

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

Organisation: Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

Date Received: 28 June 2021

Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

“Review of NSW Heritage Act 1977”



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A community-based group looking to address Environmental issues affecting Singleton Shire residents

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We seek identification as to what is making our Children and our Community Sick so they can be mitigated by OH&S Compliance Orders.

SSHEG Focus on Health

10 Year SSHEG Review Findings: - 2020

- Computer Alarm Controls for Individual Mines
- “Air Pollution Minimisation & Air Pollution Dispersion”.
- Residents “Sense of Place” Cultural Heritage Impacts.

Heritage NSW

Heritage.Policy2@environment.nsw.gov.au

“SSHEG NSW Cultural & Historic Heritage Act Review”

“Patricks Plains Holistic Ancestral Heritage Significance”

This SSHEG Heritage Act 1977 Submission represent 20 Years of direct Community Experience in reporting and prosecuting the case for the Permanent Protection in Perpetuity and “Display” of the Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant and Industrial Cultural Heritage Significance of the Hunter Valley Region of NSW.

Further since 2010, for 10 Years, SSHEG Submission detailing of the practical implementation of the various NSW Acts relates to the Identification, Classification and Protection of our Cultural Heritage to NSW Ministers, Office of Environment & Heritage, Singleton Councils, RIO Community Heritage Advisory Committee etc: more recently, NSW Compliance & Audit Authorities specific detailing of the Heritage Act Failures, Heritage Council Failures to Identify, Protect & Conserve, and Heritage Legal Protection Failures and BMPA L&E & Supreme Court Rulings Impacts.

SSHEG 20 Year Community Cultural Heritage Audit which makes up the body of this Submission are included along with our List of Attachment and References that illustrate the Failures: even when NSW Heritage Approval Conditions of Consent are enacted; the current NSW System of Acts, Fail!

SSHEG rewording of Discussion Paper text to reflect our Holistic View

“The NSW community today looks vastly different to that of the 1970s, when the Heritage Act was first introduced. Greatly increased cultural diversity from Post War Immigration Multiculturalism and a renewed focus on Aboriginal culture and heritage since 1967 Referendum, 1988 Bicentenary, the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Bicentenary of Howe Explorers Saint Patricks Plains Significance, mean that many of the items protected by the State Heritage Registrar may no longer fully reflect the many different narratives and Community values that underpin our communities of today and tomorrow. Many places and sites of Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant and Industrial cultural heritage are iconic and significant, and they should be acknowledged for their special place in our collective History and Heritage.

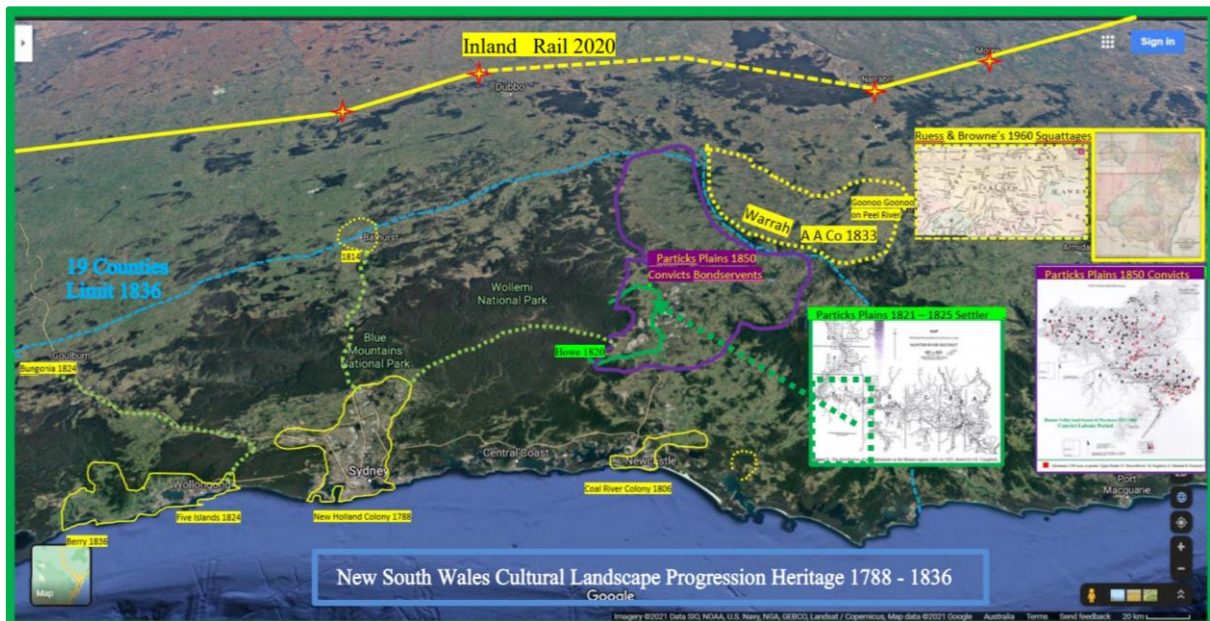
We also have a more complex understanding of Heritage. Heritage is increasingly being recognised for more than just its historical relevance, with the many social, economic, environmental, health and wellbeing aspects of heritage increasingly coming into focus.”

