

ACT INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER**DRAFT CITATION****THE OAKS ESTATE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE**

NOMINATED BY: National Trust of Australia (ACT)

LOCATION OF PLACE:

The Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape is an area of generally rectangular shape running east/west, on the New South Wales /Australian Capital Territory Border, near Queanbeyan. The description of the location is by reference to features extant at February 2000 (map 216-594, Australian Capital Territory 1:10000 Planning Series, first edition). The landscape is within the following boundaries:

- Yass Road from the railway line to Pialligo Avenue,
- Pialligo Avenue from Yass Road to map reference 218440-599450,
- a line from map reference 218440-599450 to Duntroon Trig,
- the ridge-line from Duntroon Trig. to Honeysuckle Lane (at about map reference 217410-598140),
- Honeysuckle Lane from the above intersection (at ref. 217410-598140) to its southern end,
- a line from the south-eastern corner of Honeysuckle Lane to the Molonglo River at map reference 217000-597200,
- the Molonglo River to the western boundary of block 2081 JD (at about map reference 217280-597180),
- the western boundary of block 2081 JD from the Molonglo River to its intersection with the Canberra Queanbeyan railway line,
- a line from that point of intersection to the most westerly point on Underwood St,
- Underwood St from that point to Norse Road, Norse Road from Underwood St to the railway bridge,
- the railway line from the railway bridge to the junction of Young St and Henderson Rd,
- Henderson Rd between Young St and Crest Road,
- Crest Road between Henderson Rd and Derrima Rd,
- Derrima Rd between Crest Rd and Campbell St,
- a line from the junction of Derrima and Campbell St to the western end of the railway bridge over the Queanbeyan river,
- the Queanbeyan to Sydney railway line to Yass Rd.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The full value of the Oaks Estate cultural landscape lies in its potential to contribute substantially to our understanding of the relationships between people and the land. Because it is possible to see an overlap of natural, Aboriginal, European and Asian layers, a rare opportunity is presented to study the ways they interact with each other.

One of the most socially and geographically significant overlaps is that the events that have occurred in this landscape have been as a direct consequence of natural features and the forming of boundaries.

The human elements of the Oaks Estate cultural landscape are important because, collectively, they present a continuous layering that reflects the development of the Canberra/Queanbeyan region. The slow and

continuous nature of change has allowed a number of significant associations to form between people and the land. Together they reflect major periods of social history.

The natural landscape that provides a background to this development has experienced little change beyond grazing, making it possible to investigate the geographical influence on this human activity.

FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place are:

- Natural elements including mature remnant original vegetation, exposed rock outcrops, visible layers of alluvial deposits, springs, creek channels and river corridor and associated vegetation pattern, undeveloped river flats and banks and those natural elements identified in Appendix 1.
 - Natural features having interpretive significance to traditional Aboriginal culture including mature original trees (scarred and unscarred), natural fish traps formed in river channel below River Street and Florence Street, chert outcrop, visible accumulation of source materials such as river cobbles, sand and ochre deposits as identified in Appendix 1.
 - Cultural elements including those buildings listed as having possible significance in Appendix 1, archaeological remains of buildings, remnant tracks and roadways, artefacts and other cultural features identified in Appendix 1.
 - The village of Oaks Estate.
 - *The Oaks* homestead and its immediate surroundings.
 - The original house and mature trees on blocks 11 and 12 section 7.
 - The original street plan including the culverts and remnant road way of River Street north of the Molonglo River.
 - The large spacious blocks with separate dwellings and front fences.
 - Remnants of original gardens and mature exotic tree plantings in streets, on house and rural blocks, on sites of market gardens and on river banks.
 - The open vista to the Queanbeyan railway station that links the streetscape of Oaks Estate to the station.
 - Structures associated with the railway complex including the station and station-master's house, and Queanbeyan railway bridge and gatehouse and gantry crane.
 - The under developed paddocks surrounding Oaks Estate.
 - The river walking track that follows the Molonglo and Queanbeyan River banks from River Street to Queanbeyan.
 - The 360 degree open panoramic view, from the top of the knoll (ref. 220200-598260) on the north bank at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers (block 598), towards Mt Reedy, Faunce Hill, Mt Jerrabomberra, Tuggeranong Hill, Mt Tidbinbilla and Mt Coree and ridge of Duntroon trig.
 - The open vista to Mt Mugga Mugga (over looking the sites of "Queenbeeann and "Honeysuckle") from Mountain Road near the north western corner of the sale yards (ref. 218550-597600).
 - The open vista of *The Oaks* in its landscape setting as seen from the high ground on the north side of Oaks Estate Road (block 596) (ref. 219450-598430).
 - The vista to Oaks Estate Road, from the crest of the hill on River Street, along the track from the River Street crossing.
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SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

In accordance with s.54(1) of the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991, the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of the place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

Any action relating to these requirements is development for the purposes of the Act and will require approval prior to undertaking the activity. To undertake development without such approval may be an offence.

Requirements relating to the landscape and its specific elements.

1. Management plans shall recognise that although Oaks Estate is over 110 years old, it is still a living community and is the product of slow change. This is to be allowed to continue in a way that is sympathetic to both the heritage values of the place and the desires of the local community.
2. Significant vistas from various locations within the Oaks Estate landscape are to be protected by preventing building development and plantings here at Oaks Estate that will block views away from Oaks Estate. These significant vistas include views from key vantage points in Oaks Estate to Mt Reedy, Bungendore Hill, Mt Jerrabomberra, Mt Mugga Mugga, Mt Tidbinbilla and Mt Coree and to the ridge on which Duntroon Trig is located.
3. The rural landscape setting of Oaks Estate, the separation from other development and the small scale of development are to be maintained.
4. The Aboriginal, European and Asian cultural resources of heritage significance are to be protected. This includes developing an education program for the local and general community involving explanatory signage, etc.
5. The integrity of the historical layering of the built landscape and its significant elements are to be protected and maintained. These elements include the street plan and the pattern and size of blocks as determined in the original subdivision of 1887.
6. The village atmosphere of Oaks Estate is to be protected and maintained and its strong sense of community encouraged.
7. Remnant flora and fauna habitats are to be protected and maintained.
8. Programs for the minimisation of soil erosion, the reduction in noxious weeds through specific vegetation management and encouragement of natural regeneration complementary to the management of the river corridor are to be instigated.
9. Any proposed developments shall be subject to an assessment of the impact on the heritage significance of the citation area and should be undertaken independent of the developer. Guidelines should be developed that only permit new landscape elements, or the construction of built elements, where it can be demonstrated that they do not adversely affect the character of the place.

NB: This citation does not seek to register sites that are located in NSW. These should be brought to the attention of the Queanbeyan City Council and the relevant NSW authorities for further investigation and registration.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

In assessing this place for the interim Heritage Places Register, the Council recommends that the following actions and activities should be undertaken which will enhance the heritage values of the place. They are made as recommendations and have no legal effect.

1. It is recommended that the Oaks Estate Planning Review started by PALM in 1992/3 be completed. Due to the considerable time that has elapsed, this review warrants further community consultation and should be updated.
2. Development guidelines established in reference to requirement point 9 shall:

- recognise that landscape elements are essential to the heritage significance of the Oaks Estate landscape and should be given the same consideration as leasehold developments and land use planning. .
 - include a policy for the alteration or demolition of built structures and the building of new structures.
3. The citation area requires an overall plan of management that takes into account its heritage significance. The plan should incorporate a cultural management plan, a natural and rural environment management plan, a river corridor management plan and a conservation plan for *The Oaks*. This should be done in consultation with residents, the Aboriginal community, and commercial and government stakeholders. Any surveys, assessments and the development of plans of management should be done in close consultation with the Oaks Estate community.
 4. Apart from buildings that have outstanding heritage value on an individual basis, such as “The Oaks” and 9 Hazel Street, the remaining dwellings shall be considered as a supporting contextual group representing the layers of change over a period of time.
 5. Effective lines of communication shall be developed and maintained between the Commonwealth Government, ACT Planning and Land Management, ACT Heritage Unit, local Aboriginal groups, Queanbeyan City Council and the Oaks Estate Progress Association, Incorporated.
 6. The possibility of establishing a cultural centre should be investigated to help realise the potential significance of the citation area to tourism, education and training. It shall be developed in sympathy with the character of the place and is to be done in consultation with Oaks Estate residents and businesses, Aboriginal groups, and ACT and Queanbeyan authorities. The capacity of the landscape to permit the observation and measurement of known sites and the discovery and investigation of previously unknown sites shall be maintained to support cultural activities.
 7. The lane way known as Honeysuckle lane, to the north of the citation area has not been included in the citation. However, it is a significant early track way to the citation area from Duntroon and is an important link between the Oaks Estate landscape and the Pialligo/Duntroon landscape.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

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| 1. | date | Draft citation considered by ACT Heritage Council at meeting (number) |
| 2. | date | Draft citation released for public comment |
| 3. | date | Revised citation for ACT Heritage Council meeting (number) |
| 4. | date | Gazetted in an interim Heritage Places Register |
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Refer to Appendix 1 for a description of the individual houses and sites considered as contributing heritage significance to the Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape.

The natural and rural landscape

The Oaks Estate cultural landscape is a rectangular area running east/west, on the New South Wales - Australian Capital Territory Border, near Queanbeyan. It is a semi-rural landscape surrounding the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers, extending upstream for a distance of about one kilometre and downstream for about three kilometres. It forms part of an alluvial valley, set on a natural step down from the Cullarin Horst to the Canberra rift, and is bounded by ridges and escarpments that developed along the Sullivans Fault in the west and the Queanbeyan fault in the east.

The main landscape features comprising the citation area are tributaries of the Murrumbidgee River, particularly the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers and topography developed from the action of faulting, strong folding of sedimentary layers, and episodes of differential weathering and erosion on rock bodies.¹

In addition human impact has been significant in altering the environment through land clearing and grazing (and consequent increased rates of erosion), introduction of non-native flora (particularly willow – *salix spp.*) which may have affected river sediment deposition, and large-scale sand mining and significant sandstone quarrying activities.

The geological stratigraphy of the area comprises middle to upper Ordovician current bedding, marine deposition, sandstone, siltstone, shale and radiolarian chert (Pittman formation) with outcropping of black siliceous graphitic shale (Acton Shale member) occurring near the western boundary. The formation is strongly folded (in fact overturned) with a moderate to strong fracture cleavage, including some slaty cleavage². It is bounded by two significant fault lines – the Sullivan's fault and the Queanbeyan fault. Several smaller faults occur near the western boundary.

Contrary to the 1:50,000 geological map of the area, there are areas of alluvial sandy loam and gravel/river stone deposits which may represent paleo-channels (previous river courses) of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers. Further work should be undertaken to do a series of soil cross sections throughout the citation area to identify the extent of this alluvial material.

There is very little complete remnant vegetation remaining in the citation area.³ (see appendix 4).

The original vegetation of the Oaks Estate area was grassy woodland of box and gum. The Territory feature map of 1913/15 also indicates some dense ti-tree on the northern banks of the Molonglo River.

While the superficial aspects of the natural landscape are in a degraded state it is the morphology that is of significance. The landscape on each side of the river corridor displays the physical features that were preferred by Aborigines and early Europeans when selecting a place to camp or settle or in moving through the landscape.

Because the primary land use since European settlement has been largely limited to grazing, it is possible to see evidence of the geology of the place, of springs, old creeks, remnants of tracks and sites of occupation. The relatively unchanged rural character also assists the visual interpretation of land use in 19th and early 20th century Canberra/Queanbeyan. This provides opportunities for future surveys, to measure sites, and to interpret what influence geographical features had on Aboriginal, European and Asian activity before major urban development.

Almost 360 degree views are available from the area of the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. They enable an appreciation of some major topographic features of the region. These include extensive views to both the eastern and western boundaries of the Canberra rift (or basin), the Cullarin Horst in the east and the Cotter Horst in the west.

¹ Stusz, DL, and Henderson, G A M, 1971, 1:50,000 geological map and explanatory notes Canberra City A.C.T., Australian Publishing

² Stusz and Henderson, 1971,

³ Paris, Carolyn, 1999, unpublished report on the natural features of the Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape.

From Mountain Road there is a vista across the eastern end of the "Limestone Plain", to the Red Hill ridge and to Mount Mugga Mugga, which is a Monadnock⁴, a dominant remnant of the eroded peneplain.

Another feature seen within this vista is the natural step down from the Cullarin Horst to the Canberra rift formed along the Sullivans Fault. Extensive scarring caused by quarrying of this ridge line is visible from Mountain Road. There is a large scree deposit on the side of this quarry.

A view along the Jerrabomberra Creek corridor is visible from a knoll at the junction of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers. It is possible to see beyond Mt Jerrabomberra and Pemberton Hill to Beatty Hill and Mt Campbell. This corridor was a major pathway between the Queanbeyan and Cooma regions for both early Aborigines and Europeans.

There are also views of a number of other significant points of access to tracks and major campsites of Queanbeyan/Canberra region. These include the gap leading over the Queanbeyan escarpment to the present day Kowen Forest and Bungendore, the mouth of the Jumping Creek Valley and the Queanbeyan River valley and the low saddle near Bungendore Hill. Mt Reedy, Faunce Hill, Mt Jerrabomberra, Pemberton Hill, Beatty Hill, Mt Campbell, Tuggeranong Hill, Mt Tennent, Tidbinbilla and Mt Coree are all visible landmarks.

The land on either bank of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers is characterised by undulating, gently sloping knolls and ridges that provide, generally, easy access to the river banks. However, there are a number of steep escarpments that make up the balance of the river corridor and provide a glimpse of the folded geology of the place.

The soil nearest the river consists of dark alluvial deposits becoming an orange coloured sandy loam further up the slopes and ridges. There are some areas of clay found near the river junction on the south bank and at least one known area of orange ochre. River gravel and sand is deposited at various locations around the junction. The depth of the soil varies considerably from deep to very shallow over shale and sandstone/siltstone with quartz intrusions. There are some areas of stony soil with various sized surface deposits of quartz and sandstone/siltstone in some of the abattoir grazing paddocks. The stones are generally sharp edged, though there is some round edged stone.

There appears to have been some raking of stones and piling them around the base of trees. This seems to have mainly occurred in the *Hope Lawn* paddock. On the northern bank from this, there are instances where the arrangement of stones differ to these raked piles. Long term grazing on these paddocks has eliminated most chances of finding anything that has been left undisturbed. However, there should be some further investigation to determine if there is anything of cultural significance. The sheltered, gentle sandy slopes and ridges tend to have the most evidence of artefact sites.

The natural occurrence of chert in the area, a stone used in indigenous tool-making, together with the sandy raised banks of the river, enhances the potential significance of the place. These features correlate very well with assertions made by Kuskie, in a report on an archaeological survey of the Jumping Creek Valley, that they are indicators of likely sites for Aboriginal habitation.

Both the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers take a meandering course through the landscape with the Molonglo River being the dominant water course. About two kilometres upstream of their junction is the incised meander loop of the Molonglo River and scarp of the Molonglo Gorge. These features are outside the boundaries of the citation but are part of the larger vista of the natural landscape. They are both areas of regional significance having geomorphological and biological values.

Water levels in the rivers vary with the amount of rainfall in the catchments upstream. The flow of the Queanbeyan River, however, is also regulated by the Googong dam and does not always reflect the weather conditions. After two or three days of heavy rain, it is common for both rivers to break their banks, the flow from the Molonglo tending to cause the Queanbeyan to bank up and flood.

The river flats and banks at the larger bends tend to have a long gradual slope toward the channel. Erosion in some of these areas show alternate layers of sand and river gravel deposits several metres deep, indicating that where the river flowed through the Oaks Estate landscape it once had a slow flow and a very wide

⁴ Monadnocks are resistant hills left from the weathering of the old level surface of a peneplane.

course. This appears to have extended from the stony ridges on the present day north bank, across the current south bank at least as far as the shaly ridge on which stands the Queanbeyan – Cooma railway line.

A number of reliable shallow crossing points have formed as the river channel has become deeper. These occur where sandy deposits have been washed away to expose outcrops of rock strata that act to collect debris. The crossings are no longer in general use but were regular fords for many years.

The best known and most used is the old River Street ford, also known as the “Chinamen’s Crossing” or “Robertson’s Crossing.” The formation of the river bed at this crossing point is such that it results in an island and billabong being formed just downstream from it. This area acts as a natural fish trap and sheltered nursery area for river life.

The river channels are heavily silted and, generally, choked with willow roots and branches. Water flow has been reduced to only a metre wide in places, less in summer. The area at the junction has the widest flow and is probably still the deepest section of the river, although there is an increasing amount of silting occurring.

A fresh water spring was located near the more easterly of the two tallest piers of the Queanbeyan railway bridge in past years, however, the site needs to be surveyed to determine whether it is still active. A spring may also be the source of water that has continued to rise around the south west corner of the house on Hazelbrook, since the 1930s at least.

The most westerly of the tallest piers of Queanbeyan railway bridge stands at the mouth of a creek channel that was marked on the H F White survey map of 1834. Till recently, this gully continued to take the drainage from high ground surrounding it, spreading the runoff over a wide area of land. However, a series of town houses have been built along this gully, directing storm-water through pipes towards the bridge pier and causing significant erosion of the river banks.

The banks of both the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers within the Citation area are infested with many exotic species of trees and with Blackberry. One particular group of trees is a planting of silver poplar trees distributed by the Government nursery at Yarralumla in the 1950s. These have formed a small picturesque forest that is held in high regard by the local community. A line of silver poplars also marks the river junction.

Among some of the exotic trees growing on the south bank of the river below *Hazelbrook* is a clump of Tree of Heaven and Chinese box-thorn, both native of China, which may mark the site of a building connected with the Chinese market gardens. Further investigation needs to occur to determine this.

While this dense vegetation encourages a population of small birds, it also harbours increasing numbers of rabbits and foxes. A range of water birds, reptiles, fish, shell fish and other animals also live within the river corridor. These include platypus, Gippsland Water Dragon, Eastern Brown Snake, Eastern Banjo Frog, Water Rat. (see appendix 3)

The rural paddocks on either side of both rivers are largely improved pastures lightly treed mainly with degraded open woodland of apple box, yellow box and red gum. The trees tend to be around 60 –100 years old, however, there are some older trees.

Much of the original open grassy woodland vegetation was cleared by grazing and by ring-barking during the early pastoral era. There are several trees that are scarred in a number of ways using an axe. They include footholds, holes in hollow branches and removal of bark. The scars are of varying ages and are thought to have Aboriginal, European and possibly Asian origins. (see appendix 2)

Windbreaks have been established using plantings of pine trees around the abattoir site and at the top of the ridge on the north bank, at the site of the Duntroon Trig. and to the east of that site. Box-thorn bushes tend to grow under the shelter of larger Eucalypts or scattered through the open paddocks.

The paddock on the south bank of the Molonglo River and to the east of the Queanbeyan River was the site of the Hope Lawn homestead. Remains of foundations of outbuildings probably associated with the property were located on the railway service track on the southern perimeter of the paddock. Grading work in recent years destroyed them. A dump which was probably associated with the outbuildings and an old fettlers’ camp is also located on this track. There are some trees bearing scars of possible Aboriginal origin in this paddock as well as scattered Aboriginal stone artefacts.

The abattoir, its holding paddocks, the Queanbeyan sewerage treatment works and the nursery paddocks all have a number of structures associated with them. In the holding paddocks on the north bank near Pialligo Avenue and the Duntroon trigonometric station is a residence and sheds used by a ranger who has the job of caretaker. The house is weatherboard and appears to have been built during the 1960s. There is a sale yard with holding pens nearby.

Dams have been constructed across a badly eroded creek on the north side of Oaks Estate Road. Another dam is located on the south side of the road near the Sutton Road turnoff.

The remains of the old River Street ford, and the section of road leading to it, complete with culverts, are still visible and form a lane between paddocks on the south side of Oaks Estate Road. The ford was in use from the 1870s till the 1950s. An underpass that has been constructed under the Oaks Estate Road opens onto this old section of road to allow stock to cross from one side of the road to the other.

