

#### **Document history and status**

Revision	Date issued	Draft by	Reviewed by	Date reviewed	Revision type
1	14 January 2021	M. Lever	LAHC	6 April 2021	Draft
2	7 April 2021	M. Lever	S. Wallace	8 April 2021	Final
3	18 March 2022	M.Lever	S.Wallace	18 March 2022	Updated

Printed:

Last saved:

Author:

Project manager:

Name of organisation:

Name of Project:

Name of document:

Riverwood Estate State Significant Precinct Statement of Heritage Impact

Document version:

18 March 2022

J. Horton & M. Lever

S. Wallace

Artefact Heritage

Riverwood Estate State Significant Precinct

Riverwood Estate State Significant Precinct Statement of Heritage Impact

Final

#### © Artefact Heritage Services

This document is and shall remain the property of Artefact Heritage Services. This document may only be used for the purposes for which it was commissioned and in accordance with the Terms of the Engagement for the commission. Unauthorised use of this document in any form whatsoever is prohibited.

Disclaimer: Artefact Heritage Services has completed this document in accordance with the relevant federal, state and local legislation and current industry best practice. The company accepts no liability for any damages or loss incurred as a result of reliance placed upon the document content or for any purpose other than that for which it was intended

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is seeking to renew the Riverwood Estate (the Study Area) to facilitate the redevelopment of ageing social housing stock and provide fit for purpose and deconcentrated social housing. Renewal will allow the Riverwood Estate to reach its full potential and deliver public benefit through high quality new open spaces, public domain, community facilities, exemplary sustainability outcomes and local retail that supports the needs of the future community whilst also improving accessibility and connectivity across the precinct.

Artefact Heritage have been engaged by LAHC to provide a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) that responds to the Study Requirements for the Riverwood State Significant Precinct, which outlines the proposal and addresses the potential impacts to non-Aboriginal heritage and archaeology. Aboriginal heritage advice and constraints are to be provided separately within an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report prepared by Artefact Heritage.

#### Conclusions

This SoHI has determined the following:

- There are no heritage listed items in or within proximity to the Study Area. As such, no direct or indirect impacts to built heritage items would occur as part of the project;
- The Study Area has been assessed as having nil potential for archaeological remains associated with Phases 1 of site development; nil low potential for locally significant archaeological remains associated with Phase 2 and 3 of site development; moderate potential for locally significant archaeological remains associated with Phases 4 and 5 of site development; and high potential for archaeological remains associated with Phase 6 of site development.
- It can be assumed that a number of current structures would be demolished and bulk excavation
  of soils for construction of the new development would occur. There is potential for construction
  activities associated with the proposal to result in direct impacts to archaeological resources
  within the Study Area. However, the level of impact would be determined following detailed
  design advice.
- The significance of the Riverwood Estate is largely intangible and linked with the continued use
  of the site as a residential estate. As such, direct or indirect impacts on these heritage values
  are not expected.

## **Objectives**

Proposed Development Control Plan objectives are set out below:

- To promote consideration of the heritage values of the Riverwood Estate as a whole, in the development of planning.
- To ensure that heritage values in the Riverwood Estate are investigated, identified, conserved, and appropriately managed in the context of new development.

- To ensure that potential archaeological resources are appropriately managed in accordance with the NSW Heritage Act.
- To promote appropriate heritage interpretation as a consideration in master plan development.

#### Recommendations

- A qualified community historian should be engaged to investigate and document the social history of the Herne Bay and Riverwood Estates, with a view to detailing the social significance of the location, and the multiple roles that the location has played in NSW. These roles include a venue for ongoing Aboriginal occupation into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including in close contact with less fortunate non-Aboriginal citizens, responses to war, medical infrastructure, emergency housing and public housing. The findings of this community history should be incorporated into final planning in a manner that acknowledges the past that it documents, and which engages future residents with the nature of this past in a meaningful manner. This may include interpretive media, public art or other means of public engagement.
- A Heritage interpretation strategy should be prepared that reflects the varied and significant social history of the site.
- A precinct wide archaeological research design (ARD) should be prepared which would set out a methodology for an archaeological excavation program which would sample the site. Archaeological excavations would focus on significant areas within the former hospital, such as nurse's quarters or surgical facilities. The aim of the archaeological excavation program would be to compliment the preparation of the social history in providing an insight into the lifeways of the occupants of the site. Any archaeological finds would be considered for input into interpretive media.
- Archaeological investigations would be undertaken in accordance with an s140 Excavation Permit
  or an s139 Exception Notification obtained from the NSW Heritage Council in accordance with the
  NSW Heritage Act.
- Where unexpected archaeological remains are located during construction, outside the archaeological excavation program, the NSW Heritage Division should be notified, and an archaeologist contacted to assess the find.

## **CONTENTS**

Co	onclus	ions	iii
Ob	ojectiv	es	iii
Re	comn	nendations	iv
1.0	Int	roduction	1
1.1	1 F	Project background	1
1.2	2 5	Study Area	1
1.3	3 5	Study requirements	3
1.4	4 F	Report methodology and limitations	4
	1.4.1	NSW heritage significance assessment	4
	1.4.2	Assessment of heritage impact	5
	1.4.3	Historical archaeological assessment	6
	1.4.4	Limitations	7
1.5	5 A	Authorship	7
2.0	Le	gislative Context	8
2.1	1 I	ntroduction	8
:	2.1.1	Commonwealth legislation and policy	8
:	2.1.2	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	8
2.2	2 5	State legislation and policy	9
:	2.2.1	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	9
:	2.2.2	NSW Heritage Act 1977	9
2.3	3 1	Non-statutory heritage registers	12
2.4	1 5	Summary of heritage registers	12
3.0	His	storical background	.13
3.1	1 E	Early land grants and use	13
3.2	2 L	_evingston Estate and Golf Course	
;	3.2.1	Salt Pan Creek (Levingston) Golf Course	16
3.3	3 \	Norld War II and Herne Bay military hospital	17
3.4	4 F	Repurposing Herne Bay military hospital and social housing	20
4.0	Sit	e analysis	.25
5.0	Bu	ilt heritage assessment	27
5.′	1 I	ntroduction	27
5.2	2 H	Heritage significance assessment	27
5.3	3 5	Statement of significance	28
6.0	His	storical archaeological assessment	29
6.1	1 I	ntroduction	29
6.2	2 9	Summary of historical land use phases	29

6.	2.1	Phase 1 (1788 – 1810): Early exploration and land clearance	. 29
6	2.2	Phase 2 (1810 – c1930s): Early land grants and the Levingston Estate	. 29
6	2.3	Phase 3 (c1930s – 1942) Golf course	. 30
6	2.4	Phase 4 (1942 – 1945) Herne Bay Military Hospital	. 30
6	2.5	Phase 5 (1945 – late 1950s) Emergency housing	. 30
6	2.6	Phase 6 (c1960s – present) Demolition of Herne Hospital, residential development	. 31
6.3	Α	ssessment of archaeological significance	. 31
6.4	S	statement of archaeological significance	. 32
6.5	S	summary of archaeological potential and significance	. 32
7.0	Her	ritage Impact Assessment	.34
7.1	Р	Proposal	. 34
7.2	В	Built heritage	. 34
7.3	Н	listorical archaeological impact assessment	. 35
7.4	R	Riverwood Estate - intangible heritage values	. 35
7.5	S	statement of heritage impact	. 35
8.0	Coi	nclusions and recommendations	.37
8.1	C	Conclusions	. 37
8.2	C	Objectives	. 37
8.3	R	Recommendations	. 37
a n	Dof	oranaac	20

## **FIGURES**

Figure 1: Study area	2
Figure 2: Parish of St George map, c1800-1899. Showing Riverwood Estate within original lar grants to George Pashley (80 acres) and David Batty (60 acres); and the Salt Pan Ponds to the second secon	he north.
Figure 3: Levingston family home at Salt Pan Creek, 1943	
Figure 4: Golfers on the Salt Pan Creek golf course	16
Figure 5: US Army 118 <sup>th</sup> General Hospital, 1943. Oblique aerial, view to the south	17
Figure 6: US Army 118 <sup>th</sup> General Hospital, 1943	18
Figure 7: Preliminary framing and material at Herne Bay military hospital, 1943	18
Figure 8: Platforms and frames for huts at Herne Bay Hospital, 1943	19
Figure 9: Brick footings and utility trenches under construction at Herne Bay Hospital, 1943	19
Figure 10: Herne Bay Hospital site, 1946. Carpenters workshop at the ministry of housing set	
Figure 11: Repurposed housing at Herne Bay Hospital site, n.d.	22
Figure 12: Herne Bay Hospital site, 1946. Ministry of housing workers laying sewerage and dr system.	_
Figure 13: Extract from <i>The Sun</i> , 2 September 1946	23
Figure 14: Child on tricycle, Herne Bay	24
Figure 15: Washing day at Herne Bay.	24
Figure 16: Corner of Missouri and Pennsylvania Avenue, within the study area	25
Figure 17: Western view of two-storey brick housing along Truman Avenue, within Study Area	a 25
Figure 18: Eastern view of multi-storey brick housing along Washington Avenue, within Study	Area 25
Figure 19: Characteristic single-storey dwelling, within Study Area	25
Figure 20: Kentucky Road Reserve looking west towards walking path and raised fill area of f study area	
Figure 21: Southern view of remnant drainage line situated between light pole (left) and path	(right) 25

## **TABLES**

Table 1: Study requirements for non-Aboriginal heritage and archaeology	3
Table 2: NSW heritage significance assessment criterion	5
Table 3: Terminology for assessing the magnitude of heritage impact	6
Table 4: Grades of archaeological potential	7
Table 5: Qualifications of report authors	7
Table 6: Heritage significance of the Riverwood Estate	27
Table 7: Assessment of archaeological significance	31
Table 8: Summary of archaeological potential and significance	32
Table 9: Statement of heritage impact for the Riverwood Estate	35

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project background

NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is seeking to renew the Riverwood Estate State Significant Precinct (SSP) to facilitate the redevelopment of ageing social housing stock and provide fit for purpose and deconcentrated social housing. Renewal will allow the Riverwood Estate to reach its full potential and deliver public benefit through high quality new open spaces, public domain, community facilities, exemplary sustainability outcomes and local retail that supports the needs of the future community whilst also improving accessibility and connectivity across the precinct.

