



CSIRO Yarralumla

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

14 December 2020

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CSIRO Yarralumla

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Name	Description
ACHA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AFS	Australian Forestry School
BNAC	Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
Client	The Shepherd Foundation
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
CSIRO Yarralumla	CSIRO Forestry Precinct
ERM	Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd
HMP	Heritage Management Plan
KBTG	King Brown Tribal Group
NAA	National Archives of Australia
NCA	National Capital Authority
NCC	Ngarigu Currawong Clan
NCP	National Capital Plan
Oakstand	Oakstand Pty Ltd
RAO	Representative Aboriginal Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) was commissioned by Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand), on behalf of The Shepherd Foundation (the Client), to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the (former) CSIRO Forestry Precinct (CSIRO Yarralumla or the Site), Yarralumla, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory (ACT).

CSIRO Yarralumla is located approximately 1.4 km west of the Diplomatic precinct of Yarralumla, an area distinguished by grand properties and formal tree-lined vistas. The Site is located approximately 500 m south of the Lake Burley Griffin and Adjacent Lands Historic precinct, a Commonwealth Heritage Nominated Place.

The Client is investigating potential future uses for the Site, which may require a lease variation or amendment to the National Capital Plan through submission to the National Capital Authority. A range of discipline studies were commissioned to assess the current status of the Site and assist in future decisions regarding permissible use of CSIRO Yarralumla. This range of studies included an ACHA to assist Oakstand and the Client in identifying any Aboriginal heritage values that may be present at CSIRO Yarralumla, and if identified, to ensure these values are considered and protected within the future development plans for the Site.

A site inspection with ERM and a representative of Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation was conducted on 26 March 2020 and a second inspection with a representative of Mirabee was conducted on 28 July 2020. No Aboriginal heritage values were identified for CSIRO Yarralumla. The Site does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the ACT Heritage Register for Aboriginal heritage values. No further work is recommended.

1. INTRODUCTION

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) was commissioned by Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand) on behalf of The Shepherd Foundation (the Client) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the (former) CSIRO Forestry Precinct (CSIRO Yarralumla or the Site), Yarralumla, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory (ACT).

1.1 Study Area Location and Description

The Site is a large 'U' shaped parcel of land situated in the suburban residential area of Yarralumla, ACT (Section 4 Block 7 Yarralumla) (*Figure 1.1*). It is abutted by the Royal Canberra Golf Club to the west and north. It is bounded to the north by Banks Street, and its western cadastral boundary follows a general arc south towards Bentham Street. The Site comprises 10.93 hectares (ha) of land that includes groups of buildings mainly comprising the former Australian Forestry School that are clustered around an oval, plant nursery and arboretum. The oval was originally part of the Forestry School, but no longer forms part of the Site and is now ACT Government land (and responsibility).

The Site is located approximately 1.4 km west of the Diplomatic precinct of Yarralumla, an area distinguished by grand properties and formal tree-lined vistas. The Site is located approximately 500 m south of the Lake Burley Griffin and Adjacent Lands Historic precinct, a Commonwealth Heritage Nominated Place (Place ID: 105230).

1.2 Project Description

CSIRO Yarralumla's historic heritage values are recognised in the historic, aesthetic, representative, technical, social and associative aspects of the place. These attributes are represented through the historic buildings, assets, historic plantings, views and landscape design. As the Client is investigating potential future uses for the Site, which may require a lease variation or amendment to the National Capital Plan (NCP) through submission to the National Capital Authority (NCA), a range of discipline studies were commissioned to assess the current status of CSIRO Yarralumla and guide future decisions regarding permissible use of the Site. This range of studies included an ACHA to assist Oakstand in identifying any Aboriginal heritage values that may be present at CSIRO Yarralumla, and if identified, to ensure these values are considered and protected within the future development plans for the Site.

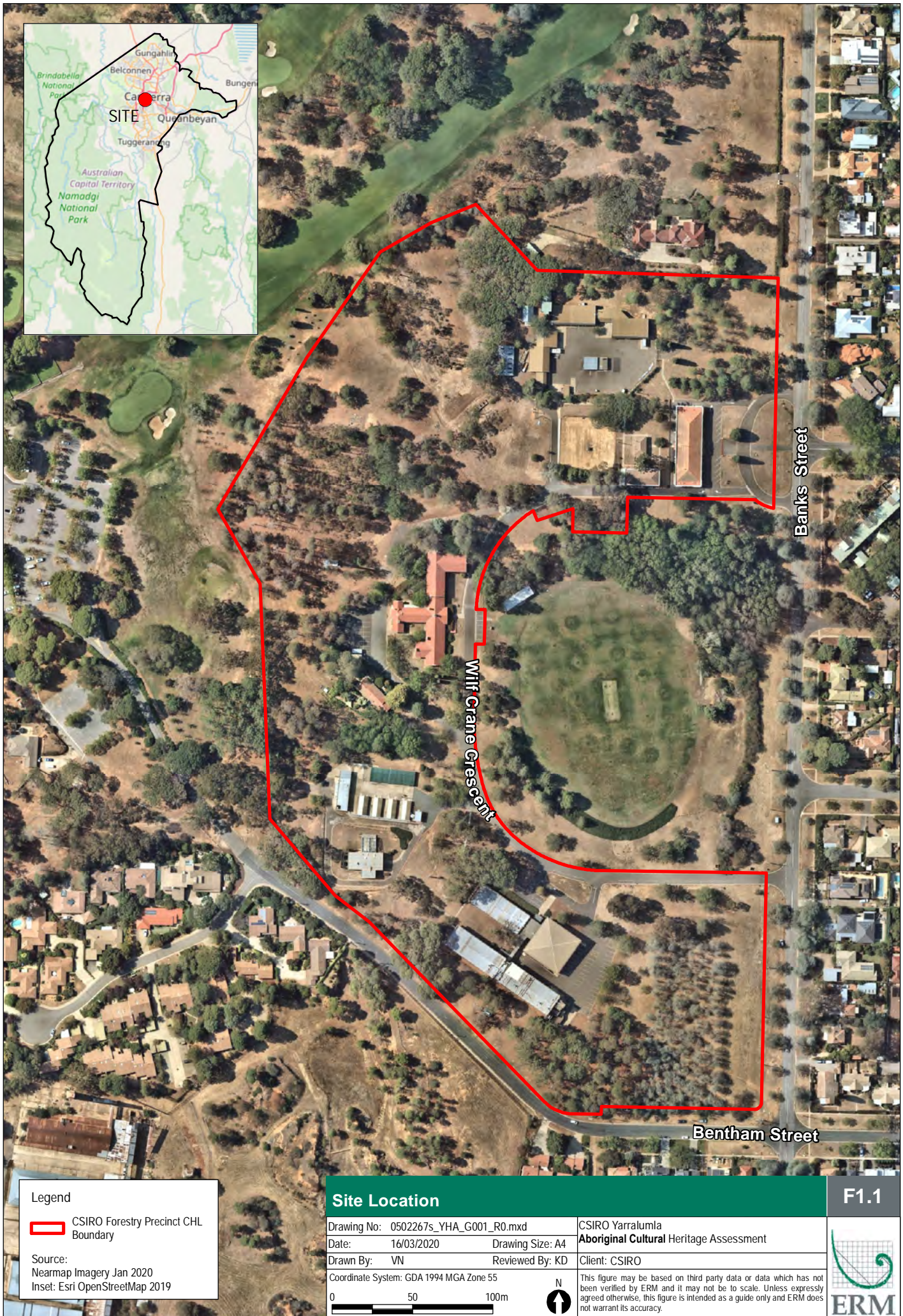
1.3 Heritage Status of Study Area

The CSIRO Yarralumla site comprises two heritage items, which are listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) for historic, aesthetic, representative, technical, social and associative values, these are:

- The Australian Forestry School (former) (Place ID 105426); and
- The CSIRO Forestry Precinct (Place ID 105595).

The CHL listings for both of these Places is provided in *Appendix B*.

There are no sites listed on the ACT Heritage Register at CSIRO Yarralumla. There are three historic heritage sites in the surrounding blocks: Westbourne Woods, Yarralumla Brickworks and the Early Canberra Brickworks Housing Precinct. Two Aboriginal heritage sites have been nominated in the Yarralumla area, neither of which are in the near vicinity of CSIRO Yarralumla. The first is Stirling Park (approximately 2.2 km north-east of CSIRO Yarralumla) and the other consists of three Aboriginal Scarred Trees (one in Stirling Park and the others in a block approximately 1.4 km east of CSIRO Yarralumla).



Legend

CSIRO Forestry Precinct CHL Boundary

Source:
Nearmap Imagery Jan 2020
Inset: Esri OpenStreetMap 2019

Site Location

Drawing No: 0502267s_YHA_G001_R0.mxd

Date: 16/03/2020

Drawn By: VN

Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

0 50 100m

Drawing Size: A4

Reviewed By: KD



CSIRO Yarralumla

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Client: CSIRO

This figure may be based on third party data or data which has not been verified by ERM and it may not be to scale. Unless expressly agreed otherwise, this figure is intended as a guide only and ERM does not warrant its accuracy.

F1.1



There a number of previous assessments that have been prepared for the CSIRO Yarralumla site. In 2001, Peter Freeman Pty Ltd Conservation Architects & Planners (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd) prepared a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the site. In 2008 a Heritage Management Plan (HMP) was prepared by Peter Freeman Pty Ltd. In 2018, ERM finalised an updated HMP for the Site on behalf of CSIRO that provided relevant updates and heritage advice pertaining to the future conservation of the Site and its policies in the event of divestment from Commonwealth management, and which focused predominantly on the built environment. In 2019, ERM prepared both a Constraints Analysis and a Preliminary Master Plan Heritage Review for Oakstand, on behalf of the Client.

None of these previous assessments have involved a formal significance assessment of Aboriginal heritage values.

1.4 Evidence of RAO Consultation

Under Section 14(7) of the *Heritage Act 2004*, the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services has declared four Aboriginal groups to be representatives of the Australian Capital Territory region. ACT Heritage provided a list of current Aboriginal stakeholders, and Aboriginal community consultation has been undertaken or attempted with each of the four Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAO):

- Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation;
- King Brown Tribal Group;
- Mirrabee (formerly the Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council); and
- Ngarigu Currawong Clan.

A letter was sent to each RAO, introducing the project and requesting information regarding availability and rates for a site inspection of CSIRO Yarralumla. Copies of the letter were also sent via email to the two RAOs with a listed email address. A phone call was then made to each RAO contact to follow up on the letter and organise an appropriate day for the site inspection.

BNAC and Mirrabee both expressed a desire to attend the site inspection, while NCC advised that they were currently unavailable for fieldwork but would provide any input they may have if provided with a draft of the report. No response was provided by KBTG.

A site inspection with BNAC and Mirrabee was therefore scheduled for 26 March 2020. Due to the COVID-19 social distancing requirements put in place by the ACT government just prior to this date, Mirrabee advised that they would not be attending the site inspection at this time, but would like to reschedule after the risk had passed. BNAC wished to continue with the site inspection as planned, and therefore Wally Bell attended site on 26 March 2020 with ERM Senior Heritage Consultant, Elspeth Mackenzie. The rescheduled site inspection with Mirrabee was conducted with Michelle House on 28 July 2020. Both NCC and KBTG were invited to attend this rescheduled site inspection but did not respond to the invitation.

Copies of the draft ACHA were sent to each RAO for review prior to finalisation but no further comments were received.

Complete details regarding consultation with the RAOs is presented in *Appendix C*.

1.5 Research Design and Methodology

This ACHA has been prepared in accordance with the following legislation and heritage industry best practice guidelines:

- Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013 (Burra Charter), and with consideration of the ICOMOS Practice Note: 'The Burra Charter and Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management' (2013);
- Heritage Assessment Policy (ACT Heritage Council 2018);
- Cultural Heritage Reporting Policy (ACT Heritage Council 2015);

- *National Capital Plan* (ACT); and
- *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT).

The preparation of the ACHA involved the following tasks:

- Searches of statutory and non-statutory heritage registers, including the Australian Heritage Database (National Heritage List, Commonwealth Heritage List, and Register of the National Estate), the ACT Heritage Register, and the Register of the National Trust of Australia;
- Background research of existing site reports, online databases such as Trove, National Archives or Australia and library references;
- Development of a predictive archaeological model; and
- Targeted site investigation with interested RAOs including photographic recording (26 March 2020).

The detail of the methodology for the predictive archaeological model and site investigation is provided in *Section 3*.

1.6 Related Reports and Information

CSIRO Yarralumla and specifically the Australian Forestry School, has been subject to a number of heritage studies and assessments. The relevant assessments are provided below:

- RNE: The Forestry Precinct, Yarralumla ACT;
- ACT Heritage Register: Registration of the former Australian Forestry School (the place was not entered on this register, as the site is on Commonwealth Land and listed on the CHL already);
- 2001 CSIRO Yarralumla CMP (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd);
- 2008 CSIRO Yarralumla updated CMP (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd);
- 2018 CSIRO Yarralumla HMP (ERM);
- 2019 CSIRO Yarralumla Constraints Analysis (ERM); and
- 2019 CSIRO Yarralumla Master Plan Heritage Review (ERM).

General ethnographic or archaeological studies relevant to Canberra and Yarralumla include:

- Flood, J. (1980) *The Moth Hunters*. Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra.
- Flood, J. (1995) *Archaeology of the Dreamtime: the story of prehistoric Australia and its people* (2nd edition). Angus & Robertson, Pymble, N.S.W.
- Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council (2014) *Aboriginal Heritage Stories: Queanbeyan and Surrounds*. Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council, Queanbeyan.
- Schumack, J.E. (1967) *An Autobiography, or Tales and Legends of Canberra Pioneers*. L.F. Fitzhardinge ed. ANU Press, Canberra.
- Wilson, G. (1968) *Murray of Yarralumla*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Other Heritage Assessments conducted in areas of Yarralumla which consider Aboriginal heritage values include:

- 2004 Kings Park and Block 1 Section 128, Yarralumla, Canberra, ACT: Cultural Heritage Assessment (NOHC);
- 2004 Deakin, O'Malley and Yarralumla Diplomatic Mission Sites: Cultural Heritage Assessment (NOHC);
- 2006 Blocks 2, 3 and 25, Section 44, Yarralumla, Canberra, ACT: Cultural Heritage Assessment (NOHC);
- 2007 Cultural and Natural Heritage Assessment Block 22, Section 32 Yarralumla, ACT (NOHC); and

- 2011 Heritage & Environmental Assessment – Part Block 9, Section 86, Yarralumla (NOHC).

Being prepared concurrently by ERM with this ACHA is a detailed Heritage Assessment addressing the significant historic elements and fabric, and the potential natural heritage values of the Site.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Environmental Context

CSIRO Yarralumla is located approximately 1 km south of Lake Burley Griffin, which traverses through the city of Canberra. Additionally, there is a smaller water source present at the eastern boundary of the Site, closest to Banks street. In terms of the Site's context with larger nature areas, it is located approximately 2 km south of Black Mountain. Black Mountain is protected from development as the Canberra Nature Park and contains native bushland which makes it suitable habitat for many native wildlife species. The Site is also found within 5-10 km of many other protected areas which include Mount Ainslie (north-east), Red Hill Nature Park (south-east) and Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve (east). Given the availability of larger, highly vegetated areas in close proximity, the habitat within the Site is less likely to represent an important area for native flora and fauna species. Additionally, the Site is not connected to these larger reserve areas and so is unlikely to be used as a biodiversity corridor.

The predominant geological feature of the area is the Yarralumla Formation, a mudstone/siltstone formation from the Silurian Period 425 million years ago. While this formation is exposed in some locations, such as along Adelaide Avenue and to the west of Deakin Sportsground, the area around Yarralumla is generally overlaid with the Mount Painter Volcanics, shales and saturated dark grey clays (Henderson 1986).

2.1.1 The Suburb of Yarralumla

More than half of the area of Yarralumla consists of open spaces and non-residential development, including both Weston Park (*Photograph 2.1*) and Stirling Park and the Royal Canberra Golf Club (located west of CSIRO Yarralumla). Yarralumla also includes the grounds of Government House, a Georgian style property constructed in 1891 around which the suburb of Yarralumla had initially grew (*Photograph 2.2*). Yarralumla is known for its conservation and active protection of its historic places, the Australian Forestry School (AFS) is recognised by the Yarralumla Residents Association as a place of historical significance (Yarralumla Residents Association 2020) along with a number of other places within the suburb. Examples include Albert Hall, the Yarralumla Brickworks, Yarralumla Woolshed, Westbourne Woods, Weston Park and Yarralumla Nursery (*Photograph 2.3* and *Photograph 2.4*).



Photograph 2.1 Weston Park, Yarralumla (Australia's Guide Capital Territory: 2016)



Photograph 2.2 Government House 1927, the same year AFS was constructed (Wikiwand via NAA)



Photograph 2.3 Yarralumla Nursery within Westbourne Woods, north-west of CSIRO Yarralumla (ERM 2020)



Photograph 2.4 View east down the tree lined Schlich Street from the AFS (ERM 2020)

Yarralumla's residential area has a high proportion of houses occupied by diplomatic missions and is highly desirable to the ACT's wealthy population for its wide and leafy tree-lined streets, lakeside setting and central location (being only 3 km from Canberra's City Centre).