A solar powered water monitoring station is located just to the east of this old roadway. A flying fox was used to manually monitor the flow of the river previously. The flying fox still stands on the southern bank with a cable reaching across the river to the northern bank.

Further downstream, in front of *The Oaks* homestead, is a disused quarry that was operating during the early 1970s. A large gravel bed, used during the construction of the Queanbeyan railway complex in 1886, may have been at this location. Sand and gravel were actively quarried from Oaks Estate, the Honeysuckle Lane area and east of Pialligo Avenue for brick making during the construction of post World War II Canberra houses.

In the early 1990s, a cement low level bridge was built across the Molonglo River on Oaks Estate Road to replace a slightly lower wooden bridge that had been constructed in 1948. It is closed frequently due to flooding. Oaks Estate Road was built as a stock route to take sheep and cattle from the Majura area to the new Canberra Abattoir (the old one was on Mugga Lane).

The abattoir, transferred by P D Muligan Pty Ltd, is closed and the complex is currently being dismantled. The abattoir site is described as the Harman Industrial area, Jerrabomberra in the Territory Plan. There are two cottages on the driveway into the abattoir.

The Queanbeyan – Canberra railway line divides the holding paddocks between the abattoir buildings and the river. The railway line was built in 1913 and joins the Cooma line just west of the railway gate house. The overhead bridge on Railway Street, near the abattoir, was built at about that time. The bridge has not been assessed to determine its heritage significance.

The paddocks to the north of the railway line is the location of Timothy Beard's *Queenbeeann* of the 1820s and of a large Aboriginal artefact scatter. A collection of artefacts was recommended by the Heritage Unit a number of years ago. Artefacts still continue to surface from this site.

A deeply eroded creek takes storm-water from the south side of the railway line. The erosion of the creek walls has exposed a substantial amount of crockery, glass and bricks indicating that the site may have been an early homestead site or at least the site of a house dump. A collection of some of the material being exposed was made in the early 1990s. Dates of glass bottles and fragments ranged from the early 1800s to relatively recent times.

The paddocks on the north side of the river from this site were known as the Honeysuckle paddocks in past years. The site of the Duntroon shepherds' hut of the 1830s is in this paddock, the Molonglo River having been the eastern boundary of the original Duntroon Estate. A lone pine tree standing among a stand of Eucalyptus trees marks the site of the *Honeysuckle* homestead site. This area is also the site of an Aboriginal artefact scatter.

The site occupied by the Abattoir and its holding paddocks was leased as soldier settlement blocks in 1919 till the 1930s.

In 1938, the blocks on Mountain and Nimrod Roads that fronted the Molonglo River were leased to Queanbeyan City Council for the purposes of a sewerage treatment works. At the time there were three cottages on these blocks along with a shearing shed and a number of other sheds.

Of these, a brick cottage is the only structure that remains and is used as an office for the Council nursery. The cottage was built for Dick Blundell Jnr in 1912 and was called *Alabama* (later *Cooee*). Other newer structures on these blocks are connected with the Queanbeyan Council nursery. The workings of the

sewerage treatment plant and a number of settlement ponds occupy the areas closest to the river. The creek that flows northwards from beyond Railway Street, under Mountain Road and through the Council nursery is marked on some of the earliest maps of the area.

There are a number of known sites of artefacts from Aboriginal and European occupation in these paddocks. These include the sites of *Riverview* (only the garden remains), the Atkinson family pigsty, the cottage that had stood to the west of *Alabama* and scattered locations of Aboriginal stone tools and scarred trees. The largest settlement pond, at the western end of the Nursery Paddock, covers the site of a stone hut and a Chinese market garden.

The western end of land encircled by Mountain Road and Railway Street has been leased for sale yards and an electricity sub-station since 1954. The remaining area is public land and is used as agistment paddocks, as is the paddock to the south of this and bounded by Norse road.

Urban Oaks Estate

Urban Oaks Estate is on the easterly portion of the citation area. It is set on a small sandy knoll at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. The land slopes gently northward to the Molonglo River and on the eastern side there is a steep slope to the Queanbeyan River. The Estate is surrounded on three sides by paddocks and separated from Queanbeyan, to the south, by a strip of railway land. This landscape setting contributes significantly to its semi-rural village character.

Access to the Estate is along Railway Street, adjacent to the railway corridor. The western end passes through rural landscape consisting of grazing leases and agistment paddocks and the abattoir paddocks via Oaks Estate road and Canberra Avenue. This approach accentuates the semi – rural character of Oaks Estate and the sense of separation from Queanbeyan and other built up areas.

The eastern access is via a railway bridge in McEwan Avenue. This approach is off Henderson Road and is a direct link to Queanbeyan. The original wooden overhead railway bridge near the station was replaced with a two lane concrete bridge in the early 1990s.

John Bull's cottage, now 24 Henderson Road, is located at this approach, on the NSW side of the border. This house is one of the early houses of Oaks Estate and was part of the development of the area prior to its subdivision. It is as important to understanding the early layout of the estate before the influence of the NSW/ACT border as the Queanbeyan railway station is to understanding the function of the estate.

The original Oaks Estate subdivision of 1887 was part of Queanbeyan and extended south beyond the railway line to Derrima Road. The subdivision uses a grid street pattern with the majority of streets running north to south with River Street acting as a line of axis in this design with the Queanbeyan railway station at its apex. River Street was originally part of the main thoroughfare between Yass and Queanbeyan and was surveyed as a parish road in 1886 to provide a direct access between the station and the Yass-Queanbeyan Road (present day Pialligo Avenue).

The Queanbeyan–Cooma railway line was to become the eastern border between New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory resulting in Oaks Estate being severed from Queanbeyan and becoming part of the Territory. The station, railway bridge and gatehouse are all landmarks of the area with the station being the dominant visual focus of the estate. The railway corridor contains numerous relics of past railway activity including a turn-table, goods platform, gantry crane, and a number of wells.

The majority of the 65 residential blocks in Oaks Estate are concentrated to the north of Hazel Street and commercial and industrial blocks to the south. Most of the blocks are quarter acre (1000 sq metres) in size. Industrial and commercial activities include a transport depot, plastic coating factory, and two retail stores. The Mobil fuel depot that operated from Oaks Estate from 1926, and had previously been the site of the Queanbeyan Roller Flour Mill, was recently dismantled and the blocks are currently being rehabilitated for residential purposes.

Other industry including the Boral gas depot and a disused fuel depot is located in the railway corridor on Railway Street. The presence of these sites on a main entry to Oaks Estate detracts from the visual qualities of the place, especially when viewing the area from the train. This activity is on State Rail land and is therefore outside ACT planning controls relating to Oaks Estate. In the past, the Oaks Estate Progress Association has negotiated with State Rail over reducing the visual impact on the vista of the railway station of fencing railway land.

A buffer of land between Railway Street and Hazel Street consists of vacant blocks of land interspersed with two residences, an obtrusive two storey factory building and a park. This area separates the main body of houses from the passing traffic and activity near the railway line. The two houses are at the eastern end of this land and include 9 Hazel Street, the last example of a "workers' humpy" remaining in the ACT. This house is surrounded by pine trees ranging up to approximately 70 years of age and is classified by the National Trust. Some of these vacant blocks of land provide an open vista to the station.

Gillespie Park has a range of mature trees, many planted by the Gillespie family in the late 1930s. These include Eucalypts, willows, poplars, pines and some fruit trees. The Oaks Estate community garden is on the site of the Gillespie home, built in 1895 and demolished in 1988.

Houses in Oaks Estate are spaced relatively well apart, though in some instances, some of the older houses have been placed on a front, back or side boundary or askew on the block. Numerous backyard sheds and garages also tend to be a feature, some having been used as accommodation at various times of their history. This is particularly the case of those blocks that were occupied up to and including WWII.

Apart from the five blocks of two storey flats built in the 1970s, the remaining houses in Oaks Estate are detached and mostly single storey. They date from the 1880/90s, the 1910s, 1920s and 30s, the 1940s and 50s till 1990s and generally hold more heritage significance as a group than singularly. They reflect the major social changes of the region including the arrival of the railway, the selection of the FCT and the early construction of Canberra, the Depression and the World War II years. Their design and construction vary with age and tend to reflect the typical housing styles as determined by economic circumstances of the working classes of the various times. Generally, the houses of Oaks Estate, between the 1880s and the 1950s, tended to be small and cheaply built to simple design.

Construction materials include weatherboard, fibrous cement, hand-made cement blocks, brick, make-shift materials and a combination of all or any. During the 1950s, a number of buildings were transported to Oaks Estate from elsewhere in the ACT, thus retaining in the Territory buildings that were often otherwise condemned. These include a worker's cottage from Acton, designed by W H Rolland (11 River St); two Air Force huts from 2 STT Kingston (16 Florence St and the shop on Railway St) and a dormitory building from Eastlake hostel (now the community hall).

Front fences are an important feature of the streetscape having had a practical purpose in the days when stock was driven through the streets. There are few footpaths and street trees vary and include Hawthorn, Prunus, Eucalypts and Pin Oak.

The local bus shed stands on the corner of River and Hazel Streets. It was built in 1955 and is the last of its type remaining in the ACT. Near the bus stop, on private property, stands a shed that was built in 1942 to store a fire cart. The front doors of the shed open onto the street and still bear the words "Fire Hose Post", although in bad repair. The community hall is in an isolated location on William Street near the Queanbeyan railway bridge.

There are a number of houses on Derrima road that correspond to the character and ages of the houses in Oaks Estate. They are outside the citation area but aid in understanding early links with Queanbeyan and the development of the area. Railway housing on Henderson road is concentrated between the station and McEwan Avenue. Houses varies in age and style and have more significance when viewed as part of the entire railway complex.

Blocks with river frontage, below the 100 year flood line, are of large acreage and have been traditionally leased for rural and horticultural use. The blocks between *The Oaks* and *Hazelbrook* have been the site of market gardens, including Chinese market gardens, since the 1890s at least. Apart from "Hazelbrook" and "Capital Flowers" wholesale nurseries, there are no houses on these blocks.

Rural vistas across these blocks, towards the paddocks and river, are visible from most streets in Oaks Estate and contribute to the rural character. The vista from the crest of River Street is important in appreciating the old track from Yass Road to the Queanbeyan railway station and the River Street Ford.

Slightly isolated from the other, younger, houses on the Estate is *The Oaks*, the original homestead of the property. It was built in the middle 1830s by the Campbell family. It is a single storey stone building with brick and stone partitions and stands within its original block boundaries on Hill Street, surrounded by mature trees and high box-thorn hedges. The site of the Oaks burial ground is under houses on Florence Street.

The Hazelbrook wholesale nursery occupies the blocks with river frontage east of River Street and below William and George Streets. The property dates from the 1870s when John Bull operated a fellmongery establishment from the site and it became the early industrial centre of Queanbeyan.

The house on this property has been substantially renovated over many years. Rooms were added, in stages, around what is thought to be the original structure of one or two rooms built from hand made brick. Mature trees near the house probably date from around the turn of the century. Major terracing work over recent years has covered most early building foundations known to be on the property. However, there are some bricks and white washed stone beginning to be exposed on the walking track below the property fence line.

2. STATUS OF NOMINATION:

The Oaks Estate cultural landscape has a number of sites that have been recognised as having heritage significance.

- The Oaks
 - Register of the National Estate
 - Classified by the National Trust (ACT)
- 9 Hazel Street
 - Classified by the National Trust (ACT)
- Queanbeyan railway station and station master's residence
 - Listed by the Heritage Council of NSW
 - National Trust of Australia (NSW) Regional

Pialligo Avenue is identified by the National Capital Plan as an approach route to Canberra and as such the area adjacent to it is subject to special development requirements.

The railway corridor that separates Oaks Estate from Queanbeyan is controlled by State Rail, which is a third party to planning issues in Queanbeyan and the Oaks Estate area.

3. BACKGROUND:

The Citation area is made up of a sequence of layers that begins with the Aboriginal occupation of the land and is continuous to the present day. As the series of layers builds up, the overlap displays some consistent patterns of relationships between people and the land that help to develop a basic understanding of what people saw as important to their needs.

Some of the layers are better represented, are more readily identifiable than others and need less work to draw them out. However, clues can be found from other places that have similar features and overlapping patterns of layering to the Oaks Estate landscape. Instances of these are at neighbouring Pialligo, Glenburn Creek (Kowen Forest) and Jumping Creek Valley (Queanbeyan).

The layers that have the fewest built elements in them give the clearest indication of how the natural landscape influenced the actions of people. These are the layers that contain Aboriginal activity and that of the earliest Europeans. Places where the activities of the two cultures actually overlap have the potential to allow a comparison of how the two cultures responded to the same influences.

Human activity has been influenced by the natural barriers or meeting places of valleys and ridges created by the faulting, folding and erosion action of the rivers and creeks. This is well illustrated by the first tracks from Lake George into the Queanbeyan/Canberra region to be used by the early European explorers and settlers. These tracks correspond very closely to permanent river crossings and places that allowed access over or around the Cullarin Range. The earliest settlement of the area centred on these tracks and crossings.

The Aboriginal, European and Asian landscape

Aboriginal people have been visiting the tablelands and highlands of south-eastern Australia for over 20,000 years³. Archaeological finds show that one of the preferred areas to camp, on the way to the highlands, was around the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers.

³ Flood, J, 1996, *The Moth Hunters of the Australian Capital Territory*, J M Flood, Canberra, p. 3.

Physical evidence of the actual pathways they would have travelled has mostly gone. However, by learning the Aboriginal stories, observing the lie of the land, taking into account major landscape changes, and by locating the earliest known European tracks, it is possible to estimate where some of the Aboriginal pathways would have been. More often than not, the earliest European explorers and settlers to the Queanbeyan/Canberra region were being guided by Aborigines or were acting on advice from them.

Professor Isabel McBride argues, in a paper discussing Aboriginal long distance exchange systems, that the Aboriginal landscape is crossed with well known and clearly defined corridors based on trading associations, and social and ritual links. The trading system is made up of places and the lines of travel between them and could be seen to connect across Australia.

These corridors are not physically sign posted, but are marked by the nodes of traditional ceremonial and meeting places - archaeological materials, shorelines and social meaning being their only sign. Some places will only be known through story and oral tradition, with no archaeological indication at all. The stories take on the role of maps and record how people moved across the land.⁶

Custodianship of land also fitted into this system. In the case of ritual situations, R M Berndt states in reference to parts of the Western Desert:

In the territory held by each tribe are sacred sites associated with beings that lived in the mythical period. They may be waterholes or rocks or hills (or trees), or caves containing paintings in ochre or blood. Each of them is under the care of a number of adult fully initiated men, who have this right and responsibility because they are associated with it on the basis of birth or conception. These men are custodians of the myth and ritual connected with the site, or cluster of sites, and must lead or perform the rites associated with it.⁷

The understanding of the relationship of Aborigines to the land in the Canberra/Queanbeyan region suggests that the relationships can be broken down into three main groupings. These were, firstly, the small groups of Aborigines using the land for hunting and gathering. Then there is a "clan", being a land owning group - the land they own is their "estate". Finally, there are "culture" areas that surround these smaller groupings.⁸

The work done by Tindale and later Flood, suggests that the area around Queanbeyan is located at the hypothesized clan or "tribal" boundaries of three groups - the Ngunawal, Ngarigo and Walgalu⁹. Clan boundaries often used natural features in the landscape, such as rivers, creeks, mountains and ridgelines, as boundary markers. Boundaries were not rigid, which raises the possibility that all three clans may have used a portion of land, either at the same or different times, over the last several thousand years.¹⁰

The Molonglo and Queanbeyan River systems appear to have been a major focus of Aboriginal activity, particularly those areas on river flats, terraces and ridge spurs leading to permanent water. The higher concentrations of activity appear to have occurred where there was permanent water especially around the junctions of major creeks and rivers. These areas provided reliable food sources of shellfish and fish. Rivers and creeks also tended to support a wider range of plant and animal life.

Three of the largest known camping areas were along the Molonglo River and the Queanbeyan River, almost equidistant up and down stream, and within easy walking distance, from the junction at present day Oaks Estate. These were at Pialligo, along the Glenburn Creek and Reedy Creek in the Kowen Forest, and on Jumping Creek near its junction with the Queanbeyan River.¹¹

Surveys of the Jumping Creek site showed that Aborigines preferred to camp on level or near level ground with slightly more intense occupation closer to water sources and, with an eye to comfort, where shale does not outcrop from the surface of the ground. The availability of food, water and other resources seemed to be the main influence for selection of a site.¹² Areas above the pockets of cold air at river bank level would also have been a preference.

⁶ McBride, Isabel, 1997, *The Cultural landscapes of Aboriginal long distance exchange systems: can they be confined within our heritage registers?*, Historic Environment, Volume 13 numbers 3 & 4, p.9-13.

⁷ Berndt, R M & C H, 1985, *The World of the First Australians*, Rigby, Adelaide, p. 239.

⁸ Kuskie, Peter J, 1989, *Changing landuse patterns from prehistoric to modern times at Jumping Creek Valley, Queanbeyan, NSW*, Honors Thesis, ANU, p. 10.

⁹ The name of Walgalu has not been fully accepted by archaeologists

¹⁰ Kuskie, p.10, also McBride, p. 9. Here McBride refers to the work by Hiatt on the ownership of land.

¹¹ During the early period of European settlement, the Queanbeyan River was arguably the dominant watercourse and flowed all the way to the Murrumbidgee River. Pialligo was later known as Duntroon and in the earlier part of this century was known as part of Fyshwick.

¹² Kuskie, p. 38.

Kowen Forest sites suggest a relatively recent occupation of less than 1000 years and tend to concentrate slightly more on the ridgelines especially those that lead southwards. These ridges probably acted like highways for moving across the landscape.¹³

Without the benefit of a full archaeological survey it appears that the Oaks Estate landscape has similar patterns of relationship between Aborigines and the land that emerge in the work done in the neighbouring landscapes of the Kowen district, Jumping Creek and Pialligo. The natural occurrence of outcrops of chert increases its potential to be a site of some significance. Further work needs to be done to investigate this.

The area surrounding the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers was no less culturally significant to pre-European activity in the Canberra/Queanbeyan region than was the junction of the Molonglo and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

Professor T G Birtles has put forward a number of arguments in relation to Aboriginal interest in the Gale Precinct area of the Queanbeyan River corridor in 1995. While they were submitted in relation to the Gale Precinct, these arguments are relevant to the citation area as the Oaks Estate cultural landscape is the place where the mouth of the Queanbeyan River valley meets with the Molonglo River.

The arguments put forward were:

- The Queanbeyan River valley cannot be separated into arbitrary pieces according to land title ownership but must be considered and retained as a single visual and environmental entity which includes the adjacent cliffs and tree-clad hill tops.
- The Queanbeyan River valley possesses a sacred character as part of a Dreaming Track which links the inland to the coast.
- The White Rocks provide a central and deeply religious focus to the valley as sacred ground.
- Archaeological surveys by Kuskie (1989) and Winston-Gregson (1989) have established major deposits of Aboriginal artefacts, located on a former Aboriginal camping ground on Portions 2, 32 and 51, identified as land under consideration for urban development in the Jumping Creek catchment.
- Some glass artefacts found at an Aboriginal factory in the Jumping Creek area provide evidence of a continued Aboriginal use of the Crown land at Jumping Creek for an indeterminate period of possibly some decades after the arrival of Europeans in the district.
- The development of part of the Gale precinct for urban residential use will intrude into the valley vista as seen downstream, from the eastern side of the Queanbeyan valley and from White Rocks.¹⁴

Journal accounts show that early explorers and surveyors of the 1820s only reported seeing one or two Aborigines at a time. The Aborigines they did meet did not appear to be very familiar or comfortable with Europeans. For nearly forty years after the first excursions to the Canberra/Queanbeyan region began there was an overlap of European and substantial Aboriginal traditional activity.