SSHEG Considers this understanding of Heritage belongs to the “National Estate”.

SSHEG formation in 2008 by Dr Au and the Singleton Community highlights the Failure by successive Singleton Councils since the 1970’s to recognise and respond to the Community Health (Disease) Concerns; with SSHEG firstly focused upon the Hunter Valley Air Quality Community Health Impacts; and by 2010 the Community Health Cultural Heritage Impacts of Open Cut Mining on up to Six Generations Pioneer Descendants in Villages such as Liddell, Vere, Guildsville, Mount Thorley, Camberwell, Ravensworth, Warkworth, and Maison Dieu.

More recently the Villages of Broke, Fordwich, Milbrodale, Bulga, Warkworth, Jerrys Plains constitute and remain the Grasslands Adjunct to the Greater Blue Mountains National Parks; now Community identified and detailed as National and State Heritage Significant Conservation Areas “Patricks Plains Ancestral Heritage” and “Cockfighters Valley Precinct”.

The Landscape Progression Heritage that emanated from Droughts in Patricks Plains is seen in the context of the 200 years Legacy of the National Heritage Estate left for future Generations Benefit.



200 Years Lineage of Singleton Villages and Localities Descendent Families!

The shift towards Modern Urban Lifestyle since 1970's also accompanied an exodus from many Rural Localities and Villages as Family Dynasties aged. It is in this context that Concurrency of Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict and Emigrant Cultural Heritage associated at Patricks Plains is in conflict with Mining while concerned Communities look towards Government Heritage Authorities for Guidance.

The characteristics of the Two Distinct Social Eras in Singleton Shire are:

- Patricks Plains Era 1820 -1975 with Descendent Lineage to Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict and Immigrant Cultural Heritage Land and Locality connectivity,
- Singleton Township Urban Era 1866 to Present and more related to an early affluent and later miner period as Singleton Council, with its Modern Town Centric focus.

SSHEG sees Colonial Transportation Eras hand in hand with the Heritage Significance Cultural Landscape Progression that continues today 200 Years later in Landscape Progression Regions that the 1933 Railways and ARTC Inland Rail Today attest to; many now converting Railway Easements and Travelling Stock Routes to today's Road Corridors continuing the Heritage Significance mostly established by Pioneer Squatters and Settlers in the 1860's throughout these NSW Western Plains.

Colonial Landscape Progression, Communication and Transportation we relate to beginning in the 1700's as Coastal Ships; 1788 Port Jackson, Coal River, Ports, 1812 Morpeth; Boats; Harbours; Tracks; Commissioner Biggs 1823; "Limits of Location" 1826: Convict Roads- West to Bathurst 1815, South to Bungonia 1824, North to Cockfighter Creek Crossing 1826-36; Howe Track after 1820; Pandora's Pass of Liverpool Range 1823; Port Essington Sept 1824; Travelling Stock Routes & Stock Reserves 1821; Henry Dangar Liverpool Range 1824; Wallis Plains Morpeth Port 1824; 1829 "Nineteen Counties Roads & Towns"; Morpeth Steamer Sophie Jane 1831; Colonial Landscape Progression Mitchell North West Plains 1831; Port Essington 1845 Ludwig Leichhardt North Track 1844; Port Essington abandoned 1849; Crown Land Act 1861; 1858-77 Patricks Plains Railways; Liverpool Plains Railways 1877; Werris Creek Railway 1879.

“Camberwell Residents Health protection by Glendell Mine Air Pollution Minimisation and Dispersion”

Ravensworth Estate in the context of Patricks Plains Cultural Heritage Significance Convict Period 1820 – 1860, Colonial Pioneer Period 1820 – 1920.

AND

Initiative by Rio Tinto establishing in 2012 Cultural Heritage Advisory Group in Singleton Shire Stakeholder Consultation of Environmental and Community Issues.

The Singleton Shire Community Health Concerns in 2008 began to extend to understand the “Sense of Place” Daily Mine Health disturbances such as Air, Smell, Noise, Vibration, View, Home, Escape, too often combine in the Social Atmosphere of Deep seated Ancestral Cultural Heritage lineage loss witnessing of Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict & Immigrant “Family Legacy Connection”.

Ancestral Cultural Heritage under threat from Open Cut Mining in the Hunter Valley with Villages such as Ravensworth, Warkworth and Camberwell impacted, many with Ancestral Cultural Heritage Lineage to their disposed Homes and Estates.