The SSP process allows the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to consider rezoning proposals for areas that are of state or regional planning significance such as the Riverwood Estate.

Artefact Heritage have been engaged by LAHC, to prepare a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) which outlines the proposal and addresses the potential impacts to non-Aboriginal heritage and archaeology. Aboriginal heritage advice and constraints are to be provided separately within an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report prepared by Artefact Heritage.

## 1.2 Study Area

The Riverwood Estate SSP (the Study Area) (Figure 1) comprises an area of over 30 hectares of which 16.7ha is owned by LAHC. The Study Area is located within the Canterbury-Bankstown Local Government Area (LGA), and is on the border of the Georges River LGA. It is 18 kilometres from the Sydney CBD, between the district centres of Bankstown and Hurstville, and a 5-15-minute walk from the Riverwood town centre.

The Study Area is bounded by Belmore Road North to the east; the M5 Motorway to the north; Salt Pan Creek Wetlands Park and Riverwood Park to the west; and the rear property boundaries of allotments facing Killara Avenue to the south.

Figure 1: Study area



Document Path: D:\GIS\GIS\_Mapping\Riverwood Estate\Riverwood\_20210119.mxd

## 1.3 Study requirements

The Study requirements have been structured to include a hierarchy of requirements and considerations for each issue. Each requirement is broken down, as follows:

- Scope and requirement outlines the content that the study must include
- · Considerations matters that should be taken into account when preparing the study
- Consultation specific parties that should be consulted to inform preparation of material in response to the study requirement
- Author specific experience and / or expertise of the person to undertake the study
- Guidance documents material relevant to the topic that is the subject of the study

Table 1: Study requirements for non-Aboriginal heritage and archaeology

Study requirement Heritage	Addressed in this report
Scope and requirement	
nronosal on this notential archaeological resource: and	Section 6.0 Section 7.0
Considerations	
The studies should demonstrate consideration of:  • Adaptive methods to ensure impacts to the heritage significance or	These are addressed in Section 7.0 and to be further refined through archaeological testing as defined in Section 8.3
<ul> <li>Measures to facilitate the conservation and celebration (where appropriate) of items, areas, objects, landscape systems and places of</li> </ul>	Recommendation for a heritage interpretation strategy is included in Section 8.3
Consultation	
The study is to be undertaken in consultation with relevant stakeholders and Heritage NSW.	Section 1.4
Author	
The Historical Archaeological Assessment is to be prepared by a suitable qualified archaeologist.	Section 1.5
Guidance documents	
The following documents provide guidance for this study:  • Guidelines set out in the NSW heritage manual, "The Conservation Plan" and the <i>Burra Charter</i> • Archaeological Assessments (1996); and  • Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics (2009)	Section 1.4



## 1.4 Report methodology and limitations

This SoHI has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the NSW Heritage Office, now Heritage NSW, DPC, the Department of Urban Affairs & Planning, the Heritage Branch Department of Planning and Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), as identified in the following documents:

- NSW Heritage Office 2001. NSW Heritage Manual: Assessing Heritage Significance
- NSW Heritage Office 2002. NSW Heritage Manual: Statements of Heritage Impact
- NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009. Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'
- Australia ICOMOS 2013. The Burra Charter. The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance.

#### 1.4.1 NSW heritage significance assessment

Determining the significance of heritage items or a potential archaeological resource is undertaken by utilising a system of assessment centred on the *Burra Charter* of Australia ICOMOS.

The principles of the charter are relevant to the assessment, conservation and management of sites and relics. The assessment of heritage significance is outlined through legislation in the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) and implemented through the *NSW Heritage Manual*<sup>1</sup> and the *Archaeological Assessment Guidelines*.<sup>2</sup> The criteria specified by the guidelines encompass the four values identified in the *Burra Charter*, historical significance, aesthetic significance, scientific significance and social significance, and also consider representativeness and rarity values.

If an item meets one of the seven heritage criteria, and retains the integrity of its key attributes, it can be considered to have heritage significance. The significance of an item or potential archaeological site can then be assessed as being of local or state significance. If a potential archaeological resource does not reach the local or state significance threshold, then it is not classified under the Heritage Act.

'State heritage significance' in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to the State in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item.

*'Local heritage significance'* in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to an area in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item.<sup>3</sup>

The overall aim of assessing archaeological significance is to identify whether an archaeological resource, deposit, site or feature is of cultural value. The assessment will result in a succinct statement of heritage significance that summarises the values of the place, site, resource, deposit or feature. The heritage significance assessment criteria are described in Table 2 below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This section is an extract based on the NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009. Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics, p. 6.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NSW Heritage Office 2001. NSW Heritage Manual: Assessing Heritage Significance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NSW Heritage Council 1996. "Archaeological Assessment Guidelines," in *NSW Heritage Manual*. New South Wales: Heritage Office.

Table 2: NSW heritage significance assessment criterion

Criterion	Description
A – Historical Significance	An item is important in the course or pattern of the local area's cultural or natural history
B – Associative Significance	An item has strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the local area's cultural or natural history
C – Aesthetic Significance	An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the local area
D – Social Significance	An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons
E – Research Potential	An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the local area's cultural or natural history
F – Rarity	An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the local area's cultural or natural history
G – Representativeness	An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places of cultural or natural environments (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)

#### 1.4.2 Assessment of heritage impact

This SoHI has been prepared using the document *Statement of Heritage Impact* 2002, contained within the *NSW Heritage Manual*, as a guideline.

Impacts on heritage significance are identified as either:

- Direct (physical) impacts, resulting in the demolition or alteration of fabric of heritage significance
- Indirect (visual) impacts, resulting in changes to the setting or curtilage of heritage items or places, historic streetscapes, views or vistas.
- Potential direct impacts, resulting in impacts from factors including, but not limited to, vibration, subsidence and demolition of adjoining structures

Specific terminology and corresponding definitions are used in this assessment to consistently identify the magnitude of the proposal's direct, indirect or potentially indirect impacts on heritage items or archaeological remains. The terminology and definitions are based on those contained in guidelines produced by ICOMOS and are shown in Table 3.<sup>4</sup> It is assumed that all direct and potential direct impacts are a result of construction. Indirect impacts are assumed to be operational unless specified as temporary in which case they are related to construction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Including the document *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties*, ICOMOS, January 2011.



Table 3: Terminology for assessing the magnitude of heritage impact

Magnitude	Definition	
Major  Actions that would have a long-term and substantial impact on the significance of item. Actions that would remove key historic building elements, key historic lands features, or significant archaeological materials, thereby resulting in a change of character, or altering of a historical resource.		
	These actions cannot be fully mitigated.	
Moderate	Actions involving the modification of a heritage item, including altering the setting of a heritage item or landscape, partially removing archaeological resources, or the alteration of significant elements of fabric from historic structures.	
	The impacts arising from such actions may be able to be partially mitigated.	
Minor	Actions that would result in the slight alteration of heritage buildings, archaeological resources, or the setting of an historical item.	
	The impacts arising from such actions can usually be mitigated.	
Negligible	Actions that would result in very minor changes to heritage items.	
Neutral	Actions that would have no heritage impact.	

#### 1.4.3 Historical archaeological assessment

An archaeological assessment has been undertaken for this SoHI. Historical archaeological potential is defined as the potential of a site to contain significant archaeological remains, including works or relics as identified in the Heritage Act. The assessment of historical archaeological potential is based on the identification of former land uses and evaluating whether subsequent actions (either natural or human) may have impacted on archaeological evidence for these former land uses. Knowledge of previous archaeological investigations, understanding of the types of archaeological remains likely to be associated with various land uses, and the results of site inspection are also taken into consideration when evaluating the potential of an area to contain archaeological remains.

The potential for the survival of archaeological remains in a particular place is significantly affected by activities which may have caused ground disturbance. These processes include the physical development of the site (for example, phases of building construction) and the activities that occurred there. The likelihood for the survival of these remains (i.e. their archaeological potential) is distinct from the 'archaeological significance' and 'archaeological research potential of these remains', should any exist. These designations refer to the cultural value of potential archaeological remains and are the primary basis of the recommended management actions included in this document. For example, there may be 'low potential' for certain remains to survive, but if they do, they may be assessed as being of state significance.

