

**The archaeological investigation for sites of
Indigenous cultural significance
PACIFIC BAY WESTERN LAND
West Korora Road, Coffs Harbour, NSW**



JORDANS RIVER REFLECTIONS



John Appleton

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS & REPORTS PTY LTD

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FOR

THAKRAL HOLDINGS LIMITED



**This report has been compiled in 'Plain English',
but presented in a format suitable for developing policies
for the management of the cultural resources,
and as a basis for scientific reference
in future research studies.**

Project No. 456/08

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This investigation was performed for Thakral Holdings Limited (Thakral). Thakral is applying for Part 3A Major Projects Approval for a subdivision of Lot 2 DP 592173, Lots 3, 4, & 5 DP 820652, Lot 2 DP 226560, and Lot 23 DP 716144, West Korora Road, Coffs Harbour.

Thakral commissioned Archaeological Surveys & Reports Pty Ltd (ASR) to undertake the archaeological investigation of the property to identify any potential constraints there might be to development on archaeological or cultural grounds.

The survey area (or Project Site) was located to the west of the Pacific Highway, opposite the coastal community behind Diggers Beach, midway between the northern outskirts of Coffs Harbour, and Korora 2km to the north, on the mid north coast of New South Wales.

The Project Site of 29.46ha comprised Lot 2 DP 592173, Lots 3, 4, & 5 DP 820652, Lot 2 DP 226560, and Lot 23 DP 716144, in the County of Fitzroy, in Coffs Harbour Local Government Area. The Project Site was an irregularly shaped area, bounded by the Pacific Highway to the east; partly by West Korora Road and partly by Jordans Creek to the south; briefly by Bruxner Park Road to the north; and by shared property boundaries elsewhere.

The scope of works was for ASR to conduct an archaeological investigation of the study area with the assistance of representatives of the Coffs Harbour & District Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Gumbular Julipi Elders, and Bagawa Birra Murri Aboriginal Corporation, to identify any Aboriginal sites and relics that might be present. The results of the investigation were to be presented in a report, which was to include an assessment of the significance of any cultural relics or places identified, an appraisal of the options and opportunities arising from the discoveries, and clear recommendations for the management of those cultural resources.

No sites, PADs or places of archaeological or Aboriginal cultural significance were recorded in the survey area.

ASR recommends that as a result of the investigation, there are no constraints on either cultural or archaeological grounds to the proposed subdivision of the property comprising Pacific Bay Western Land.

However, the proponents are advised that they should be mindful that they are legally obliged to comply with the following provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended), which state that:

The owners, and their employees, earthmoving contractors, subcontractors, machine operators and their representatives, whether working in the survey area or elsewhere, should be instructed that in the event of any bone or stone artefacts, or discrete distributions of shell, or any objects of cultural association, being unearthed during earthmoving, work should cease immediately in the area of the find.

In the event that any bone cannot be clearly identified by a qualified archaeologist as being of animal remains the police are to be informed of its discovery, and officials and/or their representatives of the Coffs Harbour & District Local Aboriginal Land Council, Gunbular Julipi Elders, Bagawa Birra Murri Aboriginal Corporation, and DECC advised that the bone is subject to police investigation.

Work should not recommence in the area of the find, until both the police (if bone has been found) and those officials or representatives have given their permission to do so. Those failing to report a discovery and those responsible for the damage or destruction occasioned by unauthorised removal or alteration to a site or to archaeological material may be prosecuted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, as amended.

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Area	Description	Survey area (20.56) (approximates)	Rock/soil	Vegetation	Average surface visibility	Exposures	Approx area surveyed on foot	Average arch. visibility of exposures	Archaeology
1	Western Section Lot 2 DP 226560 Steep slopes between ridge and river	25% (50,000sqm)	Weathering metasedimentary with clays towards base of slope	Cleared, abandoned banana plantation	< 5%	Tracks and soil testing areas	25%	< 80%	Nil
2	Wooded Section Steep slopes between ridge and river	35% (73,600sqm)	Weathering metasedimentary with clays towards base of slope	Tall dry eucalypt forest on slopes descending to rainforest on river bank	< 5%	Tracks	20%	85%	Nil
3	Southern section sports ground and surrounds	40% (82,000sqm)	Weathering metasedimentary with clays towards base of slope	Cleared and landscaped	< 5%	Tracks and vehicle wear	20%	90%	Nil
4	South-eastern section Lot 23 DP 716144 gently sloping edge of river valley floor		Predominantly alluvial silts and muds overlying metasedimentary deposits	Cleared for pasture		Minimal	30%	< 5%	Nil
5	Northern section High ridge with westerly, northerly, easterly and southerly facing slopes		Weathering metasedimentary with single exposure of metasedimentary bedrock on upper slope, with clays towards base of slopes	Cleared. Mostly abandoned banana plantation, currently all pasture		Tracks, some bare areas on southern slopes caused by leaching	30%	80%	Nil

Table showing the Effective Survey Coverage