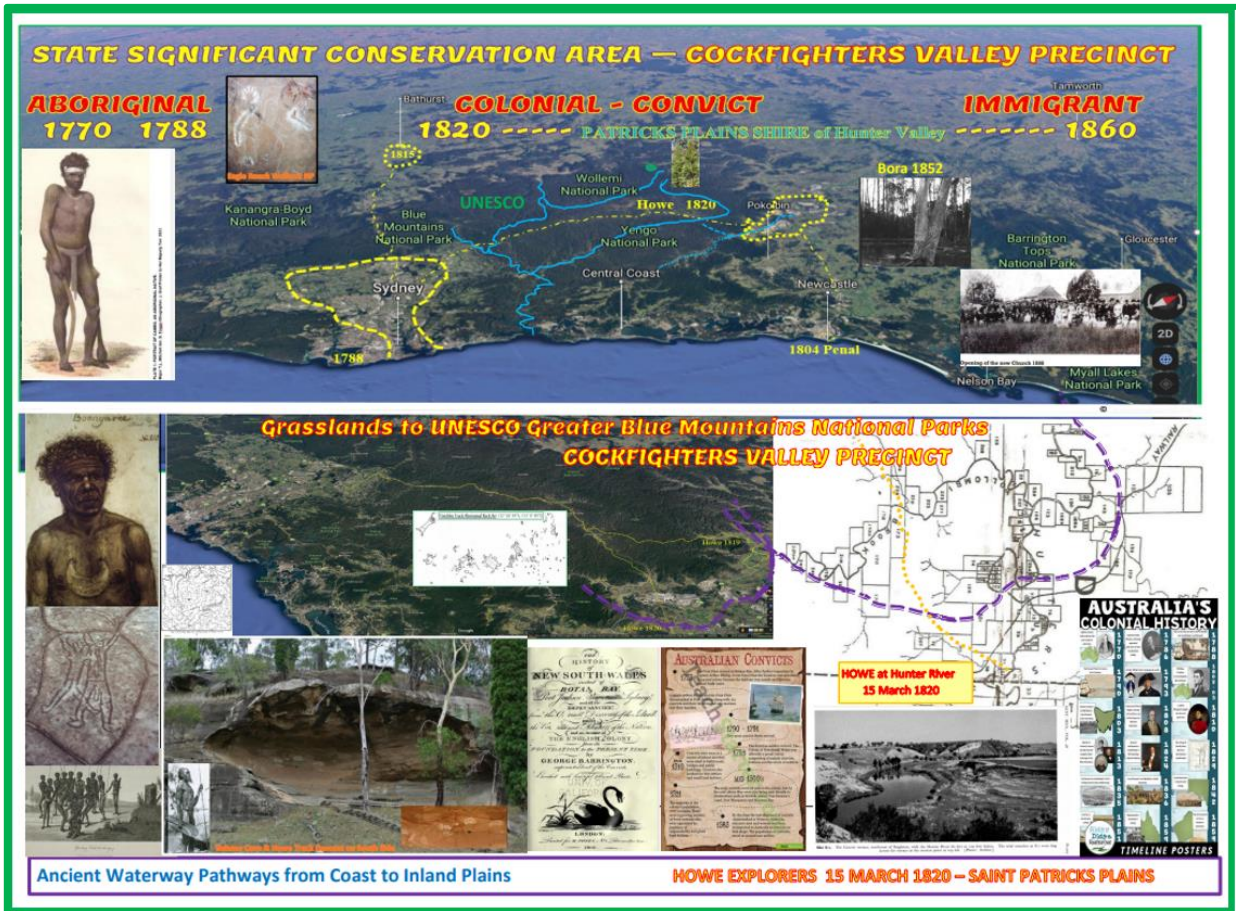
The approach in use is; for Mining to designate over 25 years “Acquisition Rights” on Residents Homes, this mostly leads to a Mine Purchase, Progressive decay by mine neglect, unprotected for demolition by Councils, while often Community recognised with Cultural Heritage Significance.

The introduction of Open Cut Mining in the Singleton Shire in the 1980’s and the economic focus this brought to the modernisation of Urban and transient Work forces; resulted as two distinct Social Eras that exist side by side today, one Rural and one Urban.

The Two Distinct Social Eras in Singleton Shire are: -

- **Patricks Plains Era 1820 -1975**
- **Singleton Township Urban Era 1866 to Present**

Current System has failed to protect Cultural Heritage especially in Hunter Valley



In 2010 Our younger generations trained eye sees things differently, they wanted to see such as the Warkworth Land areas connected to the Adjoining National Park, stating “*that by the time the Nation got around to creating the National Parks only the Forest and inferior land was left*”. They would like to see a better balance thus supporting the concept of the retention of the Saddleback Ridges for example and of course their surviving Flora and Fauna; and for underground mining only to occur. They also contend that destruction of the land will result in the loss of most of the resident birds and Mammals since literally their home and Foodbowl has been removed and their encroaching “neighbours” will often prevent them re-establishing elsewhere.

Three Court Rulings, Aboriginal and SSHEG Grinding Grooves Detailing in 2015 was unsuccessful to prevent the destruction NDA1 Bulga Bora Watershed creek and Saddle Ridge Aboriginal Habitation areas, whereas in the light of 2020 RIO Juukan Cave “Destruction”; and the post approval 2016 release of Australian Museum NDA1 Significance Report: Reconstruction in some form is warranted!?

Exhaust Archival 200 Yr & Modern Heritage Technology Studies first! Our Rio Juukan!?