2.1.2 CSIRO Yarralumla

CSIRO Yarralumla comprises 10.93 ha of land that includes groups of buildings within the north, west and southern portions of the Site clustered around the ACT-owned and managed oval. No bedrock outcrops were visible at CSIRO Yarralumla, and the site is fairly uniformly covered with clay soil. No stone types suitable for Aboriginal tool manufacture were noted in the area during the site inspection. The suburb of Yarralumla and the broader Yarralumla Creek catchment area have been significantly altered from their original natural condition and all drainage lines are now part of a fully developed urban environment. All drainage at CSIRO Yarralumla is restricted to road gutters and concrete drains. The ground slopes gently from the western boundary towards Banks Street on the eastern boundary. Significant earthworks during several stages of construction and planting on the Site have evened out the gradient of the slope and created a flat area in the centre to form the oval.

The Site includes a number of both built assets and historic landscape and tree plantings. The North Zone comprises key buildings and features from both the AFS phase, Inter-war period and later CSIRO period. That is, the AFS (Building 9), the (former) Industrial Museum and Offices (Building 10) and an early Seeds Store (Building 17) and some of the earliest trees and landscape elements. The North Zone also comprises buildings from the later phase of construction when CSIRO took over management of the Site from 1975. These structures are within the former CSIRO Pyrotron Complex also known as the Service Yard Group (c.1980s/1990s).

The West Zone comprises buildings from the post-war phase of development within CSIRO Yarralumla. Which included the construction of the Glasshouses Complex (also known as Building 4 group) in 1955-8, and the student accommodation building Forestry House (2) which began construction in 1949 and was completed in 1952. The West Zone also comprises the Controlled Environment Building (3) which was constructed during the Administration Period (1969).

The South Zone comprises the Divisional Headquarters Building (also known as Building 1 Group) constructed during the Administration Period (1967) and also diverse groupings of mature pine species and an early (c.1913) grouping of Atlas Cedar that is a notable feature within the south-east corner of the Site along Banks Street.

2.2 Archaeological Context

2.2.1 Aboriginal Cultural Context

Australian Aboriginal people occupied land according to a system of spatial organisation and land occupancy (Clark 1990: 11-14). Individual groups were intimately familiar with their own geographical regions and the seasonal availability of resources within it. Tribal boundaries were often defined through linguistic associations, social relations, and spiritual links to the land. These boundaries were most likely fluid, changing position over time. If this was the case, then tribal boundaries recorded by European people at, or after, the point of contact can only be considered as current to that period and were probably quite different prior to European observation. To make things more ambiguous, the few European accounts of Aboriginal groups in the broad study region are limited in detail, often confused in regard to Aboriginal group names and give varying interpretations of territorial boundaries (Flood 1980: 2). Aboriginal people in the broader Canberra district are associated collectively within the Ngunawal boundaries (Figure 2.1).



Figure 2.1 Tribal boundaries of the Canberra and wider region, with approximate location of Yarralumla shown with red arrow (Tindale 1974)

As far as can be ascertained, the Aboriginal groups living permanently in the Canberra region spoke different, but related languages (all most likely associated with the dominant Ngarigo) (Cooke 1988: 33; Flood 1980: 194). They are thought to have lived in small, highly mobile, kin-based groups. Individual groups came together regularly to participate in trade, marriage and ceremonial gatherings. An early ethnographic account from Bennett (1834: 173) records their diet as including flying squirrel, kangaroo, wallaby, wombat, koala, possum, emu, duck, swan, snake, goanna, platypus, ant eggs, insects, fish, mussels, yabbies, plant tubers, berries and seeds.

Ethnographic information relating to the Aboriginal occupation of the Canberra region has been obtained from historical documentation written by early European settlers and government officials during the mid to late 18th century (Barwick 1984). In general, early settlers recorded very little of their observations, particularly in regard to the Aboriginal people they encountered (Flood 1980: 26). The best recorded observations come from the journals of early explorers, government surveyors and authors of travel books. By the early 1840s, early European ethnographers including Currie, Bennet, Lhotsky, Backhouse, and George August Robinson had each recorded small amounts of detail regarding the Aboriginal people within a broad region surrounding Canberra. These records are not detailed and by the 1880s, when more serious ethnographers came into the region, the consequences of European settlement had already greatly altered the traditional Aboriginal way of life (Flood 1980: 26). However, some indication of the Aboriginal population living in the Limestone region (which included Yass and Yarralumla) shortly after the time of contact is evident from the recording on 12 September 1844 by George Augustus Robinson, the Chief Protector of Aborigines, while staying at Yarralumla House, of the names and ages of 91 Aboriginal people (Ngambri Local Aboriginal Council 2014). By 1856 the local 'Canberra Tribe', presumably referring to the remaining Ngunnawal people, numbered around seventy (Schumack 1967).

Currently, four Aboriginal groups are representative of the ACT region. These groups are:

- Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation;
- King Brown Tribal Group;
- Mirrabee (formerly Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council); and
- Ngarigu Currawong Clan.

The following is an excerpt from information provided by Wally Bell, representative of the Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation regarding the cultural landscape of Canberra:

"Before European settlement Aboriginal people occupied the hills and plains of this area for thousands of years. The landscape formed an integral part of the Aboriginal lifestyle. Our belief system relates to the seasonal movement of people across the land seeking food, natural resources, trade and ceremonial purposes...The Canberra region is generally understood to have been a meeting place, suggesting that there was a reliable food and water supply. To access areas of significance such as Mt Majura and Mt Ainslie, Black Mountain and the major meeting ground at the current site of Parliament House, significant pathways were formed as people moved from place to place through transitional cultural boundaries. Pathways were the means of access across the region and a physical and visual link to major spiritual gathering places...Spiritual connection with the land is a part of Aboriginal society and as such explains why Aboriginal people have such close ties with the land, whether it is the spirits of a mountain, the water, or the flora and fauna". (Wally Bell 2020)

Evidence of such pathways as described above can be found in early European settler accounts, such as an 1839 account describing a group of colonists from Yarralumla House being led from Cooleman Plain 'by a native track through the mountains to Uriarra, then down the Murrumbidgee River bed and on to Yarralumla' (Wilson 1968: 105-109).

2.2.2 Regional Archaeological Context

Archaeological evidence suggests that Aboriginal people had occupied all of Australia's environmental zones by 31,000 years before present (BP) (Flood 1995: 286). Aboriginal people have been living in and around the Canberra region for at least 21,000 years, as evidenced through the archaeological recordings of hundreds of sites associated with Aboriginal culture in the Canberra region. The vast majority of these represent campsites, many of which have been destroyed by the development of Canberra's city and suburbs.

Stone artefacts are the most common remaining physical evidence of Aboriginal activity in the archaeological record of the Canberra region. These can be detected as isolated artefacts or artefact scatters. A broad regional pattern can be described with larger, more dense artefact scatters occurring in the vicinity of permanent creek lines, and smaller, less dense scatters around less permanent water sources. The larger sites tend to be found in proximity to creeks, wetlands and valley floors, where these areas avoid frost drainage hollows (Flood 1980). Other areas where larger sites have been found tend to correlate with stone outcrops suitable for artefact production (Access Archaeology 1990, Heffernan and Klaver 1995, Kuskie 1992a and b, Walshe 1994), or other geological features which have particular cultural significance, for example at Black Mountain (pers. comms. 26 March 2020, Wally Bell), which is approximately 3 km north of CSIRO Yarralumla.

2.2.3 Archaeological Context of CSIRO Yarralumla

No Aboriginal heritage sites have been previously recorded at CSIRO Yarralumla. Several other ACHAs have been undertaken in the Yarralumla area, including five by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants (NOHC) at Section 128 Block 1 (NOHC 2004a), Section 44 Blocks 2,3 and 25 (NOHC 2006), Section 32 Block 22 (NOHC 2007), and Section 86 Block 9 (NOHC 2004b; NOHC 2011). No Aboriginal heritage sites were identified in these assessments.

Two Aboriginal heritage sites in Yarralumla have been nominated to the ACT Heritage Register. The first is Stirling Park (Section 22 Block 4, approximately 2.2 km from CSIRO Yarralumla) and the other consists of a number of Aboriginal Scarred Trees (one in Stirling Park and the others in Section 44 Blocks 6 and 8, approximately 1.4 km from CSIRO Yarralumla). These sites, and any others that may be identified in the future either in or around the CSIRO Yarralumla, have a very strong significance to the Nggunawal people and also have elements of intangible cultural connection as part of a broad cultural landscape which demonstrates connection to Country and a history of occupation for tens of thousands of years.

2.3 Historical Context

Yarralumla was established as a sheep station by (Sir) Terence Murray in 1837 and a homestead known as Yarralumla House was soon constructed. It was during Murray's ownership that George Augustus Robinson, the Chief Protector of Aborigines, while staying at Yarralumla House in 1844, recorded the names and ages of 91 Aboriginal people in the region. Murray's brother-in-law, Augustus Gibbes purchased the property in 1859 and later sold it to his friend and neighbour Frederick Campbell in 1881. The Commonwealth Government purchased the property from Campbell in 1913 as a temporary residence for the Governor-General of Australia and the residence, which has been rebuilt several times, is now known as Government House or Yarralumla.

Canberra experienced its first major phase of development as the National Capital in the 1920s when there was a focus on the completion of the Provisional Parliament House and the relocation of the Parliament to Canberra. This phase also had the intention to relocate Commonwealth Government departments and some national institutions to the new city. One of the national institutions, created in 1925 by Commonwealth legislation, was the AFS. The AFS was established in the suburb of Westridge, now Yarralumla, then the western suburb of the Federal Capital, so as to be near the arboretum (Westbourne Woods) and the nursery established in 1913 by Charles Weston, Officer in

Charge, Afforestation Branch, Department of Home Affairs (*Figure 2.2*). The modern suburb of Yarralumla was officially gazetted by the government in 1928.

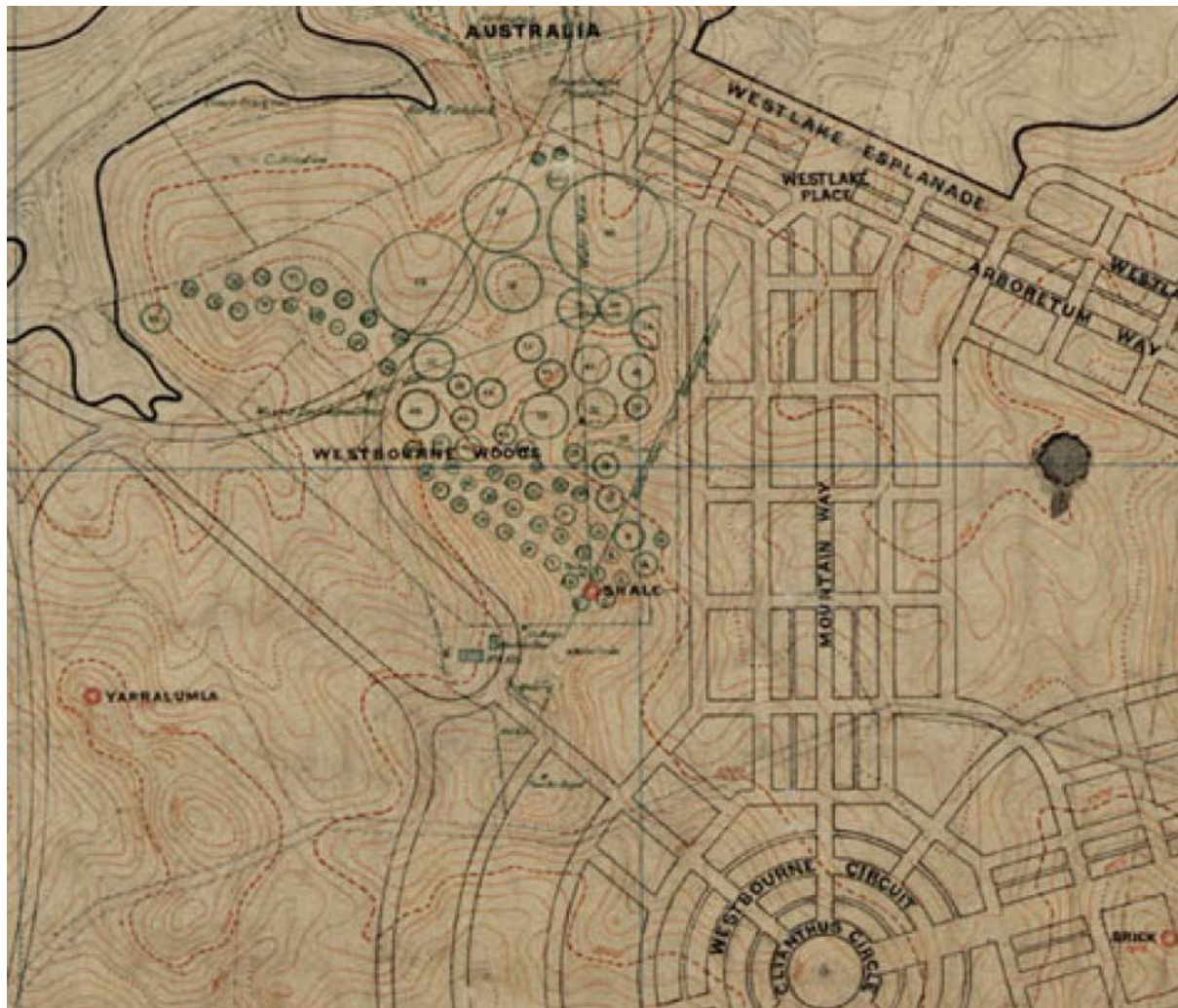


Figure 2.2 1918 Capital City Plan showing Westbourne Woods (NAA #1145962)

2.3.1 Development of the CSIRO Yarralumla Site

The sequential site uses of CSIRO Yarralumla are:

- Pre-1913 – 1920: Westbourne Woods (Nursery and Arboretum);
- 1927 – 1968: Australian Forestry School;
- 1968 – 1975: Forestry and Timber Bureau;
- 1975 – 2004: CSIRO Division of Forest Research/CSIRO Corporate; and
- 2004 – Current: CSIRO and external tenants.

CSIRO Yarralumla is important for its array of features from different phases of development linked to the scientific and educational purpose of the Site. Site development at CSIRO Yarralumla can be grouped into the following key phases:

- AFS establishment (1927 – 1938)
- Inter-war period (1938 – 1942)
- Post-war period (1948 – 1958)

- Administration Period (1969 – 1975)
- CSIRO period (1975 – 2004)

All of these key phases involved significant earthworks, construction and planting of exotic tree species. The scale of disturbance to the previous landscape is particularly evident in aerial photographs of the 1960s (*Photograph 2.5*) and 1970s (*Photograph 2.6*).



Photograph 2.5 Northern area of CSIRO Yarralumla, c.1960 (CSIRO Black Mountain)

In 1975 the CSIRO acquired the whole site as it exists now, apart from the oval, and established a Division of Forest Research to carry out the functions of the Forest Research Institute and the harvesting and management groups of the Forestry and Timber Bureau (CSIRO 1976). The unit became the Division of Forestry and Forest Products in 1988, the Division of Forestry in 1991 and in 1996 the Division of Forestry and Forest Products. The site was sold and leased back to CSIRO in 2002, who still manages the Site today.



Photograph 2.6 CSIRO Yarralumla, 1970s (CSIRO Black Mountain)

2.4 Predictive Archaeological Model

An understanding of local and regional site patterning allows the identification of areas or landforms that have archaeological potential. These areas can be defined as locations where the possibility of discovering new Aboriginal heritage sites exists. The level of archaeological potential is based upon three measures:

- the statistical likelihood of finding a site (based upon a background understanding);
- the condition of any area (the condition of the natural materials within the study area); and
- the integrity of any sites (how much the study area has been disturbed since it was created).

A basic ranking system can be applied – high, medium, low or very low potential (*Table 3.1*).

Table 3.1 Definitions of levels of archaeological potential

Level of Archaeological Potential	Definition	Example
High	Artefacts are consistently found in comparable landforms or similar environmental contexts and will very likely be found if soil/sand excavation occurs.	Landforms with known environmental focus areas encouraging repeat visitation to specific locale, i.e. margins of estuaries or near high order creeks.
Medium	Artefacts are known to occur in comparable landforms in detectable densities (~1 artefact/m ²) and there is possibility of detection.	Landforms with an environmental focus which may have seen seasonal Aboriginal visitation.

Level of Archaeological Potential	Definition	Example
Low	Artefacts are not normally found in comparable contexts but could occur in low densities making detection unlikely.	Landforms with no specific focus for use, i.e. with no water source or undifferentiated slopes.
Very low	Artefacts are very unlikely to occur in situ.	Eroded landforms, reconstructed landscapes, hazardous landscapes, developed areas.

Predictive Model Statement

CSIRO Yarralumla and its surrounding landscape is highly developed with significant ground disturbance across the entire site. The site was cleared of vegetation for the construction of the buildings and planting of exotic tree species. Furthermore, areas of the land were excavated and the ground cut into during construction, particularly around the oval (*Photograph 3.1* and *Photograph 3.2*). A combination of the clearing, excavation, and other construction activities has caused significant ground disturbance across the CSIRO Yarralumla site.



Photograph 3.7 Oval retaining wall, facing south-west (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.8 Oval, facing north-west (ERM 2020)

As CSIRO Yarralumla is not located on a prominent geological feature, or within close proximity to a major permanent water source, the likelihood of a significant archaeological site occurring at this location is considered low. In addition, in urban situations where development has significantly altered the natural landscape, any evidence of Aboriginal occupation which may have been present is usually lost or buried. As CSIRO Yarralumla has had a long history of use and alteration across the entirety of the property, if any tangible Aboriginal heritage values were present at this location, none are likely to remain visible. Due to the developed nature of the entirety of the site, and the fact that no Aboriginal heritage sites have been recorded in other ACHA undertaken across Yarralumla, the level of archaeological potential is generally very low.

