INTEGRITY OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE

The integrity of the Aboriginal archaeological resource within the site depends on the impact of European developments on the natural soil profile. The latter is where archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation will be preserved. The disturbance caused by European works must take into account both the amount of land disturbed and the depth of the disturbance into the soil profile.

A separate assessment of the European archaeological potential has been made of the study area[36]. This evaluation concluded that it was likely that the original ground surface survived over much of the site. However, there has been a very long history of European occupation of various types. The impact of these works cannot be gauged on the available evidence. In recent excavations in Redfern[37] it was found that the beginnings of urban development were accompanied by wholesale removal of intact top-soil to expose clay as yard surfaces. In doing so any potential for recovering evidence of Aboriginal occupation was lost. The potential of the site to address the potential for Aboriginal objects will only be made clear by physical investigation within the site.

The fact that land surrounding the stream on the southern part of the site remained undeveloped until the last quarter of the nineteenth century might indicate an area of considerable sensitivity for objects of Aboriginal occupation. However, excavations at places such as the Quadrant site demonstrated the degree of environmental degradation that accompanied urban development around old watercourses a factor that certainly impacted on the survival of Aboriginal archaeological evidence. Further, the construction of a large brick sewer in 1888 is likely to have had a considerable impact on the surrounding ground.

For these reasons it is not possible to make a clear assessment of the likely integrity of the Aboriginal archaeological profile. The archaeological models suggest that this would have been a site of high potential for archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation. Aboriginal people would have been very attracted to the permanent water and large variety of resources in and around Chippendale. There were streams and wetlands, and numerous resources for food and making tools and other implements. Stone could be traded from the area of Newtown (evidenced by artefacts from several archaeological sites). The models suggest that the conditions within the study area would have encouraged long-term or permanent camp-sites.

This type of occupation would produce a substantial and complex artefact assemblage. Hunting, gathering, cooking, ceremonial sites and those of other cultural activities have been noted in the archaeological record in association with similar habitats around Sydney. On this basis, apart from camp-sites, the study area has the potential to contain middens, artefact scatters, isolated objects and deposits. If present it is probable that these objects will have been disturbed by the impact of European development and may even be out of context. However, until the extent of the disturbance caused by European works has been made clear no more precise evaluation can be made of the integrity of any Aboriginal archaeological resource.

[36] CRM (2010); Archaeological Assessment 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale.
[37] At the site of the Redfern RSL, work carried out by CRM 2009

5.9 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

A statement of significance for the site and its European archaeological resource was prepared as part of the European archaeological assessment[38]. This was prepared using the standard inclusion/exclusion criteria. It was noted in that assessment that any statements with respect to archaeology are dependent on the integrity of the resource, which, at this time is untested. This is also true of any potential Aboriginal archaeological resource.

Aboriginal archaeology has importance for its values as a tool for research and, additionally, it has value to the present Aboriginal community.

Aboriginal sites are assessed in terms of three significance criteria:

- Cultural: being the importance to the Aboriginal community as an aspect of their culture and continuing traditions.
- Scientific: values based on the possible research potential.
- Public: value to the broader community for educational, historical and cultural enrichment.

5.9.1 SCIENTIFIC/RESEARCH VALUES

Chippendale was almost certainly important for Aboriginal people, providing them with reliable fresh drinking water, food and resources. Based on predictive models it could be anticipated that the study area would have existed in a landscape that featured open camp sites, middens, artefact scatters and isolated objects and deposits. If the original ground surface has been relatively undisturbed the potential for intact sites of this type is moderate to high.

It is almost inevitable that European land use has removed or disturbed evidence of Aboriginal occupation. The extent of development in Chippendale appears, on the basis of evidence recovered from sites in the area, to have substantially removed evidence of past Aboriginal occupation from the landscape. On that basis the likelihood of an intact archaeological profile is reduced to a low to moderate probability. Because of the extent of disturbance in the area any site that presents the potential for the survival of any remnant evidence area must be considered to be rare and, therefore, of high significance.

Apart from rarity integrity of the resource is an important consideration. It is impossible to determine on the basis of the evidence now available if the site preserves intact archaeological profiles. The evaluation should be reassessed when evidence is provided by test excavation.