3.6.2 Brief Background

In 1852 local residents in the Warkworth-Wambo area noted that large numbers of Aboriginal people (possibly as many as 600) had gathered in that area for a major ceremonial gathering. This probably was for the purpose of initiating young boys into manhood. Aboriginal people from as far away as Mudgee and Goulburn apparently travelled to participate in the ceremonies that took place.

In 1918, and following a request from a local resident (A.N. Eather) who had visited the site, this bora ground was visited by personnel from the Australia Museum in Sydney, led by W.W. Thorpe. This team recorded the bora ground site, taking a series of photographs and preparing a sketch map of its location. Their description, though never published, was kept on file at the Museum along with the photographs. As recorded, the place included a bora ring, a raised earthen mound, and a series of carved trees - possibly 12 in number. At the time of this recording in 1918, the trees appeared to be dead. It is known that such trees were often carved at ceremonial grounds in NSW. Thorpe also recorded a camp site located to the west-south-west of the carved tree site, on either side of a creek running into the Wollombi Brook.

3.6.4 ATSIHP Act Section 10 Application and Response

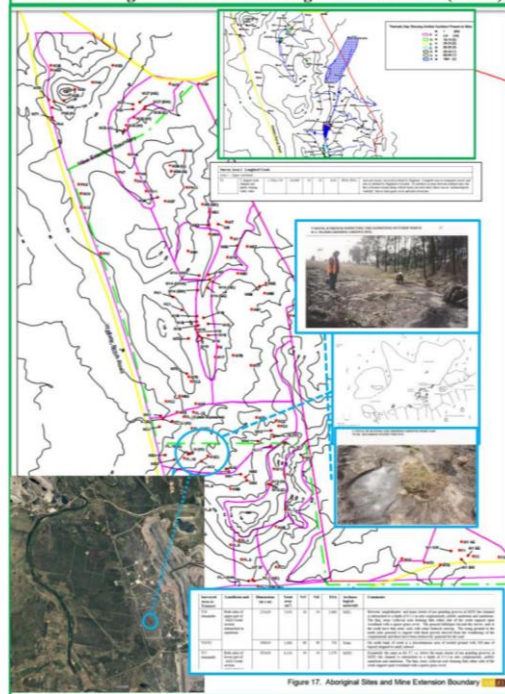
In 2004 the Chief Executive of the Wannu Local Aboriginal Land Council lodged an application under provisions of the ATSIHP Act seeking the relevant Minister issue a Section 10 order as provided by that Act. Such orders allow the Minister to set in place such measures as are deemed necessary to protect the cultural heritage values of the place in question. In this case, an order was sought covering not only the site itself but all land falling within an area 4km in radius within which the OEH site (AHIMS 37-6-0056) lay. The basis for the area covered by the application was that there were a large number of other archaeological sites within that area that were directly associated with the bora ground and its use.

Coal & Allied objected to the application on various grounds - notably that the application if granted would have had major economic consequences and that there was no evidence that in any way linked the other known sites within the 4km radius used in preparation of the section 10 application with the bora ground site in the manner asserted in the application. At no stage, however, did Coal & Allied question the significance of the site to the local Aboriginal community (contra comments made by Bell in his 1980 completion of the AHIMS site recording card for this site). To the contrary, Coal & Allied accepted that the site retained its significance and required appropriate management. Coal & Allied made a series of commitments; notable among these being that it would not undertake any mining activities in the area in question and would develop a management plan for the site.

Extracts Vol 5 Warkworth Continuation 2014 EIS June 2014 (Ref T)

Bulga Bora Ceremonial Area

"Summit Ridge Creek" - 82 Grinding Grooves Sites M (W&E)



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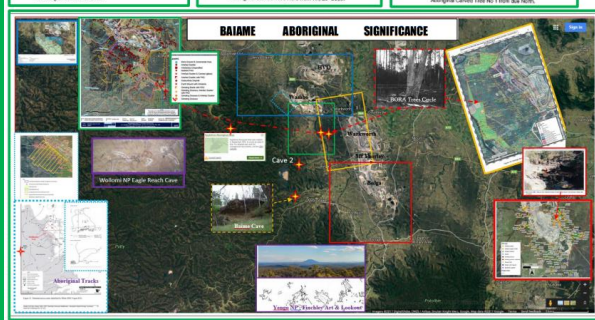
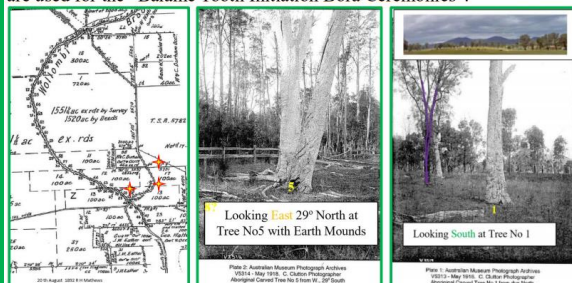
13/6/2017 Page 36

Connectivity to Bulga Bore Ceremonial Areas (Att 3 pgs 30-41)

❖ 'Bulga Bora & Ceremonial Grounds' Significance

Bulga Bora Carved Tree site is recorded to be located just East of the 1830's Stock Route after it crosses the Wollombi Brook 400 m from the Unnamed creek and located beside a Post and Rail Fence present in May 1918 in Photo V5314 as recorded in Australian Museum Archives.