The size of clans or "tribes" gathered at ceremonial activities was usually estimated at between 400 and 500 people but these numbers declined rapidly after European settlement of the area began. There were some large corroborees still being held in the Canberra/Queanbeyan area up till the early 1860s but these tended to be of visiting groups with very few if any of the local Aborigines present. By this time, European diseases and alcohol had taken their toll. The corroborees coincided with government blanket distributions. Until the arrival of European settlement, the local Aborigines used possum skins for bedding and as cloaks, with the fur turned towards the body, during the winter months. Once their traditional life-style was disrupted, and the practice of making cloaks stopped, they became increasingly reliant on the distribution of blankets.¹⁵

Queanbeyan was a centre for distribution in May 1841, May 1844, about 1850, June 1859, April 1861 and April 1862. There were a number of occasions where distribution was delayed and when the blankets did arrive, not enough had been sent. Distribution was from the courthouse or police station at Dodsworth, a

¹³ Bulbeck, D and Boot, P, 1990, *Kowen District Cultural Resource Survey and Conservation Plan*, The Heritage Unit, ACT Government Service, p. 12.

¹⁴ National Environmental Consulting Services, *Queanbeyan River Corridor Study*,

¹⁵ Kuskie, p.68

location close to Jumping Creek campsite and a short distance from the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers.¹⁶

The gathering of Aborigines from "Braidwood and the sea coast" in 1861 was referred to as an annual event by the Queanbeyan correspondent of the *Goulburn Herald*. The last corroboree, of 1862, was reported by the *Golden Age*¹⁷ as being a meeting of three tribes from Braidwood, Yass and Bland Plains. They camped on the Queanbeyan River opposite *The Oaks*.¹⁸

By the middle 1870s, Nellie Hamilton was recognised by the local community of the day as the last surviving "tribal"¹⁹ Aboriginal alive in the Queanbeyan area. Her thoughts about the ways of the Europeans had been well expressed after an incident when the chief of the local Aborigines, Hong Yong, was shot in the leg for spearing a calf. A local resident of the area said to Queen Nellie "We white fellows don't allow of thieving; our law punishes thieves".

"Yah Yah" retorted Nellie "Your law, I no tink much of your law. You come here and take my land, kill my 'possum, my kangaroo, leave me starve. Only gib me rotten blanket. Me take calf or sheep, you been shoot me or put me in jail. You bring your bad sickness 'mong us. And what is that over there?" pointing to the Queanbeyan jail. "That," replied the white man, "is our jail to put bad people in." "Yah," again exclaimed Nellie, "blackfellow have no jail; ..."²⁰

Not a lot is known, generally, about where Queen Nellie lived, other than a story, which is still to be verified, that tells of her living in a hut in the Mountain Road area of Oaks Estate. It is significant that the approximate site of an early stone hut should be close to a place with evidence of relatively recent traditional Aboriginal activity and a chert outcrop. This hut was on the boundary between the Jerrabomberra Estate and the Duntroon Estate. It was near a track leading from the Kowen forest shown on Robert Dixon's survey map of 1837. The origin of the hut is not yet determined but was possibly built by the Campbells as a shepherd's hut.

Little more is known of Nellie Hamilton's death other than she died in Queanbeyan hospital in January 1897 and was buried in Queanbeyan Riverside Cemetery. Descendants of these early Aborigines still live in the Canberra/Queanbeyan region today.

The arrival of Europeans meant that individual actions had a greater effect on the landscape. This can be seen in the effects of early European activity.

In the 1820s and 30s, what is now the site of Queanbeyan CBD was extensive swamps with the site of Oaks Estate being on the end of a ridge of dry land running northward from Mount Jerrabomberra. The Queanbeyan River near the area of Dodsworth was a narrow stream of running water connecting chains of ponds. There were large numbers of huge size Murray Cod.²¹ The capacity of the river channel was increased substantially with subsequent flooding, the flood of 1874 doubling its capacity.

Accounts from the early explorers describe sections of the Molonglo River, upstream from its junction with the Queanbeyan River, also as chains of ponds. The landscape consisted of low hills with few trees on them, fine grasslands with no trees on the plains.

By the 1880s, landowners improved holdings by ring-barking growing timber. This caused the trees to die off, "water springs to break out where they had never before existed and dry creeks to flow with sweet water that had till then only run in rainy seasons."²²

The early European exploration of the Canberra/Queanbeyan region was directed by Governor Macquarie to look for new grazing pastures and to find the river "spoken of by the natives to the southward of Lake George" (the Murrumbidgee River). In finding this river, he hoped to find a passage to Jervis Bay from the recently discovered Lake George²³ and Lake Bathurst region.²⁴

¹⁶ Kuskie, p.68

¹⁷ 5 April 1862

¹⁸ *The Oaks* property was an area of 100 acres (present day Oaks Estate) on the south bank at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. Around this time, the Queanbeyan River was arguably the dominant watercourse, having its headwater in the Tinderry Mountains and flowing to its junction with the Murrumbidgee River.

¹⁹ Usually taken to mean "full-blood".

²⁰ Gale, John, 1977 (facsimile), *Canberra, Its History and Legends*, Queanbeyan Publishing Company, Queanbeyan, p. 124.

²¹ Gale, 1977 (facsimile), p. 6, 7, 8.

²² Gale, 1977 (facsimile), p. 107-108.

²³ There are stories that suggest that Europeans had visited and, in some instances, lived in the region before the "official" discovery of Lake George.

²⁴ Papers of Charles Throsby 1810-1821. NSW Archives 9/2743-4 reel 6034.

Between 1820 and 1822 a number of parties had set off from Charles Throsby's farm at *Bong Bong* and found their way to the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. However, the most significant excursion involving the Oaks Estate landscape is that of Captain Mark Currie in 1823. The route that he took formed the foundation for the earliest main European tracks south from the Canberra/Queanbeyan area. These were the old Monaro Road, and the slightly later Lanyon Road (later renamed Tharwa Road) and Cooma Road, each one linking some of the regions earliest European homesteads and outstations.

The documentation of Currie's journey records that he travelled with an Aborigine in his party and used the knowledge of local Aborigines, "they being invariably well acquainted with the best passes in the hills." This suggests that the course Currie took, at least in some parts, would have followed Aboriginal pathways.

After heading south to the Murrumbidgee River via the Tuggeranong Valley, he returned along the Queanbeyan River, using a route that passed by the London Bridge limestone arch. Having "compelled" a local Aborigine to show them the way to Lake Bathurst, it can be safely assumed that Currie's party was following an established Aboriginal trackway. This corridor follows Jerrabomberra Creek valley from the Tinderry Mountains and Cooma. Once at the junction of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers, a number of corridors open up to the north, east and west.

On his return trip, Currie went through present day Kowen Forest. The route that he took must, because of the terrain, have been fairly close to the track from Bungendore marked on later survey maps of the 1830s. The Jumping Creek Valley and Kowen Forest archaeological surveys suggest that this route was also probably on or near an Aboriginal pathway.

Within a couple of years after Currie's excursion, the first European huts appeared in the Oaks Estate landscape. These were established by herdsman employed by Timothy Beard at *Queenbeeann*.²⁵ This was located near where Currie had camped, on the river flats at the edge of the Limestone Plains and overlapping an earlier site of Aboriginal activity.

In 1829, Robert Dixon surveyed the Molonglo and Murrumbidgee Rivers and across the Yass Plains in preparation for the proclamation of the County of Murray and the opening up of the area to permanent occupation. The first survey mark to be placed in Queanbeyan was a peg driven by Dixon's assistant, Mr Docker, at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. Dixon also surveyed the location of *Queenbeeann* on the same day.

Beard's men would have chosen the south bank of the river because Robert Campbell already had control of the northern bank. The Molonglo River was the eastern boundary of Pialligo (*Duntroon*). Timothy Beard was a pardoned convict who kept an inn on the Cow Pastures Road, and was a squatter. Because Beard had no legal control of his land, John Palmer was able to purchase the *Queenbeeann* site in 1832 and incorporate the area into his *Jerrabomberra* estate. Beard also squatted on land that became part of *Lanyon*.

By the middle 1830s, Campbell had provided huts for his shepherds on the northern bank of the river directly opposite *Queenbeeann* huts. This area became known as *Honeysuckle*. Gilbert and Mary McInnes came to work for Campbell in 1839 and lived in these huts for some 20 years. Later, the Southwell family worked the *Honeysuckle* farm and in 1919 it became a soldier settlement block and was leased to James Muir.

Early survey maps show tracks passing close to these huts. There were two main tracks linking Bungendore with Pialligo (*Duntroon*), *Queenbeeann*, and the town of Queanbeyan. Because the more direct of the two cut through the Kowen forest, travellers had to negotiate a very steep gap in the escarpment. This was not as convenient or suited for big loads as the other longer route, which went via Balcombe's Hill further upstream on the Molonglo River.

These tracks also served to link Robert Campbell's Pialligo (*Duntroon*) to *Queenbeeann*, *Jerrabomberra* and Michelago. By the middle 1830s, Campbell was in control of most of the river and creek frontage around the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers and the Jerrabomberra Creek valley as far as *The Waterholes*. The track was described on the application to purchase *The Waterholes* in 1835 as the line of road from the Limestone Plains to Michelago. Campbell would have been using "the old road" up the Jerrabomberra Creek valley as early as 1831. Michelago Creek formed the southern boundary of the Nineteen Counties.

Robert Campbell was a traditional Scottish land owner. Being lord of all he surveyed was important to him. He would have seen the view down the Jerrabomberra Creek corridor, as would have the Aborigines before

²⁵ There are numerous spellings of *Queenbeeann*; this is the version used on many maps of the day.

him, if he stood on the high knoll at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. The peaks that mark Campbell's outstations, as far as Mt Campbell, can be seen from here. This corridor is the one that Aborigines would have shown Currie and which he would have travelled along the edge of, on his way back from the south.

In 1838, there was a licensed inn at either end of the road to Michelago from the Limestone Plains. These were the Union Inn, licensed to Thomas Shanahan,²⁶ and the Elmsall Inn (later called *The Oaks* house) which was licensed to William Kaye and Joseph Hunt.

The building that became the Elmsall Inn and, from about the late 1850s, *The Oaks*, is thought to be originally built by Robert Campbell for relatives in the middle 1830s. He placed it on the south bank of the Molonglo River on Portion 35, an extension of his Duntroon Estate. The building was oriented toward the north, facing the river and at a good crossing point. This crossing was where the track from the Kowen Forest crossed the Molonglo River before heading south to Jerrabomberra.²⁷ It was later known as the Oaks crossing.

By 1838, this track would have been carrying a relatively substantial amount of traffic as it now linked with the road to the south at Jerrabomberra. It must have appeared to be a reasonably economic proposition for Kaye and Hunt to license it as the Elmsall Inn and for them to open a store off the end of it. The river crossing would have been a well established and reliable one as it served as access to a dwelling and to the first principal burial ground for the Queanbeyan region until a new one was established in 1846. The burial ground was located a few hundred meters to the east of the inn on present day Florence Street Oaks Estate.

The adjoining store is likely to have been the addition on the eastern end of the inn that is shown in a title plan drawn in the 1880s. It is shown as a small section added onto the corner of the building at an angle that would offer a good view of traffic coming up the track. Being at a good crossing would not hinder travellers from calling at the inn on their way to Queanbeyan from the Duntroon/Canberra area or from the Kowen Forest area. Kaye and Hunt may have decided that they had chosen the wrong track and crossing into the newly surveyed township of Queanbeyan because by 1842, the Elmsall Inn had moved into Queanbeyan.

The crossing that was later known as the Oaks crossing was significant to the development of Queanbeyan and, later, to that of Oaks Estate. It was one of a number of crossings of the Molonglo River within the Citation area. It was not the major point of access into Queanbeyan; however, it was a main one, being a part of the road between Yass and Queanbeyan. The original track across the river was in front of *The Oaks* house. The crossing was still being used in 1866, however, it was washed away during the floods of the 1870s.

What appears to have been remnants of the track between the crossing and the Queanbeyan-Yass Road (Pialligo Avenue) have been eroded and formed a creek that runs along the north side of Oaks Estate Road. After the 1870s, a new crossing was used at what is now called the River Street ford or the "Chinamen's Crossing". This was still in use in the 1950s. River Street incorporates this track with remnants of the track from the Oaks crossing. Until the railway line and Queanbeyan station was built, it linked directly to Crawford Street, Queanbeyan.

After Kaye and Hunt moved their inn to Queanbeyan, John and Mary Ryan lived in *The Oaks* house for a short time before Queanbeyan's first doctor, Dr William Foxton Hayley, and his family lived there from the late 1850s till 1868. *The Oaks* appears to have acquired its name from the Hayleys. Following Hayley, *The Oaks* may have been a hospital for a number of years during the 1870s.

John Bull bought *The Oaks* and the 100 acres on which it stood in 1877 and established a wool washing and fellmongery on 12 acres in the north-east corner of the property, at the river junction and adjacent to the River Street crossing. This was to become the centre of industry in Queanbeyan for many years. Bull later sold the complex to George Tomsitt and set up a new tannery and slaughter yards nearby. Tomsitt renamed the complex the Hazelbrook Wool-Scouring Works, Tannery and Wholesale Produce Warehouses.

By 1885, a syndicate comprising William Price, John Bull, George Tomsitt and possibly others, owned the entire area known as *The Oaks* including everything that stood on it. The station was built on the southern end of these paddocks and opened in 1887. The remaining open area around the station was subdivided – Duntroon Estate Subdivision (the Mountain Road area) in 1886 and Oaks Estate in 1887.

²⁶ Moore, Bruce, 1981, *Burra, County of Murray*, Bruce Moore, ACT, page 12.

²⁷ AO map 3811 Map of Survey of part of the Morumbidgee and Country South of Lake George by H F White, 15th January, 1834

The railway was the beginning of some substantial changes in the Oaks Estate landscape. The area was marketed as having close proximity to the station yards, easy access to the river for watering purposes and being “intersected by all the important thoroughfares leading thereto. It being the most valuable for business and private building purposes ever offered to the Queanbeyan public”.

The pattern of development of the area remained sparse and slow and included a mix of industry, farming and residential. The original subdivision of Oaks Estate included land from the railway line south to Derrima Road. Over and above *The Oaks*, *Hazelbrook* wool works, and John Bull’s cottage and butcher shop, there were four new houses scattered throughout the Estate in 1888. The Queanbeyan Roller Flour Mill was built on the blocks opposite the station in 1890 and, in 1915, was the only surviving industry in Queanbeyan. Development tended to concentrate around the main thoroughfares and the railway.

Apart from a house associated with John Bull’s new tannery on Nimrod Road, and with Dudley’s farm, houses in the Mountain Road area did not appear till the 1890s. There were five by 1895. The farm blocks were largely leased out as fenced land or as house and land.

People buying in these subdivisions were a mix of farm labourers and farming families of Canberra/Queanbeyan, Queanbeyan businessmen, teamsters and railway workers drawn to the area by the increase in opportunities offered by the railway. The first to begin living in the area in the 1880s and 90s were associated with the Robertson, Gillespie, Bambridge, Blundell, Waters, Parkes and Nugent families.

From about this time, or possibly earlier, market gardens are known to have been located in Oaks Estate. John Bull employed a group of Chinese men at his wool-washing works in the 1870s but there has been no evidence found, to date, which suggests that there was a market garden at that time.

The site of the garden was leased from the respective owners of “Hazelbrook”. The lease in 1913 showed the gardens consisting of the area along the river to the east of the River Street crossing. In the 1920s, the gardens extended westwards to *The Oaks* but were considerably damaged during the 1925 flood and were reduced back to the area east of River Street after that time.

The gardeners worked the gardens by hand and lived in a “humpy” on the site. They sold their vegetables to passers-by using the river crossing or by taking them by horse and cart to Canberra and Queanbeyan. They left the area in 1937. There was also a Chinese market garden in the Mountain Road area in about 1913.

In 1901, the *Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act* was proclaimed in Sydney, uniting the six previously separate colonies into one Federal Commonwealth. This was the first of a chain of events that resulted in the drawing of boundaries that severed Oaks Estate from Queanbeyan and New South Wales. The eastern boundary of the Territory coincided with the Sydney to Cooma railway line.

The Yass/ Canberra area was chosen for the site of the Federal Capital and by 1913, long term farming families had begun moving away from the site of the city centre. One of these families, the Kinlyside family, moved to Oaks Estate. By this time, unless Oaks Estate residents were working in Queanbeyan or for the railway, they were working on Government construction jobs in Canberra.

The construction of the provisional Parliament House began in 1923 and with this came an increase in construction jobs in Canberra. The extra work brought an increase in the work force living in the Territory and a housing shortage. A result of this was that temporary housing was used by the Territory Administration to accommodate workers and their families.

Almost from the start of work on Parliament House, there was a considerable increase in the numbers of houses being built and businesses establishing themselves in Oaks Estate. People saw it as an easy way into the Territory. Many people moved from Queanbeyan or other close regional towns to Oaks Estate to become eligible for employment in the Territory.

Having freehold land tenure, being inside the Territory boundary and being close to the centre of construction activity in the 1920s and 30s made Oaks Estate an attractive place to live or at least own land. This was particularly so when people living inside the FCT were preferred for employment on Government jobs during the Depression years. Land values had been fixed to 1908 levels and because there were fewer enforceable restrictions, housing could be built or rented more cheaply than in the inner city area. The housing shortage of the Canberra construction era also meant that houses were at a premium, no matter what they looked like. The housing styles included make-shift materials, weatherboard and fibro and hand-made cement blocks made from sand from Oaks Estate backyards.

However, despite predating the Federal Territory, the Administration viewed Oaks Estate as a temporary workers' settlement, certainly outside any development plans for the Territory. The Administration supplied few services other than sanitation to Oaks Estate. Water and electricity supplies were only provided after a ten year battle with residents. Despite this, Oaks Estate became a solid working class settlement.

The Mountain Road area, and what became the abattoir holding paddocks, always remained rural with the properties closest to the station and goods yard attracting most activity. The earliest activities included Dudley's farm and orchard of the 1880 and 90s, transferred by Mary and George Dudley. In 1904 it was bought by the Atkinson family and was renamed *Riverview*.

John Bull established a new tannery and wool scouring works, adding to them a slaughter yard, from which fresh meat was transported to Sydney. This was located on the river, near the railway goods yard gates from 1888. However, the buildings were washed away by the 1891 flood. A slaughterhouse continued at that location till 1906.

The Mountain Road shearing shed, which was demolished in the 1980s, was probably built sometime in the 1910s on land transferred by Richard Blundell Jnr. George McInnes and his team were shearing at the shed throughout the 1920s, possibly earlier, and into the 1930s. The shed was part of a circuit that included the Yarralumla and Kowen sheds. The property is now the Queanbeyan Council nursery. Richard Blundell operated a carrier business from the property over this time.

In 1929, a special ordinance was drafted to allow the Queanbeyan City Council to lease 116 acres on Mountain Road, for the term of 99 years, for the purposes of sewerage disposal. The lease was finally granted in 1938 and consisted of all the blocks with river frontage on Mountain and Nimrod Roads.

After the abattoir was established in 1938, the paddocks were divided into their current form. Effluent channels were formed to disperse waste water from the abattoir and vegetable gardens were established to absorb and filter the runoff. The gardens covered an area of about 20 acres and were on the site of Timothy Beard's *Queenbeeann*. They operated from 1944. Oaks Estate Road was formed as a stock route to the abattoir in 1948. The abattoir closed in 1998 and is currently being dismantled.

The area bounded by Nimrod and Mountain Roads and Railway Street used to be known locally as the "round paddock" and has always been grazing pasture. There was a training trotting track during the time Hobart Miles leased the property, during the 1930s.

The sale yards and electricity substation at the western end of the paddock have been there since 1954.

At the eastern end of the paddock is a cricket pitch that once comprised the Oaks Estate Sports Field. In the early to middle 1950s, the Oaks Estate Progress Association planted trees and erected a shed using materials supplied by the Commonwealth. The pitch was called the West Queanbeyan Cricket Pitch. The lease was later taken over by Queanbeyan Council for their sewerage works. Council surrendered the lease in 1984.

The Oaks Estate rubbish tip was also located on the eastern end of the round paddock. It was about two thirds of the way along Nimrod road. It was a surface tip for locals and was closed in 1930.