[38] CRM (2010); Archaeological Assessment European Archaeology 157-165 Cleveland street Chippendale

5.9.2 CULTURAL VALUE

The assessment of cultural significance is the prerogative of the Aboriginal community and typically involves the consideration of a site or sites in conjunction with the archaeological, cultural and natural aspects of the surrounding landscape. Aboriginal heritage sites are of value to the Aboriginal community through the tangible connection they provide with the pre-European landscape. Archaeological evidence would provide a strong link between past and present communities. As well, sites can have sacred or spiritual significance.

Research and consultation with the Aboriginal community has been initiated to determine whether any heritage value relates specifically to the study area regardless of the archaeological evidence. This discussion will seek to identify whether the study area itself held specific values either in itself, or as part of a specific local area of particular significance. For the purposes of this assessment we have been requested to begin the consultation process with the Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) with advertising and further consultation with stakeholders to be carried out during the evaluation period of the project.

To that end this assessment has been reviewed by the (MLALC). Their response supporting the conclusions of this report is included as an Appendix.

This evaluation will be revised at the conclusion of the consultation process. The assessment is also likely to change if work on site reveals archaeological evidence of past Aboriginal occupation.

5.9.3 PUBLIC VALUE

This aspect concerns to the ability of a site to educate people about the past; its nature, its importance and why this evidence and information should be preserved. Generally there are no identified Aboriginal sites within the area. If intact archaeological evidence were found within the study area it would be a rare opportunity to describe and interpret past Aboriginal life here.

5.9.4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Chippendale was almost certainly important for Aboriginal people, providing them with reliable fresh drinking water, food and resources. The study area is likely to have existed in a landscape that featured open camp-sites, middens, artefact scatters and isolated objects and deposits.

The extent of development in Chippendale appears, on the basis of evidence recovered from sites in the area, to have substantially removed traces of past Aboriginal occupation from the landscape. Because of the extent of this disturbance any site that presents the potential for the survival of any remnant evidence in the area must be considered to be rare and, therefore, of high significance. This is also true of its value as a contemporary interpretive resource. It is impossible to determine on the basis of the evidence now available if the study area preserves intact archaeological profiles. The evaluation should be reassessed when evidence is provided by test excavation.

Aboriginal archaeological sites are of value to the Aboriginal community through the tangible connection they provide with the pre-European landscape and the links between past and present communities. Consultation is on-going to determine whether the proposed development area contains any areas or sites of particular cultural value. The evaluation of significance is also likely to be amended if work on site reveals archaeological evidence of past Aboriginal occupation.