The NSW Heritage Manual provides the framework used for the significance assessment of the potential archaeological remains within the construction footprint. These guidelines incorporate the aspects of cultural heritage value identified in the Burra Charter. The Heritage Council also issued the 1996 Archaeological Assessment Guidelines<sup>5</sup> and the Heritage Branch (now Heritage NSW, DPC) issued the 2009 Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics.<sup>6</sup> The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009. Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> NSW Heritage Council 2009. "Archaeological Assessment Guidelines".

assessment of historical archaeological sites requires a specialised framework in order to consider the range of values of an archaeological site.

The grades of archaeological potential used in this report are outlined in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Grades of archaeological potential

Grading	Justification	
Nil	No evidence of historical development or use, or where previous impacts such as deep basement structures would have removed all archaeological potential	
Low	Research indicates little or low intensity historical development, or where there have been substantial previous impacts, disturbance and truncation in locations where some archaeological remains such as deep subsurface features may survive	
Moderate	Analysis demonstrates known historical development and some previous impacts, but it is likely that archaeological remains survive with some localised truncation and disturbance	
High	Evidence of multiple phases of historical development and structures with minimal or localised twentieth century development impacts, and it is likely the archaeological resource would be largely intact.	

#### 1.4.4 Limitations

This SoHI provides an assessment of listed and potential unlisted non-Aboriginal heritage items and potential historical archaeological resources only. This SoHI does not provide an assessment for Aboriginal heritage values, which is detailed in a separate technical paper for the project.

## 1.5 Authorship

This report has been prepared by Jessica Horton (Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage) and Michael Lever (Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage). Sandra Wallace (Managing Director, Artefact Heritage) provided management input and technical review.

The qualifications of the heritage consultants involved in the production of the report is included in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Qualifications of report authors

Name	Qualification	Experience	Role
Jessica Horton	Bachelor of Arts (Archaeology and History) Masters of Heritage Conservation (current)	5 years	Author
Michael Lever	Bachelor of Arts (Hons) (Archaeology) PhD Candidate (current)	10 years	Author
Sandra Wallace	Bachelor of Arts (Hons) (Archaeology) PhD (Archaeology)	17 years	Reviewer

#### 2.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

### 2.1 Introduction

There are several items of local, State, National Commonwealth legislation that are relevant to this SoHI. A summary of these Acts and the potential legislative implications follow.

Heritage listed items within the project are and study area were identified through a search of the following relevant state and federal statutory and non-statutory heritage registers:

- World Heritage List (WHL)
- Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL)
- National Heritage List (NHL)
- State Heritage Register (SHR)
- Section 170 (s170) Heritage and Conservation Registers
- Blacktown Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2015
- Canterbury LEP 2012
- Hurstville LEP 2012
- Kogarah LEP 2012
- NSW State Heritage Inventory (SHI) Database
- Register of the National Estate (RNE)
- National Trust Register (NSW) [NTR].

Items listed on these registers have been assessed against the NSW heritage assessment guidelines. Statements of heritage significance, based on the NSW Heritage Assessment guidelines, as they appear in relevant heritage inventory sheets and documents, are provided in this assessment.

#### 2.1.1 Commonwealth legislation and policy

#### 2.1.2 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) provides a legislative framework for the protection and management of matters of national environmental significance, that is, flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places of national and international importance. Heritage items are protected through their inscription on the WHL, NHL, or the CHL.

The EPBC Act stipulates that a person who has proposed an action that will or is likely to have; a significant impact on the relevant heritage values of a World, National or Commonwealth heritage site must refer the action to the Minister for the Environment (hereafter the Minister). The Minister would then determine if the action requires approval under the EPBC Act. If approval is required, an environmental assessment would need to be prepared. The Minister would approve or decline the action based on this assessment.

There are no heritage items within the study area listed on the WHL or CHL.

#### 2.1.2.1 National Heritage List

The NHL was established by the EPBC Act to protect places of significant natural or cultural heritage value at a national level. The EPBC Act requires NHL places to be managed in accordance with the National Heritage Management Principles. Under sections 15B and 15C of the EPBC Act, a referral must be made to the Department of the Agriculture, Water and the Environment for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on NHL properties.

There are no heritage items within the study area listed on the NHL.

### 2.2 State legislation and policy

#### 2.2.1 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A) establishes the framework for cultural heritage values to be formally assessed in the land use planning and development consent process. The EP&A Act requires that environmental impacts are considered prior to land development; this includes impacts on cultural heritage items and places as well as archaeological sites and deposits. The project has been declared by the Minister for Planning to be an SSP and assessment must therefore meet the Study Requirements as provided by the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment. The SSP studies will recommend planning controls for the new precinct based on the masterplan.

Part 3 of the EP&A Act also requires that local governments prepare planning instruments (such as LEPs and Development Control Plans [DCPs]) in accordance with the EP&A Act to provide guidance on the level of environmental assessment required. The construction footprint falls within the boundaries of the Canterbury-Bankstown LGA and is on the border of the George's River LGA. These LGAs are subject to the Bankstown LEP 2015, Canterbury LEP 2012, Hurstville LEP 2012 and Kogarah LEP 2012. Schedule 5 of each LEP includes a list of items/sites of heritage significance within the Canterbury-Bankstown and George's River LGA. In 2019 the Canterbury-Bankstown City Council drafted a Planning Proposal Consolidated Local Environmental Plan. This consolidated LEP seeks to produce a single set of planning rules for the Canterbury-Bankstown City by combining and aligning the Bankstown LEP 2015 and Canterbury LEP 2012. The consolidated Canterbury-Bankstown LEP was on exhibition to 22 May 2020.

There are no heritage items within the study area listed on the LEPs.

#### 2.2.1.1 Development control plans

The Blacktown Development Control Plan (DCP) 2015, Canterbury DCP 2012, Hurstville DCP 2012 and Kogarah DCP 2013 are supporting documents that completement the provisions contained within the aforementioned LEPs, providing specific design detail in regard to sympathetic development on, or in the vicinity of, items listed within the LEPs. On 5 March 2021 the exhibition period closed for the new Draft Consolidated Development Control Plan for the Canterbury-Bankstown LGA. Council adopted the Draft Consolidated Development Control Plan on 25 May 2021. The Draft DCP will come into effect when the Draft LEP is approved.

#### 2.2.2 NSW Heritage Act 1977

The NSW *Heritage Act 1977* (Heritage Act) is the primary piece of legislation affording protection to heritage items (natural and cultural) in NSW. Under the Heritage Act, 'items of environmental heritage' include places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects and precincts identified as significant. Significance is based on historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or



aesthetic values. State significant items can be listed on the NSW SHR and are given automatic protection under the Heritage Act against any activities that may damage an item or affect its heritage significance. The Heritage Act also protects 'relics', which can include archaeological material, features and deposits.

#### 2.2.2.1 State Heritage Register

The SHR was established under Section 22 of the Heritage Act and is a list of places and objects of particular importance to the people of NSW, including archaeological sites. The SHR is administered by Heritage NSW, DPC and includes a diverse range of over 1500 items, in both private and public ownership. To be listed, an item must be deemed to be of heritage significance for the whole of NSW.

To carry out activities within the curtilage of an item listed on the SHR, approval must be gained from the Heritage Council by securing a Section 60 permit. In some circumstances, under Section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, a Section 60 permit may not be required if works are undertaken in accordance with the NSW Heritage branch document *Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval*<sup>7</sup> or in accordance with agency specific exemptions. This includes works that are only minor in nature.

There are no heritage items within the study area listed on the SHR.

#### 2.2.2.2 Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers

Under the Heritage Act, all government agencies are required to identify, conserve and manage heritage items in their ownership or control. Section 170 of the Act requires all government agencies to maintain a Heritage and Conservation Register that lists all heritage assets and an assessment of the significance of each asset. They must also ensure that all items inscribed on its list are maintained with due diligence in accordance with State Owned Management Principles approved by the Government on advice of the NSW Heritage Council. These principles serve to protect and conserve the heritage significance of items and are based on NSW heritage legislation and guidelines.

There are no heritage items within the study area listed on a s170 register.

#### 2.2.2.3 Relics Provisions

The Heritage Act also provides protection for 'relics', which includes archaeological material or deposits. According to Section 139 (Division 9: Section 139, 140-146):

- (1) A person must not disturb or excavate any land knowingly or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.
- (2) A person must not disturb or excavate any land on which the person has discovered or exposed a relic except in accordance with an excavation permit.
- (3) This section does not apply to a relic that is subject to an interim heritage order made by the Minister or a listing on the State Heritage Register.
- (4) The Heritage Council may by order published in the Gazette create exceptions to this section, either unconditionally or subject to conditions, in respect of any of the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Heritage Council of New South Wales, 2009. *Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval.* 



- (a) Any relic of a specified kind or description
- (b) Any disturbance of excavation of a specified kind or description
- (c) Any disturbance or excavation of land in a specified location or having specified features or attributes,
- (d) Any disturbance or excavation of land in respect of which an archaeological assessment approved by the Heritage Council indicates that there is little likelihood of there being any relics in the land.

Section 4(1) of the Heritage Act (as amended in 2009) defines a relic as:

...Any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that: relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and is of State or local heritage significance.

#### A relic has been further defined as:

Relevant case law and the general principles of statutory interpretation strongly indicate that a 'relic' is properly regarded as an object or chattel. A relic can, in some circumstances, become part of the land be regarded as a fixture (a chattel that becomes permanently affixed to land).8

Excavation permits are issued by the Heritage Council of NSW, or its delegate, under Section 140 of the Heritage Act for relics outside SHR curtilages or under Section 60 for significant archaeology within SHR curtilages. An application for an excavation permit must be supported by an Archaeological Research Design (ARD) prepared in accordance with the NSW Heritage Division archaeological guidelines. Minor works that will have a minimal impact on archaeological relics may be granted an exception under Section 139 (4) or an exemption under Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act.