4. RELEVANT PRINCIPAL NATIONAL THEMES:

- 1. Tracing the evolution of a continent's special environments.**
 - 1.1 Tracing climate and topographical change
- 2 Peopling the continent**
 - 2.1 Recovering the experience of Australia's earliest inhabitants
 - 2.5 Promoting settlement on the land through selection and group settlement
- 3 Developing local, regional and national economies**
 - 3.2 Surveying the continent and assessing its potential
 - 3.3 Exploiting natural resources
 - 3.4 Developing primary production
 - 3.6 Establishing lines and networks of communication
 - 3.7 Moving goods and people
 - 3.11 Feeding people
 - 3.15 Struggling with remoteness, hardship and failure

3.21 Lodging people

4 Building settlements, towns and cities

4.5 Making towns to serve rural Australia

4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of towns and suburbs

7 Governing

7.3 Federating Australia

5. ANALYSIS AGAINST THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE 2 OF THE LAND (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT) ACT 1991:

Criterion (iii) A place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practiced, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest.

The Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape demonstrates traditional Aboriginal, European and Asian land use patterns, common throughout the region, prior to European settlement and during contact history of the pastoral era. It also demonstrates how human activity in the area generally evolved around trade.

The geography of the area shows how features such as rivers and ridges acted as barriers and boundaries that influenced the path people took through the landscape and where they camped or settled. The overlap of Aboriginal artefact scatters with the sites of the earliest European settlement of the district emphasises the landscape features that were preferred by both cultures prior to modern urbanisation.

The presence of outcrops of chert close to reliable river crossings and food sources suggests that the area has the potential to have been connected to trade between different Aboriginal groups. Later, activities centring around traditional trade would have been replaced by activities centred around the distribution of government blankets. This is significant when regarding large Aboriginal camp sites at neighbouring Pialligo, Kowen and Jumping Creek Valley.

The urbanised parts of the citation area stand in contrast to the planned order of the city areas of Canberra. The earliest buildings demonstrate the slow haphazard development of the late 19th Century that also centred round trade. With the exception of *The Oaks*, which is an early colonial style stone-built gentleman's residence of the 1830s, the housing is generally representative of the working classes. The houses built from the 1920s till the 1940s show the style and economy of materials typically associated with the Canberra construction era during the Great Depression and World War II years. They all made use of simple designs, cheap materials and in some instances, make-shift building practices.

Criterion (iv) A place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations.

The Oaks Estate cultural landscape is a place that is highly valued by the Aboriginal community for its cultural and spiritual associations. Despite having been changed by rural activity since the 1820s, it still maintains its essential spiritual qualities and its sense of place. These are embodied in the physical form of the land and include such things as the junction of the rivers, the rolling nature of the ridges and depth of the sandy soil, the trees, the composition and character of the geology.

The character of the landscape is incorporated into the spiritual beliefs of the Aboriginal community, which overlap their ordinary needs. The citation area is valued because it is possible to detect the various character traits of different sections of the landscape. It is still possible to determine whether a place would be a good location to cook and eat, a good place to sleep and shelter, a good meeting place, a place that has the required qualities for ritual activities. It is possible to locate the source of materials for tool-making, where that work was done, how food was obtained, where the river could be crossed. The citation area is also valued for the long distance vistas. These are important to guiding movement of people through the landscape and are essential to connecting people to distant places. Conversely, it allowed people to see others approaching.

Criterion (vii) A place which has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history.

The Citation area has strong associations with the Aboriginal/European contact history of our region.

The area is associated with relatively recent traditional activities including tool making and the last large corroboree held in Queanbeyan, which implies ordinary as well as spiritual associations. Further research needs to be done to investigate other possible evidence of past traditional activity. There may also be associations with Nellie Hamilton, who was recognised by the Queanbeyan community of the day as the last “tribal” Aboriginal in Queanbeyan.

The area has associations with the early exploration and surveying of the region and with the pastoral era that followed. There are links with a number of pioneering families and prominent business people of Canberra and Queanbeyan.

The Oaks Estate cultural landscape is the location of the first European land use of the Queanbeyan district, Timothy Beard’s *Queenbeeann*, and the oldest substantial building in the Queanbeyan area, *The Oaks*. It is associated with the early expansion of Robert Campbell’s *Duntroon* and John Palmer’s *Jerrabomberra* and was also the site of the only known Chinese market gardens in the ACT.

The presence of the Queanbeyan railway station indicates the prominence of Queanbeyan in the region prior to the creation of the Federal Capital Territory. It also emphasises the role that Oaks Estate had in the early development of the city.

The later history of the Oaks Estate cultural landscape is directly influenced by events resulting from Federation, particularly by the location of the FCT boundary.

Oaks Estate has strong associations with the early construction era of Canberra. It became what was essentially a construction workers’ settlement. A number of houses have been transported from workers hostels and settlements in Canberra to Oaks Estate.

Criterion (viii) A place which represents the evolution of a natural landscape, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes.

The topography of the Oaks Estate cultural landscape has evolved from the action of faulting, strong folding of sedimentary layers, and episodes of differential weathering and erosion on rock bodies. Faulting has occurred along the Sullivans and Queanbeyan lines, although other smaller faults exist in close proximity to the citation area. Folding is best seen at outcropping of sedimentary layers and in roadside cut-aways. There are good examples of folding exposed by the quarrying of the ridge formed on the Sullivans fault line, at the western end of the citation area.

Episodes of weathering are evidenced in a variety of alluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel found in erosion gullies and river cut-aways in the area of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers. These deposits may well provide evidence of paleo-channels and increased siltation of the river after European land clearing, although further investigation would need to be undertaken to confirm this. This is particularly the case within a few kilometres of the rivers’ junction.

There may be some evidence of peri-glacial deposition, although again further investigation would be needed to clarify this.

Features close to the citation area further up the Molonglo river catchment are the Molonglo River loop and scarp and the Molonglo Gorge which have been recognised to have regional geomorphological significance.

Criterion (xi) A place that demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.

The Oaks Estate cultural landscape has the potential to contribute significantly to a wider understanding of both the natural and cultural history as a research and teaching site. The undeveloped nature of the majority of the citation area allows investigation of evidence of the evolution of the natural landscape. Because there has not been substantial urban development there can be further investigation and measurement of sites found to be significant. Further survey and mapping of the overall geography of the landscape will develop the understanding of human/land relationships, develop a strong sense of place and contribute to the understanding of adjacent landscapes.

The citation area displays landscape features that indicate that it is a potential Aboriginal site. Features that are recognised as significant include:

- long distance views of the wider landscape,

- the river junction as a reliable food source,
- a sheltered meeting place at the junction of a number of landscape corridors
- raised sandy river banks and ridges for camping,
- a reliable river crossing and natural fish trap
- good resource materials for tool-making,
- prior to its clearing, plentiful wood supplies

These features are enhanced by the presence of original trees with and without scars of Aboriginal origin, artefact scatters and a low level of urban development, giving the area potential as an Aboriginal cultural resource. Further research needs to be done to determine any other significant sites.

The citation area also displays evidence of each layer of development from the first European settlement to the present day. The slow change that has occurred in the urban areas and the semi-rural nature of the landscape as a whole makes it possible to interpret early maps and plans to determine where such cultural features as early huts, fence lines, tracks and crossings were located.

The general history of the Oaks Estate Landscape can be seen as a microcosm that reflects changes in the local and regional area. The human and physical elements within the cultural layers of the citation area are associated with:

- Aboriginal occupation
- exploration and survey of the County of Murray and the nineteen counties.
- pastoral era
- the Chinese in Australia
- the expansion of railway transport and the development of regional Australia
- Federation and the location of the Federal Capital Territory
- building the Federal city.
- soldier settlement

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Prepared by Karen Williams.

Thanks to Meagan Cousins for her comments regarding requirements and management plans and Carolyn Paris for her report of general description and sites of significance of the natural landscape.

The citation was finalised after discussions with Ngunawal Elders Don and Ruth Bell and has their approval.

10 July 1999 (revised February 2000)

Figure 2

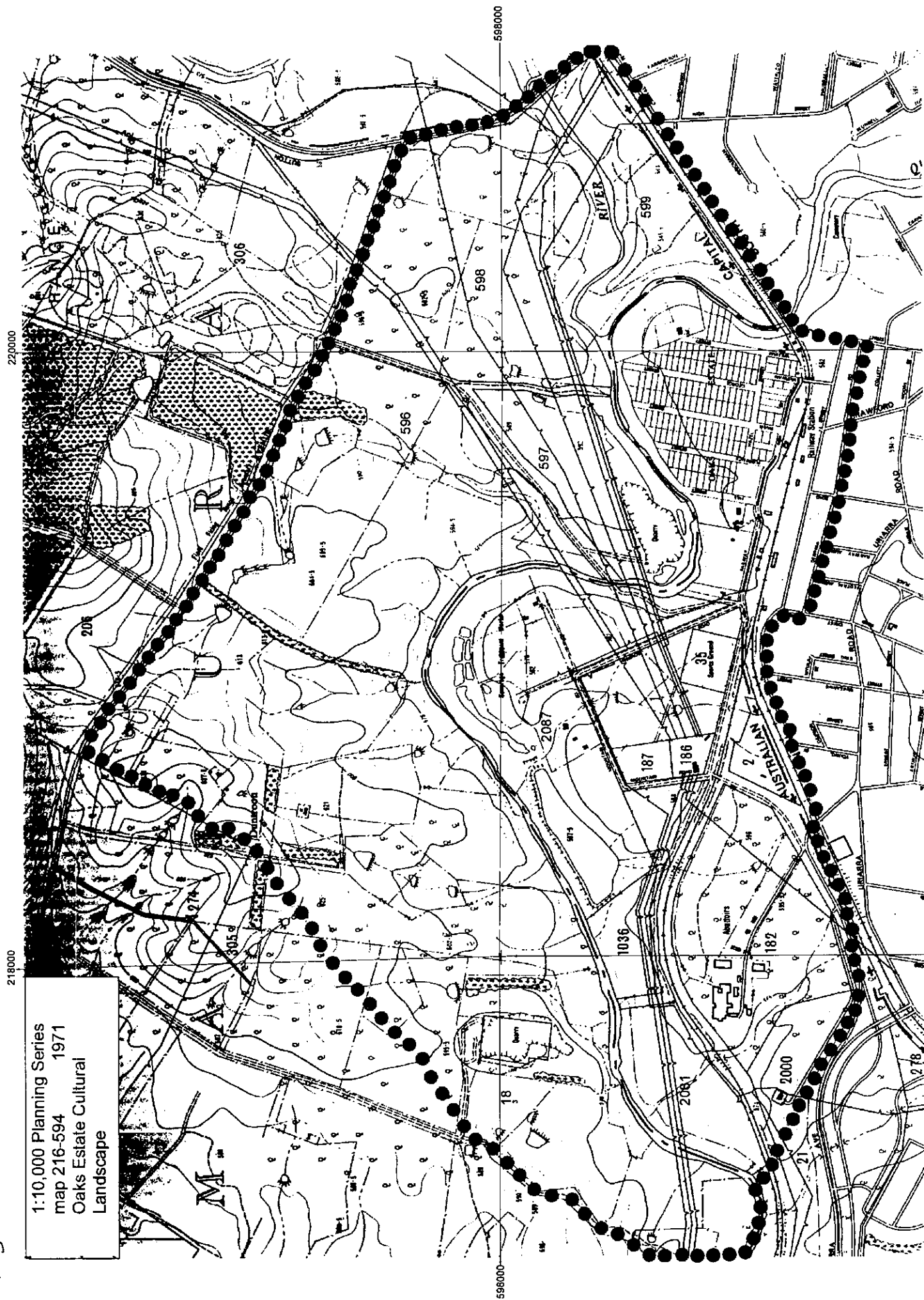
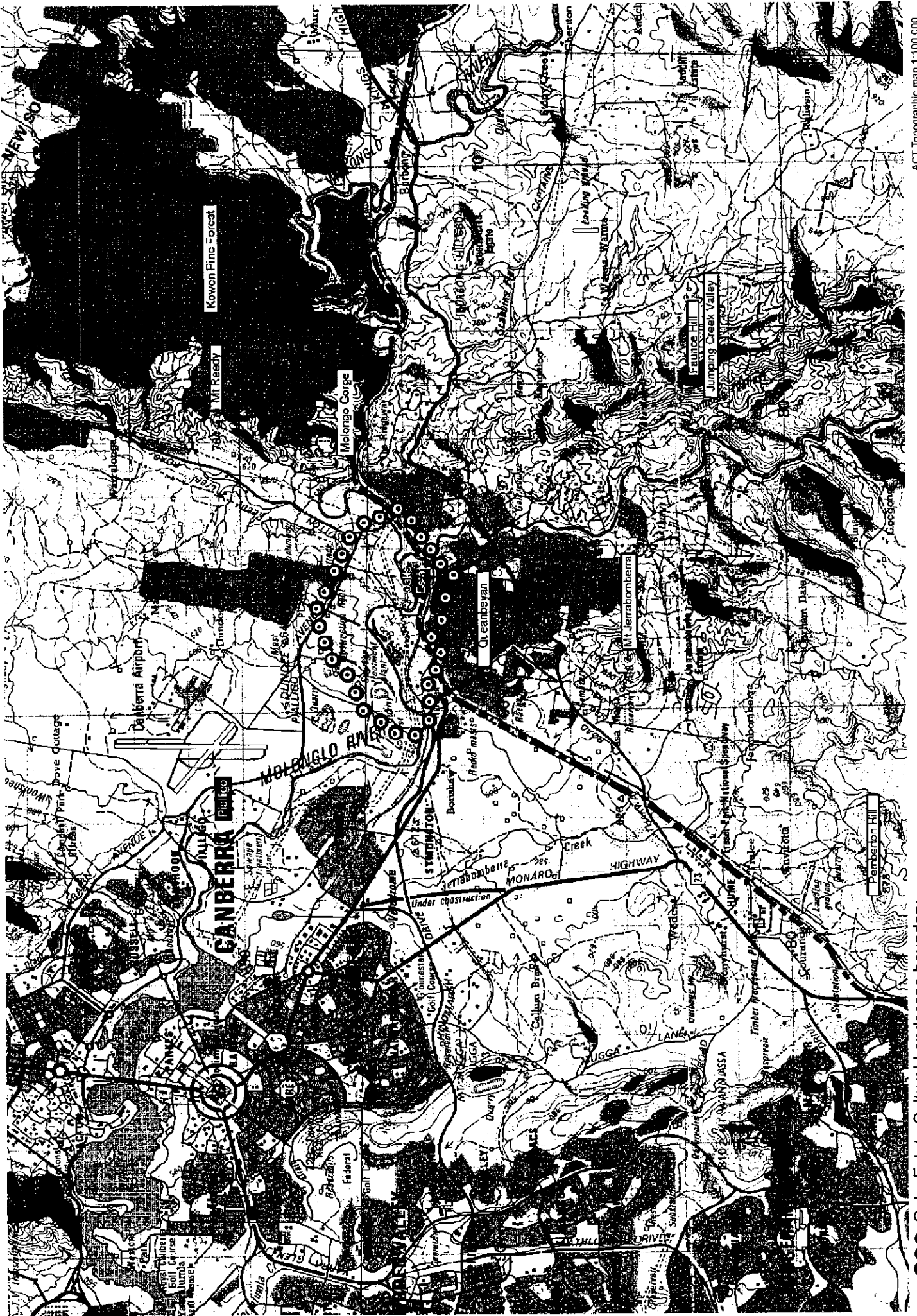


FIGURE 1



○●○ Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape boundary.

220000

218000

598000 598000

10,000 Planning Series
map 216-594 1971
Oaks Estate
Cultural Landscape
showing significant
vistas