The extensive earthworks involved in constructing the oval, and the significant ground disturbance involved in construction of the surrounding buildings means that any predictive archaeological model should rate these areas particularly as very low. The boundary areas of the Site have also experienced ground disturbance associated with clearing and planting programs, and these areas should rate as low.

3. PHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Based on the predictive archaeological model described above, physical investigation of the site were focused the boundary areas away from the oval and buildings on CSRIO Yarralumla. Elspeth Mackenzie, ERM Senior Heritage Consultant, and Wally Bell, Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation attended site on 26 March 2020. Elspeth also attended a second inspection with Michelle House from Mirrabee on 28 July 2020. A pedestrian inspection of the area began at the Forestry School building and traversed the open areas in an anti-clockwise direction around the Site. The majority of this area was covered with low grass and sparsely planted trees (*Photograph 3.3 to Photograph 3.8*). Ground surface visibility was generally good, particularly in areas exposed by large ant nests (*Photograph 3.5*).

No Aboriginal heritage was observed during the site investigation.



Photograph 3.1 North-western boundary of the Site, facing north-east (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.2 North-western boundary of the Site, facing south-west (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.3 Ant nest along the north-western boundary (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.4 Western boundary of the Site, facing south (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.5 South-western boundary of the Site, facing north-east (ERM 2020)



Photograph 3.6 South-eastern corner of the site, facing east (ERM 2020)

4. ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

An assessment of cultural heritage significance is undertaken to explain why a particular place is important and to enable appropriate management strategies to be formulated. The CSIRO Forestry Precinct (Place ID: 105595) is listed on the CHL for its historic heritage values, the Australian Forestry School (former) is also listed on the CHL (Place ID: 105426) for its historic heritage values. No previous assessment for Aboriginal heritage values has been undertaken.

Aboriginal heritage sites, objects and places hold value for communities in many different ways. The nature of those heritage values is an important consideration when deciding how to manage a heritage site, object or place and balance competing land use options. Assessing the cultural significance of a place means identifying the reasons why a place is culturally important.

The Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter provides seven key criteria against which significance can be assessed, providing information about why sites are significant for the community. These criteria are identified as:

- *Rarity*: whether any or all aspects of a site (type, location, integrity, content and archaeological potential) can be considered common or rare within a local, regional or national context;
- *Representativeness*: the comparative rarity of the site when considered and contrasted against other similar sites conserved at the local and/or regional level;
- *Archaeological landscapes*: the study of the cultural sites relating to Aboriginal peoples within the context of their interactions in the wider social and natural environment they inhabited. Landscapes can be large or small depending upon specific contexts (i.e. local or regional conditions); they may also be influenced by Aboriginal social and demographic factors (which may no longer be apparent);
- *Connectedness*: whether the site can be connected to other sites at the local or regional level through aspects such as type, chronology, content (i.e. materials present, manufacturing processes), spatial patterning or ethno-historical information;
- *Integrity & condition*: integrity refers to the level of modification a site has been subject to (the cultural and natural formation process) and whether the site could yield intact archaeological deposits, which could be spatially meaningful. Condition takes into account the state of the material, which is especially relevant for organic materials;
- *Complexity*: the demonstrated or potential ability of a site to yield a complex assemblage (stone, bone and/or shell) and/or features (hearths, fire pits, activity areas); and
- *Archaeological potential*: the potential to yield information (from sub-surface materials which retain integrity, stratigraphical or not) that will contribute to an understanding of contemporary archaeological interest, or which could be saved for future research potential.

Cultural/social significance concerns the value/s of a place, feature or site to a particular community group/s, in this case the local Aboriginal communities. Aspects of cultural or social significance are relevant to sites, objects and landscapes that are important or have become important to local Aboriginal communities. This importance involves both traditional links with specific areas as well as an overall concern by Aboriginal people for sites and their continued protection. As such, Aboriginal cultural significance can only be determined by the Aboriginal community.

During the field survey component of this assessment and in accordance with the relevant Aboriginal consultation guidelines, Aboriginal representatives were queried about the cultural significance (to individuals and the community more broadly) of CSIRO Yarralumla. No RAO representative indicated that the Site holds any cultural significance to Aboriginal people other than being part of the wider cultural landscape.

4.1 Assessment of Aboriginal Heritage Values

A place in ACT is recognised as having heritage significance if it meets one or more of the identified criteria, which are essentially the same as the Burra Charter criteria discussed above. An assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla and its Aboriginal heritage values against the ACT heritage criteria is contained in the table below.

Table 4.1 Assessment of heritage significance for Aboriginal heritage values

Criterion	ERM Assessment
a. <i>importance to the course or pattern of the ACT's cultural or natural history</i>	<p>While it is likely that Aboriginal people traversed and perhaps camped in the area now known as CSIRO Yarralumla, there is no longer any evidence of this remaining.</p> <p>CSIRO Yarralumla has had no part in the course or pattern of ACT's Aboriginal cultural history since its development as the Australian Forestry School.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
b. <i>has uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the ACT's cultural or natural history</i>	<p>CSIRO Yarralumla contains no known uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the ACT's Aboriginal history.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
c. <i>potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural or natural history</i>	<p>CSIRO Yarralumla has undergone significant earthworks and ground disturbance over the last century, and has no known potential to yield information that will contribute to a greater understanding of the ACT's Aboriginal history.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
d. <i>importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or objects</i>	<p>CSIRO Yarralumla contains no known Aboriginal heritage and therefore is not important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of Aboriginal places or artefacts.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
e. <i>importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the ACT community or a cultural group in the ACT</i>	<p>CSIRO Yarralumla does not exhibit any particular aesthetic characteristics associated with Aboriginal heritage.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
f. <i>importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement for a particular period</i>	<p>CSIRO Yarralumla contains no known Aboriginal heritage and therefore is not important in demonstrating creative or technical achievement relevant to Aboriginal heritage.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>
g. <i>has strong or special association with the ACT community, or a cultural group in the ACT for social, cultural or spiritual reasons</i>	<p>Any sites or cultural material that may be identified at CSIRO Yarralumla in the future would have a very strong significance to the Ngunnawal people from a cultural perspective, as these sites provide evidence of a strong rich story of Aboriginal traditional cultural practices and connection to Country over tens of thousands of years. And while part of the important Ngunnawal cultural landscape of the region, CSIRO Yarralumla does not hold an association with the Aboriginal community that is any stronger or more special than the association with the landscape as a whole.</p> <p>Does not meet this criterion.</p>

Criterion	ERM Assessment
<i>h. has a special association with the life or work of a person, or people, important to the history of the ACT</i>	CSIRO Yarralumla does not have a special association with the life or work of any local Aboriginal person. Does not meet this criterion.

In conclusion, CSIRO Yarralumla does not contain any Aboriginal heritage values and does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the ACT Heritage Register for its Aboriginal heritage values.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Recommendations for Further Investigations

No further works are recommended regarding Aboriginal heritage values at CSIRO Yarralumla.

A copy of this report should be provided to the ACT Heritage Unit and the four RAOs.

5.2 Statement of Heritage Effect

No physical evidence of Aboriginal heritage values has been identified at CSIRO Yarralumla during a site inspection of the property. No intangible heritage values specific to this site have been communicated by the RAOs.

Due to the developed nature of CSIRO Yarralumla, the level of archaeological potential is generally very low across the entire site.

Any proposed development of CSIRO Yarralumla is very unlikely to impact Aboriginal heritage values, and there are therefore no constraints placed on development due to Aboriginal heritage values. A stop works process should be established during any construction program to assist with managing any unexpected archaeological finds.

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APPENDIX A CHL LISTINGS

Place Details

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The CSIRO Forestry Precinct, Banks St, Yarralumla, ACT, Australia

Photographs	None
List	Commonwealth Heritage List
Class	Historic
Legal Status	Listed place (22/06/2004)
Place ID	105595
Place File No	8/01/000/0115
Summary Statement of Significance	

The CSIRO Forestry Precinct, located within the larger Forestry Precinct (RNE No. 102273), is the Commonwealth's centre for forestry and timber research. It is a complex of buildings, arboretum, nursery, and tennis courts forming an important national scientific institution, established as a response to Federation to provide a national forestry school and national forest research centre. It demonstrates both the Commonwealth's interest in scientific endeavour and a vision for Canberra as the location for science as well as general government administration.

The precinct is associated with the international interest in forestry and is important for an array of scientific achievements, such as PINUS RADIATA propagation and breeding and the Australian Tree Seed program.

The precinct is important as a component of the arboretum and nursery landscape of Yarralumla. The tree-growing trials which constitute the arboretum, identified trees suitable for the urban forests of Canberra and at the same time provided public park amenity for the Canberra community. Yarralumla Nursery to the north of the arboretum has supplied planting stock for Canberra's parks, streets and residential blocks since 1914.

Within the precinct, the former Australian Forestry School (RNE: 013338) reflects the successful outcome of efforts to establish a national forestry school in the new National Capital to produce professional foresters for Federal and State services, and forestry research workers. (Criterion A 4, Australian Historic Theme 8.10: Pursuing excellence in the arts and sciences, advancing knowledge in science and technology)

The precinct is important for its array of features from different phases of development linked to the scientific and educational purpose of the site. These features include the former Australian Forestry School, the former Offices of the Forestry and Timber Bureau, the former Seed Storage Building, Forestry House and Caretakers Cottage, the CSIRO Divisional Headquarters, Controlled Environment Laboratory, tennis courts, arboretum plantings and moveable objects of furniture, collections and historic timber hauling vehicles. (Criterion A3)

The arboretum is an important reference site containing experimental plantings and a significant genetic resource for Australia. (Criterion C2)

The precinct has aesthetic quality based on the historic character of the former Australian Forestry School building, the former Office of the Forestry and Timber Bureau, Forestry House and the modern Headquarters building all set in the mature forest plantings of Westbourne Woods arboretum. The School, including its formal landscaped frontage and with its arboretum setting, is the terminal feature of the Schlich Street axial vista, and a major landmark feature of Yarralumla. (Criterion E1)

The precinct, as a complete small-scale research and learning institution with classical style architecture and recreation grounds, reflects the design concepts that were held in the early 20th century for such places. Within the precinct, the former Australian Forestry School is significant as a fine example of early twentieth-century architecture. The timbers used in panelling, flooring and joinery of the School, particularly the octagonal entrance foyer, evidence a high degree of creative and artistic achievement. (Criterion F1)

The precinct has social importance to the former students educated at the place and the forestry scientists who have conducted research there. (Criterion G)

The Australian Forestry School has a strong association with pioneers of forestry research in Australia, Charles E. Lane Poole and Dr Maxwell R. Jacobs. The arboretum is important for its association with T.C.G. Weston who directed the major plantings in the 1910s and 1920s. (Criterion H)

Official Values

Criterion A Processes

The CSIRO Forestry Precinct, located within the larger Forestry Precinct, is the Commonwealth's centre for forestry and timber research. It is a complex of buildings, arboretum, nursery, and tennis courts forming an important national scientific institution, established as a response to Federation to provide a national forestry school and national forest research centre. It demonstrates both the Commonwealth's interest in scientific endeavour and a vision for Canberra as the location for science as well as general government administration.

The precinct is associated with the international interest in forestry and is important for an array of scientific achievements, such as PINUS RADIATA propagation and breeding and the Australian Tree Seed program.

The precinct is important as a component of the arboretum and nursery landscape of Yarralumla. The tree-growing trials which constitute the arboretum, identified trees suitable for the urban forests of Canberra and at the same time provided public park amenity for the Canberra community. Yarralumla Nursery to the north of the arboretum has supplied planting stock for Canberra's parks, streets and residential blocks since 1914.

Within the precinct, the former Australian Forestry School reflects the successful outcome of efforts to establish a national forestry school in the new National Capital to produce professional foresters for Federal and State services, and forestry research workers.

The precinct is important for its array of features from different phases of development linked to the scientific and educational purpose of the site. These features include the former Australian Forestry School, the former Offices of the Forestry and Timber Bureau, the former Seed Storage Building, Forestry House and Caretakers Cottage, the CSIRO Divisional Headquarters, Controlled Environment Laboratory, tennis courts, arboretum plantings and moveable objects of furniture, collections and historic timber hauling vehicles.

Attributes

The whole precinct including the former Australian Forestry School, the former Offices of the Forestry and Timber Bureau, the former Seed Storage Building, Forestry House and Caretaker's Cottage, the CSIRO Divisional Headquarters, Controlled Environment Laboratory, tennis courts, arboretum plantings and moveable objects of furniture, collections and historic timber hauling vehicles.

Criterion C Research

The arboretum is an important reference site containing experimental plantings and a significant genetic resource for Australia.

Attributes

Experimental plantings and genetic resources held within the arboretum.

Criterion E Aesthetic characteristics

The precinct has aesthetic quality based on the historic character of the former Australian Forestry School building, the former Office of the Forestry and Timber Bureau, Forestry House and the modern Headquarters building all set in the mature forest plantings of Westbourne Woods arboretum. The School, including its formal landscaped frontage and with its arboretum setting, is the terminal feature of the Schlich Street axial vista, and a major landmark feature of Yarralumla.

Attributes

The buildings and their setting within the mature forest plantings of the Westbourne Woods arboretum, plus the School, its landscaped frontage and its prominence at the end of the Schlich Street vista.

Criterion F Technical achievement

The precinct, as a complete small-scale research and learning institution with classical style architecture and recreation grounds, reflects the design concepts that were held in the early 20th century for such places. Within the precinct, the former Australian Forestry School is significant as a fine example of early twentieth-century architecture. The timbers used in panelling, flooring and joinery of the School, particularly the octagonal entrance foyer, evidence a high degree of creative and artistic achievement.

Attributes

The classically styled buildings set within designed landscape, integrated with recreation areas, plus the school, its octagonal foyer and the timbers used in its paneling, flooring and joinery.

Criterion G Social value

The precinct has social importance to the former students educated at the place and the forestry scientists who have conducted research there.

Attributes

Not clarified

Criterion H Significant people

The Australian Forestry School has a strong association with pioneers of forestry research in Australia, Charles E. Lane Poole and Dr Maxwell R. Jacobs. The arboretum is important for its association with T.C.G. Weston who directed the major plantings in the 1910s and 1920s.

Attributes

The Australian Forestry School and the arboretum.

Description

History

Federal Capital to World War II

Canberra experienced its first major phase of development as the National Capital in the 1920s when there was a focus on the completion of the Provisional Parliament House and the relocation of the Parliament to Canberra. This phase also had the intention to relocate Commonwealth Government departments and some national institutions to the new city. One of the national institutions, created in 1925 by Commonwealth legislation, was the Australian Forestry School.

A single forestry school for Australia had been proposed in November 1911 at the first Interstate Forestry Conference, attended by heads of forest services of NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland and the Government Botanist of Tasmania. Charles Edward Lane Poole, Conservator of Forests of Western Australia from 1916 until 1921, advocated the establishment of a Commonwealth forestry research organisation together with the school to research forest entomology, botany, silviculture and forest management (CSIRO 1976).

Plans for a 'Federal Forestry Bureau' were submitted to the Bruce-Page Government in 1924, and staff were appointed before the Forestry Bureau Act of 1930 was passed (Jacobs 1961). In 1925, when Lane Poole returned from a three-year assignment in Papua New Guinea, he was appointed forestry adviser to the Commonwealth Government and persuaded Prime Minister Bruce to include a commitment to establish a national forestry school in Canberra in his election policy speech of 1925 (Boden 1993). The Minister for Home and Territories, the Right Honourable Sir George F. Pearce, approached the States with an offer that the Commonwealth would build, equip, staff and maintain the school if the States would send the students. All States agreed, except for South Australia, which had been running its own forestry course in association with the University of Adelaide since 1910.

The Australian School of Forestry was temporarily housed at the University of Adelaide in March 1926, with Professor Norman W. Jolly as Principal, while a suitable building was constructed in Canberra. At the end of that year Jolly was appointed Chief Commissioner of Forests of New South Wales and Lane Poole, then Inspector-General of Forests for the Commonwealth, was appointed acting Principal of the Forestry School as well as Inspector-General of Forests (CSIRO 1976).

The establishment of the School was followed by the creation of the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau in 1927. Lane Poole saw the Forestry School as a branch of the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, the main task of the latter being to develop a national forest policy and to bring Australia's forest resources under national control. Although the School had gone ahead, the Forestry Bureau existed in name only for many years and in this period most of the research undertaken, other than that of Lane-Poole, was done by the staff of the School.

The School was established in the suburb of Westridge, now Yarralumla, then the western suburb of the Federal Capital, so as to be near the arboretum (Westbourne Woods) and the nursery established in 1913 by Charles Weston, Officer in Charge, Afforestation Branch, Department of Home Affairs. The School building was designed as part of the Federal Capital Commission's (FCC's) building program by J.H. Kirkpatrick, working with H.M. Rolland, Principal Architect of the FCC. The FCC's building program was essentially to provide accommodation and office space for the transfer of the Federal Government from Melbourne to the new Capital, and the School, being an institution, was included in this program. Other institutions supported by the Commonwealth at this time were the Commonwealth Solar Observatory, the Australian War Memorial and the Museum of Zoology (later the Institute of Anatomy). The school was officially opened on 11 April 1927, with 16 students and three permanent lecturing staff, as well as Lane Poole. The staff members were Messrs C.E. Carter, H.R. Gray and A. Rule.