#### 2.2.2.4 Works

The Heritage Act defines 'works' as being in a separate category to archaeological 'relics'. 'Works' refer to remnants of historical structures which are not associated with artefactual material that may possess research value. 'Works' may be buried, and therefore archaeological in nature, however, exposure of a 'work' does not require approved archaeological excavation permits under the Act.

The following examples of remnant structures have been considered to be 'works' by the NSW Heritage Council:

- Former road surfaces or pavement and kerbing
- Evidence of former drainage infrastructure, where there are no historical artefacts in association with the item
- Building footings associated with former infrastructure facilities, where there are no historical artefacts in association with the item
- Evidence of former rail track, sleepers or ballast

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009. Assessing Significance for Archaeological Sites and 'Relics', p. 7.



Evidence of former rail platforms and former platform copings.

Where buried remnants of historical structures are located in association with historical artefacts in controlled stratigraphic contexts (such as intact historic glass, ceramic or bone artefacts), which have the potential to inform research questions regarding the history of a site, the above items may not be characterised as 'works' and may be considered to be 'relics'. The classification of archaeological remains as a 'work' therefore is contingent on the predicted remains being associated with historical structures as well as there being no prediction of the recovery of intact artefactual deposits which may be of research interest.

## 2.3 Non-statutory heritage registers

In addition to the heritage registers established by State and Commonwealth legislation, there are a number of relevant non-statutory registers which should be considered. The following non-statutory registers were searched:

- NTR
- RNE

The RNE lists historic, Aboriginal and natural heritage places throughout Australia. Originally established under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*, the RNE entered more than 13,000 places into the register. The RNE was frozen on 19 February 2007 following amendments to the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*. It ceased to be a statutory register in February 2012. The RNE is now maintained on a non-statutory basis as an archive and education resource.

There are no non-statutory heritage items within the study area listed on the NTR or the RNE.

## 2.4 Summary of heritage registers

There are no heritage listed items in or within the vicinity of the Riverwood Estate.



## 3.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This section provides an overview of the historical development of the study area.

## 3.1 Early land grants and use

Riverwood was originally known as Herne Bay, from the small cove on the eastern bank of salt Pan Creek, itself named after a popular watering place on the Kentish coast in England.<sup>9</sup> The Riverwood Estate is situated immediately adjoining the Salt Pan Reserve, which, in turn, adjoins the Salt Pan Creek. Prior to development, the Salt Pan Creek would have originally flowed closer to the Riverwood Estate, with mangroves and creek-side flats also present. Salt Pan Reserve has been largely formed on land reclaimed from mangroves and marsh through the dumping of fill.

Historical information regarding land use within Riverwood prior to early land grants is limited, however, it is thought that as the Riverwood Estate is located on relatively poor soils, it was largely 'leapfrogged' by early European settlement which started at Sydney Cove, and moved to richer soils at Parramatta and Rouse Hill. <sup>10</sup> European activities within the area may have included small scale industry including salt production at Salt Pan Creek which is named after this early activity. A c1800-1899 parish map of St George shows 'Salt Pan Ponds' to the north and north east of the Riverwood Estate (Figure 2). It is unclear whether these were natural or artificially formed ponds, however this is likely to indicate the location of the salt-laden tidal waters of the Salt Pan Creek deposited salts that could be evaporated dry.

The first land grants within proximity to the Riverwood Estate were granted in 1809-10 to two early European landholders W. Bond and F. Meredith. Bond and Meredith had appealed for a transfer of lands elsewhere as Bond stated he had been 'driven off by the Natives, with providential escape for his life', whilst Meredith had been wounded as he assisted.<sup>11</sup> Conflict between European settlers and traditional landowners was a frequent occurrence within the region during this period. Notably, Dharug Aboriginal warrior Pemulwuy and his son Tedbury are known to have frequented the Salt Pan Creek area.<sup>12</sup> Both Pemulwuy and Tedbury met violent deaths at the hands of the European settlers in 1802 and 1810 respectively.

In 1810, land encompassing the Riverwood Estate was granted to George Pashley (80 acres) and David Batty (60 acres) (Figure 2).<sup>13</sup> Additional grants within the area went to James Plunkett, Richard Culcutt and Andrew Murphy, who each received 60 acres each; and William Holmes and Robert Lack who received 50 acres each.

Following the first land grants and increased access to Riverwood, timber-getters and market gardeners became more frequent occupants around what is now the Riverwood Estate. In the case of timber-getters and charcoal-burners, their presence was often transient, as they continually moved to new sources of timber.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Frances Pollon, 1991. The Book of Sydney Suburbs. Angus & Robertson Publishers: North Ryde. pp. 222-223.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> H. Goodall & A. Cadzow, 2009. *Rivers and Resilience. Aboriginal People on Sydney's Georges River.* University of NSW Press: Sydney, p. 35.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Goodall & Cadzow, 2009. Rivers and Resilience. p. 49.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Lesley Muir, 2013. 'Aboriginal People of the Cooks River Valley'. *The Dictionary of Sydney*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/aboriginal people of the cooks river valley

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Pollon, 1991. The Book of Sydney Suburbs. pp. 222-223.

Figure 2: Parish of St George map, c1800-1899. Showing Riverwood Estate within original land grants to George Pashley (80 acres) and David Batty (60 acres); and the Salt Pan Ponds to the north.



artefact

20238 Riverwood Estate

LGA: Canterbury Bankstown Date: 13-01-2021 and Georges River Council

## 3.2 Levingston Estate and Golf Course

The early historical trajectory of the Riverwood Estate can be seen through tracing the history of one longstanding local family – the Levingston's, who lived in the current location of Riverwood Estate.

Robert Levingston arrived in Australia in 1859 and married in 1863. He acquired 140 acres in the area between Canterbury Road, Belmore Road and Salt Pan Creek. This would have seen Levingston as a larger landholder in the area. Nevertheless, particularly given the nature of his housing, Levingston does not seem to have been wealthy at the time he purchased his land and does not seem to have subsequently achieved notable wealth either.<sup>14</sup>

Certainly, the housing occupied by Robert Levingston and his family at Salt Pan Creek was far from opulent. All five of Levingston's children were born in a slab 'humpy' (residence) that was likely rudimentary even for the period. The picture below of this humpy (Figure 3) was taken in 1943, sometime after the Levingston's moved into somewhat more substantial dwellings.

The Levingston's apparent economic struggle was reflected in the broader region. Herne Bay in general was not an affluent location. Through the difficult period following the First World War, and the Great Depression of the 1930's, the surrounding working-class suburbs, particularly Bankstown, were the site of frequent forced evictions of tenants unable to pay their rent. Open land in Herne Bay around Salt Pan Creek was often the only place that these evicted tenants could find to set up tent and shanty residences.



Figure 3: Levingston family home at Salt Pan Creek, 1943. 15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Author unknown, 1943. 'Levingston family home, Riverwood'. *Canterbury Bankstown Library Service*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/162265142?keyword=levingston



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> E. M. Jones, n.d. 'Robert Levingston'. *Canterbury City Council*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://www2.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/photos/10100/10190pm.htm

#### 3.2.1 Salt Pan Creek (Levingston) Golf Course

The children of Robert Levingston largely remained in Herne Bay. James Levingston (son of Robert) established Herne Bay Public Golf Links, an eighteen-hole golf course on their farm site. The original slab hut farmhouse of Robert Levingston was used as the club house. In addition to the golf course, cattle were agisted on the property for local dairymen and trees were felled and dressed for Bankstown Council to use as light poles.<sup>16</sup>

The image below (Figure 4) shows golfers on the Salt Pan Creek golf course, with the Levingston family slab hut in the background to right, and a more substantial brick residence in the left background. Given the documented low socio-economic status of the Herne Bay area, it is debatable just how profitable this local golf club may have been. Images of the golf course showing a variety of vistas do not indicate that much time or capital had been spent on the formation of the course. No large lakes or water traps are visible, neither are any sizeable hills or bunkers.

If we combine this evidence of low capital outlay with the fact that James Levingston had repurposed the family ancestral slab hut as a club house rather than construct a new club house, it becomes increasingly probable that for all their landholding status, the Levingston's lived a hardscrabble existence, getting along by patching together a variety of income sources.

Local development of the area increased somewhat with the arrival of the East Hills Rail Line in 1931.<sup>17</sup> The Levingston family and their property appear to have continued as small-scale mixed business and agriculturalists, although now in an increasingly suburban context.



Figure 4: Golfers on the Salt Pan Creek golf course.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Author unknown, c1930s. 'Levingston's House, Riverwood'. Canterbury Bankstown Library Service. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/162269613?versionId=176850386



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> B. Madden, 2001. Hernia Bay: Sydney's Wartime Hospital at Riverwood. Canterbury and District Historical Society: Campsie.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Pollon, 1991. The Book of Sydney Suburbs. pp. 222-223.