Mathews survey and his 1897 Paper (Attm 4) confirms how the three sites are used for the "Baiaime Tooth Initiation Bora Ceremonies".



Coal & Allied Australian Museum Archaeologists Oct 2001- Aug 2002

Previous SSHEG submissions and investigations related to 2002 Warkworth Mine Approvals questioned the overall basis for the NDA1 Preserved area; and now the apparently recently released 2002 C&A Archaeological Investigations (attm 6) begins to better explain the significance of this NDA1 area. Three aspects are now better understood:

- 1) The Role of the "Summit Ridge (Survey Area 6)" provides in sustaining the Land to the west all the way to the Wollombi Brook as the Watershed "Seepage" that becomes the "Unnamed Tributary to Wollombi Brook (Survey Area 3)". The significance of this Summit Ridge Watershed was previously outlined in SSHEG Letter dated February 2017: -

SSHEG in Feb 2017 sought the Entomological (should now read Hydrogeology) study of the surface groundwater flow impact on the vegetation etc of lands west of the Great North Road from the impact of the Mining of North Charlton Ridges and Saddle Ridge, especially the Lichen "blanket" over areas of these RAAF lands.

- a This surface water and seepage has for centuries from the Saddle Ridge Watershed to the west, continues down the sloping lands into the Bora Ground area and served the associated Bora Campsites throughout these lands and can be traced to flowing in the Unnamed creek within 400 metres of the Sacred Tree Bora Circle near the Wollombi Brook.
 - b. The surface water from around 500Ha around North Charlton Ridge now reduced to 75Ha has had devastating effect on the 'Newport Swamp' 5 Ha Red Gum perimeter Trees whose age is well in excess of 200 years old; possibly 300 to 400 years old.
- 2) The "Unnamed Tributary" being a Watercourse is a subsistence Track for Aboriginals that typifies the connectivity between the Wollombi Brook and Baiaime Bora Initiation Site and Ceremonial Grounds and the Summit Ridge area Campsites, and beyond this to the East Aboriginal subsistence Track following Doctors Creek to the Terrace Sites along the Hunter River.

8.3 Summary Discussion (Australian Museum August 2002 pg.95)

The results of the survey and excavations fit with site prediction models. The largest sites occur along major water courses. Grinding grooves occur where there are outcrops of sandstone in the creeklines. Stone artefact scatters were the predominant type of site recorded. The nature of artefacts and raw materials were as expected. The artefacts were of locally derived raw materials. The overall artefact assemblage did not contain any attributes that make them unique or rare in the Upper Hunter Valley.

However, this study was able to address two current issues: 1) settlement patterns as reflected in differential use of landforms units within the study area, and 2) antiquity of occupation through the identification of open sites with stratified deposit.

In relation to models of forager settlement patterns, it is difficult to distinguish between or identify residential base sites as opposed to activity locations in the archaeological record at Warkworth West. However, the results have indicated that there was extensive and varied use of the area, particularly along the creeklines, with a continuous archaeological distribution close to creeks. The sand sheet may have been a favoured camping location at which activities similar to those occurring on the opposite side of the creek (on the duplex soils) were carried out.

Two grinding groove sites and a grindstone fragment recovered during excavation suggests a degree of permanence or less mobile occupation in this area (see section 6.2.1.2). Nearby ceremonial sites are also known. It is not clear where the closest stone source was situated, however, the Warkworth West landscape would have provided food and water resources, at least throughout the Holocene. The archaeological evidence also shows a diversity of raw materials and artefact types, indicating that occupation of this area may have included base camps as well as carrying out specific activities. These activities are likely to include the manufacture of formal implements (backed artefacts), manufacture and maintenance of axes, and grinding activities involved in food preparation or the use of ochre.

Considering that CHAG- SSHEG has questioned the extent and Significance of this Southern Ridge Grinding Grooves Site, and the CHAG group inspection was told that MTW had laser image Scanned “the localised site” as in Photo below, and that to mine this area, a cut out section of this area would be attempted. At no time during this 2016 inspection, or at any CHAG meetings or any EIS documents after 2009 identified the extent of the 82 Grinding Grooves in this “MicroValley area M” or clearly classified as “Relatively Rare Aboriginal Significance” by the Australian Museum Archaeologists (AMA) in 2002.



Being now aware of the Australian Museum Archaeologists Study in 2002, SSHEG calls for this “Summit Ridge Creek Sites M” (Figure 17 Page 35 above) to remain undisturbed and Heritage Protected, and that an audit to establish, and for the Heritage Council to review, that these details have been known by all during the ongoing Mine Approval Processes since 2009 and that those processes as Recommendations 1 to 9 in the 2002 AMA Study have been implemented, and when so, that copies of reports, Archaeological reports, videos etc be included for community & CHAG review and archival storage.