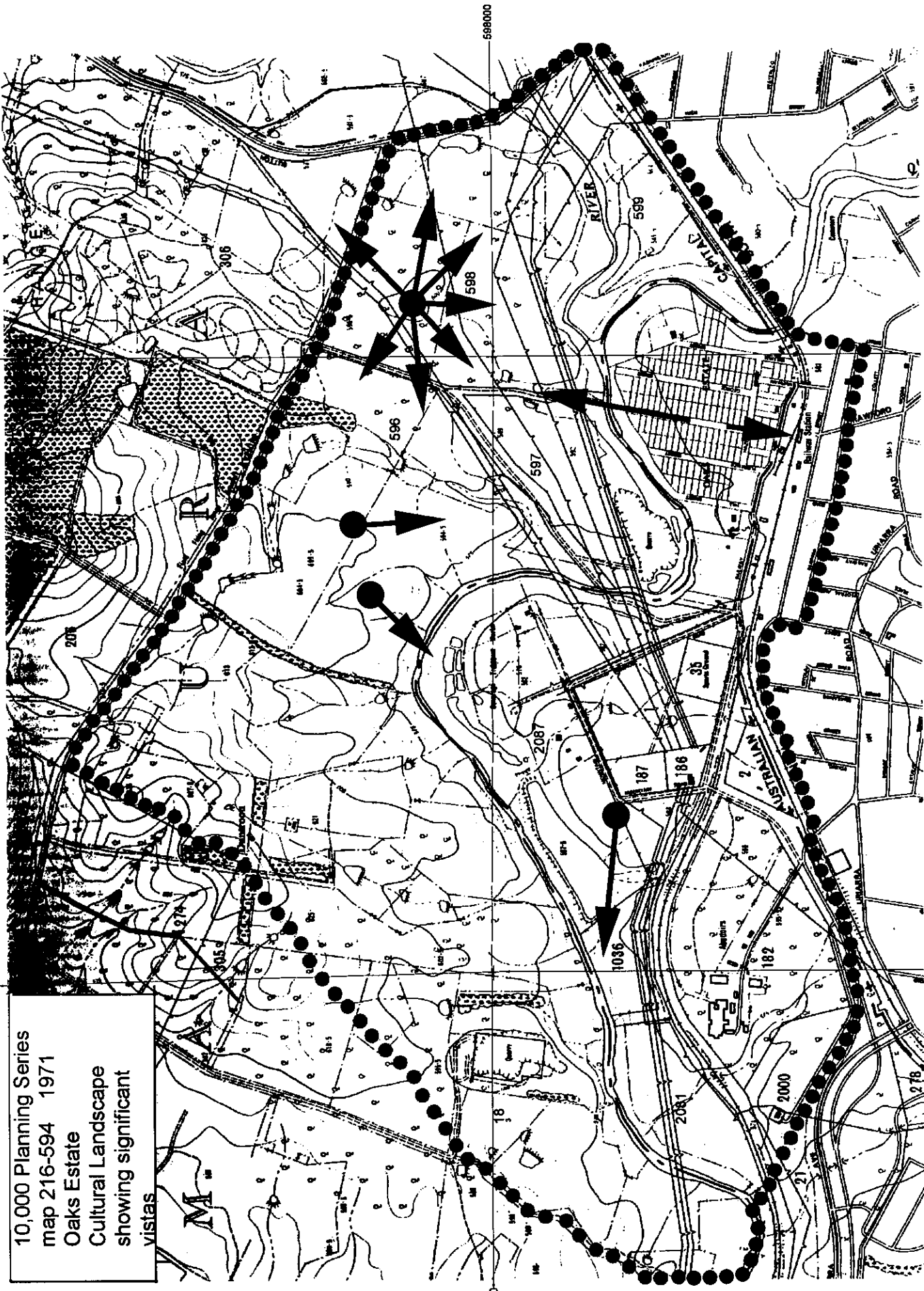


FIGURE 3 BLOCK AND SECTION PLAN

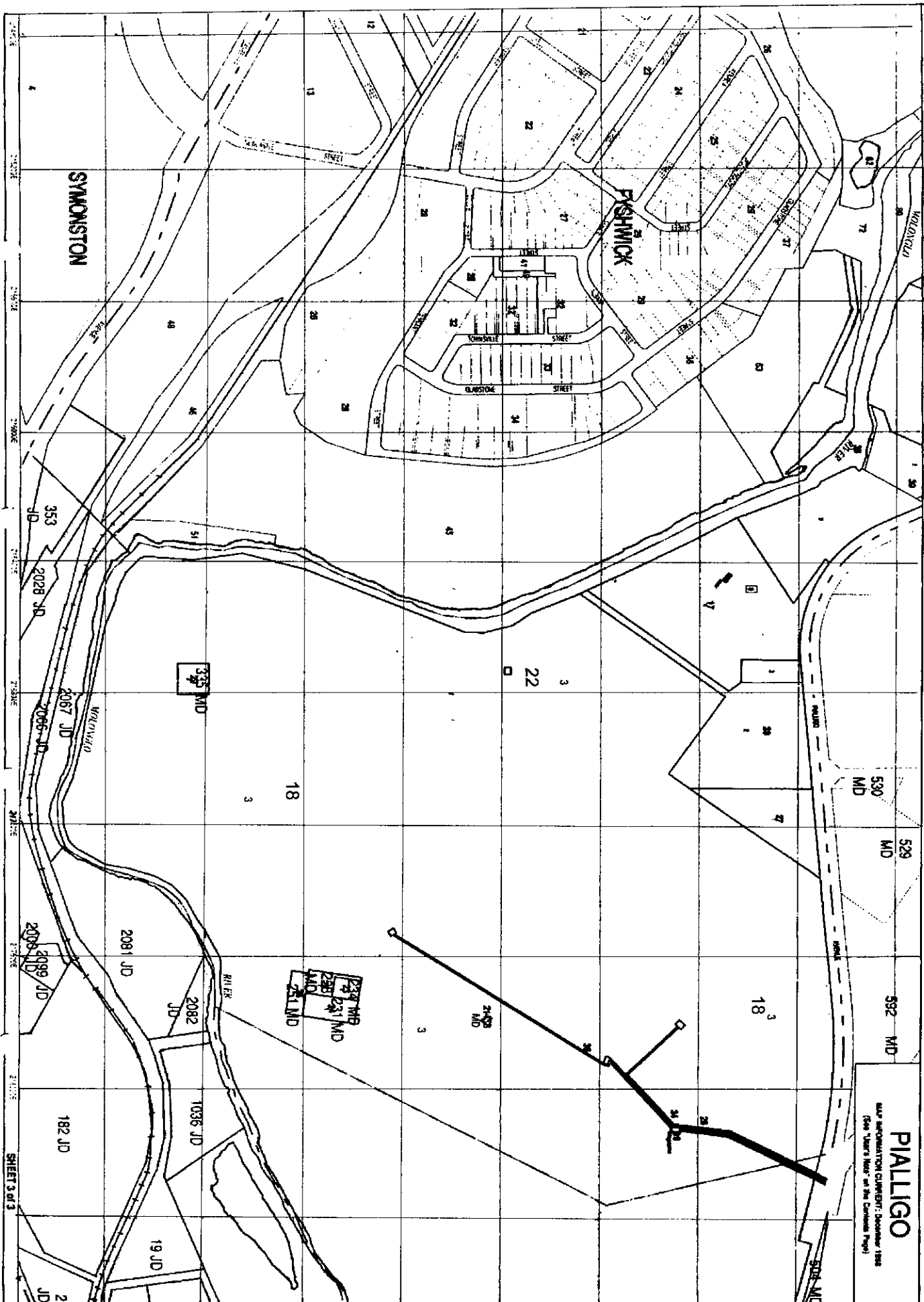
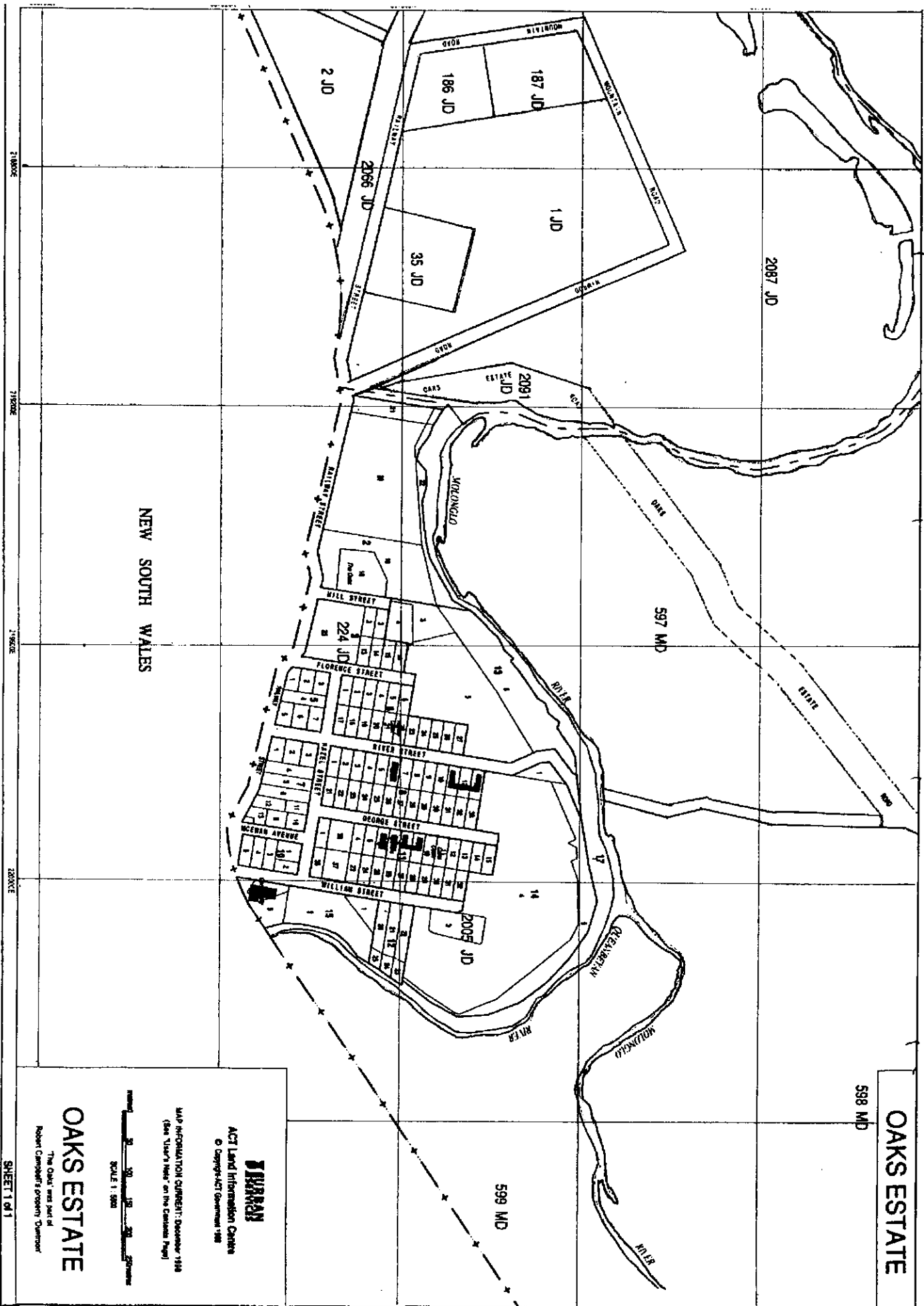
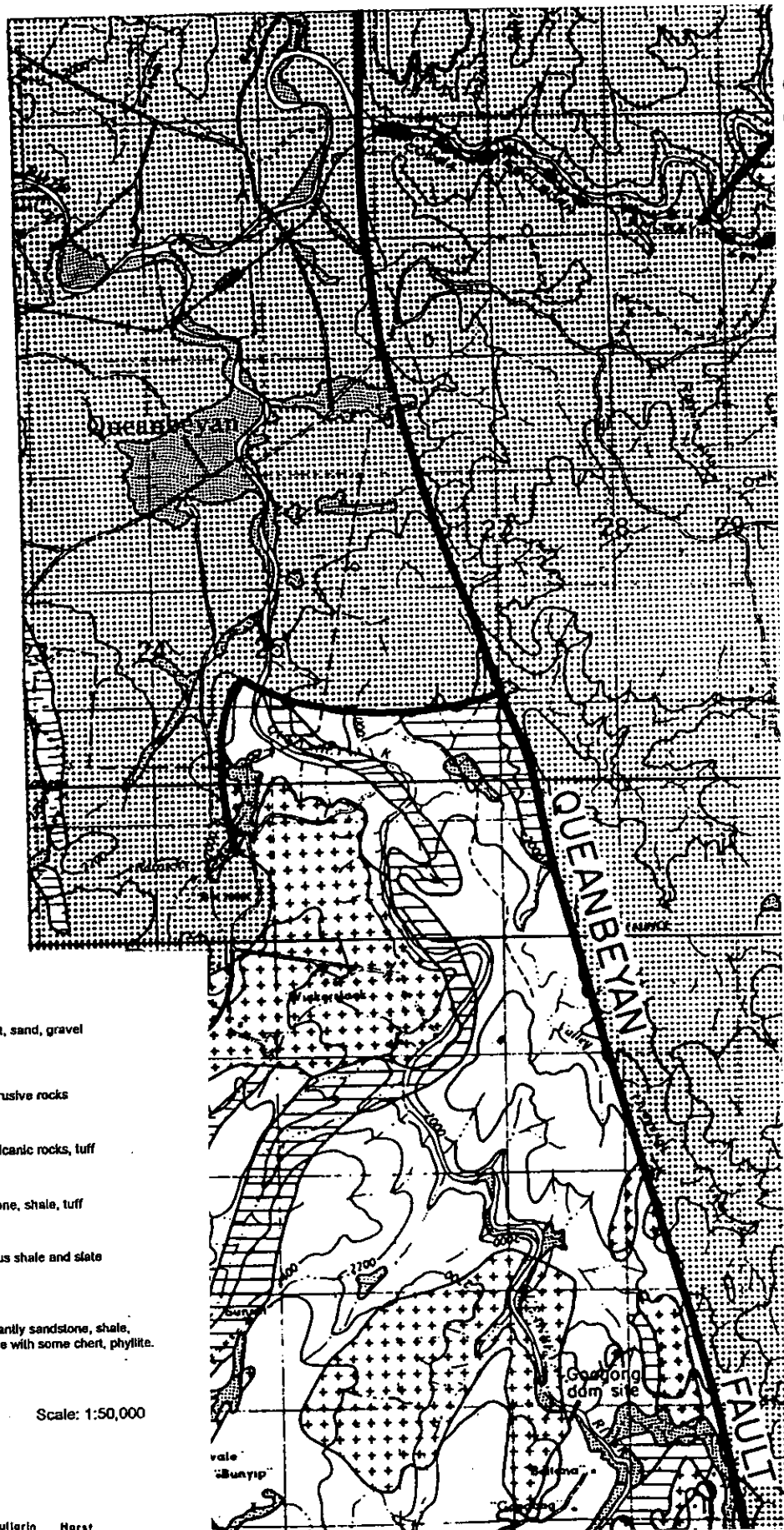


FIGURE 4 BLOCK AND SECTION PLAN



This is a detailed black and white topographical map of a river valley area, likely in Australia. The central feature is the "River," which flows from the upper left towards the lower right. To the left of the river is a "Flat valley" and "Rocky Point." A dashed line labeled "BOUNDARY" runs vertically through the center. To the right of the river are several "PADDOCKS," including "BIG HONEYSUCKLE Paddock," "LITTLE HONEYSUCKLE Paddock," and "BRIDGE Paddock." Other labels include "Duntroon" with a circled dot, "Grey loam," "Brown sandy soil," "Scattered clump," "Scattered gum trees," "Rung timber," "Sandy ridges," "Hill tops," "Ring bordered," "Stony open," "Box Saplings land," "Cleared," "Edge of wood," "Steep & old cultivation," "Steep stony ridges," "Wire fence," "One bare hill," "Six bare hills," "Scattered gum trees," "Scattered clump," "GUNDAR," "Glory," "CEMETERY," "TOWN," "QUEANBEYAN RIVER BRIDGE," "QUEANBEYAN RIVER," "QUEANBEYAN BOUNDARY," "Flat valley," "Rocky Point," "CLEARING," "Cleared," "Slab houses," "Crossing," "Undulating," "Fence," "Wire," "One bare hill," "Six bare hills," "Scattered gum trees," "Scattered clump," "GUNDAR," "Glory," "CEMETERY," "TOWN," "QUEANBEYAN RIVER BRIDGE," "QUEANBEYAN RIVER," "QUEANBEYAN BOUNDARY". The map uses contour lines to show elevation and various symbols for roads, fences, and buildings.

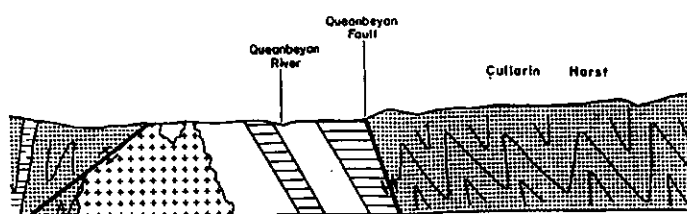
Territory Feature Map
c.1913/15



LEGEND

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| QUATERNARY | Alluvium Colluvium | | Clay, silt, sand, gravel |
| UPPER SILURIAN | Barrack Creek Adamellite | | Acid intrusive rocks |
| MIDDLE - UPPER SILURIAN | Colinton Volcanics | | Acid volcanic rocks, tuff |
| | Colinton Volcanics | | Limestone, shale, tuff |
| MIDDLE - UPPER ORDVICIAN | Acton Shale | | Siliceous shale and slate |
| MIDDLE ORDVICIAN | Pittman Formation | | Dominantly sandstone, shale, siltstone with some chert, phyllite. |
| | | | Fault or major lineament |
| | | | Geological boundary |

Scale: 1:50,000

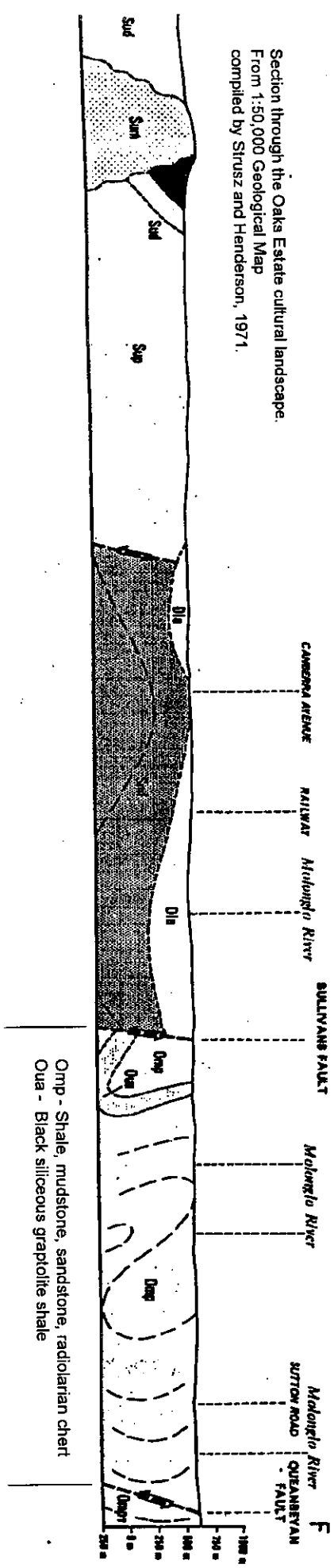


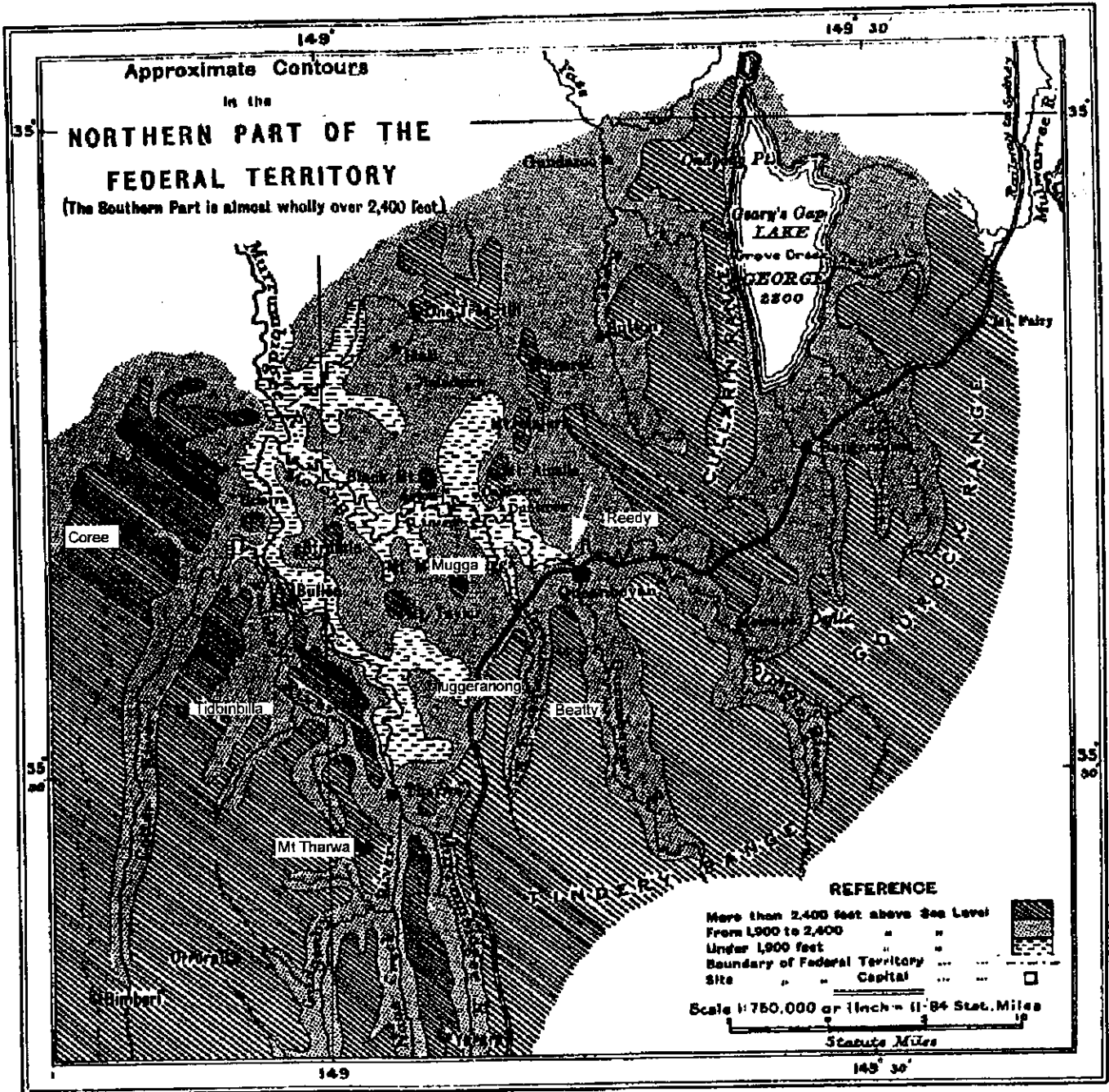
This is a detailed topographic map of Canberra, Australia, and its surrounding areas. The map shows the city of Canberra, including the airport, Fairbairn, and various residential areas. The Molonglo River is prominent, flowing through the city. The map also shows the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales. Key features include the Sullivan's Fault Line, the Queanbeyan Fault, and the Molonglo River. The map includes various geological symbols and coordinates, such as 10°E, 70°00'00"E, 36°23', and 149°15'.

Omp -Shale, mudstone, sandstone, radiolarian chert.
Oua - Black siliceous graptolite shale.

FIGURE 8

Section through the Oaks Estate cultural landscape.
 From 1:50,000 Geological Map
 compiled by Strusz and Henderson, 1971.