## 3.3 World War II and Herne Bay military hospital

During WWII, hospital facilities were required for the large number of United States military personnel injured in the war in the Pacific. Australia was a logical choice of location for such hospitals. In 1942, the United States Army was granted authority to assume control of the Salt Pan Creek golf course under the auspices of national security regulations. James Levingston, son of Robert Levingston, was permitted to continue living at the property.<sup>19</sup>

The US Army 118<sup>th</sup> General Hospital was constructed by the Australian Government at the location of the Riverwood Estate, under the Reverse Lend-Lease program. The installation was the largest military hospital in Australia, comprising 490 timber barrack-type huts accommodating 1250 patients and 3500 staff. The staff were drawn from the John Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore. The hospital is seen overall in two 1943 aerial images (Figure 5, Figure 6).

An analysis of images of the military hospital indicates that although much of the construction of hospital huts used timber on piles, substantial brick footings and utility trenches were also associated with the development (Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9).<sup>20</sup>

The US Army left the Herne Bay Hospital site at the conclusion of the war in the Pacific in 1945. The hospital was taken over by the Royal Navy and the Australian Army.

Several original buildings of the 118<sup>th</sup> Hospital have been preserved and currently function as the headquarters of the Australian Air League Riverwood branch. This is located in Hornet Lane Riverwood outside of the Riverwood Estate.



Figure 5: US Army 118th General Hospital, 1943. Oblique aerial, view to the south.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Author unknown, 1943. 'US Army 118<sup>th</sup> General Hospital'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://trove.nla.gov.au/



<sup>19</sup> Madden, 2001. Hernia Bay.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> US National Library of Medicine, 2021. *US National Library of Medicine Digital Collections*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://collections.nlm.nih.gov/

Figure 6: US Army 118th General Hospital, 1943.<sup>22</sup>

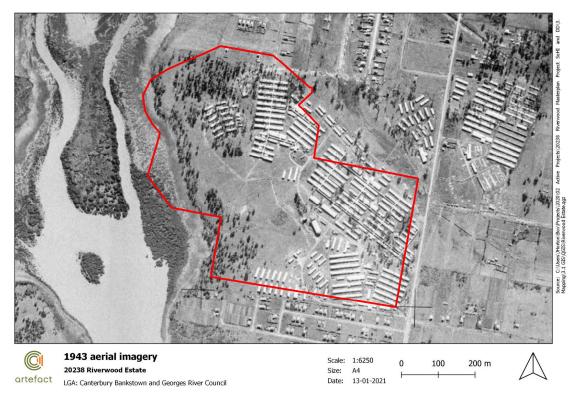


Figure 7: Preliminary framing and material at Herne Bay military hospital, 1943.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Sixmaps, 1943. '1943 aerial imagery'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/



artefact.net.au

Figure 8: Platforms and frames for huts at Herne Bay Hospital, 1943.<sup>23</sup>

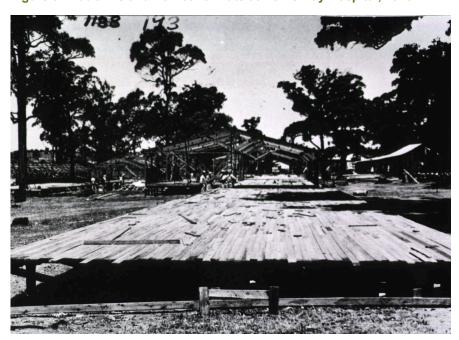
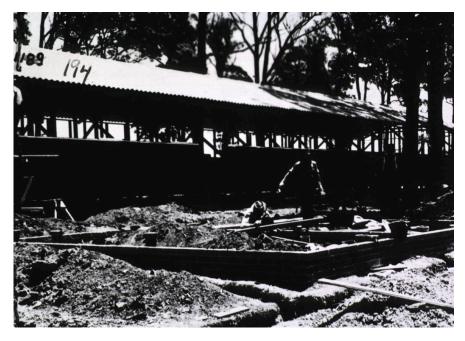


Figure 9: Brick footings and utility trenches under construction at Herne Bay Hospital, 1943.<sup>24</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Author unknown, 1943. 'Platforms and frames for huts at Herne Bay Hospital'. *US National Library of Medicine*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://collections.nlm.nih.gov/catalog/nlm:nlmuid-101443141-img



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Author unknown, 1943. 'Platforms and frames for huts at Herne Bay Hospital'. US National Library of Medicine. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://resource.nlm.nih.gov/101443140

## 3.4 Repurposing Herne Bay military hospital and social housing

The close of WWII saw the Australian Government better able to turn its attention to domestic affairs, namely the provision of housing the homeless. <sup>25</sup> Throughout the war period, building materials were scarce and generally prioritised for defence infrastructure. A large proportion of Australia's qualified builders and labourers were serving in the armed forces. This meant that many Australian families were homeless or had to share housing out of a lack of housing availability rather than due to poverty. This situation was exacerbated by the large migrant intake following WWII. The backlog of persons requiring urgent housing appears to have been large, and after the war, the Herne Bay Hospital site was temporarily put into use as one of the largest public housing projects undertaken in Australian history. <sup>26</sup>

The physical conversion of hospital huts to residential accommodation was undertaken by civilian carpenters (Figure 10) with relatively little change to infrastructure.<sup>27</sup> An average of four families occupied each hut, in apartments that had been cheaply subdivided with little sound insulation, and which shared bathroom and laundry facilities (Figure 11).

Perhaps the most extensive physical redevelopment of the site associated with the transition from hospital to housing was the widespread excavation required to bring sewer connections to each bathroom, laundry and kitchen. These works are seen underway in late 1946 (Figure 12).

The Housing commission went out of its way to emphasise the Herne Bay was not an impoverished area:

Herne Bay Estate is not a collection of "down and outs". Many well-to-do families are living there. Reason why people move to Herne Bay is that they are homeless.<sup>28</sup>

Rent at Herne Bay was £1.5 per week for a four-bedroom flat, and at least initially, electricity and gas were free.<sup>29</sup>

The Housing Commission seems to have treated the Herne Bay housing estate as a relatively novel project of social engineering and planning, with the local press commenting on the establishment there of retail premises including a cinema, a school, and medical facilities (Figure 13).

Despite the efforts of the Housing Commission, the Herne Bay Estate appears to have retained a 'struggle town' character which did not endear it to other local residents. An analysis of historical imagery from this period would confirm the unkempt nature of the site (Figure 14, Figure 15).

One former resident shared his memories of childhood in the Herne Bay converted hospital:

They were Army huts, only two or three meters between them and roads between were just dirt. In the rain it was all mud...they would go for miles, the huts, and nowhere for kids to play. Nothing except on the bank between the end of huts and the Cabramatta Creek.<sup>30</sup>

Besides the lack of recreational facilities, the lack of space and sound insulation meant that children found it difficult to spend time around their homes and they often headed to bushland around the





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Canterbury Commons, 2017. 'The New City of Canterbury Bankstown'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://www.canterburycommons.net/index.php?title=Main\_Page

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Canterbury Commons, 2017. 'The New City of Canterbury Bankstown'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Australian War Memorial, 2016. 'Herne Bay, NSW'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/129557/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Author unknown, 1 May 1946. 'Herne Bay Community Settlement'. *The Australian Worker (Sydney, NSW 1913* 

<sup>- 1950.</sup> p. 12. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article146250349

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Author unknown, 1 May 1946. 'Herne Bay Community Settlement'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Goodall & Cadzow, 2009. Rivers and Resilience. p. 191.

George's River to play and swim, and to the Salt Pan Creek for fishing. These activities continued to the 1970's.<sup>31</sup>

A further outcome of the lack of privacy was a high level of interaction between residents, which resulted in intimate knowledge of private lives and the formation of a group mentality: 'Nobody was an individual. You belonged to the collective". This group mentality was reinforced by the prejudice against housing commission residents voiced by residents of the wider area who openly regarded the estate residents as 'scum'. 33

During the 1950's the Housing Commission began to demolish the estate timber huts, replacing them with high and medium density housing. Permanent streets were laid out, named after persons and places in the USA as a commemoration of the site's history.

Despite these efforts at improvement, in 1954 the Herne Bay Businessmen's Association requested that Hurstville Council change the name of Herne Bay. They felt that the name Herne Bay had become detrimental due to its association with the emergency housing settlement. Hurstville Council agreed to support the proposal and a 'Herne Bay Change of Name Committee' was formed. Popular suggestions for the area were Avonlea, Forrest Hills, Warrina and Ferndale. After a process of community consultation, the suburb and its railway station was renamed Riverwood in 1954.<sup>34</sup>

A construction program in the 1970's resulted in the provision of large numbers of additional dwellings at the site, comprising bedsits, townhouses and multi-level towers. By the time this stage of development was complete in the late 1970's, the estate had largely taken on its current suburban character, with little to remind one of it's past as a farm, golf course, and later military hospital.

In 1992 the M5 Motorway was constructed though the northern part of the housing estate, and in 1997 Riverwood wetland was constructed in the north east of the estate. Footpaths, and barbecue areas were established to encourage recreation and awareness of the environment.

The most recent phase of ongoing improvements at the estate has been the development of the Washington Estate in a collaborative effort by multiple entities including Housing NSW and Payce Communities Pty Ltd. This saw the redevelopment of previous Housing Commission infrastructure into an integrated community of private and social housing.