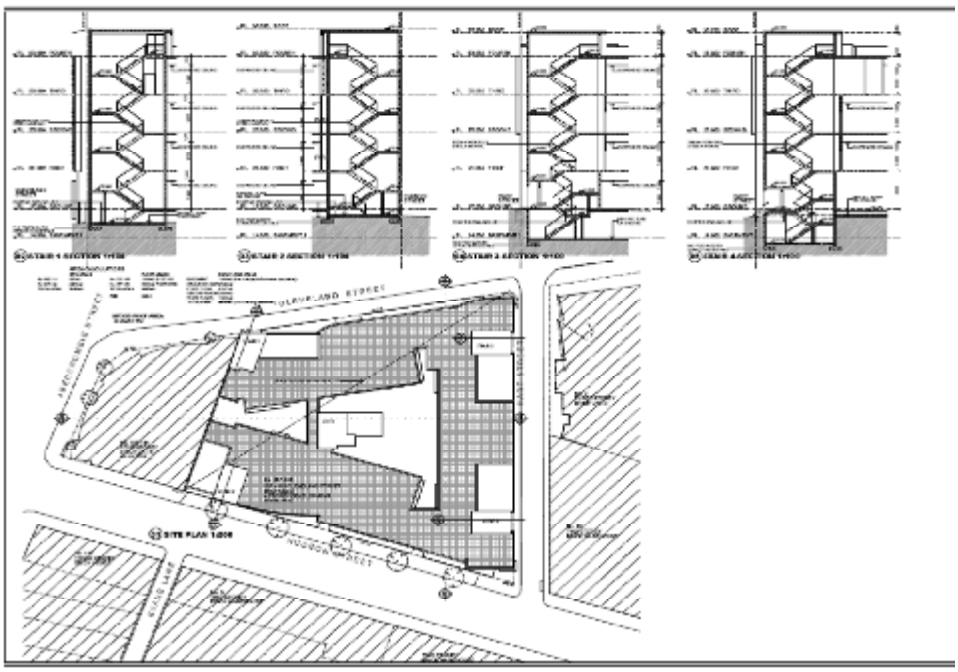
6.0

IMPACTS AND STRATEGIES

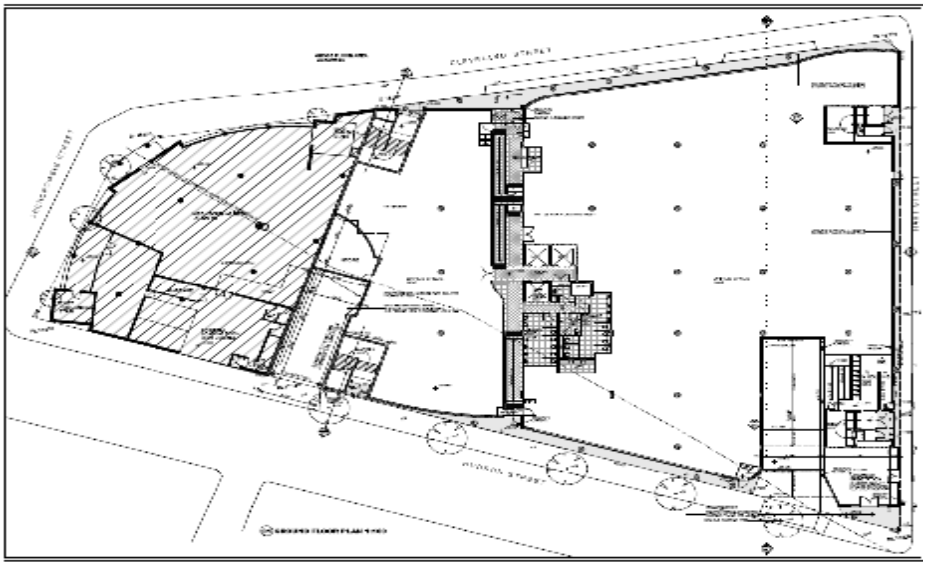


6.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT

The new development requires the demolition of the existing factory buildings. The apartment building on Abercrombie Street will be retained and adapted for the new use. The new building will comprise a mixed commercial and residential block of four storeys with basement car parking. The impact on the archaeological resource is confined to the area of the present factory; the site of the apartment building will not be disturbed by the proposed redevelopment of this site. The excavation for the basement does not extend to Hudson Street but the ground floor of the new building will do so.