The School building incorporated hardwoods and softwoods from all States. Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales donated floor timber and South Australia donated timber for internal fittings. New South Wales and Queensland refused to give any timber without payment. Although the School had opened in April 1927, the building was not completed until June that year. The formal opening was held on 24 November 1927. The only rooms completed when school work commenced were the Principal's room and the drafting room.

A carpenter's shop, requested by Lane Poole, was built apart from the main educational block as he had specified, in August 1927. He also requested a stove house and frames (a heated glasshouse), to be used for raising seedlings, and this was completed in March 1929. T.R. Casboulte, an architect of the FCC, drew the plan of the approach to the Forestry School building in August 1927.

A residence for the Principal, 'Westridge House' (RNE 8/01/000/370) (not included within this record), later known as 'Tudor House', designed by the Melbourne architect Harold Desbrowe Annear, was built next to the school in 1928. Students initially had no accommodation and had to occupy the old printers' quarters at Kingston and a camp on the site. In 1928, 27 spruce cubicles were built at the rear of three houses in Solander Place, near the school, for the student accommodation. Each student had his own cubicle, supplied with electric light, wardrobe, table and chair. Of the houses, one was used for amenities, one for dining/kitchen and the third for ablutions. Student occupancy of the cubicles ceased at the end of 1951, and students were subsequently located elsewhere.

Shortly before WWII, the Government funded a building for an industrial museum and the work of the research sections of the Bureau. After the war the museum was temporarily abandoned and the building used for other purposes. The collected exhibits were stored in a wooden building which was later destroyed by fire, along with most of the exhibits (Jacobs 1961).

A meteorological station located near the tennis courts was run by the Forestry Bureau. Facilities included wind vanes, anemometers, a Stevenson screen and a pit to house thermometers for measuring air and soil temperature. A second station with a tall wooden tower and pit was located in a plot of radiata pine (the 'Tower Plot') to the west of the precinct. An anemometer was also installed on a tall mast above the Forestry School. Weather recordings were taken every day from 1927 to 1981. It was the only meteorological station in Canberra from 1927 to 1939. (Eldridge 2000).

During the Depression years, the numbers of students decreased to around four a year. In 1936 Lane Poole put the staff on half-time lecturing to the four second-year students, and half-time on research. This action stimulated the States to provide more students and the situation improved during the late 1930s. Numbers went down again during the Second World War, as many potential students enlisted.

In the years before and after World War II, the Forestry students and Duntroon cadets vied for social honours, holding dances and other functions. The Forestry students emptied the museum at the Forestry School and turned it into a ballroom. These functions were supported by Lane Poole and his wife. Lane Poole was also a founding member of the Alpine Club at Mount Franklin in the Brindabella Mountains, and became its president. Every student who attended the Forestry School was required to make himself a set of wooden skis under the instruction of Lane Poole.

Research was conducted at the site by the School staff and students on behalf of the Commonwealth. Early research concentrated on growth rates and the effects of thinning (CSIRO 1976). Westbourne Woods, established by T.C.G. Weston, was the first arboretum established in the ACT (1914-18). The Commonwealth Forestry Bureau established Laurel Camp at Pierces Creek in 1928. Dr Maxwell Ralph Jacobs was appointed research officer in the Bureau, in 1937, and undertook research on growth stresses in eucalypt stems and genetic variation in *PINUS RADIATA* for plantation improvement.

Lane Poole held the two positions of Principal of the Australian Forestry School and Inspector-General of Forests, Commonwealth Forestry Bureau until his retirement in 1944.

Post-War Phase

Dr Jacobs was the next Principal of the School, and held the position from 1945 to the end of 1959 when he became Director-General of the Forestry and Timber Bureau.

After the War the number of students increased to 80 in 1950 before declining in the 1950s and rising again to 60 in 1961. From 1949, students from New Zealand, Asia (including Malaysia and Burma) and Ethiopia, attended the school. In the immediate post-war years, a number of Army disposal buildings were acquired to supplement the original spruce cubes in Solander Place (Jacobs 1961). Not long after Jacob's

appointment as Principal, plans were made to build a permanent residence for the students, and thus Forestry House, designed by the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing, was constructed and occupied at the commencement of the 1952 academic year.

Better accommodation was also required after the War for the Research and Administrative Sections of the Bureau, and many proposals were considered. These were outlined for the National Capital Development Commission by Jacobs (Jacobs 1961). The building at the rear of the Forestry School, originally built for the industrial museum, was occupied by the Director General and his staff as the office of the Forestry and Timber Bureau (re-designated by the Forestry and Timber Bureau Act of 1946) from 1946 until 1961.

Kelvin P. McGrath became Acting Principal of the Forestry School when Jacobs was appointed Director-General of the Forestry and Timber Bureau (1959). McGrath retained that position until the responsibility for forestry education was transferred to the Australian National University early in 1965, when a Department of Forestry was established within the School of General Studies. The Duke of Edinburgh opened a new building for the Forestry Department of the ANU on 15 May 1968. Until then, the Department had continued to function in the Forestry School buildings at Yarralumla.

When the Forestry School building was vacated, senior officers of the Forestry and Timber Bureau moved in from Westridge House, to where they had moved in 1961 when Jacobs was confirmed in the position of Director General and transferred his residence to Forrest. The former industrial museum building was used by the School staff from 1961 until 1968.

After a hesitant start in the 1930s, research at the site expanded after the war. In 1946 the Commonwealth Timber Control and Commonwealth Forestry Bureau were amalgamated to form the Forestry and Timber Bureau with the Central Research Station at Canberra concentrating on silviculture (CSIRO 1976). Over twenty-five arboreta were established in rural locations at various altitudes between 1929 and 1954 (Chapman 1984). A nursery for propagating *PINUS RADIATA* was expanded at Yarralumla in the 1940s, following earlier use of a nursery at Pierces Creek for raising the first pines from cuttings in Australia. Later work in the nursery included important investigations of pollination and seed production of *EUCALYPTUS GRANDIS*, *E. NITENS* and *E. GLOBULUS* (Eldridge 2000).

In the 1950s, research was expanded into fire behaviour and effects of wildfire and control burning in native forests; and into forest resources, botany and nutrition. In the 1960s work started on entomology, pathology, watershed management and logging. In 1961 Jacobs established the nucleus of the Australian Tree Seed Centre as a contribution to the United Nation's Freedom from Hunger Campaign (Vercoe 2000).

In 1963 research was given significant impetus with the formation of the Forest Research Institute within the Bureau. In 1964 the Forestry and Timber Bureau was transferred from the Department of the Interior to the Department of National Development, and in 1972 to the Department of Primary Industry. In 1970, Jacobs retired and was succeeded by Dr D.A.N. (Neil) Cromer as Director-General, a role he held until retiring in 1975. Alan McArthur directed the Forest Research Institute in those five years.

In 1975 the CSIRO acquired the whole site as it exists now, apart from the oval, and established a Division of Forest Research to carry out the functions of the Forest Research Institute and the harvesting and management groups of the Forestry and Timber Bureau (CSIRO 1976). The unit became the Division of Forestry and Forest Products in 1988, the Division of Forestry in 1991 and in 1996 the Division of Forestry and Forest Products.

CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products currently (in 2000) carries out collaborative research with State and other institutions and the headquarters of the Division are located at Yarralumla. The research includes tree improvement and genetic resources, native forest management, plantations and farm forestry, wood processing and products, and pulp and paper products.

One example of current activity is provided by the Australian Tree Seed Centre, which supplies authenticated representative seed samples and advice on species selection, silviculture, and tree improvement strategies. The Centre has made a unique contribution to world forestry and agriculture by

providing effective access to Australian forest genetic resources. It supplies seedlots to growers and researchers both overseas and within Australia, and advice to over one hundred countries. The Centre maintains the national collection of tree seed from 1300 species (CSIRO 1997).

The site was sold and leased back to the CSIRO in 2002.

(History notes have been compiled from the sources cited and from the National Trust citation for the Australian Forestry School).

Description

The CSIRO Forestry Precinct is a research centre and former campus, located in Yarraluma within the heritage-listed Westbourne Woods (RNE No. 13337). The heritage place covers Block 7 of Section 4; it includes groups of buildings clustered around the adjacent oval, nursery, arboretum, and tennis courts. It also includes the former Australian Forestry School (RNE No. 13338).

The Australian Forestry School

The School was designed in the Inter-War Stripped Classical Style by J.H. Kirkpatrick, of the Federal Capital Commission (FCC), assisted by H.M. Rolland, principal architect of the FCC, and the building was completed in 1927. It is a single-storey rendered brick building with a parapet and a hipped tiled roof. The front or eastern entrance leads through a short hallway into a large octagonal domed hall, approximately 8 metres high, located in the centre of the building and panelled in Australian timbers. At the centre of the hall is a parquet floor, with a central circular design patterned with jarrah, mountain ash and tallowwood. A laboratory at the north-western corner of the building is still close to its original condition, including its blackboards with stained timber edging. At the southern end of the building, the area formerly used for the museum retains built-in timber cupboards used for herbarium specimens. This area was being occupied by the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA) in 2000. A kitchen occupies the space of the former cloakroom, which was later a darkroom. (Refer to RNE 13338 for detailed information on the School)

Offices of the Forestry and Timber Bureau

A small rendered brick building located behind the main School building, initially used as an industrial museum and later as offices for the Forestry and Timber Bureau, was constructed around 1938 in a style similar to that of the main school but with subtle differences in details such as in the roundels, rainwater heads and downpipes. The building has a tallowwood floor. It is now used for storage by AMSAT (Australian Marine Science and Technology).

Former Seed Storage Building

A small timber-framed and clad building with a hipped tiled roof, located behind the Forestry School was constructed around 1935 -40, next to the former Forestry and Timber Bureau offices. It was used as a laboratory and store for seeds. It is now used for storage by AMSAT.

Tennis Courts

Two tennis courts, established for staff and students, are located to the west of the main school building.

Meteorological Station

Associated with the school at the eastern edge of the nursery are the remains of the meteorological station (1927 -1981) with footings on which several meteorological instruments were located.

Nursery

West of the tennis courts is the research nursery used among other things for propagating PINUS RADIATA from cuttings from the 1940s-80s. A small weatherboard potting shed was removed c 1998.

Currently a shade house and plots of pines and eucalypts remain.

Forestry House

The precinct underwent major development during the early post-war years, with the construction of Forestry House, the Caretakers Residence and later the glass houses and potting shed complex.

Forestry House is a two-storeyed rendered brick building, designed by the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing and completed at the end of 1951. The long axis facing the oval contains the former lounge, billiard, library and dining rooms and is single storey with timber-framed windows and a high-pitched tiled gabled roof. The design reflects the Post-War American Colonial style. A feature of the roof is the bronze and timber turret. The building was designed to provide accommodation for students. The lounge room, now converted to a conference room, is large with timber ceilings, exposed timber trusses, timber framed doors and windows. The lounge room was used as the site library for some years prior to 1976. Since being vacated by students in the late 1960s, the building has undergone several rounds of alterations to convert accommodation into offices and laboratories.

The caretaker's cottage was constructed at the same time as Forestry House and although of a modest scale the building reflects the design style of Forestry House. The building is a single storey rendered masonry building with a stepped terracotta tile gabled roof. The cottage has a small garden area with mixed species including agaves. After completion in 1951, it was used for around 10 years as offices.

Glasshouses and Workshop

The glasshouses were built in 1949, and the complex consists of a number of glasshouses and small structures as well as a single-storey red brick building with flat roof and highlight windows located to the western end of the complex. The glasshouses have a single space with a glazed and steel upper portion supported by a face brick lower wall.

The Divisional Headquarters

During the 1960s-80s period, development was focused on establishing modern research facilities. In 1967 a new headquarters for the Forest Research Institute (Building No. 1) was completed, a large split-level brick building of reinforced concrete columns and slabs, with brick curtain walls. The functional design has enabled substantial internal modification when needed. The library was added in 1975-76. A refurbishment c 1996 included an addition on the east end. The various sections are linked by enclosed walkways.

Controlled Environment Laboratory

In 1969 the controlled environment laboratory used for tissue culture and growing plants was constructed beside the existing glasshouse complex.

The building is located on an elevated site overlooking the Glasshouse complex. It is two stories, of face brick with concrete floors, a flat roof and aluminium framed windows. A glasshouse wing extends from the masonry mass to the north.

Industrial Facilities

During the 1970s a complex of new carpenter's and engineer's workshops, several storage sheds and offices was constructed to the north-west of the Forestry School. To enable this work to proceed the original carpentry shop, and a lecture room and a drafting room added in 1948, were demolished.

Recycled Buildings

A number of buildings have been relocated to the site and utilised. The former Nurses Home, now occupied by Greening Australia, was brought to the site from Acton Peninsula in 1963 to augment the student accommodation in Forestry House. In 1973 two timber-clad buildings were brought to the site, the Photography Hut located beside Westridge House and the Recreation Hut behind Forestry House. The

latter contains the original billiard table from Forestry House.

Arboretum

A significant part of the site contains trees planted by TC Weston in the development of Westbourne Woods before 1920. Other plantings on the site are linked with the establishment of the Australian Forestry School opened in 1927. In about 1945-55 other plantings were made by Dr Lindsay Pryor as part of the landscaping around Forestry House, the residential accommodation for AFS students. A small number of trees were planted when the CSIRO forest research laboratories were built in 1975. The most recent plantings were established in 1998 either side of Wilf Crane Drive near its junction with Banks Street. These are rare and threatened acacias and eucalypts. Throughout the site there are small experimental plantings resulting from research trials. (Peter Freeman 2001)

Around the Divisional Headquarters Building (Building No.1) are large groups of *PINUS CANARIENSIS*, *P. RADIATA* and *P. HALEPENSIS* planted before 1920. Interspersed with these are scattered plantings from the 1950s: *PINUS YUNNANENSIS*, *P. HALEPENSIS* V. *BRUTIA*, *P. ECHINATA* and *P. VIRGINIANA*, and within the wings of Building No.1 are two *TAXODIUM MUCRONATUM*. Towards Bentham Street is a group of *PINUS RADIATA* also from 1953 and a large plantation of *CEDRUS ATLANTICA* before 1920. In front of the headquarters building are four *SEQUOIADENDRON GIGANTEUM*. Closer to the oval are a *PINUS COULTERI*, *P. PONDEROSA* and rows of *PINUS NIGRA* all from around the 1920s or earlier.

Near the Controlled Environment Laboratory is a small group of *PINUS ROXBURGHII* from the original plantings, a group of *EUCALYPTUS GRANDIS*, planted in 1979, the product of the early tissue-culture experiments and three *E. MACULATA*. To the west of the nursery area is a group of *BRACHYCHITON POPULNEUS*. To the north-west of the nursery area is the large *PINUS RADIATA* group known as the Tower Plot. To the north of the nursery is a large group of *P. PINEA*. On either side of the former Forestry School are groups of *PINUS PONDEROSA*. Around Westridge House is a group of *PINUS PONDEROSA* and a group of *PINUS PINEA*.

Throughout these groups are numerous other landscape plantings including pin oaks, elms, poplars and cherry plums. Flanking the main entrance to the former Forestry School and also the drive from the school to Westridge House are two large *CUPPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS*. Behind the former Forestry School are single specimens of *ARAUCARIA BIDWILLII*, *EUCALYPTUS GRANDIS*, *E. GLOBULUS* and a single *A. CUNNINGHAMII* is located near the industrial area.

Movable Objects

There are numerous objects of heritage significance within the complex. In the former Forestry School is a Dines Anemograph, used to record wind velocity. Records of rainfall, relative humidity, temperature, wind velocity and hours of sunshine are pinned to a board on the wall nearby. Significant furniture within the School are several original notice boards, an original timber light fitting, built in timber cupboards, timber desk, table and chairs, blackboards and clock. A mountain ash coffer decorated with scrolls and acanthus leaves, a mountain ash settle, and a refectory table are believed to have been purchased for the School from C F Rojo & Sons Pty Ltd, Melbourne in September 1928.

Within the recreation hut is a full size snooker table.

Forestry House contains two kidney shaped coffee tables, a log table, two mounted propeller blades, several chairs (part of a set designed by Derek Wrigley), a museum table from the AFS museum, an original Forestry House student's chair, a display cabinet, a red cedar lectern with light, and a large table originally from the Forestry School Reading Room.

A collection of historic timber hauling vehicles from different parts of Australia has been set up as an outdoor exhibit beside Forestry House. These consist of two tandem axle bogies from the Erica district of Victoria, a log buggy used at Koondrook Victoria and a logging whim donated by George Smith of George Smith Lumber Co. Greenbushes, WA.

Within the library of Divisional Headquarters Building are several leather chairs originally from the AFS library, a lectern, a secretaire, several student desks from Forestry House, and a polished table with fluted decoration. The Max Jacobs Room has heritage furniture pieces consisting of a conference table, two Queensland timber chairs, Max Jacob's office chair and the Max Jacobs historical collection of books, along with other memorabilia.

Valuable books are located in the library collection, and located within the complex is the Australian Tree Seed Centre's scientific collection.

The precinct has aesthetic quality based on the historic character of the former Australian Forestry School building, the former Office of the Forestry and Timber Bureau and to a lesser degree, Forestry House, all set in the mature forest plantings of Westbourne Woods arboretum. The School building, as a terminal feature of the Schlich Street axial vista, is a major landmark feature of Yarralumla.

History Not Available

Condition and Integrity

June 2002:
Well maintained.