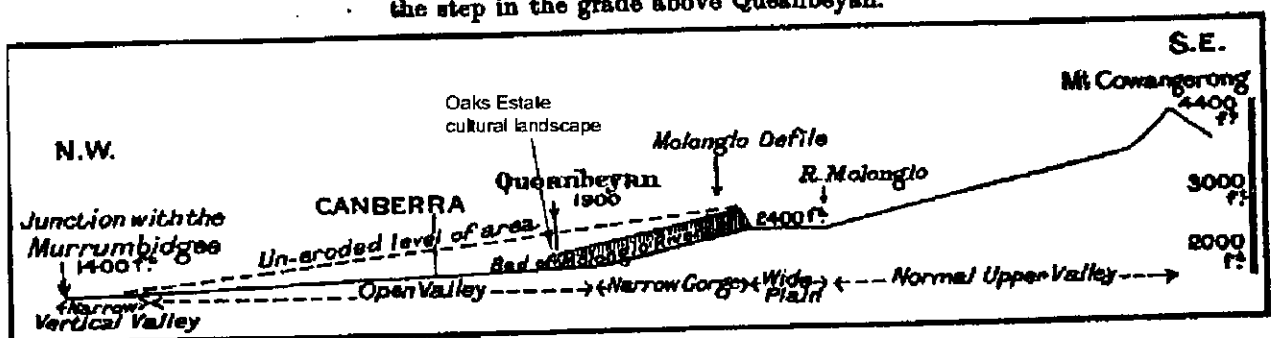


From The Evolution of a Capital: A Physiographic Study by Griffith Taylor, 1914.

Diagram shows the natural corridors and barriers that have been created in the landscape.

Arrow shows junction of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers.

Profile along the Molonglo River, showing the section of the defile (hatched) and the step in the grade above Queanbeyan.



Adapted from The Evolution of a Capital: A Physiographic Study by Griffith Taylor, 1914.

Appendix 1

Places identified as having possible natural heritage significance.

Grid references are based on the Australian Capital Territory 1:10,000 Planning Series and give an area near the centre of the site.

Map code 216-594

| Grid Reference | Site | Description/comments |
|----------------|---|--|
| 217750-598000 | Quarry. | Incisions and tailings provide an opportunity to identify/confirm the geological profile. In particular, this area provides definite evidence of radiolarian chert deposits, an important source of material for Aboriginal tool production, good examples of folding action and evidence of marine deposits. |
| 217640-597720 | Scree deposit | On the side of the quarry – further investigation is needed to determine whether this is a product of the quarry or perhaps a periglacial deposit, similar to that found on Black Mountain. (regionally significant) |
| 217660-597330 | Erosion gullies into alluvial sandy loam deposits | The layers of European artefacts discovered within the soil profile uncovered by erosion may provide evidence of increased fluvial and/or aeolian deposition post European settlement, resulting from clearing and grazing. Further investigation would have to be made into the level of disturbance (ploughing) which may have taken place in the area. The site may provide a similar opportunity to investigate the previous deposition as identified at the Woolshed Creek Geomorphological Site (Locally significant). |
| 219400-597480 | Sand quarry | The quarry may provide a further evidence of alluvial deposits. Further investigations would also be worth making to see if there was any evidence of holocene aeolian sand terrace deposits, corresponding to those identified in the Pialligo Prehistoric Site (regionally significant). |
| 220000-598250 | Quartz deposits | Further investigation should be undertaken to determine the source of quartz. It may either deposited originally fluvially, or may be remnants of intrusive material present further north in the Pittman formation (Barrack Creek Adamellite) resulting from hydrothermal micro intrusions. Investigations should be made closer to the Barrack Creek Adamellite outcrop to see if quartz is also present on the surface. |
| 220100-597240 | Scarp | Easily accessible view of folded geology that has been eroded by action of the river makes this a useful education tool. |

Places identified as having possible cultural heritage significance.

Grid references are based on the Australian Capital Territory 1:10,000 Planning Series and give the centre of the site.

Map code 216-594.

The Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape overlaps both Majura and Jerrabomberra Districts.

Further investigation needs to be carried out of the significance of the ridges, river and creek corridors and other major landforms to Aboriginal mythology and their connection to the Oaks Estate Cultural Landscape.

| Grid Reference ²⁸ | Site | Description |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 218350-597590 | Chert outcrop | An important source of material for Aboriginal tool production. |
| 219840-597630 | River cobble deposits | An important source of material for Aboriginal tool production. Needs further investigation into whether the river cobbles, particularly at the river junction, are significant to Aboriginal mythology. |
| 220050-597670 | River junction | Geographical and possible Aboriginal cultural landmark and significance as a reliable food source |
| 220450-597320 | Building foundations and dump site | Remains of brick and stone foundations and possibly a dirt floor, have been mostly destroyed during grading works but warrants further investigation. Old house/ fettlers' dump site is nearby. The railway cutting had cut through the building and the dump contained crockery and glass from the late 1800s and early 1900s. Needs further investigation. |
| 219660-598280 | Creek | Possibly eroded trackway from the Yass-Queanbeyan Road to the Oaks crossing used up to the 1870s. It could also have been part of original track from the Kowen Forrest area to Jerrabomberra. Creek has since changed its course and its channel mouth was severely eroded during the 1925 flood. |

²⁸ Block and section numbers have been used for urban Oaks Estate and for rural blocks where appropriate.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 219450-597430 | The Oaks crossing | An 1830s track from Bungendore crossed at or near this crossing place. The crossing was a more direct route from the north into Queanbeyan and is marked on survey maps of 1860s. |
| 219880-597650 | River Street north of Molonglo River and River Street crossing | Used since 1870s after the original Oaks Crossing was washed away. Continued to be used till the 1950s as a direct route between the Yass-Queanbeyan Road and the Queanbeyan railway station. Surveyed as a parish road in 1886. |
| 220000-598250 | Scarred trees & artefact scatters (bl pt 596, 597, 598, 599 MD) | The scars vary in age. Some scars are relatively recent which mostly consist of toe holds and branches that have been chopped into for access to hollow sections. It is difficult to determine the cultural origins of these recent scars as both Aboriginals and Europeans were known to employ this method when looking for possums, bees and bird's eggs. There are some small surface scatters in the area. Warrants further investigation. (refer to appendix 2) |
| Hut 217120-597510 Artefacts 217350-597570 | Bl 3 sec 18 <i>Honeysuckle</i> slab hut site of 1830s and soldier settlers house 1924 | The site was surveyed by the Canberra Archaeological Society in June 1991. They found that although no buildings were standing, there was evidence of where they were located in the form of post holes and possible hearth stone. Linear ridges and post holes indicated old fence lines. A house dump site was found near the building sites. Also an Aboriginal artefact scatter and isolated finds at this site. Plaque and recent tree planting complement lone original pine tree to mark the site. |
| Huts 217630-597360 Artefacts 217400-597190 | Bl 2081 MD Site of <i>Queenbeann</i> huts and Aboriginal artefact scatter. Abattoir effluent channels. | Robert Dixon's survey of the site in 1829 has been plotted onto a modern map of the area. Otherwise there is no evidence of the original huts. A collection of glass and crockery found in and around the nearby creek indicated that people occupied the area throughout the 1800s and the early 1900s. Sand stock bricks and whitewashed stone found in the area suggest that a more substantial building had been built later. (see Appendix 2) The site overlaps a large Aboriginal artefact scatter. The Heritage Unit recommended a collection of artefacts some years ago. The abattoir market gardens occupied this area from 1944 to filter the waste water from the abattoir before it reached the river. The area was subject to contour ploughing. Concrete channels follow the contours along the slopes of these paddocks and were used to disperse the effluent from the abattoir throughout the market garden. During the 1940s, a sandpit was located in the south west portion of the site in an area that presently yields the most artefact numbers. The area warrants further investigation. |
| 218360-597250 | Abattoir | Presently being dismantled for redevelopment. Cody and Willis, of Goulburn, built the abattoir complex, in 1942, to replace the old Canberra Abattoir at Mugga Lane. It originally owned and managed by the FCT Administration but was later bought by the Red Hill Meat Supply Co. and is presently owned by P D Mulligan P/L. Considering the substantial artefact scatter on the northern side of the Queanbeyan -Canberra railway line, the abattoir paddocks south of the railway line warrant investigation before any development takes place on them. |
| 218310-597640 | Overhead railway bridge | Further investigation is needed to determine if this bridge is the original one built in 1915 after the Queanbeyan to Canberra railway line was constructed. |
| 218310-597640 | Stone hut site and Chinese market garden site bl 2087 JD | The sewerage settlement pond covers the site of the Chinese market garden of 1913/15 and appears to match the shape of the original boundaries. Further survey work needs to be done to determine whether the pond has covered the site of a stone hut. Nothing is known about the hut other than it was washed away in the 1925 flood and that it is marked on the ACT feature map of 1913/15 and a plan of 1918 of the paddock. Further work is needed to investigate its origins and its exact location. |
| 218440-597600 | Aboriginal site bl 2087 JD | Includes scarred trees, artefact scatter and chert outcrop. Needs further survey to determine extent of site. |
| 218620-597660 | Remains of house chimney block 2087 JD formerly bl 8 sec 7 | Remnants of chimney base of house built in 1890. The outline of the house can still be detected. Owners of the house block were William H O Wood, surveyor of River Street as a parish road; E G Dornbusch, step son of George Tompsitt; John Wood and finally Mary J B Atkinson before being acquired by the Commonwealth in 1922. The house was first occupied by James and Lucy Penney (nee McCauley), sister-in-law of Dick Robertson of Oaks Estate, and later, by John Wood, C L Carter and Alex McIntosh, "happy" Davis and finally James Davis. The property became part of the area leased by the Queanbeyan City Council for their sewerage treatment works in 1938. |
| 218760-597790 | House, block 2087 JD, formerly bl 7 sec 7 | The house block was transferred to John A Badgery, followed, in about 1910, by Richard (Dick) Blundell Junior and his wife Mary (nee Warner). The house was built, in 1912, using sand-stock bricks and the same house design as 9 George Street Oaks Estate and 11 Blundell Street Queanbeyan. Numerous outbuildings including the Mountain Road shearing shed were associated with the property but they have been demolished. The block was acquired by the Commonwealth in 1927 and leased to Hobart Miles and later, Red Hill Meat Co. The house was |

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| | | called <i>Alabama</i> by Blundell and later <i>Cooee</i> by Miles. Part of the area leased by the Queanbeyan City Council for their sewerage treatment works in 1938, it is presently the QCC Nursery. |
| 219180-597890 | Riverview house garden. bl 2087 JD, formerly bl 2 sec 7 | <p>The <i>Riverview</i> house was built sometime after 1888 and was demolished in 1993. The Commonwealth acquired <i>Riverview</i> in 1922 and it became part of the area leased by the Queanbeyan City Council for their sewerage treatment works in 1938. The garden includes fruit trees and decorative trees planted throughout the history of the house. The oldest trees include a plum, a fig and a peppercorn tree.</p> <p>Owners and occupants were Mary and George Dudley who established an orchard on the property and operated a store in Queanbeyan. Others were Charles Haeger, railway foreman; Mary and Edwin J Atkinson, pastoral protection board officer, who named the property <i>Riverview</i>; Jim Johnston, whose goats ate out the 40 tree orchard and grape vines; Sydney and Elizabeth Harman, farmer; Verity Hewitt, author, dealer in book and publisher, and Laurie Fitzhardinge, historian.</p> |
| 219200-597700 | Hut site bl 2087 JD formerly bl 5 Sec 5 | Sand stock brick remains of chimney. Originally part of <i>Riverview</i> property the hut was originally a pigsty, called 'Piggi-Billa' and built by the Atkinsons. They converted the old pigsty into a two-roomed hut when homeless people from Queanbeyan began staying in it. The hut burnt down in the 1920s but the sand stock brick chimney stood till the 1930s. |
| 220100-597060 | Queanbeyan railway bridge | Construction work began in 1886 as the Sydney to Cooma railway line approached Queanbeyan and the brickwork was completed on 19 th May 1887. It was originally a timber truss bridge, the first of its kind erected in NSW. The structure was 5 spans of 80ft (laminated spotted gum timber spandrel arches) with two jack arches of 20ft forming the approaches on each side. The bridge was damaged during the 1925 flood and replaced with steel Warren truss, two 13.4 metre plate web girder decks and a steel open transom top. |
| 219720-597020 | Station and Station Masters residence and railway complex | <p>A good example of a group of Victorian style buildings in relatively intact condition. The station was opened in September 1887.</p> <p>Listed by Heritage Council of NSW. National Trust of Australia (NSW) Regional. Queanbeyan Historical Society.</p> <p>The complex included a pump house located near the bridge. A well, a brick tunnel into the river bank and a weir that was built in the 1930s, are all that remains of this site.</p> <p>Changes to the original station were made after it was opened. These included alterations to the parcel office and refreshment room (1890), creation of an office for the Sub-inspector of Perway (1891), provision of a small loading bank (1892), and building a shed to stable a spare locomotive (1896). There was a weigh bridge at the station in 1902. Other additions included a gantry crane (1903), unloading bank and goods shed (1913), ash pit (1927), an extension to platform and provision of a turntable transferred from Nimmitabel (1928). Refreshment room closed in 1956. Stock yards were located between the station and Railway Street. The goods shed has been demolished and the stock yards removed. The goods yard is presently being redeveloped as a park.</p> <p>A level crossing was situated between Railway Street and Henderson Road where they intersect with Crest Road and Nimrod Road. It was closed in 1955. The date of construction of the weatherboard gate house that still remains is not known but it would be between 1887 and 1915.</p> |
| 219970-596870 | 24 Henderson Road Queanbeyan John Bull's cottage. | <p>Good example of original cottage of the middle 1880s with later additions intact. The residence was built for William Price and was part of the original area of Oaks Estate. John Bull and his family rented and finally bought the house in 1888. He operated a butcher shop from the residence from 1887. The house was a boarding house during the 1930s and 40s.</p> <p>Bull was the second mayor of Queanbeyan in 1888. Both he and William Price were partners with George Tompsitt in a syndicate that owned and subdivided The Oaks property in 1887. Listed by the Queanbeyan Historical Society.</p> |
| 219480-597220 | <i>The Oaks</i> bl 16 & 19 sec 2 | <p>Robert Campbell built the residence of brick and stone, on an extension of the Duntroon Estate, in the middle 1830s. The residence and separate kitchen are in close to their original state. Stables and machinery sheds are of a more recent age. The garden is largely what was planted by Prof. and Mrs Jaeger and the current lessees Mr and Mrs Hewitt. There is the possibility of grave sites at the front of the block towards the river. However, further investigation is required to confirm this.</p> <p>In 1840, Robert Campbell sold 100 acres surrounding the house to his son Charles. This area later became Oaks Estate. The residence was licensed as the <i>Elmsall Inn</i> from 1838 till 1842. From the late 1850s till 1868, it was the home of Dr William Foxton Hayley and his family who named it <i>The Oaks</i>. Later, it is thought to have been used as a hospital. For a brief period it was an hotel when the Sydney to Cooma railway was being built in 1886-87, then it reverted to a residence. <i>The Oaks</i> was a boarding house and flats during the 1930s and 40s and was occupied by the 11th Garrison Battalion in 1943. Owners of <i>The Oaks</i> also include Charles Campbell, John Bull, George Tompsitt, George Lesmond, Emma and John Knox, Walter and Marion Eddison, Prof. John and Patty Jaeger.</p> |

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| | | Classified by National Trust of Australia (ACT). Register of the National Estate (File no 8/01/000/0033). Listed in Sites of Significance in the ACT (Regional Significance). Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT). |
| 220070-597410 | <i>Hazelbrook</i> | <p>Originally consisting of 12 acres, the area later known as Hazelbrook, began as The Oaks Wool-Scouring and Fellmongery Establishment, owned and operated by John Bull from 1877. It was sold to George Tompsitt in 1885 who named the complex the Hazelbrook Wool-Scouring Works, Tannery and Wholesale Produce Warehouses. He formed the Queanbeyan Wool and Manufacturing Company in 1888. The complex was the centre of industry in Queanbeyan for many years. Most of the low lying river flats of Oaks Estate were absorbed into <i>Hazelbrook</i> from 1895. By 1899 the complex had been dismantled and was listed as house and land. A W Moriarty bought the property as house and land in 1900. Moriarty was a land valuer and responsible for many valuations for the Commonwealth during the early acquisitions of land for the FCT.</p> <p>The house on the property incorporates rooms of a house from the original complex. A hay shed and the cement floor of a dairy remain from the years that the Clothier family transferred and worked the property (early 1920s-1958). Mature trees near the house probably date from around the turn of the century.</p> <p>Brick foundations were unearthed during re-contouring of the river banks in 1989. The site was thought to date from the 1880s to 1890s. They were surveyed and recorded. Other sites had been destroyed by the contractor without being recorded, or were reburied.</p> <p>The property is presently a wholesale nursery. Considerable terracing work has been done over recent years that has covered most of the lower areas below the house. Some known sites of building foundations of the old complex may have been covered during this work.</p> |
| 219940-597570 | Part bl 4 sec 14 & bl 5 sec 13 formerly Chinese market gardens on <i>Hazelbrook</i> | <p>The market gardens were located at this site from at least the late 1880s till 1937 and were the reason for the River Street crossing also being known as "The Chinamen's Crossing". The area that was leased to Hong Yick, in 1914, was a portion east of River Street along the river to below <i>Hazelbrook</i> house. In the 1920s the gardens were worked by about 12 men and covered the area west of River Street to <i>The Oaks</i>. This was reduced back to the area east of River Street after the 1925 flood. The gardens were worked by hand. A water wheel helped to move water through the channels that had been dug to supply the garden.</p> <p>This market garden site is one of about seven in the Queanbeyan area. They were not connected with each other. This site is significant because it is the only one that has not been completely covered by urban development and can still be investigated and measured. The area is presently a wholesale nursery and rose market garden.</p> <p>The area west of River Street later became a market garden operated by the Varelas and Tsakalos families from 1939 till the 1980s.</p> <p>A report was written on the Chinese market garden site by Fourth year Prehistory Honours student Omar Chen (ANU) in 1996. The area warrants further archaeological investigation.</p> |
| 220000-597610 | Site of Docker's Peg | First peg driven in Queanbeyan by Robert Dixon's assistant Mr Docker during their 1829 survey of the Molonglo River. |
| Part block 224 JD, formerly bl 12 sec C | The Oaks Burial Ground House | Title was transferred to James Gibbs in 1892. The house built from home-made cement blocks in 1950 for Cecil and Thelma Hamilton (nee Southwell). This block may be part of the Oaks Burial Ground of the 1830s. |
| bl 13 sec 3 formerly sec C. | The Oaks Burial Ground | Title was transferred to George Dovers in 1926. This block is part of the Oaks Burial Ground used from the middle 1830s till 1846 with one burial later, in 1863. Bones were discovered in the driveway of this house during excavation for storm water drains in 1991. They were tested and found to belong to those interred in the Oaks Burial ground. |
| bl 6 sec 6 | House | Title was transferred to Walter and Henry Ginn in 1901. Ron and Lillian Squire built the house standing on the block over about five years from 1947/8. The materials used were hand-made cement blocks in the front part of the house and Canberra bricks in the back. |
| bl 224 JD formerly bl 1-5 sec D | Site of Queanbeyan Roller Flour Mill | <p>Title was transferred to Herbert Dixie and Ernest Dornbusch (step-son of George Tompsitt), in 1890. These blocks were the site of the Queanbeyan Roller Flour Mill from 1891. In 1915, it was the only surviving industry in Queanbeyan but ceased operations in 1919. John Knox was the manager of the mill till about 1915 when the job transferred to C H Bowers.</p> <p>The mill was dismantled in 1921 and the property was sold to Charles McKeahnie. From 1926, bl 1-3 the area was the site of the Vacuum Oil Company's Plume Oil depot.</p> <p>The miller's cottage remained standing on bl 4 & 5 till the 1950s. Owners/Occupants include W R (Dick) Robertson and his family, E D (Ned) Robertson, the Bourke, Neiberding, Flint, Williams, Bajt, Lesak families.</p> <p>The entire five blocks were transferred to the Vacuum Oil Co. in 1954 later becoming Mobil Oil Depot. The depot was dismantled on 1999.</p> |