The Washington Estate project redeveloped approximately 10% of the Riverwood Estate and will provide 150 new social and 500 new private apartments. Communal benefits of this development have included provisions for a new library, community centre, community garden and café.<sup>35</sup>

The Washington Estate project is of historic and sociological significance in its integration of social housing needs into the fabric of a prime real estate development and residential community. It is the subject of an ongoing longitudinal evaluation at the University of NSW.<sup>36</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Goodall & Cadzow, 2009. Rivers and Resilience. p. 193.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Goodall & Cadzow, 2009. Rivers and Resilience. p. 191.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Goodall & Cadzow, 2009. Rivers and Resilience. p. 191.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Georges River Council, 2017. *Georges River Council Local History*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, Riverwood: http://lmg.hurstville.nsw.gov.au/Riverwood.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Ryan, P. (n.d). Once upon a time in Riverwood. Accessed online 13 January 2021,

https://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiCsvrpzvDRAhVNO7wKHdGwBMkQFggZMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.communityhousing.org.au%2FKnowledgeHub%2FSeminar%2FHow%2520SGCH%2520are%2520creating%2520positive%2520chang

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Pawson, H. (Ongoing). *Riverwood North Regeneration Project: Longtitudinal evaluation*. Sydney: City Futures Research Centre, UNSW.

Figure 10: Herne Bay Hospital site, 1946. Carpenters workshop at the ministry of housing settlement.<sup>37</sup>



Figure 11: Repurposed housing at Herne Bay Hospital site, n.d.<sup>38</sup>



 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 37}$  Australian War Memorial, 2016. 'Herne Bay, NSW'.  $^{\rm 38}$  Canterbury Commons, 2017. 'The New City of Canterbury Bankstown'.



Figure 12: Herne Bay Hospital site, 1946. Ministry of housing workers laying sewerage and drainage system.<sup>39</sup>



Figure 13: Extract from The Sun, 2 September 1946.40

# HERNE BAY TO HAVE SHOPS, THEATRE

A string of shops including a beauty parlor, will be opened next week at the Herne Bay emergency housing settlement.

Altogether, 10 shops, ranging from a butcher down to a confectioner, will be established.

A privately-owned picture theatre is being built.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Author unknown, 2 September 1946. 'Herne Bay to have shops'. *The Sun (Sydney, NSW 1910-1954)*. p. 9. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article231586304



-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Australian War Memorial, 2016. 'Herne Bay, NSW'.

Figure 14: Child on tricycle, Herne Bay.



Figure 15: Washing day at Herne Bay.



## 4.0 SITE ANALYSIS

A survey of the study area was undertaken by Michael Lever (Heritage Consultant, Artefact Heritage) on 9 February 2017. All photographs contained in this report were taken by Artefact Heritage during this survey unless otherwise specified. The site visit was undertaken on foot and with use of a vehicle, camera and GPS.



Figure 16: Corner of Missouri and Pennsylvania Avenue, within the study area



Figure 17: Western view of two-storey brick housing along Truman Avenue, within Study Area



Figure 18: Eastern view of multi-storey brick housing along Washington Avenue, within Study Area



Figure 19: Characteristic single-storey dwelling, within Study Area



Figure 20: Kentucky Road Reserve looking west towards walking path and raised fill area of fill, within study area



Figure 21: Southern view of remnant drainage line situated between light pole (left) and path (right)

The majority of the Study Area comprises residential property and suburban streets. Properties are predominantly brick dwellings, ranging in height from one to eight storeys. Visible disturbance in the form of grading and levelling for residences and gardens is evident, in addition to roadways, property access roads and parking areas. No structures aged earlier than c1940s were identified during the site inspection.

There is one parcel of land within the Study Area comprising open grassed area: the Kentucky Road Reserve. The reserve is an irregularly shaped polygon, measuring 1 hectare, bounded by residential properties facing Kentucky Road, Union Street and Idaho Place; and walking track delineating the reserve from Salt Pan Creek Wetlands to the east. The Salt Pan Creek Wetlands are located on a readily identifiable raised platform, resulting from the dumping of landfill into the previous alignment of the creek. The Kentucky Road Reserve is gently sloping in the east and north, trending to a level surface adjoining the artificially raised Salt Pan Creek Wetlands in the west. A remnant drainage line is partially preserved along the western boundary of the Kentucky Road Reserve.

No unlisted heritage items or indications of archaeological potential were identified during the site inspection.

## 5.0 BUILT HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

### 5.1 Introduction

As outlined in Section 2.0, no heritage listed items have been identified within the Study Area. However, the Riverwood Estate possesses heritage values, particularly associated with intangible historical and social connections. This section provides an assessment of heritage significance for the Riverwood Estate as a whole. The estate has been assessed against the guidelines outlined in Table 2.

## 5.2 Heritage significance assessment

Table 6: Heritage significance of the Riverwood Estate

Criterion		Discussion
Historical (Criterion A)	significance	The existing residential structures within the Riverwood Estate were constructed in an ongoing manner from the c1950s. The residences maintain elements of moderate historical significance and may meet the threshold for local significance under this criterion given the historical role they have played as part of the State measure to address housing needs.
Associative (Criterion B)	significance	The Riverwood Estate is not known to have strong or special associations with the life or works of identified persons, or group of persons of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area). The existing structures within the Riverwood Estate are of little associative significance and are unlikely to reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion.
Aesthetic (Criterion C)	significance	The existing structures within the Riverwood Estate have been constructed using a variety of materials and architectural styles of more than 60 years old. They do not possess an aesthetically coherent or significant character. The estate is of little aesthetic significance and is not likely to meet the threshold for local significance under this criterion.
Social (Criterion D)	significance	Community consultation has not been undertaken as part of this assessment. However, the estate is considered likely to hold a historically significant social attachment for many previous and current residents of the Herne Bay Housing Estate and Riverwood Estate, and their families. This relates to both the current standing residential structures, and the sense of place associated with the landscape, including the proximity to creeks and rivers. The estate is of moderate social significance and is likely to meet the threshold for local significance under this criterion.
Technical / significance (0		The Riverwood Estate is comprised of residential structures and architectural styles seen commonly throughout housing estates within the Sydney region. The estate is of little technical or research value and is unlikely to reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion.
Rarity (Criterio	on F)	The Riverwood Estate maintains similar values to various housing estates within the Sydney region. It is of little rarity and is unlikely to reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion.

Criterion	Discussion	
Representativeness (Criterion G)	The Riverwood Estate comprises a mixture of public housing styles constructed through different periods, which have largely undergone alteration. The estate cannot be seen to maintain any particular architectural style or historical period. However, the estate may constitute a representative sample of changes to social housing styles and thinking through time. As such, the estate may be a valuable representative collection of these changes. The Riverwood Estate is of moderate representative value and is likely to meet the threshold for local significance under this criterion.	

## 5.3 Statement of significance

The Riverwood Estate does not contain any heritage listed items. However, the estate as a whole is likely to maintain local historical significance as an ongoing housing estate established during the c1950s, social significance for current and past residents of the Herne Bay and Riverwood Estates, and representative significance providing a sample of change overtime in architectural style and thinking within a housing estate. The site also has research potential in regard to potential archaeological remains.

### 6.0 HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 Introduction

The following section contains a preliminary assessment of archaeological potential within the Study Area. This assessment is based on an analysis of available historical plans, secondary sources and an understanding of previous impacts within the Study Area. The aim of this assessment is to identify portions of the Study Area with potential to contain significant archaeological resources which will require further management as part of the project.

Historical archaeological potential is defined here as the potential of a site to contain historical archaeological remains. The assessment of historical archaeological potential is based on the identification of former land uses and evaluating whether subsequent actions (either natural or human) may have impacted on archaeological evidence for these former land uses.

## 6.2 Summary of historical land use phases

There are six major phases of land use associated with the study area:

- Phase 1 (1788 1810): Early land clearance, timber getting and charcoal production
- Phase 2 (1810 c1930s): Early land grants and the Levingston Estate
- Phase 3 (c1930s 1942): Itinerant housing and Salt Pan Creek Golf Course
- Phase 4 (1942 1945): Herne Bay Military Hospital
- Phase 5 (1945 late 1950s): Herne Bay Military Hospital use as social housing
- Phase 6: (c1960s present): Ongoing demolition of the Herne Bay Hospital, and development of existing residential properties

#### 6.2.1 Phase 1 (1788 – 1810): Early exploration and land clearance

There are no records of any significant developments taking place within the Study Area during Phase 1. This period was characterised by early exploration, with potential for some land grazing activities and land clearances. Therefore, archaeological remains from Phase 1 would likely be limited to evidence of land clearance, ephemeral tracks and isolated artefact scatters such as tree boles.

Archaeological remains from this phase are likely to be ephemeral in nature and have likely been impacted by subsequent building developments, modification of the road corridors and the installation of services. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is nil.

#### 6.2.2 Phase 2 (1810 – c1930s): Early land grants and the Levingston Estate

Phase 2 is characterised by early land grants within the Study Area to George Pashley (80 acres) and David Batty (60 acres) and the development of the Levingston Estate. Archaeological remains may include evidence of land clearance, property boundaries, ephemeral tracks or early road surfaces, informal drainage, and isolated artefact scatters, such as tree boles and post holes.

Historic research indicates that a timber and brick homestead was constructed for the Levingston family during this phase. Remains associated with this residence may include building foundations of both documented and undocumented structures (e.g. storehouses, outhouses), demolition fills and artefact

assemblages; in addition to undocumented subsurface features including basements, cisterns and wells.

Archaeological remains associated with Phase 2 are likely to have been impacted by subsequent building developments, modification of the road corridors and the installation of services. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is nil - low.