Location

About 11ha, Banks and Bentham Streets, Yarralumla, comprising Block 7 of Section 4.

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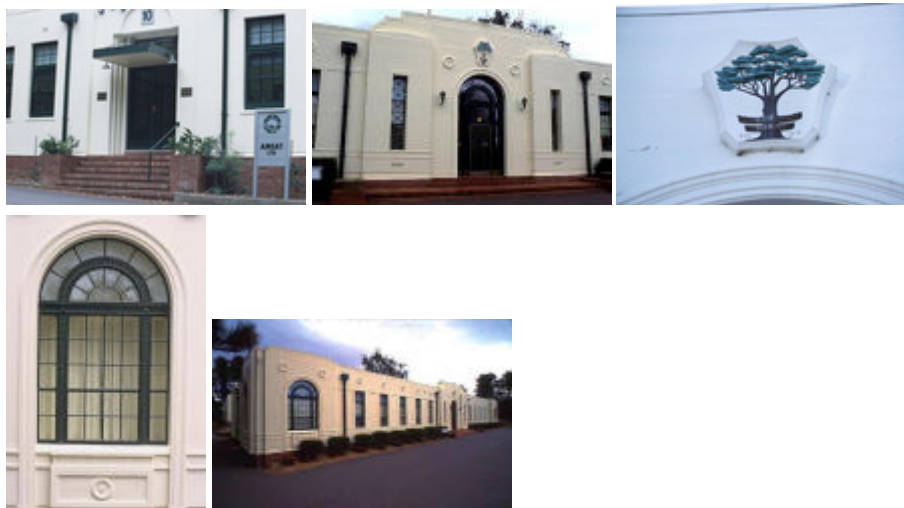
Report Produced Tue Oct 6 15:15:35 2020

Place Details

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Australian Forestry School (former), Banks St, Yarralumla, ACT, Australia

Photographs



List	Commonwealth Heritage List
Class	Historic
Legal Status	Listed place (22/06/2004)
Place ID	105426
Place File No	8/01/000/0369

Summary Statement of Significance

The Australian Forestry School, consisting of the former School building, the former Museum building and the formal landscaping surrounds, has strong associations with the early development of the Federal Capital. It was designed and built as part of the Federal Capital Commission's building program, and was one of a few institutions established by the Commonwealth. It reflects the Commonwealth's effort to establish a national forestry school in the new National Capital to produce professional foresters for Federal and State services and forestry research workers. The establishment of a national forestry school was part of the national approach to many issues that followed Federation in 1901 and the international growth of forestry and forest industry. (Criterion A 4, Australian Historic Theme 8.10: Pursuing excellence in the arts and sciences, advancing knowledge in science and technology)

The Australian Forestry School is a fine example of the Inter-War Stripped Classical style of architecture, being symmetrically composed, divided into vertical bays, with a central entrance and roundels suggestive of classical entablature. Other features are stepped parapets, round arched openings at the entrance and projecting bay ends, and a hipped tiled roof. (Criterion D)

The School including its formal landscaped frontage, in its setting of mature pine forest plantings has aesthetic value for its historic character. As the terminal feature of the Schlich Street axial vista, it creates a major landmark feature in Yarralumla (Criterion E1)

Central to the building is a magnificent domed hall which features the use of superbly crafted Australian timbers from various States of Australia in panelling, flooring, ribs for the dome and light fittings. (Criterion F1)

The School has social importance to the former students educated at the place (Criterion G).

The School has a strong association with its principals who were also pioneers of forestry research in Australian, Charles T Lane Poole and Dr Maxwell Jacobs (Criterion H)

Official Values

Criterion A Processes

The Australian Forestry School, consisting of the former School building, the former Museum building and the formal landscaping surrounds, has strong associations with the early development of the Federal Capital. It was designed and built as part of the Federal Capital Commission's building program, and was one of a few institutions established by the Commonwealth. It reflects the Commonwealth's effort to establish a national forestry school in the new National Capital to produce professional foresters for Federal and State services and forestry research workers. The establishment of a national forestry school was part of the national approach to many issues that followed Federation in 1901 and the international growth of forestry and forest industry.

Attributes

The former School building, the former Museum building and the formal landscaped surrounds.

Criterion D Characteristic values

The Australian Forestry School is a fine example of the Inter-War Stripped Classical style of architecture, being symmetrically composed, divided into vertical bays, with a central entrance and roundels suggestive of classical entablature. Other features are stepped parapets, round arched openings at the entrance and projecting bay ends, and a hipped tiled roof.

Attributes

The building's Inter-War Stripped Classical style of architecture demonstrated by the features noted above.

Criterion E Aesthetic characteristics

The School including its formal landscaped frontage, in its setting of mature pine forest plantings has aesthetic value for its historic character. As the terminal feature of the Schlich Street axial vista, it creates a major landmark feature in Yarralumla.

Attributes

The School, including its formal landscaped frontage, plus its setting of mature pine forest, plus the building as the termination of the Schlich Street vista.

Criterion F Technical achievement

Central to the building is a magnificent domed hall which features the use of superbly crafted Australian timbers from various States of Australia in panelling, flooring, ribs for the dome and light fittings.

Attributes

The domed entry hall in the school building, with all of the features noted above.

Criterion G Social value

The School has social importance to the former students educated at the place.

Attributes

The whole of the school.

Criterion H Significant people

The School has a strong association with its principals who were also pioneers of forestry research in Australia, Charles T Lane Poole and Dr Maxwell Jacobs.

Attributes

Not clarified.

Description

History

The first Interstate Forestry Conference, held in November 1911 and attended by heads of State forestry services of NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland and the government botanist of Tasmania, resolved that a single forestry school be established to fulfil the urgent need for well-trained foresters. However, there was no further action until in 1920 a Premier's Conference agreed to establish the school in NSW. The site of the proposed school was in the Bago State Forest, in the Tumut-Tumbarumba District. The Commonwealth would provide one-sixth of the cost of the school, with the States to pay the remainder, the amount payable by each State to be computed according to its relative population. This agreement was due largely to the efforts of Charles Edward Lane Poole, Conservator of Forests of Western Australia from 1916 until 1921.

When Lane Poole returned from a three-year assignment in Papua New Guinea and was appointed forestry adviser to the Commonwealth Government in 1925, he found little had been done to implement the 1920 resolution. He persuaded Prime Minister Bruce to include a commitment to establish a national forestry school in Canberra in his election policy speech of 1925. Although Bruce won the election, there were differences of opinion among the States as to the location of the school and their agreement to provide students was necessary for implementation of the proposal. The Minister for Home and Territories, the Right Honourable Sir George F. Pearce, approached the States with an offer that the Commonwealth would build, equip, staff and maintain the school if the States would send the students. All States agreed, except for South Australia, which had been running its own forestry course in association with the University of Adelaide since 1910.

Adelaide University offered to forego its school and to house the new national School until a suitable building was constructed in Canberra. The School was established at the University of Adelaide in March 1926, with Professor Norman Jolly as Principal. At the end of that year Jolly was appointed Chief Commissioner of Forests of New South Wales and Lane Poole, then Inspector General of Forests for the Commonwealth, was appointed acting Principal of the Forestry School (Lane-Poole, 1927-28, 202, Boden, 1993).

Lane Poole saw the Forestry School as a branch of the Federal Forestry Bureau, the establishment of which had been agreed by the Federal Government. The Bureau's main task was to develop a national forest policy, which he believed was necessary to bring Australia's forest resources under national control. He was not keen to become principal of the School, as he was not a teacher and found teaching distasteful (Carron, 1985, 251). However, he was persuaded by the government to accept the position, along with the role of Inspector General of the proposed Forestry Bureau. Although the School had gone ahead, the Bureau existed in name only for many years and in its early years much of the research, other than that of Lane Poole, was done by the staff of the School (Carron, 1985, 253).

The School building was designed as part of the Federal Capital Commission's (FCC's) building program by J.H. Kirkpatrick, working with HM Rolland, Principal Architect of the FCC. The FCC's building program was essentially to provide accommodation and office space for the transfer of the Federal Government from Melbourne to the new Capital, and the School, being an institution, was included in this program. Construction of the school commenced in July 1926 and it was officially opened on 11 April 1927, with 16 students and three permanent lecturing staff, as well as Lane Poole. The staff members were Messrs C.E Carter, H.R Gray and A. Rule. The School was situated in the suburb of Westridge, now Yarralumla, then the western suburb of the Federal Capital, so as to be near the arboretum (Westbourne Woods) and the nursery established by Charles Weston in 1913.

Although the School had opened in April 1927, the building was not completed until June that year and the formal opening was not until 24 November 1927. The only rooms completed when school work commenced were the Principal's room and the drafting room (AA Series A1/15, Item 1929/1875).

Tasmania, Victoria and NSW donated floor timber and South Australia donated timber for internal fittings. NSW and Queensland refused to give any timber without payment. A carpenter's shop, requested by Lane Poole was built apart from the main educational block in August 1927 (Australian Archives, Series A1/15, Item 1929/1875). He also requested a stove house and frames (a heated glasshouse), to be used for raising seedlings, and this was completed in March 1929 (AA Series A1/15, Item 1929/1875). The plan of

the approach to the Forestry School building was drawn in August 1927 by T.R. Casboulte, an architect of the FCC.

A residence for the Principal, 'Westridge House', later known as 'Tudor House', was built next to the school in 1928. Although Lane Poole also planned to house his students nearby, the tightened financial circumstances occurring in late 1927 meant that the students initially had to occupy the old printers quarters at Kingston and a camp on the site. In 1928, 27 spruce cubicles, of a style widely used on construction sites in the city, were built near the school for the students. Each student had their own cubicle, supplied with electric light, wardrobe, table and chair (Gugler, 1994, 106-107). They were located at the rear of three houses in Solander Street, one of which was used for amenities, one for dining/kitchen and the third for ablutions. The cubicles have since been located elsewhere.

The School had difficulty maintaining the number of students during the Depression years, as the States could not afford to pay the living costs for the students they were to send. The numbers were only around four students a year. In 1936 only one student enrolled; he was not accepted by Lane Poole, who put the staff on half-time lecturing to the four second year students and half-time on research (Carron, 1977, 103). This action stimulated the States to provide more students and the situation improved during the late 1930s. Numbers went down again during the Second World War, as many potential students enlisted. After the War the number of students increased to 80 in 1950 before declining in the 1950s and rising again to 60 in 1961. From 1949 students from New Zealand attended the School, until a forestry school opened in Christchurch. Many Asian students also attended the School.

Shortly before WWII, the Government funded a building for an industrial museum and the work of the research sections of the Bureau. After the war the museum was temporarily abandoned and the building used for other purposes. The collected exhibits were stored in a wooden building which was later destroyed by fire, along with most of the exhibits (Jacobs 1961).

In the years before and after World War 2, the Forestry students and Duntroon cadets vied for social honours, holding dances and other functions. At that time the Albert Hall was considered to be the only venue for functions. However, the Forestry students emptied the museum at the Forestry School and turned it into a ballroom. The museum contained artefacts from around the world as well as local items (mainly timber), including local birds and a complete section of local eucalypt timbers, cut into specimen size. Moving the heavy timber artefacts from the museum for these social occasions was an arduous task (Carron, pers. comm. 1999). The dances were supported by Lane Poole and his wife. Lane Poole was also a founding member of the Alpine Club at Mount Franklin in the Brindabella Mountains, and became its president. Every student who attended the Forestry School was required to make himself a set of (wooden) skis. This work was carried out on the premises (Carron, pers. comm., 1999).

Lane Poole held the position of Principal of the School until his retirement in 1944. Dr Maxwell Ralph Jacobs was the next Principal of the School and held the position from 1945 to the end of 1959. Jacobs was one of three students who had been on overseas scholarships in 1928-29 to become future research officers of the Forestry Bureau. Jacobs was followed by K.P. McGrath as acting Principal until responsibility for forestry education was transferred to the Australian National University early in 1965 (Boden, 1993). There are several reasons for the move, one of which was the need to provide more opportunities for postgraduate training such as the MSc and PhD available at the University.

The new building for the Forestry Department of the ANU was opened in May 1968 by the Duke of Edinburgh. Until then, the Department had continued to function in the Forestry School buildings at Yarralumla (Carron, 1977, 106). When the main building was vacated, the senior officers of the Forestry and Timber Bureau moved in from Westridge House, to which they had moved in 1961 when Max Jacobs was confirmed in the position of Director General and transferred his residence to Forrest. The smaller rendered brick building at the rear of the Forestry School was occupied by the Director General and his staff from 1946 until 1961; it was used again by the School staff from 1961 until 1968. In 1975 the CSIRO acquired the whole site as it exists now and the new CSIRO Division of Forest Research, incorporating much of the former Bureau, came into operation. Currently NASA (National Aeronautical and Space Administration) is occupying the southern end of the Forestry School building and the northern end is vacant. CSIRO has plans to occupy the northern end of the building.

The site was sold and leased back to CSIRO in 2002.

The ashes of A.B. (Brian) Patton, a forester who died following a tree fall accident at Jervis Bay, were scattered under the Pin Oaks on the southern side of the School on 5 May 1960. A reunion of former students of the School was held in April 2000.

Description

The Australian School of Forestry is located at Banks Street, Yarralumla, where it intersects with Schlich Street. The School was designed in the Inter-War Stripped Classical Style by J.H. Kirkpatrick, of the Federal Capital Commission (FCC), assisted by HM Rolland, Principal Architect of the FCC, and the building was completed in 1927. It is a single storey rendered brick building with a parapet and a hipped tiled roof. Key features of the style displayed by the building include a symmetrical facade, division into vertical bays, simple wall surfaces, roundels suggesting classical entablature.

Paved steps lead up to the entrance, which is formed by round arched openings. Mature CUPPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS (Roman Cypresses) flank the steps leading to the main entrance. The parapet over the entrance, encompassing projecting bays with vertical openings, diagonally patterned in wrought iron. Plain roundels decorate the exterior walls of the building and the two roundels on either side of the arched entrance display a floral design. Above the entrance doorway is the School crest of a veteran eucalypt above the motto 'Mihi Cura Futuri' ('I serve posterity'). The doors at the front and rear entrances, as well as all the interior doors throughout the building, are of Queensland maple.

The walls of the hall are panelled in wood to a height of approximately two and a half metres, interrupted by engaged columns at each of the eight corners. There are wide ribs of Queensland maple in the ceiling dome and the light fitting, suspended some distance below the centre of the dome by four heavy brass chains, is of Blackwood. The brass chains hang from a bronze ceiling panel. Australian timbers from various States, including Queensland Maple and Walnut, Red Cedar, Red Mahogany, Hoop Pine and Mountain Ash, are used throughout the building in floors, doors, wall panelling, ceilings and trimmings. Originally, the interior included the octagonal hall, a museum, a library, two lecture rooms, a laboratory, a drafting room, principal's room and lecturers' rooms, offices, a cloak room and toilets. Another lecture room was created near the library by the 1950s. Some structural changes were made in the late 1960s when some of the larger rooms were partitioned for office accommodation. Further alterations occurred in 1983 when the CSIRO refurbished the building.

The original boiler room is located under the main building on the southwestern side and is still in operation. Water, originally heated by coal fire, is now heated by natural gas.

Three pieces of furniture in the hall, a rug chest, a table and a settee, all made of mountain ash, were purchased for the School from C F Rojo & Sons Pty Ltd, Melbourne in September 1928.

The two lecture rooms were on the north eastern side of the building. The room on the north western end of the building was the laboratory and is still close to its original condition, including its blackboards with stained timber edging. The room at the opposite (southern) end of the building was the museum and still retains built-in timber cupboards, used for herbarium specimens. A shower recess has been added to the toilets, which have been separated into male and female (originally all male), and the tiles have been replaced. A kitchen now occupies the space where the cloakroom (later a darkroom) was located.

A small rendered brick building located behind the main School building, previously used as a museum and later as offices for the Forestry and Timber Bureau, was built in a similar style. However, there are differences such as the design of the roundels, the downpipes on the small building are of steel while the Forestry School building has cast iron downpipes, and the rain water heads are a different design. Next to the former museum, is a timber, framed timber clad building used as a laboratory and for storing seeds and tools. It is now used as an archive store for the CSIRO.

Both the main building and the two smaller buildings at the rear were repainted in 1998 and are in very good condition. The terracotta tiles on the main building have been replaced. The former museum

building was refurbished in 1991 in a manner sympathetic to the main building and is leased to AMSAT (Australian Marine Science and Technology) by the CSIRO.

The School with its formal landscaped frontage is on a rise within a setting mature pine forest plantings and has aesthetic value for its historic character. As the terminal vista feature of the Schlich Street axis, it creates a major landmark feature in Yarralumla

History Not Available

Condition and Integrity

The building is generally intact and in fair to good condition. Both buildings have been internally modified by the introduction of some new walls to create new rooms. The external paint finish on the main building is very deteriorated. (September 1995)

June 1999

Both the main building and the two smaller buildings at the rear were repainted in 1998 and are in very good condition. The terracotta tiles on the main building have been replaced. The small rendered brick building was refurbished in 1991 in a sympathetic manner to the main building and is leased to AMSAT (Australian Marine Science and Technology) by the CSIRO.

Location

Banks Street, Yarralumla.

Bibliography

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Lane Poole, C. E., 1928. "The Australian Forestry School". C.S.I.R. Journal, Vol.1, 1927-28.