By 1981 the National Trust Interim List in the Hunter Region was published, and the NSW Heritage enacted the Wambo Permanent Conservation Order on 3rd September 1982. In 1982 The NSW Department of Environment and Planning, Heritage Council of NSW released the Sheedy Hunter Region Heritage Study, entitled “Nineteenth Century Buildings”.

According to Sheedy, at the time of his report, the Hunter Region possessed probably the richest and most diverse collection of 19th century buildings to be found in any comparable area of Australia and that with relatively few exceptions, the vast number of buildings erected after 1830 have survived

It is known that in the Hunter Valley, **The Wambo Homestead Complex** was made subject to a **Permanent Conservation Order No 200 in 1982** while under the ownership of Joan Margaret Plesick. Gazetted 3rd Sept 1982, 116, Page 4087.

At the time in 2010, the application made to the **NSW Heritage Branch** triggered intense debate throughout both the NSW heritage industry and the Hunter Region community. Many issues were raised and discussed in the public forum. As a result, the **Heritage Council** initiated a sub-committee to consider the State heritage listed Wambo Homestead and its future management. In essence this **Heritage Act, etc has failed** as illustrated below.

Current NSW System has Failed to protect Cultural Heritage in Hunter Valley

The building is collapsing:



Figure: Servants' Wing Roof remnants.
Source: Peabody Energy 2017



Figure: Collapsed brickwork and timber propping, north west corner.
Source: EJE 2017



Figure: the north-west corner 2012
Source: GML 2012

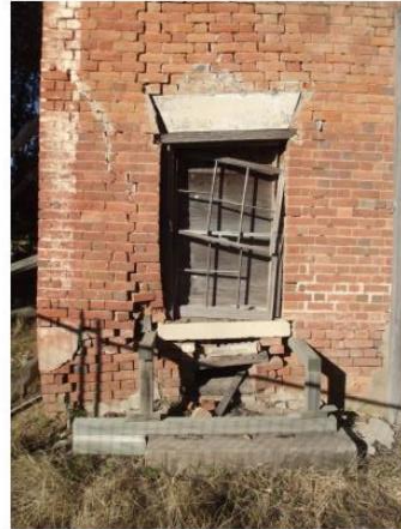


Figure: the north-west corner 2017
Source: EJE 2017

Wambo Estate - Mine Heritage Disgrace 2012 – 2017
5 Years without Strain Gauges and Alarm Monitoring
38 Years Wilful Neglect and Deliberate Deterioration since 1982

Wambo Homestead Complex Conservation Management Plan
WA-ENV-MNP-511 Version: 6 Uncontrolled when printed

It is known that in the Hunter Valley, **The Wambo Homestead Complex** was made subject to a **Permanent Conservation Order No 200 in 1982** while under the ownership of Joan Margaret Plesick. Gazetted 3rd Sept 1982, 116, Page 4087. More Failures - Refer below Heritage Act 1977 Minimum Standards ignored by all!?

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Major amendments to the Heritage Act 1977 passed both houses of State Parliament and came into effect on 2 April 1999. The changes are the result of substantial review of the NSW heritage system.

One of the changes in policy reflected in the new legislation is the establishment of Minimum Standards. Since the original Heritage Act was passed in 1977 the “wilful neglect” provisions had been ineffective in preventing the deterioration of heritage items. In the twenty years of its operation there were no successful prosecutions under this section of the Act.

The section has therefore been deleted and replaced. Owners of items listed on the **State Heritage Register** are now required to ensure that heritage significance is maintained. Owners are required to achieve minimum standards of maintenance and repair.

The standards are set out in the Regulation, and relate to:

- weatherproofing;
- fire protection;
- security; and
- essential maintenance.

These are minimum standards to ensure that heritage significance is maintained. They do not require owners to undertake restoration works, but where works are needed owners may be eligible to apply for financial assistance through the Heritage Incentives Program.

Where these standards are not met and the heritage significance of the item is in jeopardy the Heritage Council will now have the power to order repairs after consultation with the owner.

As a last resort, if negotiations have failed and the owner does not comply with the order, the Heritage Council can arrange for the works to be carried out and charge the expenses to the owner. The Minister may consent to the Heritage Council’s prosecution of the owner for failure to comply with an order under this section of the Act.

A copy of the *Heritage Amendment Regulation 1999*, extracted from the New South Wales Government Gazette No.27, 1999, pages 1 – 9, is included for your information.