Site plan and section of the proposed new building



Ground floor of the proposed new building

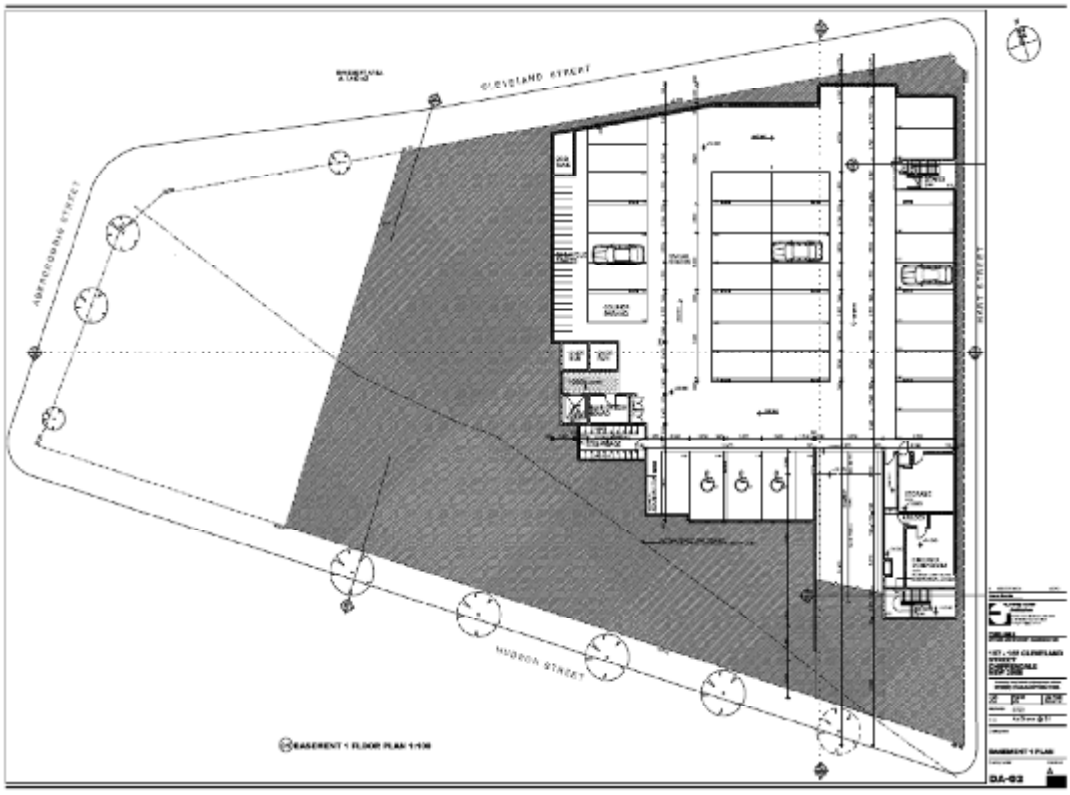
6.2 HERITAGE IMPACTS

The principal impact of the work with respect to Aboriginal heritage values will be on the archaeological profile caused by the excavation into bedrock. The assessment has demonstrated that this excavation will comprehensively remove an archaeological profile that could encompass:

- Environmental evidence of the pre-European landscape.
- Deposits and artefacts that belong to the Aboriginal occupation of the landscape that could include camp-sites, middens, artefact scatters and isolated objects.

The loss of the entire archaeological profile removes an archive of information that would be rare and could provide evidence that is available from no other source. It would also have implications for present-day values of the Aboriginal community with respect to their traditional associations with the landscape and their links with a past community. This is a negative outcome of the development process.

This outcome can be balanced by adopting strategies that will retrieve and record evidence and where appropriate, interpret the evidence recovered as an in-situ component. As well, involvement of the Aboriginal community in the processes and outcomes of the work undertaken to investigate Aboriginal archaeology will redress the impacts of the present work. These would be positive outcomes from the development.



Basement plan of the proposed development

6.3 MITIGATION STRATEGIES

6.3.1 APPROVALS

The development is being assessed under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979 as amended). Under Section 75U approvals under c.87 and s.90 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974) that would usually be sought for archaeological investigations of Aboriginal heritage are not required. Any investigation of the site for Aboriginal archaeology can proceed without application for either an s87 or s90 approvals. The approval of this as a Part 3A project "turns off" the normal process of application and approval. The provisions of the NPWS Act with respect to the protection of Aboriginal relics still apply.

The Department of Environment and Climate Change and Water (DECCW) has produced draft guidelines to guide Aboriginal heritage investigations including excavations. As well the DECCW has also produced draft guidelines for the Department of Planning in relation to projects with an Aboriginal heritage component to be assessed under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

These draft guidelines refer to another Draft DECCW policy document entitled "*Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants*" in which the process for community consultation is set out. Specifically this involves a public notification process by which Aboriginal stakeholders are identified and then have a right to comment on permit applications. This can take several weeks and for the purpose of this project the Department of Planning has permitted discussion and comment only from the MLALC to inform this document while the advertising and comment from other stakeholders is sought during the evaluation process of the project.

6.3.2 IDENTIFYING THE RESOURCE

The most outstanding issue to be resolved is the presence or absence of an intact archaeological resource. As the preceding analysis has demonstrated while the available evidence suggests that there is the potential for an archaeological profile of Aboriginal occupation it is impossible to gauge the impact of European land use on this profile.

Resolution of this issue is of paramount importance to determine the necessity or otherwise of future work on this site and the nature of that work if it is warranted.

There are two options that could be used to determine the presence or absence of conditions conducive to the preservation of an Aboriginal archaeological resource.

First; a small programme of test excavation has been recommended to resolve the same issue of presence or absence of an archaeological resource with respect to the European archaeological profile. It is possible that the test pits excavated for this purpose will reach a point where it will be possible to identify an intact soil profile. In that case a recommendation could be made that will enable test pits for Aboriginal occupation to be

excavated when the European excavation has reached a level on the site that exposes the original ground surface.

It is more than likely, though, that the test pits for European archaeology will be stopped to high in the profile to resolve the issue of intact ground surfaces. These pits are designed only to identify the beginning of an intact European profile; this would be the latest levels of the nineteenth century profile and are unlikely to be informative regarding old land surfaces. If the European profile is absent the pits could be extended to examine the site for intact soil profiles.