### 6.2.3 Phase 3 (c1930s – 1942) Golf course

Phase 3 is defined by the establishment of the Salt Pan Creek Golf Course on the Levingston Estate. Archaeological remains may include evidence of additional land clearances, golf bunkers and traps, golf paraphernalia and traces of realigned fences and paddocks; although these remains are likely to be ephemeral in nature. Remains of itinerant housing are also likely to be ephemeral.

Historical research indicates that the timber and brick homestead constructed for the Levingston family was used as the golf club building at this time. Remains associated with this residence may include building foundations of both documented and undocumented structures (e.g. storehouses, outhouses), demolition fills and artefact assemblages; in addition to undocumented subsurface features including basements, cisterns and wells.

Archaeological remains associated with Phase 3 are likely to have been impacted by subsequent building developments, modification of the road corridors and the installation of services. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is nil – low.

#### 6.2.4 Phase 4 (1942 – 1945) Herne Bay Military Hospital

Phase 4 is characterised by the establishment of the Herne Bay Military Hospital by the US Army. Archaeological remains may include building foundations (brick and wooden piers), evidence services, roadways and paths. The mode of sewage and garbage disposal utilised by the hospital has not been determined, however from subsequent documented sewer connection activities it seems unlikely that the hospital was not connected to mains sewage. Septic tanks, cesspits and rubbish pits may therefore possibly be present in the Study Area. Incineration of garbage may have taken place onsite, and remains of incineration infrastructure, as well as ash deposits including artefacts may also be present in the Study Area. These may not have been impacted by subsequent construction in the Study Area. Misplaced or discarded small military paraphernalia including private possessions may be located at any point in the landscape.

Archaeological remains associated with Phase 4 are likely to have been somewhat impacted by subsequent building developments, modification of the road corridors and the installation of services in some areas. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is moderate.

#### 6.2.5 Phase 5 (1945 – late 1950s) Emergency housing

Phase 5 is defined by the repurposing of the Herne Bay Military Hospital for social housing purposes. Other than in expanded sewage and water pipelines, this phase is not likely to have resulted in structural remains of significant difference to the previous phase. Misplaced or discarded small items including private possessions may be located at any point in the landscape. Archaeological remains may include building foundations (brick and wooden piers), evidence of services, roadways, and paths.

Archaeological remains associated with Phase 5 are likely to have been somewhat impacted by subsequent building developments, modification of the road corridors and the installation of services in some areas. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is moderate.

#### 6.2.6 Phase 6 (c1960s – present) Demolition of Herne Hospital, residential development

The Study Area was developed during Phase 6, creating the existing residential Riverwood Estate. Almost all structures were demolished, with ground levelling occurring. These construction activities are likely to have impacted archaeological evidence from previous phases of occupation, however, the level of impact is unknown.

Archaeological evidence associated with Phase 6 would be limited to demolition fills and evidence of construction activities. Overall, the potential for archaeological remains from this phase is high.

### 6.3 Assessment of archaeological significance

In 2009, the NSW Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage (now Heritage NSW, DPC) issued a new set of guidelines titled *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'*. These guidelines call for broader consideration of multiple values of archaeological sites beyond their research potential. Under the guidelines, the significance of a potential archaeological site can then be assessed as being of local or State significance. If a potential relic is not considered to reach the local or State significance threshold, then it is not a relic under the Heritage Act. The overall aim of assessing archaeological significance is to identify whether an archaeological resource, deposit, site or feature is of cultural value.

Table 7 provides a significance assessment for the significant archaeological remains that may be present within the Study Area. The potential archaeological remains have been assessed against the guidelines outlined in Table 2. It is noted that an assessment has only been provided for the archaeological remains which are considered to reach the threshold of significance.

Table 7: Assessment of archaeological significance

Criterion	Description
events, or groups of historical	A review of the available documentary sources has not provided any evidence to indicate that the Study Area is significantly associated with any known individual or group of historical importance. The site as a whole however is associated with the US and Allied armed forces during the Second World War, and further research into this may reveal connections with persons or groups of historical significance. Any artefact deposits, such as rubbish dumps, associated with occupation of the Herne Bay Housing Estate and military hospital, may have social significance for persons or families once associated with it.
Aesthetic or technical significance (Criterion C)	It is considered unlikely that the potential archaeological resources would be extensive or indeed intact. Furthermore, as the structural remains would primarily represent mass-produced temporary military-style shelters, it is unlikely that the potential archaeology of these would have any particular aesthetic or technical significance. If preserved, medical waste and discarded equipment may have the potential to inform on techniques of medical care practiced at the Herne Bay Hospital.



Criterion	Description
	Phase 1 relates to the early clearance of land in the area. This is not likely to differ substantially from early land clearance methods throughout the state. The probably ephemeral remains of this period may be of local heritage significance in illustrating the nature of local first European settlement.
Pagagraph potential (Oritaria)	Phase 2 is associated with the first maintained land grants in the area, the development of pastoral activity and construction of rudimentary housing. There are no known previous structures in the areas, but if substantial intact archaeological remains were recovered of unpredicted structures, they could have research potential relating to the use and ownership of the buildings, and land and the nature of European settlement of the area. This may have archaeological potential at the local level.
Research potential (Criterion E)	Phase 3 represents an early attempt at business diversification in the area and may contribute to an understanding of the difficulties facing local agriculturalists and tactics they adopted to broaden their income base. Archaeological remains from this phase may be of local significance.
	Phase 4 is associated with large-scale change in the Study Area as a response to global events. Archaeological remains may provide information on the events and lives of those caught up in the Second World War and may also reflect on techniques of medical practice and care at the time. Any occupation deposits associated with this period may have local or State significance under this criterion.
	(Phase 5 is the current standing infrastructure that has been assessed as not of heritage significance). $ \\$
past through archaeologica	The potential archaeological remains are expected to be fairly limited and not fully represent the multi-phased development of the Study Area. However, there is some potential that the archaeological remains could demonstrate the broad social and economic changes of the Study Area from its initial settlement through to the middle of the twentieth century. There exists greater potential for study of archaeological remains of the limited but historically significant periods of social change from the Second World War through to the late 1950's. The Herne Bay Hospital and Housing Commission Estate both represented considerable responses to rapidly changing world and local conditions therefore archaeological deposits may be of local significance.

### 6.4 Statement of archaeological significance

Any substantial occupation deposits associated with Phases 4 and 5 may be of local significance for historical and research values. Archaeological remains associated with the hospital may be significant at a local level and potentially at a State level if rare remains associated with the site's role in the WWII military effort are located. Although there is only low-moderate potential for the preservation of intact archaeological remains, such remains could likely inform on local long-term historical changes and trends, and particularly on rapid changes in response to global events. A summary of the archaeological significance of the potential archaeological remains is provided in Table 8 below.

## 6.5 Summary of archaeological potential and significance

Table 8: Summary of archaeological potential and significance

Phase	Potential archaeological remains	Significance	Potential
Phase 1 (1788 – 1810)	Evidence of land clearing and charcoal making such as tree boles and charcoal pits	, N/A	Nil



Phase	Potential archaeological remains	Significance	Potential
Phase 2 (1810 - c1930s)	Evidence of former homesteads, paddock divisions and gateways (postholes), former drainage ditches and dams, informal tracks or pathways through the properties, and potentially agricultural furrows and plough marks	d e Local	Nil – Low
Phase 3 (c1930s - 1942)	Evidence of golf bunkers and traps, golf paraphernalia, and traces of realigned fences and paddocks and itinerant housing	Local	Nil – Low
Phase 4 (1942 – 1945)	Evidence of wooden and brick structures, or their traces, as well as traces of roadways and paths. Septic tanks, cesspits and rubbish pits including medical waste and ash deposits. Misplaced or discarded military paraphernalia including small personal possessions	e Local	Moderate
Phase 5 (1945 – late 1950s)	Evidence of wooden and brick structures, or their traces, as well as traces of roadways and paths. Septic tanks, cesspits and rubbish pits. Misplaced or discarded personal possessions.  Moderate		Moderate
Phase 6 (c1960s – present)	Evidence of demolition fills and construction activities	Nil	High

### 7.0 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

# 7.1 Proposal

LAHC is seeking new planning controls to enable the renewal of the Riverwood Estate SSP. This would facilitate the redevelopment of ageing social housing stock and provide fit for purpose and deconcentrated social housing. Renewal will allow the Riverwood Estate to reach its full potential and deliver public benefit through high quality new open spaces, public domain, community facilities, exemplary sustainability outcomes and local retail that supports the needs of the future community whilst also providing accessibility and connectivity across the precinct.

The SSP process allows the DPIE to consider rezoning proposals for areas that are of state or regional planning significance such as the Riverwood Estate.

A place-based planning approach will be pursued within the SSP framework that sets out how the collaborative processes that recognise the value and need for local expertise, knowledge, responsibility and investment. The process is designed to enable a shared vision that distinguishes Riverwood from other places and draws on its identity.

LAHC will prepare the necessary studies to satisfy the requirements for the potential redevelopment of the site. These studies will form part of the LAHC's rezoning proposal and DPIE will review the studies to ensure that the requirements are appropriately addressed prior to public exhibition.