Summary Outline of SSHEG 10 Year Community Health Cultural Heritage Issues that are supported in various Attachments and References and Extracts

Focus questions

- ◆ **Focus Question 1:** What should be the composition, skills and qualities of the Heritage Council of NSW? Current System has failed to protect Cultural Heritage in Hunter Valley
- ◆ **Focus Question 2:** How should Aboriginal Cultural Heritage be acknowledged and considered within the Heritage Act
- ◆ **Focus Question 3:** Are the objectives of the Heritage Act still relevant?
- ◆ **Focus Question 4:** Does the Act adequately reflect the expectations of the contemporary NSW community? Holistic Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant & Industrial Tourism
- ◆ **Focus Question 5:** How can the NSW Government legislation better incentivise the ownership, activation and adaptive reuse of heritage? Land Compliance Zoning
- ◆ **Focus Question 6:** How can we improve incentives within the taxation system to help mitigate the cost of private heritage ownership? Land Zoning & Heritage in Perpetuity
- ◆ **Focus Question 7:** What sort of initiatives might encourage activation and conservation of heritage through commercial and philanthropic investment Modern Heritage Technology Acts
- ◆ **Focus Question 8:** How could tailored heritage protections enhance heritage conservation?
- ◆ **Focus Question 9:** How should heritage items that are residential properties be accommodated under a proposed category scheme? Land Zoning & Heritage in Perpetuity
- ◆ **Focus Question 10:** Would greater community engagement deliver a more robust State Heritage Register? Cultural, Natural & Historic Heritagecare Groups (vs Landcare)
- ◆ **Focus Question 11:** Would streamlining enhance the listing process?
- ◆ **Focus Question 12:** How could we improve the current approval permit system?
- ◆ **Focus Question 13:** Are the current determination criteria for heritage permits still appropriate? Exhaust Archival 200 Yr & Modern Heritage Technology Studies first! Juukan?
- ◆ **Focus Question 14:** How could we improve heritage consideration within land use planning systems? Land Zoning & Heritage in Perpetuity now after 200 years
- ◆ **Focus Question 15:** Are there opportunities to enhance consideration of heritage at the strategic level? “Heritage Estate” Archival & Type ‘Social interface Nuances’ 200 Yrs
- ◆ **Focus Question 16:** How could heritage compliance and enforcement be improved?
- ◆ **Focus Question 17:** How could understanding of state heritage be enhanced? Heritagecare
- ◆ **Focus Question 18:** How could we improve heritage tourism or help activate heritage places for tourism? Bulga Tourism Hub Community Initiative, NSW Government Active Guidance
- ◆ **Focus Question 19:** How could public heritage buildings be activated to meet the needs of communities? One Day a Year all “Cultural Heritage Estate” Entities Open Free Inspection

State Significant “Cockfighter Valley Precinct” – Creeks, Brook & Hunter River Grasslands adjoining the UNESCO Greater Blue Mountains National Parks

The basis of the Greater Blue Mountains Area as a World Heritage site listing in 2000 related to biological diversity, landscape heritage values and Aboriginal heritage values, rather than historic heritage values.

Within this Conservation Area 1820-1920; “Cockfighters Valley Precinct” encompasses today's Villages – Broke, Fordwich, Bulga-Milbrodale, Warkworth & Jerrys Plains; and since the 1975- Present Period the “5 Mine Region” now coexists across this Landscape West of Hunter River, east of the Bulga-Wambo Mountains Escapement.

Adjoining upstream on the Hunter River is the Muswellbrook- Jerrys Plains Landscape Conservation Area which includes the Widden Valley that has been foreshadowed now in the “Howe Equine Hunter River Precinct”. (Att 13)


The concurrency of Aboriginal, Pioneer Colonials, Convicts and Immigrant Cultural Heritage in the period 1820 to 1860 however provides the State Significance Conservation Area Status that previous Historians and Heritage Councils recognised. Not forgetting the subsequent “Farmer Families” who further cherished these lands Cultural Heritage Significance through to present Day.

The opening up of Patricks Plains Land for purchase with enslaved Convict labour entitlements by Free Settlers followed, established by 1828 the Hunter Valley Foodbowl reputation for the colony, thus cementing in Colonial History “Bulga as the Gateway to the Hunter Valley”, and Saint Patricks Plains as the “Birthplace of the Hunter Valley”.

“The 1828 census showed 191 landholders lived in the Hunter Valley. Of those 91 landholders about half the number held large farms of more than 1000 acres, covering about 91% of the total area of the 191 holdings. All but eight were owned by immigrant settlers, of whom two thirds had arrived in the colony since 1821. Of the eight, six were held by men born in NSW and only two by emancipists (exconvicts).”

The boundaries of earlier farms and their associated buildings, which included huts, barns, sheds, dams and a saw pit, are also demarcated on early subdivision plans.

Patricks Plains Shire 1820's – 1975 Cultural Heritage in modern times is envisaged to include GIS Mapping and Era Aerial Photograph 25 Year progressions that Illustrate the Landscape Usage Legacy of Land Property Titles and shifts that influence Society Changes.



BULGA TOURISM HUB

Ancestral Heritage in Hunter Valley



Bulga Ancestral Culture Centre

"Bulga Culture Centre" & "Bulga Stock Reserve Heritage Park"

140 Pages



Patricks Plains Culture 1820's

Colonial Settlement 1820 - 1860

"Ancestral Heritage focuses upon the capture of the contributions made by successive Human Generations – Our Ancestors to the Environ Domain, showcased as Interactive Tourism Modules"

Synopsis – “Cockfighters Valley Precinct”

“**Bulga - Sense of Place**” is captured by Bulga Milbrodale Progress Association Inc in 2013 in their publication “*A History of Bulga, Gateway to the Hunter Valley since 1820*” which in its introduction established the Bulga Community Connectivity to these Lands.