More likely, the opportunity to investigate the site for the presence or absence of an Aboriginal archaeological profile will arise at the end of an historical excavation when the site has been cleared down t o the earliest levels associated with European settlement. This would give a large perspective on the integrity of old land surfaces. At that time, of the profile indicates a degree of integrity a programme of test excavation could be initiated to examine the potential for Aboriginal archaeology. The results of this work will determine the necessity and nature of any future work. This work should be undertaken in partnership with the Aboriginal community.

The objectives of the work will be:

- To determine if an intact ground surface exists that could encompass an Aboriginal archaeological profile;
- To determine if Aboriginal objects survive within the test pits;
- If objects are obtained through the test programme to identify their nature and whether they are likely to represent an in-situ deposition or deposition as a result of European land-use of practices;
- If objects are not present in the test pits to assess whether this is due to the impact of European occupation or the absence of Aboriginal occupation.

6.3.3 SALVAGE EXCAVATION

If a programme of test excavation reveals the presence of an intact Aboriginal archaeological profile it will be necessary to undertake a salvage excavation. This is likely to take the form of a sample strategy across the site. Excavation of this kind should be undertaken in partnership with the Aboriginal community.

6.3.4 RESEARCH DESIGN

All archaeological investigation is undertaken to achieve specific outcomes. Defining these outcomes, what information an archaeological programme is anticipated to deliver is normally called a research design. It is a series of questions for which the archaeological profile is likely to make a meaningful contribution. This can be achieved through providing evidence that is unavailable from other sources, for example, artefact assemblages that illuminate aspects of people's lives. It can provide more comprehensive documentation of aspects for which minimal information might only be available.

With respect to the possible archaeological profile within the development site the initial objective of any testing programme would be to determine whether there is an intact land surface and, secondly, whether evidence of Aboriginal occupation can be found within it. If this is found to be the case questions that are likely to be posed for this resource as part of a salvage excavation are as follows:

- How long have Aboriginal people used the land; what is the earliest and latest dates of occupation that can be defined from archaeological evidence? This could encompass identifying changing technologies as well as, if possible, Carbon 14 dates from charcoal samples.
- How did Aboriginal people use this place; can the archaeological evidence identify activities such as camps or tool-making sites?
- What types of artefacts are present and what do they say about activities or occupation?
- Is there environmental evidence that can explain how Aboriginal people used this place?
- What evidence is there of local resource exploitation and trade?
- How does this site compare to other Aboriginal sites in the region?
- Does any of the site distribution owe its character to European impacts and practices or is entirely due to Aboriginal land-use?

These questions are likely to be refined or amended on the basis of the results of test excavation or salvage excavation.

6.3.5 SITE RECORD

If any Aboriginal objects or deposits are discovered on the site a site card will need to be prepared and submitted to the DECCW.

6.3.6 COMMUNITY LIASON

The liaison that has been established with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council must be maintained during the course of the project and specifically during the course of any archaeological investigation and its outcomes. Aboriginal archaeological investigation should be conducted as a partnership with the stakeholder groups. These will be identified as part of the ongoing programme of community consultation.

6.3.7 ARTEFACTS

Artefacts are the portable relics of occupation; they can encompass evidence of consumption, dress, work, taste, pass-times, beliefs or affiliations amongst many other aspects of human lives. They can also provide assistance to an archaeological enquiry by means of providing chronological parameters.

Artefacts only have value for research and interpretation if they come from a secure context. That means that an artefact or a group or assemblage of artefacts must be recorded in association with the soils with which it or they have been buried; no artefact should be removed from the site or the place in which it was buried until that basic contextual evidence has been recorded by the archaeologist.

Artefacts have a separate meaning for a present-day Aboriginal community. The community has the right to express their wishes with respect to long-term storage or maintenance.

This assessment has concluded that the development site could contain assemblages of artefacts primarily in the form of stone tools or debris from tool-making.

The information inherent in these collections is only accessible when they have been cleaned and professionally catalogued. The information they can provide with respect to chronology and occupation and their reference to the research design questions can be incorporated into the final narrative.

6.3.8 POST-EXCAVATION DOCUMENTATION

The purpose of a salvage excavation is not simply to excavate the site and remove the archaeology. The objective of the work is to transfer the information now preserved within the ground to a record that will preserve that information in an alternate form in perpetuity and in ways that allow that resource to be used for ongoing research and enquiry. Therefore, the post-excavation programme is an equally important part of the excavation process. During this work the following tasks are accomplished:

- Any artefacts that have been retrieved from the site are curated; this involves cleaning, sorting, cataloguing, entry to an electronic database, boxing and delivery to a long-term repository or archive. A repository for artefacts and site records must be nominated as part of an excavation permit application.
- Soil, pollen and other samples taken during the excavation are sent for analysis and documentation
- Field drawings and notes and photographs are indexed and placed in an archivally secure format
- A report is prepared that documents the work, the results, the interpretation of the information and identifies any specific long term long-term research potential that has been identified during this period of analysis.
- The report must be made available to the Aboriginal community for their comment.