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Australian Heritage Commission, Australian School of Forestry (former), Yarralumla ACT, Register of the National Estate Database, Database No. 013338, File No. 8/01/000/0369

National Trust of Australia (ACT), 'Australian Forestry School' file

Interview with Dr Leslie Carron, former student of the School, and acting principal in the absence of K.P. McGrath, 7 April 1999; notes on National Trust file.

Information provided by Alan Brown, former Division Chief of CSIRO Forestry and former Australian Forestry School student.

Archives References

Australian Archives, Series A1/15, Item 1929/1875, Australian Forestry School Canberra, Construction of Buildings; includes original plans of main Forestry School Building (a copy is now on the National Trust files).

Australian Archives, Series A 6269/1, Item E1/29/454, School of forestry general construction.

Australian Archives, Series A6269/1, Item E1/27/2495, Forestry School - donated timber.

Australian Archives, Series A1/15, Item 1927/709, Equipment for Forestry School.

Report Produced Tue Oct 6 15:13:15 2020

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APPENDIX B RAO CONSULTATION

B RAO CONSULTATION

B.1 Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation (BNAC)

- 28/02/2020 – letter sent from Elspeth Mackenzie of ERM to Wally Bell of BNAC to introduce the project and request information regarding availability and rates for a field survey
- 5/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally with letter (above) attached
- 5/03/2020 – email sent from Wally to Elspeth providing information regarding availability and rates
- 10/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally confirming receipt of email (above) and advising that a suggested date will be provided once feedback from other RAOs received
- 17/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally proposing a site inspection on 26 March
- 20/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Wally confirming site inspection on 26 March
- 20/03/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Wally confirming site inspection on 26 March
- 23/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally re-evaluating site inspection as a result of COVID-19 and requesting feedback on BNAC's desire to continue as planned
- 24/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Wally to discuss possible cancellation of site inspection
- 26/03/2020 – site inspection with Elspeth and Wally
- 27/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally to thank for attendance at site inspection, request copies of documents shared, and provide invoicing details
- 11/04/2020 – email sent from Wally to Elspeth providing an invoice and requested documents
- 14/04/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Wally to thank for documents, advise that invoice has been provided to client, and promise a copy of the draft assessment report for review
- 14/04/2020 – email sent from Wally to Elspeth confirming receipt of email (above) and desire to review draft assessment report
- 6/10/2020 – draft report sent by email from Elspeth to Wally for review
- 26/11/2020 – reminder email from Elspeth to Wally regarding report review and requesting any comments by 11/12/2020

B.2 King Brown Tribal Group (KBTG)

- 28/02/2020 – letter sent from Elspeth Mackenzie of ERM to Tina Brown of KBTG to introduce the project and request information regarding availability and rates for a field survey
 - 5/03/2020 – email sent from Elspeth to Tina with letter (above) attached
 - 12/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to KBTG registered number (informed that it was a wrong number)
 - 12/03/2020 – email from Elspeth to Tina to advise that phone number was incorrect and proposing a site inspection on 26 March
 - 14/07/2020 – email from Elspeth to Tina advising that another site inspection was being coordinated should KBTG be interested in participating
 - 6/10/2020 – draft report sent by email from Elspeth to Tina for review
-

B.3 Mirrabee (formerly Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council)

- 28/02/2020 – letter sent from Elspeth Mackenzie or ERM to Matilda House of Mirrabee to introduce the project and request information regarding availability and rates for a field survey
- 12/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda to follow up on letter, which had not been received
- 17/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda to follow up letter and previous call and propose site inspection on 26 March
- 20/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda confirming site inspection on 26 March
- 20/03/2020 – text message sent from Elspeth to Matilda confirming site inspection on 26 March
- 23/03/2020 – phone call from Matilda to Elspeth informing that the COVID-19 situation will mean delay of site inspection until conditions improve
- 20/07/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda to suggest a new site inspection date
- 22/07/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda to discuss new site inspection, confirming involvement of Michelle House
- 23/07/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to Matilda to confirm details of site inspection
- 24/07/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Matilda with site inspection details
- 27/07/2020 – phone call from Matilda and Michelle to Elspeth to confirm site inspection details
- 27/07/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Michelle with site inspection details
- 28/07/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Michelle with thanks for attending site visit and request for the further information discussed during the visit
- 28/07/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Matilda with invoicing information
- 5/08/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Michelle with follow up regarding further information
- 11/08/2020 – text message from Elspeth to Michelle with follow up regarding further information
- 13/08/2020 – phone call from Matilda to Elspeth to advise that further information was pending
- 6/10/2020 – hard copy of draft report sent from Elspeth to both Matilda and Michelle for review
- 23/11/2020 – report to Michelle returned as incorrect mailing addressed used
- 24/11/2020 – text messages between Elspeth and Michelle to confirm correct mailing address
- 26/11/2020 – new copy of report sent to Michelle with request to provide any comments by 11/12/2020

B.4 Ngarigu Currawong Clan (NCC)

- 28/02/2020 – letter sent from Elspeth Mackenzie of ERM to James Mundy of NCC to introduce the project and request information regarding availability and rates for a field survey
- 12/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to James to follow up on letter; message left and call returned by James's wife who will pass message onto James
- 16/03/2020 – phone call from Elspeth to James to follow up on letter; message left and call returned by James's wife who will pass message onto James
- 17/03/2020 – text message from Elspeth to James to propose a site inspection on 26 March
- 17/03/2020 – text message from James to Elspeth to advise not available for site inspection

- 17/03/2020 – text message from Elspeth to James to confirm receipt of message (above) and advise that a draft of the assessment report could be supplied for review
- 17/03/2020 – text message from James to Elspeth agreeing with approach
- 14/07/2020 – text message from Elspeth to James advising that another site inspection was being coordinated should NCC be interested in participating
- 6/10/2020 – hard copy draft report sent from Elspeth to James for review



Wally Bell
Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 255, Kippax ACT 2615
walbell@bigpond.net.au

28 February 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear Wally,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) wishes to advise you of upcoming work to be undertaken in Yarralumla, ACT. Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand) is currently investigating the feasibility of residential redevelopment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla (see Attachment 1). ERM has been commissioned by Oakstand to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to assist in the feasibility assessment.

CSIRO Yarralumla is a Commonwealth Heritage Listed property, recognised for historic heritage values. It is acknowledged that former heritage investigations at CSIRO Yarralumla did not include assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values, and as a result the current Heritage Management Plan may not adequately address the full suite of cultural heritage values. Oakstand recognises that appropriate identification and management of Aboriginal heritage values, tangible and intangible, are important, and that the Ngunnawal People have an interest in the management of these values on your traditional lands.

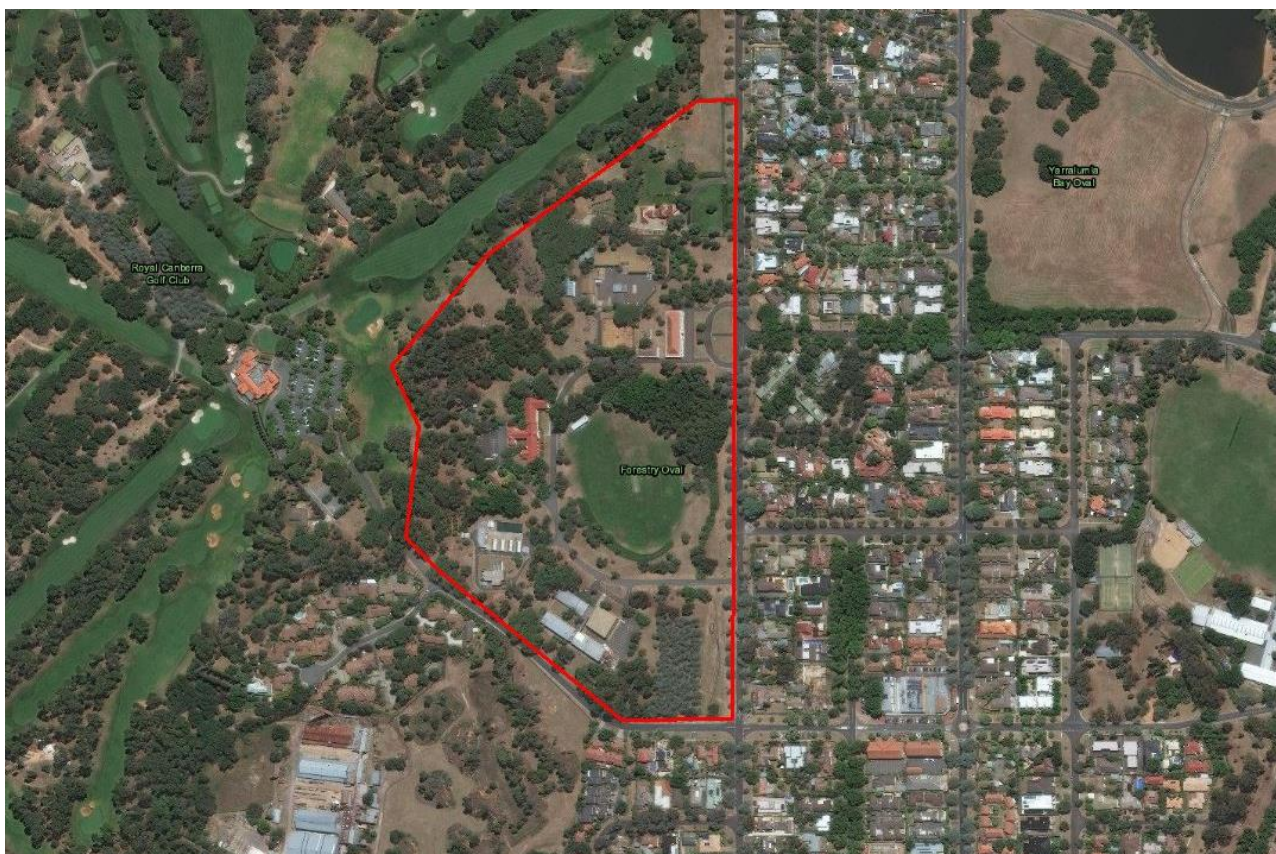
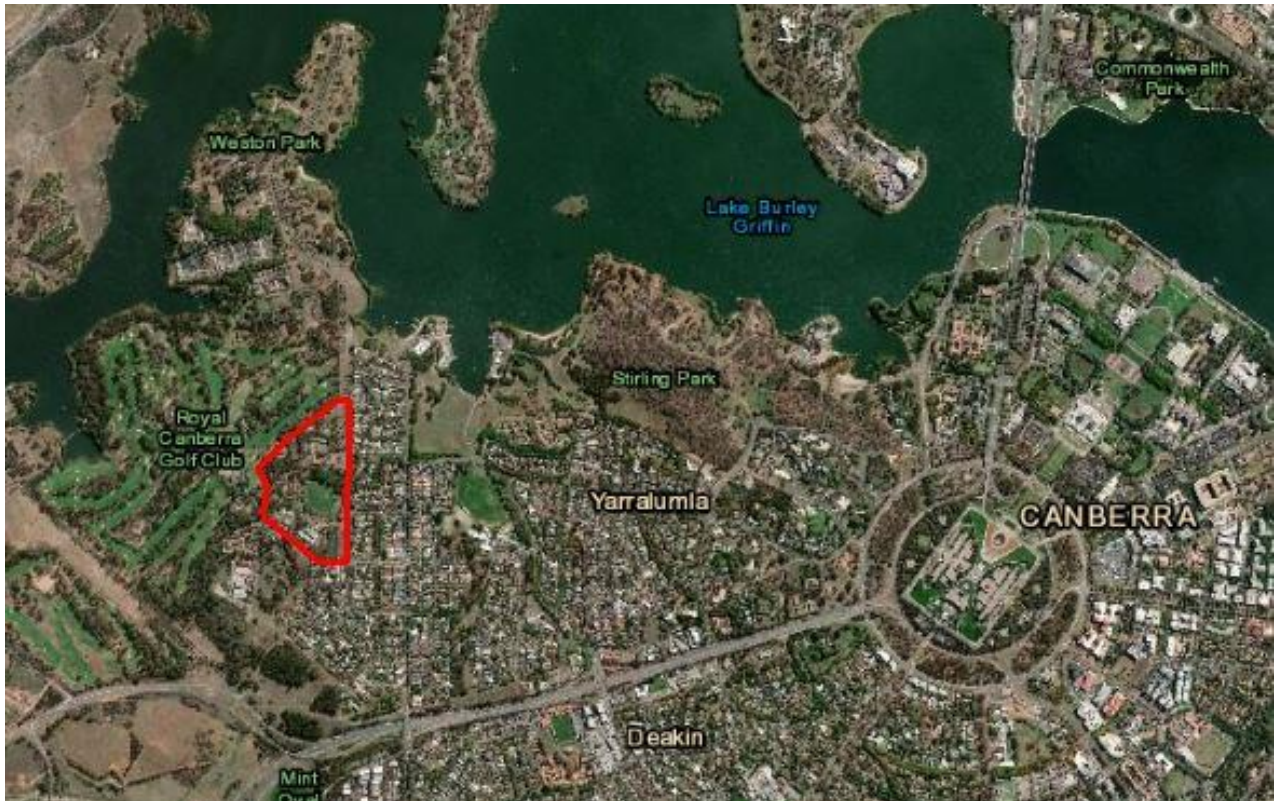
To assist Oakstand in assessing the feasibility of the proposed redevelopment, ERM proposes to undertake a survey of the CSIRO Yarralumla site, in consultation with the Ngunnawal Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs). Following the field survey, ERM would prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report, to document the findings of the survey and present recommendations for further work, or management and mitigation.

At this stage, ERM is contacting you to notify you of the project, and ask about your organisation's availability over the coming weeks, to assist us in planning the field survey. Additionally, if you could return a schedule of rates, it would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to speaking with you further about this project.

Yours sincerely,

Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com
M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla



Tina Brown
King Brown Tribal Group
8 Belah Place
Karabah NSW 2620

28 February 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear Tina,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) wishes to advise you of upcoming work to be undertaken in Yarralumla, ACT. Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand) is currently investigating the feasibility of residential redevelopment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla (see Attachment 1). ERM has been commissioned by Oakstand to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to assist in the feasibility assessment.

CSIRO Yarralumla is a Commonwealth Heritage Listed property, recognised for historic heritage values. It is acknowledged that former heritage investigations at CSIRO Yarralumla did not include assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values, and as a result the current Heritage Management Plan may not adequately address the full suite of cultural heritage values. Oakstand recognises that appropriate identification and management of Aboriginal heritage values, tangible and intangible, are important, and that the Ngunnawal People have an interest in the management of these values on your traditional lands.