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| bl 1-7 sec 5 formerly sec E | Site of "Gillespie's paddocks" also known as "Gillespie's Corner" | Title of bl 4, 6 & 7 were transferred to George and Mary Gillespie (nee Bambridge) in 1895. Title of block 1-3 were transferred to Hugh Read, grazier and director of the Queanbeyan Roller Flour Mill. Block 5 was first transferred to George Gale, Auctioneer. The Gillespie family eventually owned all five blocks. Block 4 is the only block that was built on. Mary and George Gillespie erected a weatherboard house on it in 1895, which was demolished in 1988. The Neiberding and Weatherby families lived in the house for a brief time prior to Stan and Mary Gillespie in 1937. The Gillespies ran cows and operated an egg farm from the property during WWII. The area is now a park and community vegetable garden. The Gillespies planted many of the mature trees on the site in the 1930s. |
| bl 1 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to Phillip Flint, Farmer. The weatherboard house may have been brought to the site from the brick yard that was near the Queanbeyan railway bridge. There was no house on the site prior to 1933. Owner/Occupants include Victor Sacagio, Cecil and Thelma Hamilton, Alan and Hilda Harris. |
| bl 4 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to George Dovers, surveyor, in 1926. The weatherboard and fibro house was an Air Force hut cut into two sections and trucked from Second School of Technical Training, Kingston during the 1960s by Ray and Heather Thurling for Wal Cooper. The Thurlings had owned the block and sold it to Cooper. |
| bl 17 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to Joseph McDonald, Gentleman, in 1890. The weatherboard house is thought to have been built in 1937 and extended in 1944. The extension consisted of a Canberra workers cubicle, added at the rear of the house. Owners/Occupants include Daniel McKenzie, Ivy and Albert Blewitt, William Bradley, Evlogi Staneff, Leo Gaborou, Harris, Hansen and Martin families. |
| bl 18 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to John Harris, bank manager, in 1888. The weatherboard house at the front of this block is an example of the temporary workers' cottages designed by Government Architect W H Rolland in 1924-26. The cottage was cut in two and transported from Acton just prior to the lake being filled. It is thought to be Cottage No 2 Acton and was brought to Oaks Estate by the Murphy family. The house at the back of the block was built in about 1946 as a temporary dwelling while they built a house at the front of the block. Cement blocks for the house were made but the new house never eventuated. Owner/Occupants include Allport, O'Brien and Lennox-Bradley. |
| bl 19 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to John G Harris, Bank Manager in 1888. The house on this block was completed in about 1943, from hand-made cement blocks, by Tom and Dawn Robertson (nee Wells). This method of construction was impossible in inner Canberra at the time because of building regulations that could not be enforced in Oaks Estate. Tom Robertson was born in the miller's cottage, Oaks Estate in 1909. |
| bl 20 sec 5 formerly sec F | House | Title was transferred to Thomas and Mary Waters (nee Diggins), labourer, in 1892. Parts of the house on this block may be sections of the original one built in about 1892. Owner/Occupants include Ned Robertson (Waters' son-in-law), the Martin and Johnston families. |
| bl 25, 26, 27 sec 5 formerly sec F. | House | Ernie Borman, Kinlyside's son-in-law, and his family built the house standing on block 27 in 1914. Borman was a plumber and worked on the earliest construction of Canberra. Other owners/occupants have been Henri West, Ernie and Marjorie Royal, Stan and Joanna Tsakalos. These blocks are the site of the house built by John and Rebecca Robertson, labourer, one of the first families to live in Oaks Estate. They moved to block 25 after their house at the bottom of George Street was washed away by the flood of 1891. John and Rebecca were the first of six generations of the Robertson family to live in Oaks Estate. Other owners/occupants have been Henry Solomon, in 1912, T C Kinlyside, Ernest Angrove, Jack Kinlyside, Jim and Gwen Kinlyside. In 1913, Thomas Kinlyside and his family moved from Briar Farm, in the present civic area, to this site. A house was not built on bl 26 till about 1933. The house on block 27 is the only original house. |
| bl 5 sec 13 formerly bl 28 sec 5 sec F | Site of market garden and house | Site of air force hut converted into a house by the Varelas family. The Varelas and Tsakalos families operated a vegetable market garden from about 1939 till the 1980s. See "Chinese market gardens". |
| bl 11 & 12 sec 7 formerly bl 7 sec G. | House and yard | Title was originally transferred to Amelia Southwell in 1895. Walter Richard (Dick) and Mary Robertson (nee McCauley) built the house that stands on block 11 in about 1912/13. The house is the last example of a workers humpy left in the ACT. It was built, in stages, using make-shift building materials including bush poles, flattened kerosene tins, flat iron off cuts, packing case boards and weatherboards. Some materials were off-cuts from construction jobs in early Canberra including the Provisional Parliament House. The sheds in the yard were used as cookhouse and sleep-outs at different times. The original house block was divided into two in recent years however, the original 1920/30s plantings of pines along the east and west boundaries are still standing. The chook house, the first tiled structure in Oaks Estate, still stands on block 12. This part of the yard was used for vegetable gardens and to run turkeys and provided much of the sand for the cement bricks made |

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| | | <p>by Dick Robertson.</p> <p>Dick Robertson came to Oaks Estate with his parents John and Rebecca in 1888. His son Les was born on the block in 1912 and has lived in the house all his life. He presently leases the house from the ACT Government on a life lease.</p> <p>Classified by the National Trust.</p> |
| bl 10 sec 7 formerly sec G | House | <p>Title was transferred to Charles McKeahnie, a grazier, in 1901. McKeahnie built the house for Rolly and Georgina Robinson in the early to middle 1920s. The house, still standing on the block, was built using hand-made cement blocks made by Dick Robertson. They were laid by Daniel McCauley. Owners/occupants have included Charles and Nada McMurray (nee Robinson), and Fred and Olive Borman (nee Sheedy).</p> <p>The frontage of the house was altered substantially in the 1970s.</p> |
| bl 1 and 21 sec 8 formerly sec H | House | <p>Title was transferred to Nathaniel Basnett in 1890. The houses on these blocks were built for Edward Ryan in about 1926. They are identical examples of Hudson ready-cut houses; an early form of pre-fabricated housing ordered from a catalogue. Owners/Occupiers of block 1 include W K Newbold, Claude Wilson, Jack and Alice Field and their family. Owners/Occupiers of block 21 include Robert and Esther Leitch, Lillith and Malcolm McDonald, George and Lillian Daniel, the Axelby family, Roy and Alice Ryan, Lloyd and Isabel Daniel.</p> <p>The frontage and cladding on the house on block 21 has been substantially changed. The exterior of the house on block 1 is mostly intact except for some of the windows.</p> |
| bl 2, 3 and 4 sec 8 formerly sec H | Houses | <p>Title was transferred to James Gibbs, grazier, in 1892. Sydney Ryan, a Dentist who practiced in Qucanbeyan, speculatively built the houses on these blocks in 1924. An identical four room design was used for each weatherboard house and each was characterised by a bull-nosed front verandah. The building work was done by O'Rourke builder/carpenters of Qucanbeyan. They were funeral directors as a side business. Dan McCauley is thought to have built the chimneys. Owner/Occupiers: block 2 were Cyril and Ethel Rostron (nee Cotterill); block 3 include William Makin, John (Jim) and Charlotte Cotterill (nee Hutchison), Ernest Rawlings, Alan and Margaret Hebditch, Roy and Alice Ryan; block 4 include the Emblin and Martin families, Blewitt, Speering, Hopkins, Muir, Snow and Eversons.</p> |
| bl 5 sec 8 formerly H | House | <p>Title was transferred to James Gibbs in 1892. The weatherboard house was built on this block in stages, beginning with two rooms and a shelter for cooking, in about 1926. A more permanent cook house and other rooms were gradually added later. Charlotte Byrne (nee Hutchison) and her family lived in the house from 1926.</p> |
| bl 7 sec 8 formerly H | House | <p>Title of the block was transferred to Walter and Henry Ginn in 1901. The house on this block was built, during the late 1920s, partly from hand-made cement blocks made by Dick Robertson. It was built for Ned Robertson whose daughter Ivy and her family lived in it from 1939 till about 1990.</p> |
| bl 9 sec 8 formerly H | House | <p>Title was transferred to E D (Ned) Robertson in 1902. However, Ned and his family were living in a house on the block in the late 1890s. Ned came to Oaks Estate with his parents John and Rebecca in 1888. The Robertson family occupied the house till the 1960s.</p> <p>The house was built using make-shift materials in stages from this time. The only original parts of the house left standing are the two front rooms that were built in about 1906 using bricks from a brick-yard that had closed down at Captains Flat. The back parts of the house, recently demolished, were photographed during demolition and a piece of wall lining was conserved.</p> |
| bl 24 sec 8 | Shed | <p>Title was transferred to Ann Parkes in 1892. The original house on this block was built in 1893 and was demolished prior to the 1913 survey of Oaks Estate and a new house was built sometime before 1933, with extensions in the 1940s. It still stands today. Owners/Occupants include Ann Parkes who later married Phillip Williams, George Lineham, Albert Blewitt, James and Alma Goiser, Angeline and Francis Roberts.</p> <p>A slab shed stands at the rear of this block parallel with the back fence line. The shed appears to be in the same location as a shed marked on the 1913 survey plan. Its position, just neatly inside the boundary line, suggests that it was built after subdivision of Oaks Estate. This would make the shed a possible relic of either Phillip and Anne Williams (nee Parkes) or George Lineham. The way that the shed has been finished with newspaper, painted linoleum and hessian linings on the walls and ceilings, and the fact that it has a chimney and fireplace suggests that it may have been lived in at some stage. Jimmy Goiser used it as a tanning shed.</p> |
| bl 25 sec 8 formerly sec H | House | <p>Title was transferred to Joseph and Eliza Thompson (nee Graham), labourer, in 1888. This is the site of one of the first post-subdivision houses in Oaks Estate. The present house, however, was not built till just after the 1913 survey of Oaks Estate and is the same design as the house at the Council Nursery on Mountain Road and another at 11 Blundell Street Qucanbeyan.</p> <p>Owner/Occupants include P Collett, J Greenwood, Mrs Graham, E Evans, John Knox, Hugh Graham, the Winter family, Roots, Gribble, Mayo, Charlton, Davis, Borman, Martin, Smith, Wade, Blewitt, Taylor.</p> <p>The front rooms are the only original parts of the house. Recent additions, by the present owners Jon Burchill and Meagan Cousins, have incorporated recycled materials from numerous sources</p> |

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| | | including bricks from the original house on block 23 sec 8 (c. 1895), materials of a house from HMS Creswell, roof timbers from the clothing stores Duntroon (included timbers sawn on site in 1926), 26 loads of bricks from the demolished Macedonian church in Crawford St Queanbeyan. |
| bl 26 sec 8 formerly sec H | House | Title was transferred to Ned and Jane Robertson in 1925. The house on this block was built in 1926/27 using cement blocks made by Dick Robertson. Occupants included the Moon, McKenzie, Miners and Charlton families. |
| Part sec 14 formerly bl 40 sec H | Site of dairy | Title was transferred to Rebecca and John Robertson in 1888. Site of one of the first post-subdivision houses in Oaks Estate in 1888/9. However, the Robertson's house was washed away in 1891 and they moved to River Street. This block later became part of Hazelbrook and the site of a 5 pen dairy run by the Clothier family between the 1930s and the 1950s. A row of pine trees, a cement floor and some fence posts are all that remain of the dairy. |
| bl 1 & 36 sec 11 formerly bl 1 & 20 sec K | House | Title was transferred to William Abbey in 1888. These semi-detached houses are the oldest surviving of those built after subdivision. They were built of brick by William Abbey, a builder, from Queanbeyan in 1888/9. He built a number of houses in the town. The houses were mostly rented. Occupants including Greenwood, Pickersgill, Vincent, Bayley, Soley, Simpson and to James Cooper and J Gifford who were connected with the Roller Flour Mill. Other Owner/Occupants include Mary Maguire (nee Sullivan, of <i>Springbank</i>), Cocks, Deane, Snow, Martin, Furlonger, Neiberding, Robertson, Borman, Corsini and Martin. |
| bl 38 sec 11 formerly bl 3 sec K | House | Title was transferred to John Fitzgibbon in 1913. The weatherboard house standing on the front of the block was built in 1924/25 and was occupied by the Woods family from that time. A second but smaller house was later built on the back of the block and extended to two storeys in the 1950s. Other owner/occupants were the Fleming family and the Junge family. These houses have been substantially renovated in recent years. |
| bl 4 sec 11 formerly sec K | House | Title was transferred to Michael Broderick, a farmer, in 1903. The weatherboard house standing on this block was marked on the 1913 survey map. Owner/Occupants include Winter, McJannett, Flanagan and Thurling. The Thurlings operated a trucking business from this block before moving to William Street and finally to the purpose-built shed on McEwan Avenue. |
| bl 5 sec 11 formerly sec K | House | Title was transferred to Edna Bourne in 1926 and to William Bradley in 1937. The Bradley family transported the house still standing on the block from the Molonglo Settlement. The house was remodelled and the roof replaced after it was blown off during a storm that tore through part of Canberra in the 1950s. Owners/Occupants also include Graham and Krastins and Creamer. |
| bl 23 sec 11 formerly sec K | House | Title was transferred to James Williams, grazier, in 1894. The fibro house on this block, a War Service Loans home, was built for Albert (Phil) and Joan Woods in the early 1950s. Apart from <i>Hazelbrook</i> , it was one of only three houses in William Street during the early 1950s. Other owners of the block include Thomas Waters and William Flanagan. |
| bl 20 sec 12 formerly bl 10 sec 20 | House | Title transferred to George Dovers, Surveyor, in 1926. Title transferred to Bede Tongs, carpenter and joiner, in 1946 who, with his wife Joan, built the weatherboard house that still stands on the block. It was the first post WW II house in William Street. |
| bl 5 sec 15 formerly bl 1 & 2 sec L. 1 | Community Hall | The building was trucked from Eastlake Hostel in early 1953. It was a dormitory building divided into small rooms. The Oaks Estate community replaced the inner walls, lining and Cypress Pine floor. The hall was used as a Mothercraft centre, as a meeting place for the Oaks Estate Progress Association and as a function room, etc. Fund-raising dances were held at the hall as well as wedding receptions and the Oaks Estate children's Christmas parties. In about 1991/92, the hall was moved back about 1 metre from its original location and southern end was extended. |

Appendix 2

The Queanbeyan Ring Road archaeological survey that included parts of the Oaks Estate cultural landscape found that its study area did not have a high degree of potential for extent Aboriginal archaeological sites or items. However, there was the potential for sites to exist in the study area that were not visible due to ground cover or buried deep in the subsoil on the alluvial flats. Further work was required where the ground surface was not visible.

Majura Cultural Resource Survey (blocks, pt 596, 597, 598, 599 Majura) – Moffit 1997, refer to Appendix 2 pages 1-6.

A second report on these paddocks is incomplete at time of writing citation.

believes that Aboriginal sites (including scarred trees) within the project area are important to the heritage of the Ngunnawal people and should be preserved. Mr Bell has requested that Aboriginal representatives from his organisation be permitted to view the sites within the project area. Arrangements are currently being made to accompany these representatives to the sites.

7.0 Archaeological Site Description

7.1 Aboriginal Scarred Trees

T1 is a living, mature, *E. melliodora* (Yellow Box) in poor health (Plate 3, Figure 1). This tree is of a Vigour Class 3 (Plate 2) and suffers from soil degradation, bark mutilation, borer beetle attack, and termite infestation. Trees surrounding T1 are dead. Artefactual scarring on T1 has a number of rare characteristics including:

- only canoe scar in the ACT on a living Yellow Box tree.
- largest canoe scar in the ACT.
- largest Aboriginal scar on a tree in the ACT.
- only Yellow Box in ACT with metal axe marks.
- only one of two confidently identified Aboriginal scarred trees in the very large category (Beesley 1989) defined as being > 270cm in length.
- member of the only recorded grouping of Aboriginal scarred trees from the period of European settlement in the ACT.

The following data was recorded for T1:

Maximum scar length (including regrowth): 470cm
 Maximum scar length (excluding regrowth): 460cm
 Maximum scar width (including regrowth): 120cm
 Maximum scar width (excluding regrowth): 110cm
 Maximum width of regrowth: 10cm
 Maximum depth of regrowth: 10cm
 Height to scar interior above ground: 0cm (scar touches ground)
 Direction of scar facing: West
 Approximate tree height: 15m
 Tree lean: 10-15° East
 Circumference of tree at DBHOB (1.3m above ground): 131cm
 Nature of callus: symmetrical, pointed at top
 Insect attack: extensive (termite infestation in 30% of visible scar, borer beetle infestation in 100% of visible scar).
 Features: metal axe marks 30-40cm, 80cm, and 110cm above ground on scar surface. Cattle have rubbed a number of these axe marks smooth.

T2 is a living, mature, *E. blakelyi* (Blakely's Red Gum) in excellent health (Plate 4, Figure 1). This tree is of a Vigour Class 1 (Plate 2) and suffers minor insect infestation. Artefactual scarring on T2 has a number of rare characteristics including:

- unique shape.
- metal axe marks.
- member of the only recorded grouping of Aboriginal scarred trees from the period of European settlement in the ACT.

The following data was recorded for T2:

Maximum scar length (including regrowth): 240cm

Maximum scar length (excluding regrowth): 195cm

Maximum scar width (including regrowth): 60cm

Maximum scar width (excluding regrowth): 33cm

Maximum width of regrowth: 15cm

Maximum depth of regrowth: 12cm

Height to scar interior above ground: 52cm

Direction of scar facing: South

Approximate tree height: 13m

Tree lean: 25° East

Circumference of tree at DBHOB (1.3m above ground): 391cm

Nature of callus: symmetrical, parallel sides, rounded at top and bottom

Insect attack: negligible (borer beetle infestation in 20% of visible scar)

Features: metal axe marks throughout scar surface. Axe marks are vertical and horizontal and quite random throughout the scar. 3 clusters of rusted spikes occur on the surface bark of the tree. 2 machine made nails penetrate the left side of the tree.

T3 is a living, mature, *E. blakelyi* (Blakely's Red Gum) in moderate health (Plate 5, Figure 1). This tree is of a Vigour Class 2 (Plate 2) and suffers severe termite infestation. Artefactual scarring on T3 has a number of rare characteristics including:

- metal axe marks.
- member of the only recorded grouping of Aboriginal scarred trees from the period of European settlement in the ACT.

The following data was recorded for T3:

Maximum scar length (including regrowth): 170cm

Maximum scar length (excluding regrowth): 131cm

Maximum scar width (including regrowth): 50cm

Maximum scar width (excluding regrowth): 26cm

Maximum width of regrowth: 20cm

Maximum depth of regrowth: 12cm

Height to scar interior above ground: 83cm

Direction of scar facing: South
Approximate tree height: 18m

Tree lean: 40° East

Circumference of tree at DBHOB (1.3m above ground): 350cm

Nature of callus: symmetrical, parallel sides, pointed at top and bottom
Insect attack: extensive (borer beetle infestation in 100% of visible scar),
termite infestation has obliterated 95% of the scar surface and has
hollowed the heartwood from the tree stem.

Features: metal axe marks on scar surface (22cm from ground)

T4 is a living, mature, *E. melliodora* (Yellow Box) in moderate health (Plate 6-7, Figure 1). This tree is of a Vigour Class 2 (Plate 2) and suffers minor insect infestation. Artefactual scarring on T4 has one rare characteristic:

- only known Yellow Box in the ACT with multiple Aboriginal scars (two scars).

The following data was recorded for T4 (SSW scar/N scar):

Maximum scar length (including regrowth): 160cm/163cm

Maximum scar length (excluding regrowth): 132cm/145cm

Maximum scar width (including regrowth): 30cm/46cm

Maximum scar width (excluding regrowth): 10/26cm

Maximum width of regrowth: 10cm/15cm

Maximum depth of regrowth: 25cm/24cm

Height to scar interior above ground: 202cm/163cm

Direction of scar facing: South-southwest/North

Approximate tree height: 15m

Tree lean: 20° East

Circumference of tree at DBHOB (1.3m above ground): 362cm

Nature of callus: symmetrical, parallel sides, pointed at top and bottom

Insect attack: negligible (borer beetle infestation in 2.5-5% of the visible scars)

Features: no axe marks, south side contains a recently axed foothold 90cm above the ground and four pairs of machine made nails penetrating the bark on both sides of the south-southwest facing scar. These features are not coeval with the scar.