Post excavation documentation is required for either test excavation or a salvage excavation.

6.3.9 INTERPRETATION

An important component of a mitigation strategy can be a provision for interpretation. The purpose of the work is to identify issues, themes or elements specific to a site that help to explain its importance and its role in the development of the community. Interpretation devices do not take the place of archaeology; they act as a guide to the archaeological and social values of the site. It is possible that a detailed interpretation strategy will need to be prepared if a salvage excavation is undertaken on this site. Any programme of this type must be undertaken in conjunction with the Aboriginal community to ensure any information provided is sensitive to their wishes and beliefs.

6.3.10 OUTCOMES

The ultimate objective of all the work that is undertaken on the site is to provide a permanent record of the evidence that will be lost through the removal of the archaeological profile. For that reason the documentation of the programme at its conclusion is vital. This record of work will need to encompass a description of the methodology, the evidence recovered from the site and its interpretation. It must be supported by plans, sections and images produced during the course of the work. If artefacts are recovered from secure contexts they will need to be curated; cleaned and catalogued so that the information they can provide with respect to chronology and occupation can be incorporated into the final narrative.

The final record of this work should be provided to Sydney City Council, local studies collections and the NSW Department of Planning, Heritage Branch, the Aboriginal stakeholders and the Australian Museum. Any artefacts retrieved from the work should be provided with a long-term repository according to the wishes of the Aboriginal community.

Interpretive elements should be encompassed within the final development if the outcome of the investigation warrants their inclusion.

6.4 CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of research, identification of Chippendale's pre-European environmental context, an AHIMS search and consideration of the impact of historic land use, the following has been concluded;

- The study area is located in a landscape that is likely to have been occupied and exploited by Aboriginal people. The area presents a moderate to high potential for extant Aboriginal heritage remains. This assessment will be re-evaluated on the basis of site investigation.
- Evidence of this occupation could be preserved within the site in the form of archaeological deposits and objects. These are likely to be associated with any intact top-soil or A horizons within the site.
- The most likely types of sites to be associated with the study area are open-camp sites, middens, artefact scatters and isolated objects.
- European settlement almost certainly has impacted on any Aboriginal archaeological profile but the extent of this impact is impossible to determine on the basis of present evidence.
- The integrity of any archaeological profile is impossible to determine on the basis of the available evidence.
- The proposed development will remove any intact archaeological profile.
- This impact on any Aboriginal archaeological resource may be mitigated by investigation, documentation and liaison with the Aboriginal community.
- Identifying the presence or absence of an intact soil profile could be made as part of a test programme of investigation either in conjunction with test excavation for European archaeology, if the results of that work reach an appropriate depth within site, or at the conclusion of salvage excavation for European purposes if that work reveals an intact soil profile.
- The purpose of any test excavation will be to determine whether an Aboriginal heritage resource remains within the site and to provide strategies for its management.
- The results of any test programme should be used to inform any future management of the site.
- If more comprehensive investigation and documentation is required of Aboriginal heritage the work should be carried out within the parameters of the research design described in this report.
- Investigation of Aboriginal heritage should be undertaken in partnership with the relevant Aboriginal community.

- Documentation of any aspect of work relevant to the Aboriginal heritage of the area should be made available to the relevant Aboriginal community groups.

7.0

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Friday, 19th February 2010

Wendy Thorp
Cultural Resources Management
63 Hannah Street
BEECROFT NSW 2119

Re: Archaeological Aboriginal Assessment for 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale NSW 2008

Dear Wendy

This letter is to confirm that Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) has reviewed Cultural Resources Management Archaeological Aboriginal assessment for the proposed development of 157-165 Cleveland Street Chippendale NSW 2008.

The recommendations outlined in your assessment report are accepted by MLALC. We are in agreement that the study area has the potential for moderate to high extant Aboriginal heritage remains and that test excavations will identify any Aboriginal heritage resource remains.

MLALC would like to be involved as registered stakeholders in any future archaeological work. If you require any further assistance on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 8394 9666.

Regards

Rebecca McHugh
Administration Officer