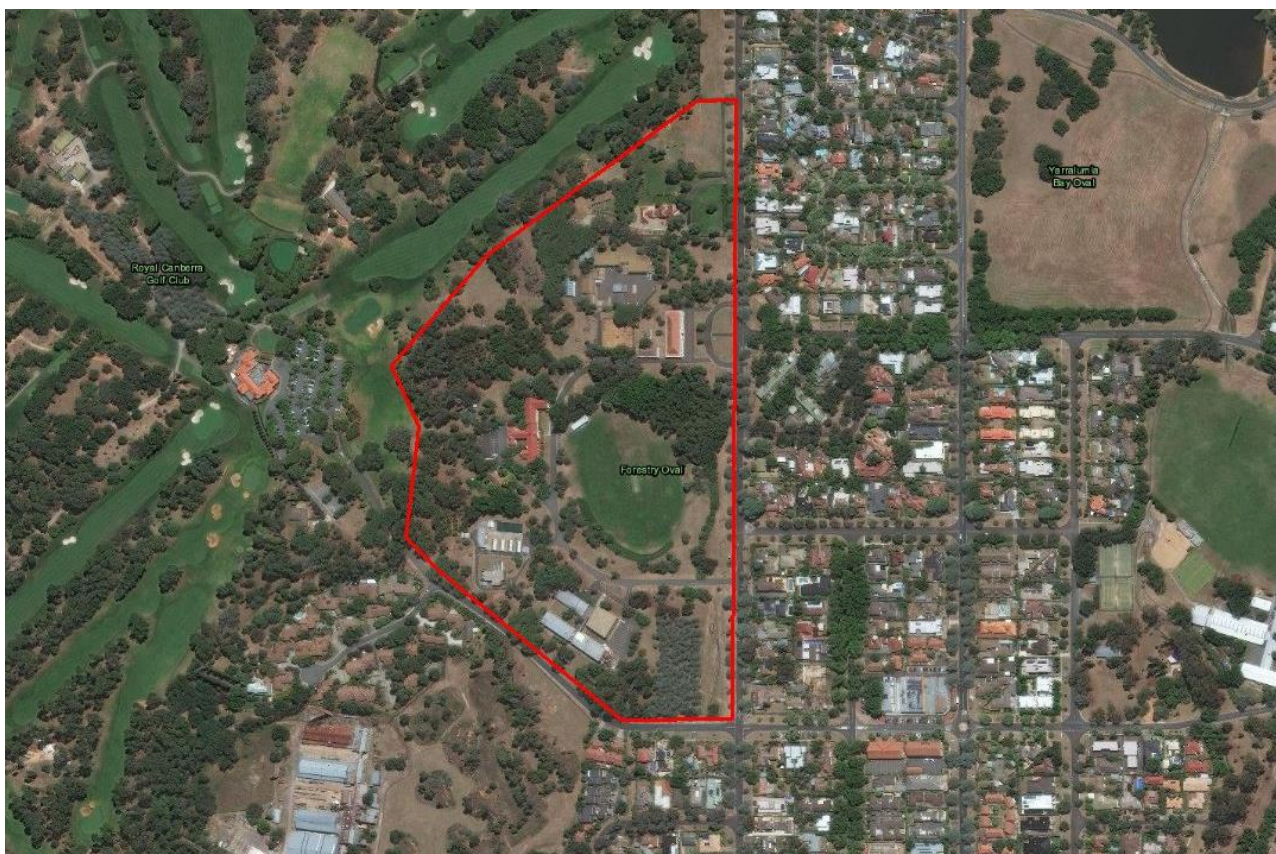
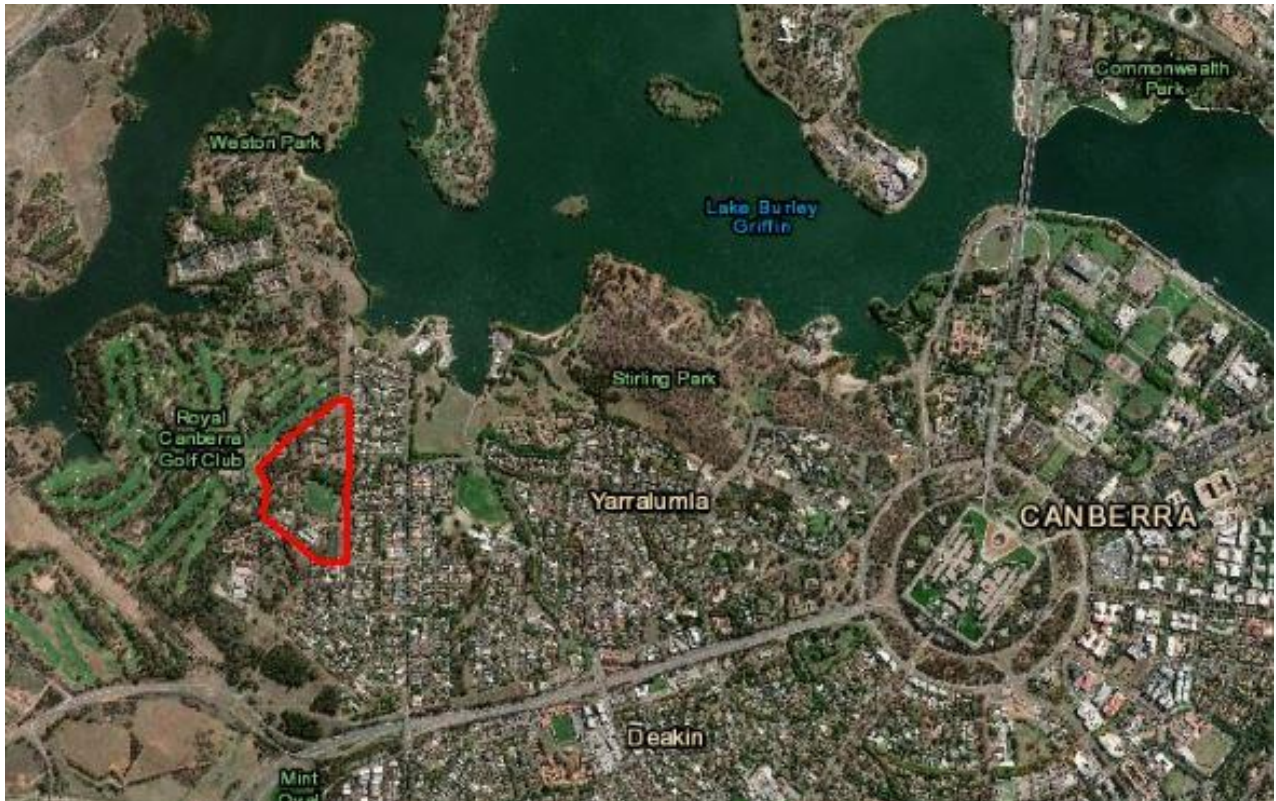
To assist Oakstand in assessing the feasibility of the proposed redevelopment, ERM proposes to undertake a survey of the CSIRO Yarralumla site, in consultation with the Ngunnawal Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs). Following the field survey, ERM would prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report, to document the findings of the survey and present recommendations for further work, or management and mitigation.

At this stage, ERM is contacting you to notify you of the project, and ask about your organisation's availability over the coming weeks, to assist us in planning the field survey. Additionally, if you could return a schedule of rates, it would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to speaking with you further about this project.

Yours sincerely,

Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com
M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla

Matilda House
Mirrabee (formerly Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council)
3 Tennyson Drive
Queanbeyan NSW 2620



28 February 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear Matilda,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) wishes to advise you of upcoming work to be undertaken in Yarralumla, ACT. Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand) is currently investigating the feasibility of residential redevelopment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla (see Attachment 1). ERM has been commissioned by Oakstand to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to assist in the feasibility assessment.

CSIRO Yarralumla is a Commonwealth Heritage Listed property, recognised for historic heritage values. It is acknowledged that former heritage investigations at CSIRO Yarralumla did not include assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values, and as a result the current Heritage Management Plan may not adequately address the full suite of cultural heritage values. Oakstand recognises that appropriate identification and management of Aboriginal heritage values, tangible and intangible, are important, and that the Ngunnawal People have an interest in the management of these values on your traditional lands.

To assist Oakstand in assessing the feasibility of the proposed redevelopment, ERM proposes to undertake a survey of the CSIRO Yarralumla site, in consultation with the Ngunnawal Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs). Following the field survey, ERM would prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report, to document the findings of the survey and present recommendations for further work, or management and mitigation.

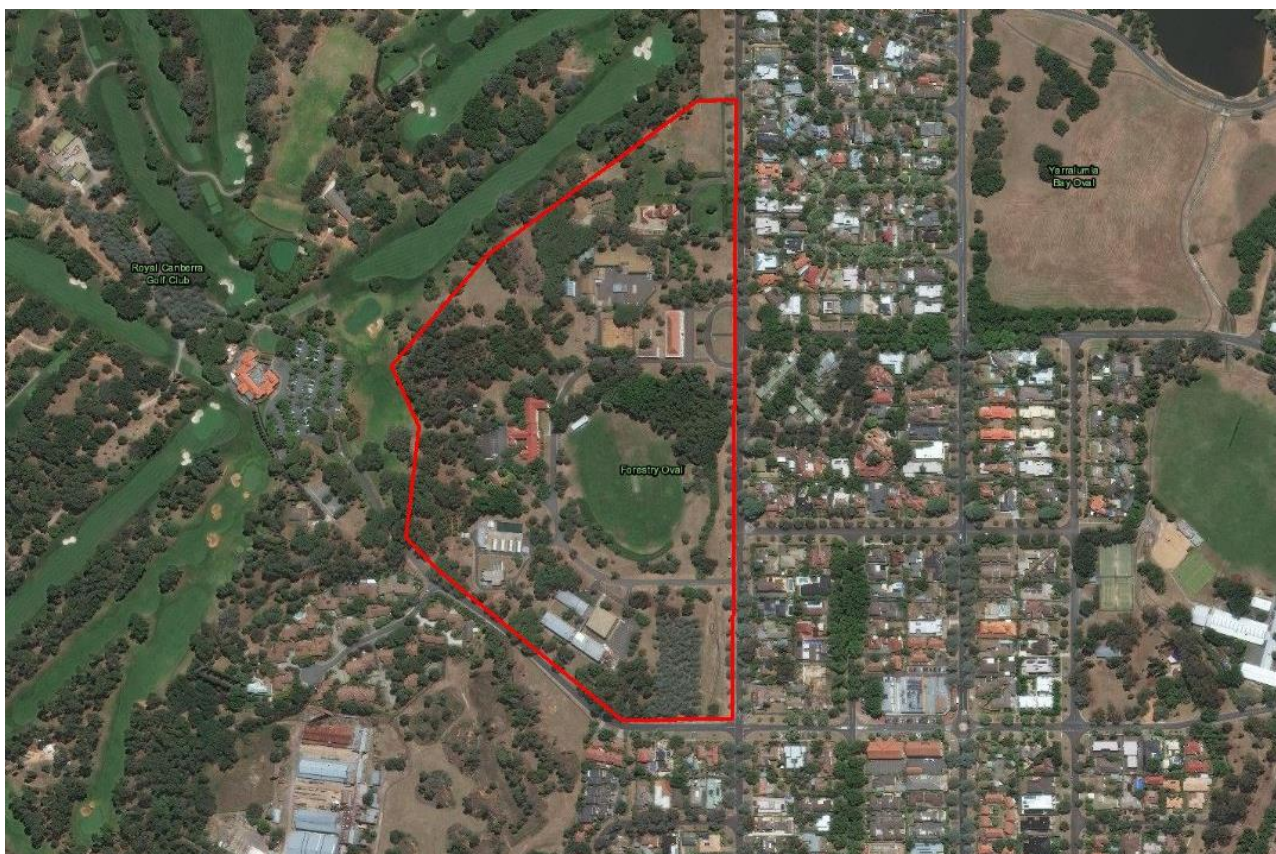
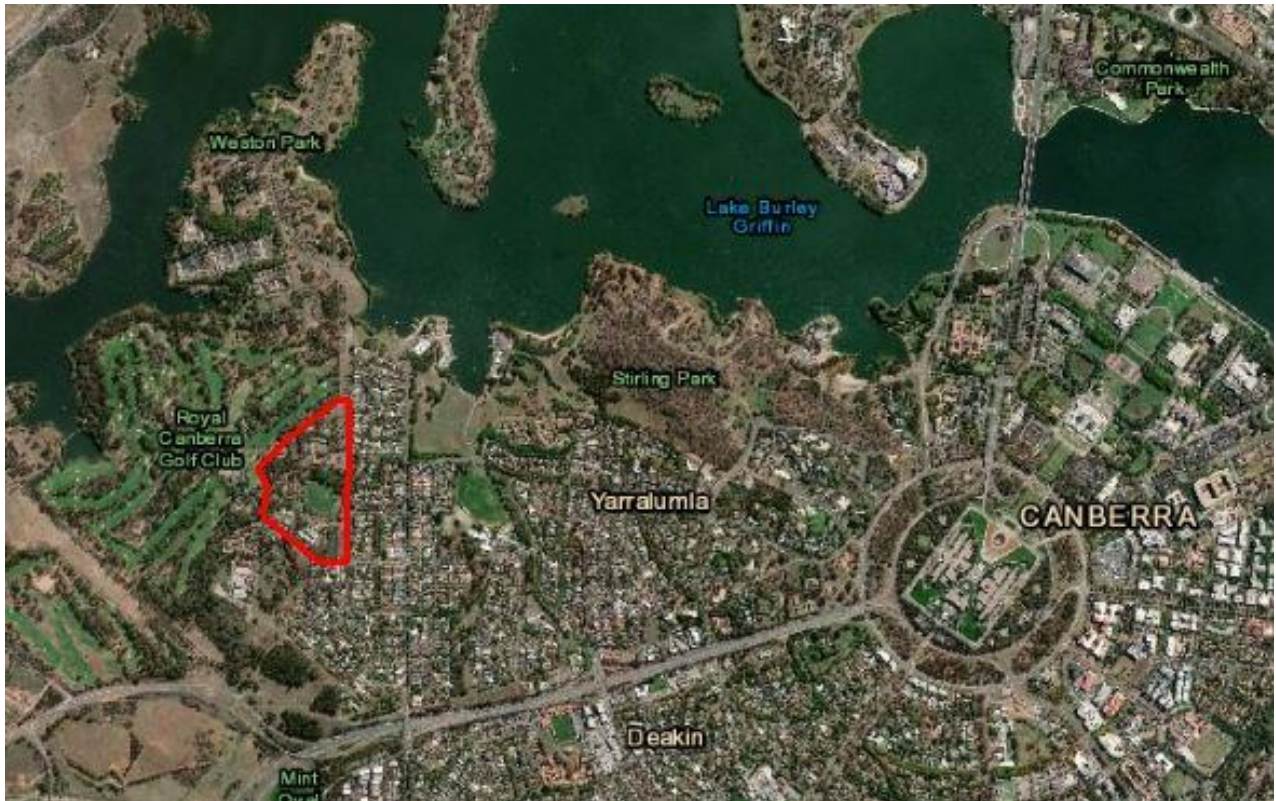
At this stage, ERM is contacting you to notify you of the project, and ask about your organisation's availability over the coming weeks, to assist us in planning the field survey. Additionally, if you could return a schedule of rates, it would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to speaking with you further about this project.

Yours sincerely,

Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com

M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla

James Mundy
Ngarigu Currawong Clan
9B Sutter Street
Ainslie ACT 2602

28 February 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear James,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) wishes to advise you of upcoming work to be undertaken in Yarralumla, ACT. Oakstand Pty Ltd (Oakstand) is currently investigating the feasibility of residential redevelopment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla (see Attachment 1). ERM has been commissioned by Oakstand to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to assist in the feasibility assessment.

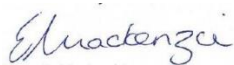
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To assist Oakstand in assessing the feasibility of the proposed redevelopment, ERM proposes to undertake a survey of the CSIRO Yarralumla site, in consultation with the Ngunnawal Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs). Following the field survey, ERM would prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report, to document the findings of the survey and present recommendations for further work, or management and mitigation.

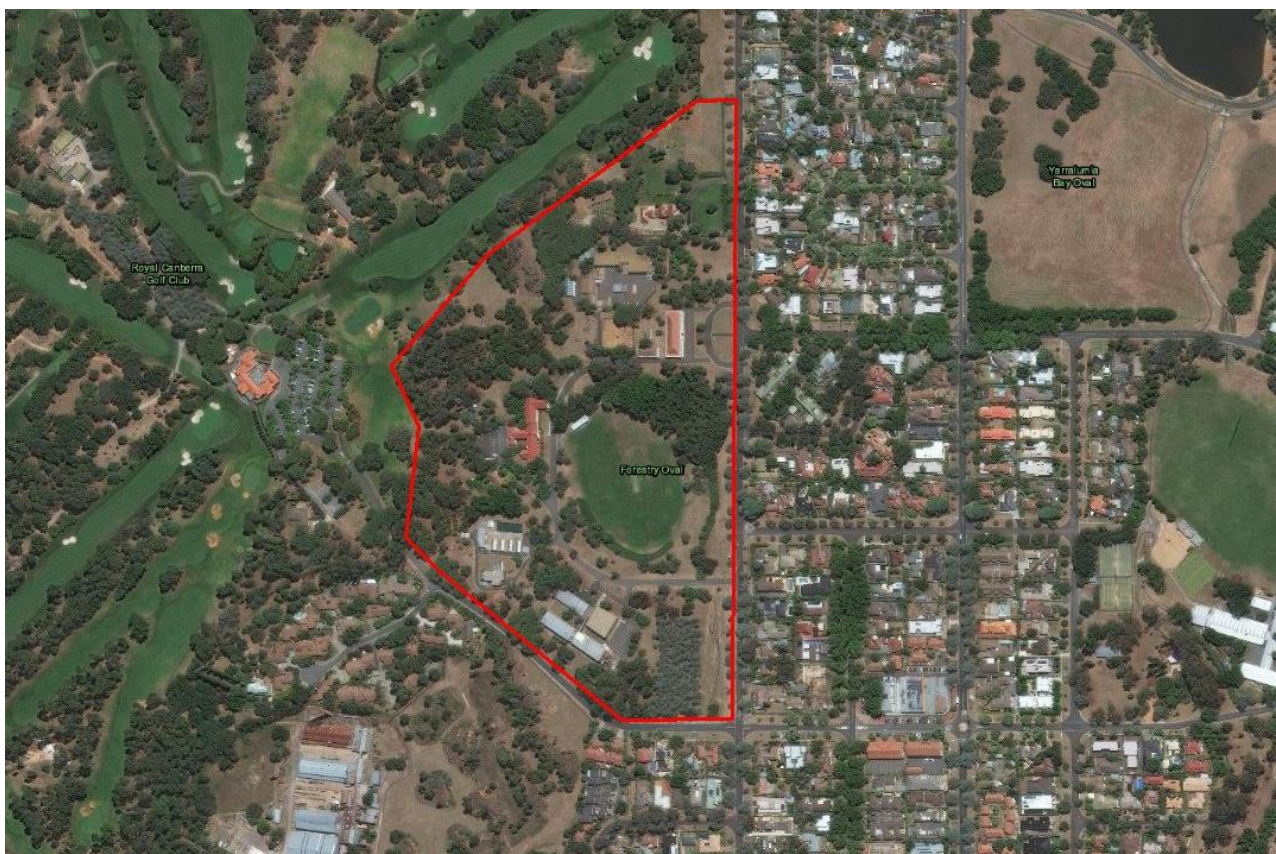
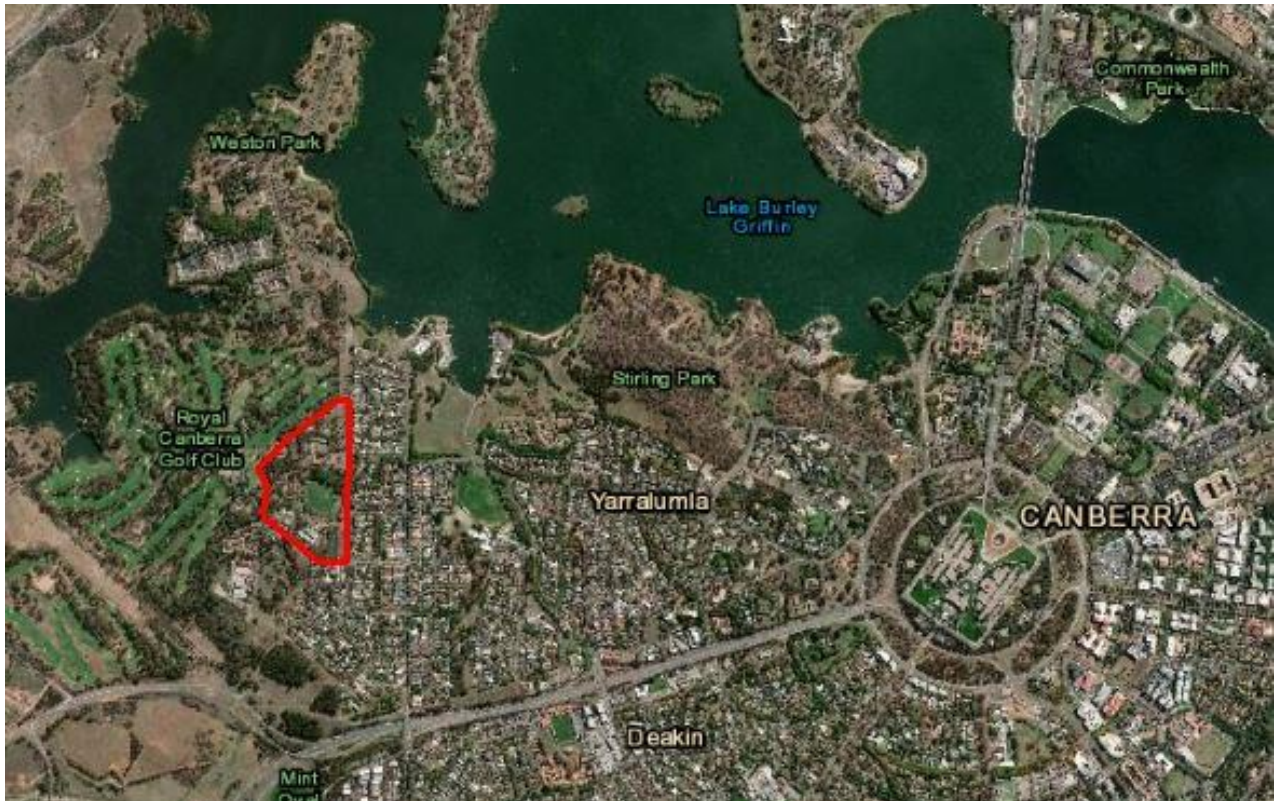
At this stage, ERM is contacting you to notify you of the project, and ask about your organisation's availability over the coming weeks, to assist us in planning the field survey. Additionally, if you could return a schedule of rates, it would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to speaking with you further about this project.