7.2 Other Trees

Five other trees occur within the project area, one of which is a scarred tree of historic interest, and the others are associated with European land use, but have been mentioned due to characteristics which may be mistaken for Aboriginal scarred trees, or for unusual features.

T5 is a living, mature box eucalypt of unknown (possibly exotic) species in excellent health (Plate 8, Figure 1). This tree is of a Vigour Class 1 (Plate 2) and suffers minor insect infestation. Artefactual scarring on T5 has no rare characteristics and is a triangular tree blaze associated with the old Oaks Estate Road and the land boundaries of the surrounding paddocks. It is possible that this tree is a roadside planting. The blaze was most likely the work of surveyors.

The following data was recorded for T5:

Maximum scar length (including regrowth): 58cm

Maximum scar length (excluding regrowth): 60cm

Maximum scar width (including regrowth): 54cm

Maximum scar width (excluding regrowth): 45cm

Maximum width of regrowth: 7cm

Maximum depth of regrowth: 7cm

Height to scar interior above ground: 94cm

Direction of scar facing: South

Approximate tree height: 9m

Tree lean: 3° East

Circumference of tree at DBHOB (1.3m above ground): 129cm

Nature of callus: an equilateral triangle with areas of shearing on the scar's distal margin. Metal axe marks visible in the callus. The right side of the callus is more advanced than the left side.

Insect attack: negligible (15% of visible scar impacted by borers, some ant infestation).

Features: metal adze marks and deeply incised metal axe marks. Axe marks occur at 90, 106, and 150cm above the ground.

T6-T9 (Plate 1, Figure 1) are trees modified by recent European land use. T6 contains axe damage, T7 is penetrated by a recent, white-painted spike ladder, and T8 (Plate 9) and T9 are surrounded by rock caches of a recent age associated with pastoralism. T8 has a healing scar attributed to natural limbfall, not Aboriginal activity.

7.3 Other Aboriginal Archaeological Sites

Site S1 (Plate 10, Figure 1) is a 4m² prehistoric Aboriginal stone flake and tool scatter. Site S1 is in an exposure and contains the following artefacts:

- 1 buff coloured cortical flake, with cortex weathered by surface exposure.
- 2 pink and white quartzite cortical flakes originating from a river cobble.
- 1 multi-platform/multi-directional core of pink and white quartzite.
- 1 black chert adze-scraper.

This site is located along a fence line and is disturbed by the movement of cattle. No stratigraphy and depth are attributable to the site. It is strictly a

surface deposit, deposited in the last 4,500 years, most likely in late prehistoric times (the last few hundred years).

Site S2 (Plate 11, Figure 1) is a 4m² prehistoric Aboriginal stone flake and tool scatter in a sandy exposure. Artefacts are in depositional soils (silts and sands) above relict Molonglo River banks. These deposits have the potential to be more extensive beneath the surface. Site S2 contains the following artefacts:

- 1 pale green coloured, meta-sedimentary, multi-platform/multi-directional core.
- 1 opaque quartz primary flake with cortex indicating a riverine origin.
- 1 small pink quartzite secondary flake (no cortex).
- 1 grey silcrete secondary flake (no cortex).
- 1 opaque quartz secondary flake (no cortex).

Site S2 is in a soft, silty-sand deposit which may be up to 2m in depth. This deposit is overlooking an extensive sand quarry and has been disturbed by rabbits. Aeolian soils of this nature have been dated by geomorphologists working in the project area and are believed to be 1,500 years old (Abel *et al.* 1996).

7.4 Other Sites

Site S3 is believed to be of European origin associated with pastoralism. These are believed to be three stone caches (Figure 1), however, there is a possibility (though remote) that the centre cache is an anonymous burial marked by two trees ringed with stones. The trees here are relatively recent, are marked by pastoral activity, and were likely used to mark the locations of building stone piled for future use. These caches could present hazards to equipment and should be noted prior to development. An old metal bucket and pastoral equipment hangs from one of the trees.

7.5 Isolated Finds

I1 (Figure 1) is an isolated grey silcrete secondary flake found in an intermittent creek in the project area. This flake represents normal background scatter and is not significant to development.

8.0 Archaeological Significance

8.1 Scientific Significance

Sites discovered during this survey were assessed according to their scientific significance as well as their heritage significance. What follows is an explanation of how sites were assessed using current archaeological

4. RESULTS OF SURVEY FOR FAUNA AND FAUNA HABITAT

As mentioned above (2.2), no attempt was made to survey fauna actively, except for birds, as they are an easily surveyed group and a useful indicator of habitat quality for other animal species. Rather the emphasis was on searching for habitat suitable for those threatened species which could occur in the study area (Table 1). This section lists the bird species recorded (4.1) and notes the occurrence of habitat suitable for threatened animal species (4.2), plus some recent records of species for which suitable habitat was found (4.3).

4.1 Bird fauna

Names and systematic order follow Schodde *et al.* (1978).

Fifty-four bird species were recorded over six visits from 11 to 26 November 1996 (Table 2). Five extra species had been recorded on 7 February 1994 at the Canberra Abattoir site. By comparison, a two-hour late morning survey of a smaller area of relatively good quality woodland at Campbell Park in December 1993 recorded 54 species of bush birds (i.e. no water birds) (Howard 1994). The most common birds were generalists such as Common Starling **Sturnus vulgaris* and Common Myna **Acridotheres tristis*, and feral and native grain eaters, such as Galah *Cacatuoroseicapilla*, Feral Pigeon, *Colomba livia* and House Sparrow **Passer domesticus*.

No nationally rare or threatened species were recorded (Garnett 1992), but Diamond Firetail *Emblema guttata*, listed as a 'Species of Concern' by the Canberra Ornithologists' Group (Anon 1992), was recorded. Two birds were heard and seen in dense bushes of Australian Blackthorn in the gully head at the tip of the more westerly of the two good quality woodland patches in corridor section 2 (Figures 2 & 3).

The sighting is significant because this is a woodland species whose habitat has diminished since European 'settlement'. Clearing for both farming and urban expansion are principally responsible, along with the replacement of summer-seeding native perennial grasses by winter-seeding introduced ones (Emison *et al.* 1987). Diamond Firetails require structurally complex woodland, i.e. not just scattered eucalypts and a ground layer, but with shrubs too, plus long untidy perennial grasses and fallen dead timber. Their presence here reinforces the value of these two patches of remnant native woodland.

Table 2. Birds recorded along the proposed Queanbeyan Ring Road corridor, November 1996¹.

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> |
| Sacred Ibis ¹ | <i>Threskiornis aethiopica</i> |
| Pacific Black Duck | <i>Anas superciliosa</i> |
| Maned Duck | <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> |
| Nankeen Kestrel | <i>Falco cenchroides</i> |
| Stubble Quail | <i>Coturnix pectoralis</i> |
| Dusky Moorhen | <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> |
| Eurasian Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> |
| Feral Pigeon | <i>*Columba livia</i> |
| Common Bronzewing | <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i> |
| Crested Pigeon | <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i> |
| Galah | <i>Cacatuoroseicapilla</i> |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | <i>C. galerita</i> |
| Crimson Rosella | <i>Platycercus elegans</i> |

Table 2 (con). Birds recorded along the proposed Queanbeyan Ring Road corridor, November 1996¹.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Eastern Rosella | <i>P. eximius</i> |
| Red-rumped Parrot | <i>Psephotus haematonotus</i> |
| Shining Bronze-Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i> |
| Rainbow Bee-eater | <i>Merops ornatus</i> |
| Welcome Swallow | <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> |
| Tree Martin | <i>Cecropis nigricans</i> |
| Richard's Pipit | <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i> |
| Blackbird | <i>*Turdus merula</i> |
| Eastern Yellow Robin | <i>Eopsaltria australis</i> |
| Rufous Whistler | <i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i> |
| Leaden Flycatcher ¹ | <i>Myiagra rubecula</i> |
| Grey Fantail | <i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i> |
| Willie Wagtail ¹ | <i>R. leucophrys</i> |
| Clamorous Reed-warbler | <i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i> |
| Golden-headed Cisticola | <i>Cisticola exilis</i> |
| Superb Fairy-wren | <i>Malurus cyaneus</i> |
| White-browed Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis frontalis</i> |
| Weebill | <i>Smicronis brevirostris</i> |
| White-throated Warbler | <i>Gerygone olivacea</i> |
| Brown Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza pusilla</i> |
| Buff-rumped Thornbill ¹ | <i>Acanthiza reguloides</i> |
| Yellow-rumped Thornbill | <i>A. chrysorrhoa</i> |
| White-throated Treecreeper | <i>Cormobates leucophaea</i> |
| Red Wattlebird | <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> |
| Noisy Friarbird | <i>Philemon corniculatus</i> |
| Noisy Miner | <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> |
| Yellow-faced Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i> |
| Mistletoebird | <i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i> |
| Spotted Pardalote | <i>Pardalotus punctatus</i> |
| Striated Pardalote | <i>P. striatus</i> |
| Silvereye | <i>Zosterops lateralis</i> |
| European Goldfinch | <i>*Carduelis carduelis</i> |
| House Sparrow | <i>*Passer domesticus</i> |
| Red-browed Firetail ¹ | <i>Emblema temporalis</i> |
| Diamond Firetail | <i>Emblema guttata</i> |
| Double-barred Finch | <i>Poephila bichenovii</i> |
| Common Starling | <i>*Sturnus vulgaris</i> |
| Common Mynah | <i>*Acridotheres tristis</i> |
| White-winged Chough | <i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i> |
| Australian Magpie-lark | <i>Graculina cyanoleuca</i> |
| Dusky Woodswallow | <i>Artamus cyanopterus</i> |
| Australian Magpie | <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> |
| Australian Raven | <i>Corvus coronoides</i> |

¹ includes 5 species recorded in February 1994 at the Abattoir.

5. DISCUSSION: CONSERVATION ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER SURVEY WORK

5.1 Conservation issues

The following conservation issues should be addressed before further decisions are made on the desirability and location of the proposed ring road:

- 1) the further dissection of the Queanbeyan Fault escarpment west of the Kings Highway by a wider road and the consequent reduction of the value of this open forest as a south-north corridor for native species.
- 2) poor conservation status of woodland and the consequent need to protect the remaining mature woodland trees, shrubs and herbs and to encourage their regeneration. Without active intervention, the old eucalypts will not be replaced, and they and their dependant fauna will become locally extinct. The same applies to the shrub and ground layer plants, although this process may not be as apparent to the human observer.
- 3) conservation of the patch of Bull Oak at the Molonglo River crossing in section 6. (Care should also be taken of the patch of Bull Oak which skirts the northern edge of the study area, should corridor section 6 be selected for the ring road).
- 4) the proposed conservation status of the Pink-tailed Legless Lizard in the ACT should be discussed formally with Dr David Shorthouse, Manager, ACT Parks and Conservation Service.

5.2 Recommendations for further work

The quality of the vegetation over most of the study area is very poor, measured by the number and percentage cover of native species, the structural complexity of the communities and lack of evidence of regeneration of most components. In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, the following three patches of open forest and four of woodland vegetation all merit further survey next spring (Figures 2 and 3):

- corridor section 7 has a patch of cleared open forest with the ground layer dominated by Kangaroo Grass, under and south of the more southerly power line;
- corridor section 6, west of the bend in Kings Highway (plot 1);
- corridor section 6, east of Bass Street and Barrow Place;
- corridor section 6, plot 2;
- corridor section 6, paddock east of Sutton Road;
- corridor section 3, spur north-east of Oaks Estate Road crossing of Molonglo;
- corridor section 2, plot 1 and patch to west of plantation.

It is also recommended that a review of environmental factors be carried out for the threatened species for which suitable habitat has been found, and that further survey work be done next spring for the two threatened reptile species: hand-searching should be done of the patches of suitable habitat for both Pink-tailed Legless Lizard (searching for sloughed skins and animals under lightly embedded surface rock, from August to October) and for Rosenberg's Monitor. The three species of bats should be surveyed using echolocation to record calls near suitable tree hollows.

Appendix 1. Queanbeyan Ring Road Selection Study November 1996: plant list.

Collection numbers are given in brackets. Vouchers have been lodged at the Australian National Herbarium, CSIRO Canberra, with duplicates for the National Herbarium of New South Wales in Sydney. Introduced taxa are asterisked. Some planted trees and shrubs are included, but species recorded only in the ACT Forests' wattle plantation (between the Sutton Road and the Molonglo River) are excluded.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Amaranthaceae | *Amaranthus retroflexus |
| Anthericaceae | Thysanotus tuberosus Tricoryne elatior |
| Apiaceae | *Conium maculatum Daucus glochidiatus Eryngium ovium (IC 2573) *Foeniculum vulgare Hydrocotyle laxiflora |
| Araliaceae | *Hedera helix |
| Asteraceae | Bracteantha viscosa Brachyscome rigidula (IC 2576) Calocephalus citreus (IC 2572) Calotis lappulacea (IC 2577) *Carthamus lanatus Cassinia aculeata C. arcuata C. longifolia (IC 2568, 2570) C. quinquefaria (IC 2579) *Chondrilla juncea Chrysocephalum apiculatum C. semipapposum *Cirsium vulgare *Conyza bonariensis Craspedia sp. (IC 2578) *Crepis capillaris Helipterum albicans subsp. albicans *Hypochoeris glabra *H. radicata *Lactuca saligna *L. serriola Leptorhynchos squamatus Leucochrysum albicans var. tricolor Microseris lanceolata *Onopordum acanthium Senecio quadridentatus S. tenuiflorus (IC 4003) *Sonchus asper *S. oleraceus *Tragopogon portifolius Triptilodiscus pygmaeus Vittadinia cuneata var. cuneata forma cuneata (IC 2569) V. gracilis (IC 2567) V. muelleri *Xanthium spinosum |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Boraginaceae | Cynoglossum suaveolens *Echium plantagineum |
| Brassicaceae | *Hirschfeldia incana *Lepidium africanum |
| Campanulaceae | Pratia purpurascens Wahlenbergia communis W. graniticola (IC 4004) W. luteola W. stricta |
| Caryophyllaceae | *Cerastium glomeratum *Paronychia brasiliensis *Petrohragia nanteuillii |
| Casuarinaceae | Allocasuarina luehmannii |
| Chenopodiaceae | *Chenopodium album Einardia nutans |
| Clusiaceae | Hypericum gramineum *H. perforatum |
| Colchicaceae | Wurmbea dioica |
| Convolvulaceae | Convolvulus erubescens |
| Crassulaceae | Crassula sieberiana |
| Cupressaceae | Callitris endlicheri *Cupressus sp. |
| Cyperaceae | Carex appressa C. breviculmis Carex inversa *Cyperus eragrostis Isolepis cernua Schoenus apogon |
| Dilleniaceae | Hibbertia obtusifolia |
| Epacridaceae | Astroloma humifusum Axonanthus fletcheri Brachyloma daphnoides Lissanthe strigosa Melichrus urceolatus |
| Fabaceae | Bossiaea buxifolia (IC 2575) *Chamaecytisus proliferus *Cytisus monspelliensis Daviesia genistifolia D. mimosoides Desmodium varians (IC 2580) Dillwynia sericea Glycine clandestina G. tabacina Hardenbergia violacea |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Fabaceae (con.) | <i>Hovea linearis</i> <i>Indigofera australis</i> <i>Lespedeza juncea</i> <i>Lotus australis</i> * <i>Medicago sativa</i> <i>Pultenaea microphylla</i> (IC 4000) <i>P. procumbens</i> * <i>Trifolium angustifolium</i> * <i>T. arvense</i> * <i>T. campestre</i> * <i>T. dubium</i> * <i>T. glomeratum</i> * <i>T. striatum</i> * <i>T. subterraneum</i> |
| Fagaceae | * <i>Quercus</i> sp. |
| Gentianaceae | * <i>Centaurium erythraea</i> |
| Geraniaceae | <i>Geranium solanderi</i> |
| Goodeniaceae | <i>Goodenia hederacea</i> var. <i>hederacea</i> <i>Velleia paradoxa</i> (IC 2571) |
| Haloragaceae | <i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i> |
| Iridaceae | * <i>Romulea</i> sp. |
| Juncaceae | <i>Juncus flavidus</i> <i>J. subsecundus</i> <i>Luzula ?densiflora</i> |
| Lamiaceae | * <i>Salvia verbenaca</i> |
| Lomandraceae | <i>Lomandra filiformis</i> subsp. <i>coriacea</i> <i>L. multiflora</i> subsp. <i>multiflora</i> |
| Loranthaceae | <i>Amyema miqueli</i> |
| Malvaceae | * <i>Malva parviflora</i> * <i>Modiola caroliniana</i> |
| Mimosaceae | <i>Acacia baileyana</i> <i>A. dawsonii</i> <i>A. decurrens</i> <i>A. genistifolia</i> <i>A. mearnsii</i> <i>A. penninervis</i> <i>A. pycnantha</i> <i>A. rubida</i> <i>A. siculiformis</i> |
| Myrtaceae | <i>Calytix tetragona</i> (IC 4019) <i>Eucalyptus bicostata</i> <i>E. blakelyi</i> <i>E. bridgesiana</i> <i>E. cinerea</i> |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Myrtaceae (con.) | <i>E. dives</i> <i>E. leucoxyton</i> <i>E. macrorhyncha</i> <i>E. maidenii</i> <i>E. mannifera</i> <i>E. melliodora</i> <i>E. nortonii</i> <i>E. polyanthemos</i> <i>E. rossii</i> <i>Kunzea ericoides</i> <i>Leptospermum obovatum</i> |
| Oleaceae | * <i>Fraxinus</i> sp. |
| Onagraceae | <i>Epilobium billardierianum</i> subsp. <i>cinereum</i> |
| Orchidaceae | <i>Gastrodia sesamoides</i> <i>Microtis unifolia</i> |
| Orobanchaceae | * <i>Orobanche minor</i> |
| Oxalidaceae | <i>Oxalis perennans</i> <i>Oxalis</i> sp. (IC 2478) |
| Passifloraceae | * <i>Passiflora edulis</i> |
| Phormiaceae | <i>Dianella revoluta</i> |
| *Pinaceae | * <i>Pinus radiata</i> |
| Pittosporaceae | <i>Bursaria spinosa</i> subsp. <i>lasiophylla</i> |
| Plantaginaceae | * <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> <i>P. varia</i> |
| Poaceae | * <i>Aira caryophyllea</i> <i>Aristida ramosa</i> <i>Austrostipa bigeniculata</i> <i>A. scabra</i> subsp. <i>falcata</i> * <i>Avena barbata</i> * <i>Briza maxima</i> * <i>B. minor</i> <i>Bothriochloa macra</i> * <i>Bromus diandrus</i> * <i>B. molliformis</i> * <i>B. rubens</i> * <i>B. unioloides</i> <i>Chloris truncata</i> <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> * <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> <i>Dichanthium sericeum</i> <i>Dichelachne micrantha</i> (IC 3899) * <i>Eleusine tristachya</i> <i>Elymus scabrus</i> var. <i>scabrus</i> * <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> <i>E. trachycarpa</i> * <i>Festuca pratensis</i> * <i>Holcus lanatus</i> |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Scrophulariaceae | *Linaria arvensis *Verbascum thapsus *V. virgatum *Veronica anagallis-aquatica |
| Sinopteridaceae | Cheilanthes distans C. sieberi subsp. sieberi |
| Solanaceae | *Lycium ferocissimum *Solanum nigrum |
| Stackhousiaceae | Stackhousia monogyna |
| Sterculiaceae | Brachychiton populneum |
| Thymelaeaceae | Pimelea curviflora var. sericea P. glauca (IC 2574) |
| Ulmaceae | *Celtis australis *Ulmus sp. |