The draft concept masterplan for the Riverwood Estate would include:

- The draft concept masterplan provides approximately 2,900 additional new dwellings
- · Buildings ranging from 3 to 12 storeys
- 50% of ground floor frontage are residential entries with direct access to streets
- 30% tree canopy
- Roosevelt Avenue widening to 30 metre boulevard
- Approximately 5ha of open space including 0.95ha within Roosevelt Park and 0.5ha along linear park
- Development of community facilities
- Improved connections to Salt Pan Creek Reserve and Riverwood Public School
- Retail opportunities

As mentioned above, LAHC is seeking new planning controls to enable the renewal of the Riverwood Estate SSP. As such, detailed construction design is yet to be developed. However, it can be assumed that a number of current structures would be demolished and bulk excavation of soils for construction of the new development would occur.

### 7.2 Built heritage

As outlined in Section 2.0, no heritage listed items have been identified within or directly adjacent to the Study Area. As such, there would be no direct or indirect impact to built heritage items as a result of the proposed development of the Riverwood Estate.



## 7.3 Historical archaeological impact assessment

The Study Area has been assessed as having nil-low potential for significant archaeological remains associated with Phases 1-3 of site development; Low-moderate potential for significant archaeological remains associated with Phases 4-5 of site development; and high potential for archaeological remains associated with Phase 6 of site development. Archaeological remains associated with Phases 1-5 have potential to reach the threshold for local significance depending on the nature and intactness of the remains.

It can be assumed that a number of current structures would be demolished and bulk excavation of soils for construction of the new development would occur. There is potential for construction activities associated with the proposal to result in direct impacts to archaeological resources within the study area. However, the level of impact would be determined following detailed design advice.

### 7.4 Riverwood Estate - intangible heritage values

The Riverwood Estate has been assessed as maintaining historic, social and representative significance at a local level as a social housing estate for many of Sydney's most vulnerable and disenfranchised residents. As a place of shelter during crisis or through extended difficulty, the Study Area is likely to hold a place of importance in family and personally histories, and memories that are far greater than indicated by its relatively unassuming appearance. These personal and family attachments likely extend to places in the area used for recreation, including bushland and waterways. The history of the Study Area is an important chapter in the history of NSW sociality at a local level of significance.

As the use of the Riverwood Estate as a residential and social housing estate would remain largely unchanged, the proposal has been assessed as having a nil direct and indirect impact on the intangible heritage values of the estate.

### 7.5 Statement of heritage impact

The statement of heritage impact summarised in Table 9 has been developed from the Heritage Division's (now Heritage NSW, DPC) guidelines for *Statements of Heritage Impact* (2002).

Table 9: Statement of heritage impact for the Riverwood Estate

Heritage consideration	Discussion
What aspects of the proposal respect or enhance the heritage significance of the study area and nearby heritage items?	The historical heritage significance of the Riverwood Estate largely lies within its continued use as a residential and social housing estate since the c1950s. The estate holds historic, social and representative significance at a local level as a place of residence for many of Sydney's most vulnerable residents. The proposal would aim to maintain this continued use, providing additional residences, including social housing, community spaces and retail opportunities.
What aspects of the proposal could have a detrimental impact on the heritage significance of the study area and nearby heritage items?	There are no heritage listed items in or within the vicinity of the Riverwood Estate, as such there would be no direct or indirect impact on built heritage items. In addition, the significance of the Riverwood Estate is largely intangible and linked with the continued use of the site as a residential estate. As such, direct or indirect impacts on these heritage values are not expected.  There is potential for the proposal to result in direct impacts to archaeological resources within the Study Area. However, the level of impact would be determined following detailed design advice.



Heritage consideration	Discussion
Is the proposal sited on any known, or potentially significant archaeological deposits? If so, have alternative positions for additions been considered?	The Riverwood Estate is within an area assessed as having nil-low potential for significant archaeological remains associated with Phases 1 – 3 of site development; low to moderate potential for archaeological remains associated with Phases 4 – 5 of site development; and high potential for archaeological remains associated with Phase 6 of site development. These archaeological remains have largely been assessed as having the potential to reach local significance depending on the nature and intactness of the remains.  The proposal would allow for the Riverwood Estate to reach its full potential, delivering public benefit through high quality new open spaces, public domain, community facilities, exemplary sustainability outcomes and local retail; supporting the needs of the future community whilst providing accessibility and connectivity across the precinct.

### 8.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 8.1 Conclusions

This SoHI has determined the following:

- There are no heritage listed items in or within proximity to the Study Area. As such, no direct or indirect impacts to built heritage items would occur as part of the project
- The Study Area has been assessed as having nil potential for archaeological remains associated with Phases 1 of site development; nil low potential for locally significant archaeological remains associated with Phase 2 and 3 of site development; moderate potential for locally significant archaeological remains associated with Phases 4 and 5 of site development; and high potential for archaeological remains associated with Phase 6 of site development. It can be assumed that a number of current structures would be demolished and bulk excavation of soils for construction of the new development would occur. There is potential for construction activities associated with the proposal to result in direct impacts to archaeological resources within the Study Area. However, the level of impact would be determined following detailed design advice.
- The significance of the Riverwood Estate is largely intangible and linked with the continued use
  of the site as a residential estate. As such, direct or indirect impacts on these heritage values
  are not expected.

# 8.2 Objectives

Proposed general Development Control Plan objectives are set out below:

- To promote consideration of the heritage values of the Riverwood Estate as a whole, in the development of planning.
- To ensure that heritage values in the Riverwood Estate are investigated, identified, conserved, and appropriately managed in the context of new development.
- To ensure that potential archaeological resources are appropriately managed in accordance with the NSW Heritage Act.
- To promote appropriate heritage interpretation as a consideration in Masterplan development.

#### 8.3 Recommendations

• A qualified community historian should be engaged to investigate and document the social history of the Herne Bay and Riverwood Estates, with a view to detailing the social significance of the location, and the multiple roles that the location has played in NSW. These roles include a venue for ongoing Aboriginal occupation into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including in close contact with less fortunate non-Aboriginal citizens, responses to war, medical infrastructure, emergency housing and public housing. The findings of this community history should be incorporated into final

- planning in a manner that acknowledges the past that it documents, and which engages future residents with the nature of this past in a meaningful manner. This may include interpretive media, public art or other means of public engagement.
- A Heritage interpretation strategy should be prepared that reflects the varied and significant social history of the site.
- A precinct wide archaeological research design (ARD) should be prepared which would set out a
  methodology for an archaeological excavation program which would sample the site.
   Archaeological excavations would focus on significant areas within the former hospital, such as
  nurse's quarters or surgical facilities. The aim of the archaeological excavation program would be
  to compliment the preparation of the social history in providing an insight into the lifeways of the
  occupants of the site. Any archaeological finds would be considered for input into interpretive
  media.
- Archaeological investigations would be undertaken in accordance with an s140 Excavation Permit
  or an s139 Exception Notification obtained from the NSW Heritage Council in accordance with the
  NSW Heritage Act.
- Where unexpected archaeological remains are located during construction, outside the archaeological excavation program, the NSW Heritage Division should be notified and an archaeologist contacted to assess the find.

### 9.0 REFERENCES

Author unknown, 1943. 'Levingston family home, Riverwood'. *Canterbury Bankstown Library Service*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/162265142?keyword=levingston

Author unknown, 1943. 'US Army 118<sup>th</sup> General Hospital'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://trove.nla.gov.au/

Author unknown, 1 May 1946. 'Herne Bay Community Settlement'. *The Australian Worker (Sydney, NSW 1913 – 1950.* p. 12. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article146250349

Author unknown, 2 September 1946. 'Herne Bay to have shops'. *The Sun (Sydney, NSW 1910-1954)*, p. 9. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article231586304

Canterbury Commons, 2017. 'The New City of Canterbury Bankstown'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://www.canterburycommons.net/index.php?title=Main Page

Georges River Council, 2017. *Georges River Council Local History*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, Riverwood: http://lmg.hurstville.nsw.gov.au/Riverwood.html

Goodall, H. & A. Cadzow, 2009. *Rivers and Resilience. Aboriginal People on Sydney's Georges River.* University of NSW Press: Sydney.

Jones, E. M., n.d. 'Robert Levingston'. Canterbury City Council. Accessed online 13 January 2021, http://www2.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/photos/10100/10190pm.htm

Muir, Lesley, 2013. 'Aboriginal People of the Cooks River Valley'. *The Dictionary of Sydney*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/aboriginal\_people\_of the\_cooks\_river\_valley

Pawson, H. (Ongoing). *Riverwood North Regeneration Project: Longtitudinal evaluation*. Sydney: City Futures Research Centre, UNSW.

Pollon, Frances, 1991. The Book of Sydney Suburbs. Angus & Robertson Publishers: North Ryde

Ryan, P. (n.d). *Once upon a time in Riverwood*. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ah UKEwiCsvrpzvDRAhVNO7wKHdGwBMkQFggZMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.communityhousing.org.au%2FKnowledgeHub%2FSeminar%2FHow%2520SGCH%2520are%2520creating%2520positive %2520chang

Sixmaps, 1943. '1943 aerial imagery'. Accessed online 13 January 2021, https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/

US National Library of Medicine, 2017. *US National Library of Medicine Digital Collections*. Retrieved from http://resource.nlm.nih.gov/101443140





Artefact Heritage
ABN 73 144 973 526
Suite 56, Jones Bay Wharf
26-32 Pirrama Road
Pyrmont NSW 2009 Australia
+61 2 9518 8411
office@artefact.net.au
www.artefact.net.au