Yours sincerely,



Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com
M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla

From: [Elspeth Mackenzie](#)
To: [Wally Bell](#)
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla
Date: Thursday, 26 November 2020 10:37:00 AM
Attachments: [0502267-02 Oakstand CSIRO Yarralumla ACHA Draft for RAO review.pdf](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hi Wally

I also wanted to follow up on this CSIRO Yarralumla assessment. Did you have any comments on this report?

Cheers

Elspeth Mackenzie

Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM

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P +612 5133 5374

E elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com | **W** www.erm.com

Read our [ERM Sustainability Report 2020](#) and [ERM Foundation Annual Review 2020](#)



From: Elspeth Mackenzie

Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 3:22 PM

To: 'walbell@bigpond.net.au' <walbell@bigpond.net.au>

Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

Please find attached the draft report of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla. Let me know if you would like to see any changes.

Cheers

Elspeth Mackenzie

Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM

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Read our [ERM Sustainability Report 2020](#) and [ERM Foundation Annual Review 2020](#)



From: walbell@bigpond.net.au <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elspeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

That's great Elspeth, will await the draft report for review.

Cheers, Wally

From: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elspeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2020 9:37 AM
To: Wally Bell <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

Much appreciated, thank you.

I have passed on your invoice to the client and will incorporate some of your words into the assessment. I will send a copy of the assessment report to you before it is finalised in case you would like to review.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM
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From: Wally Bell <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2020 1:33 PM
To: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elsbeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Elspeth,

Hope you are well in this current pandemic times, I am well and just staying at home now.

Just reminded when I came on your email while tidying up emails to do the invoice and send you the doco.

Cheers, Wally

From: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elsbeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Sent: Friday, 27 March 2020 10:02 AM
To: Wally Bell <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

Thank you again for your time yesterday. It was nice to get out of the house and have a walk in the sunshine!

Please consider this a reminder to email me the documents we were looking at yesterday, they would provide a great context to include in the assessment report.

Please also forward me your invoice, made out to the following:

The Shepherd Foundation
C/O Oakstand Pty Ltd
Level 9, 503 – 505 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM
Level 4|35 Terminal Ave|Plaza Offices East
Canberra Airport | ACT |2609
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E elsbeth.mackenzie@erm.com | **W** www.erm.com



From: Elspeth Mackenzie
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 2:32 PM
To: 'Wally Bell' <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Cc: 'kazdenny@hotmail.com.au' <kazdenny@hotmail.com.au>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

Given the ACT government's decision over the weekend to shut down all non-essential services, we are re-evaluating our site inspection planned at Yarralumla on Thursday.

Matilda House from Mirabee has advised that they are not comfortable sending anyone out for survey at the current time. I will therefore be contacting the client to advise that we will have to delay the submission of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report.

However, as the site inspection will be completely outside and we can implement social distancing measures fairly easily, if you did want to go ahead with the inspection as planned then at this point in time (everything seems to change day by day at the moment) I would be happy to proceed with just the two of us and go out with Mirabee at a later time.

Please let me know if you would like to go ahead on Thursday or if you would also like to postpone until a later date.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM
Level 4|35 Terminal Ave|Plaza Offices East
Canberra Airport | ACT |2609
PO Box 4160|Kingston|ACT|2604
P +612 5133 5374
E elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com | W www.erm.com



From: Elspeth Mackenzie
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 10:18 AM
To: 'Wally Bell' <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Cc: 'kazdenny@hotmail.com.au' <kazdenny@hotmail.com.au>
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

I am proposing a site inspection of the CSIRO facility at Banks Street, Yarralumla on Thursday 26th

March at 9am. As the site is quite disturbed through a long history as a forestry training site and then use by the CSIRO, the usual type of survey of the grounds is unlikely to find any artefacts. I am therefore proposing that we meet at the site, also with any other RAOs that are interested in attending, and have a general walk-over for an hour or two so I can get feedback from you regarding any values you may already know about the area that you want me to record, or to identify any areas across the site that you may have concerns about regarding future development.

If a representative from Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Cultural Consultancy is available to attend this inspection, please let me know. I understand from your previous email that the half-day rate plus mileage will apply.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM

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Canberra Airport | ACT |2609
PO Box 4160|Kingston|ACT|2604
P +612 5133 5374
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From: Elspeth Mackenzie
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 1:49 PM
To: Wally Bell <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Cc: kazdenny@hotmail.com.au
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Wally

Thank you for your response. I am currently chasing feedback from the other RAOs, but will come back to you with a suggested date on either a Thursday or Friday in the coming weeks.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM

Level 4|35 Terminal Ave|Plaza Offices East
Canberra Airport | ACT |2609
PO Box 4160|Kingston|ACT|2604
P +612 5133 5374
E elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com | W www.erm.com

From: Wally Bell <walbell@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 6:10 PM
To: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elspeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Cc: kazdenny@hotmail.com.au
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Elspeth,

Thank you for contacting us for the proposed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of the CSIRO site at Yarralumla. Our organisation's availability over the coming weeks is limited to Thursday & Fridays due to a prior commitment until the end of August. Our fees are \$130/hr (7.5hr day) min ½ day(4hrs) plus mileage.

Regards,

Wally Bell



Traditional Custodian Group
PO Box 255 Kippax ACT 2615
Mb: 0419 425347
www.buru-ngunawal.com

From: Elspeth Mackenzie <Elspeth.Mackenzie@erm.com>
Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2020 2:19 PM
To: walbell@bigpond.net.au
Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Dear Mr Bell

Please find attached a letter introducing a proposed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of the CSIRO site at Yarralumla. I have posted you a hard copy as well, and will give you a call next week to follow up if I haven't heard back from you already.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie

Senior Heritage Consultant

ERM

Level 4|35 Terminal Ave|Plaza Offices East

Canberra Airport | ACT |2609

PO Box 4160|Kingston|ACT|2604

P +612 5133 5374

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From: [Elspeth Mackenzie](#)
To: ["tina.kingbrown@gmail.com"](mailto:tina.kingbrown@gmail.com)
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla
Date: Tuesday, 6 October 2020 3:19:00 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[0502267-02 Oakstand CSIRO Yarralumla ACHA Draft for RAO review.pdf](#)
[image004.png](#)

Hi Tina

Earlier in the year I contacted you regarding an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla. I did not receive a response from you, however I am sending you a copy of the draft report should you wish to review and comment. Please let me know if there is anything you would like to see changed.

Cheers

Elspeth Mackenzie

Senior Heritage Consultant

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From: Elspeth Mackenzie
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 3:04 PM
To: tina.kingbrown@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Hi Tina

Unfortunately the phone number I have for you appears to be incorrect, so I am following up with another email.

I am hoping to arrange a site visit to the CSIRO site at Yarralumla on Thursday 26th March with any of the RAOs who wish to participate in the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment. As the site is quite disturbed through a long history as a forestry training site and then use by the CSIRO, the usual type of survey of the grounds is unlikely to find any artefacts. I am therefore proposing that we meet at the site and have a general walk-over for an hour or two so I can get feedback from yourselves regarding any values you may already know about the area that you want me to record, or to identify any areas across the site that you may have concerns about regarding future development.

If you wish to be involved in this assessment, can you please let me know your availability on Thursday 26th March, and what your rates are for attendance.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

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From: Elspeth Mackenzie
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 2:21 PM
To: tina.kingbrown@gmail.com
Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of CSIRO Yarralumla

Dear Ms Brown

Please find attached a letter introducing a proposed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of the CSIRO site at Yarralumla. I have posted you a hard copy as well, and will give you a call next week to follow up if I haven't heard back from you already.

Cheers
Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant

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Michelle House
Mirrabee (formerly Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council)
4 Mitchell Street
Griffith ACT 2680

6 October 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear Michelle,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

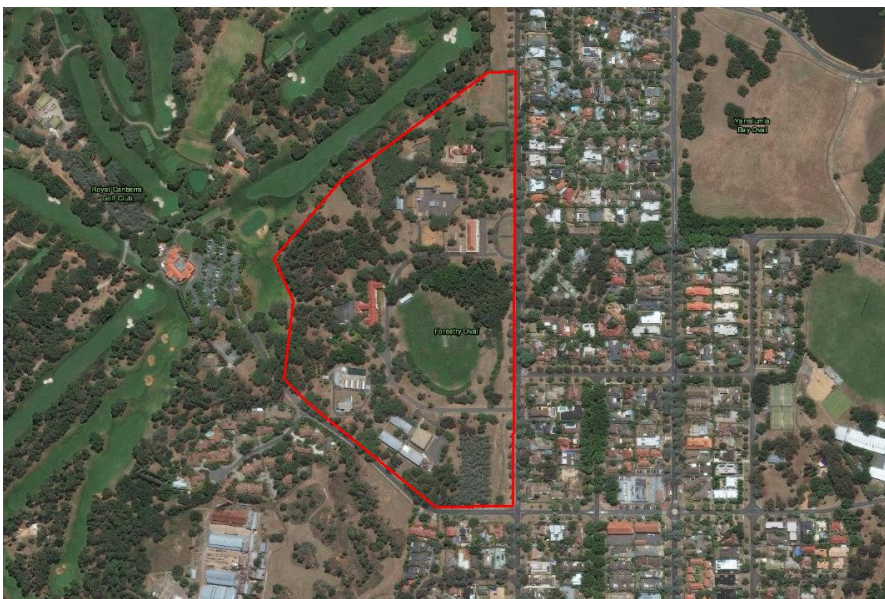
Thank you for participating in the survey for Aboriginal cultural heritage at the CSIRO Yarralumla site on Banks Street, Yarralumla on 28 July 2020.

As discussed I am sending you a copy of the draft report for your review and comment. Please let me know if there is anything you would like to see changed.

Yours sincerely,

Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com
M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla





Matilda House
Mirrabee (formerly Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council)
3 Tennyson Drive
Queanbeyan NSW 2620

6 October 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

Dear Matilda,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Thank you for sending Michelle to participate in the survey for Aboriginal cultural heritage at the CSIRO Yarralumla site on Banks Street, Yarralumla on 28 July 2020.

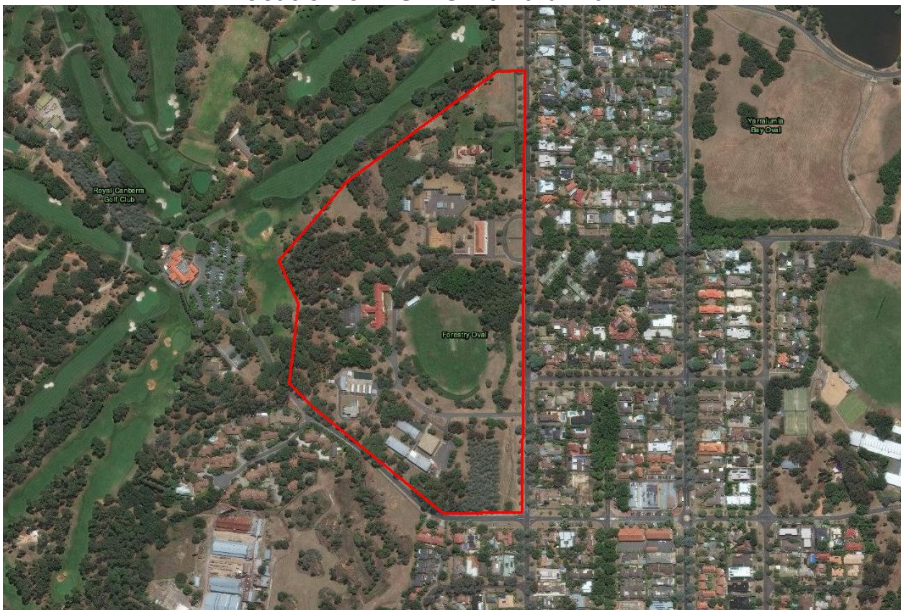
I am sending you a copy of the draft report for your review and comment. Please let me know if there is anything you would like to see changed.

Yours sincerely,

Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com

M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla



James Mundy
Ngarigu Currawong Clan
9B Sutter Street
Ainslie ACT 2602

6 October 2020

Reference: 0502267-02

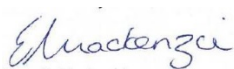
Dear James,

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment at CSIRO Yarralumla

Earlier in the year I contacted you regarding an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of the former Australian Forestry School site, known as CSIRO Yarralumla (see Attachment 1). While you were not available to participate in a survey of the site, you requested a copy of the draft report.

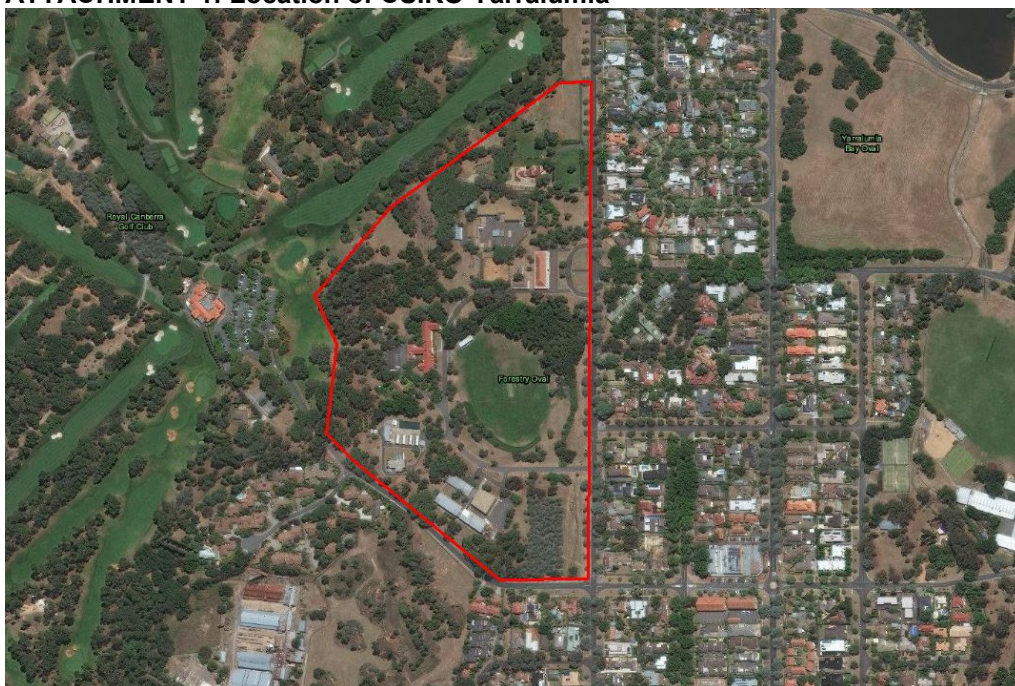
Accordingly, I am sending you a copy of the draft report for your review and comment. Please let me know if there is anything you would like to see changed.

Yours sincerely,



Elspeth Mackenzie
Senior Heritage Consultant
E: elspeth.mackenzie@erm.com
M: 0400 740 442

ATTACHMENT 1: Location of CSIRO Yarralumla



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