“This publication has been made possible through the foresight of our early pioneers in recording history of the Bulga district together with stories handed down from generation to generation and the survival of letters and old photographs, and is complemented with information sourced from official archival records”.

Earlier in 2004 Bulga Historian Stewart Mitchell completed a History of “**The Clarks of Bulga – 150 years on Cockfighter’s Creek**” explaining as follows:-

“My great-great-grandfather was the first white settler at Bulga, taking up a land grant in 1825. After almost 200 years of ancestral residency in Bulga I feel obliged to attempt to protect this area from unnecessary destruction.

My great-great-grandfather witnessed the last great Bora at Bulga in 1852 and My Father accompanied Etheridge & McCarthy of Australian Museum in 1918 when they Photographer and Recorded the Bora Carved Trees and collected Aboriginal Artefacts from the surrounding area.



Bulga Pioneer Settlers 1890 – Standing- Ann Holmes, Peter McAlpin, William G McAlpin & William Partridge
Sitting- Thomas & Mary Hayes, Thomas & Elizabeth Eather, Elizabeth Partridge, James & Sarah Coe. Front- Mrs Eliza Clark

Relevant Heritage Questions posed for the Rehabilitation Reform Process are discussed in **Attachment 6**, Projects are as follows:-

“Do NSW Local Environment Plans on Heritage Homestead Estates in Hunter Valley all need to be added to NSW State Heritage Register with the Enforcement Power of Permanent Protection Orders which includes Progressive restoration and Public access periods?”

“In 1982 The NSW Department of Environment and Planning, Heritage Council of NSW released the Sheedy Hunter Region Heritage Study, entitled “Nineteenth Century Buildings”. For the period up to the 1850s, Sheedyat the time of his report, the Hunter Region possessed probably the richest and most diverse collection of 19th century buildings to be found in any comparable area of Australia and that with relatively few exceptions, the vast number of buildings erected after 1830 have survived.”

“In 2013 the study “HUNTER ESTATES: A Comparative Heritage Study of pre 1850s Homestead Complexes in the Hunter Region”, was commissioned by NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and the Heritage Council of NSW based on a concern that significant Colonial Landscapes and Homestead Complexes throughout the Hunter Region could be lost by individual decisions arising from development pressures. This 2013 Study seeks to define both the Hunter Estate and its homestead complex, to map their locations and to locate their importance in the history of the Hunter Region and NSW.”

“It is evident that Hunter Valley Cultural Heritage and State Significant Heritage was perhaps last visited in 2013 and needs a comprehensive Review by National and State Authorities as a Whole of Valley Review and Classifications; perhaps leading to Permanent Conservation Heritage Protection in the context of the short, medium, and long term transition of Historic Heritage for Private and Tourism Opportunities as part of the overall Mine Rehabilitation Provisions.”

“It is for this track record that SSHEG have identified a set of Community Cultural Heritage Initiated Projects that need to be enacted by authorities collectively across all Mining Operations in much the same way the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network was established and Funded regarding Community Health and Air Quality Initiatives. (Refer Attachment 6 Conditions of Consent) The “impotent 2002 Bulga Deed of Agreement” compromise of Conservation, Heritage and Mining lives on today as the challenge to be effectively addressed.”

"Camberwell Residents Health protection by Glendell Mine Air Pollution Minimisation and Dispersion"

2010 Heritage Question Revisited by Glencore at Ravensworth
"Could Heritage Buildings be removed from the NSW Local Environment Plans? Could some of the remaining buildings on the site be relocated for their protection?"

Perhaps the Question should be – *"Do NSW Local Environment Plans on Heritage Homestead Estates in Hunter Valley all need to be added to NSW State Heritage Register with the Enforcement Power of Permanent Protection Orders which includes Progressive restoration and Public access periods?"*

National Heritage Scrutiny and oversight has already established in modern times since 1972 the Heritage Significance of the Hunter Valley Region; including having addressed the Mining Heritage Questions posed at Wambo Mining in 2010.

Reviewing the Heritage Studies since 1972 provide the basis for Heritage Decisions then; today, and in the future.

Clearly, the Wambo Homestead Estate and Mining Coexisting is a Model that perhaps could have been applied in 2010 directly in this Glencore Glendell Ravensworth Homestead Estate Project Proposal! Perhaps it was then!!!

Another way of posing the Ravensworth Mining Question is:

- *"Should Glendon, Neotsfield, Baroona and Minimbah Homestead Estates, or any others that are on smaller land areas to their original Pioneer Settler Land Grants, be all protected by Permanent Heritage Protection Orders?"*

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NEOTSFIELD HOMESTEAD

ST PATRICKS PLAINS

St Patrick's Plains 1820's Henry Dangar Dynasty

Located on the Hunter River at Whittingham

The impact of the Henry Dangar Dynasty as free settlers over at least three generations since 1821 has profoundly influenced the many aspects of life in the early days of the Hunter Valley and in many ways not only contributed to the establishment of Pastoral pursuits and rural diversity as we know it today by also developing financially viable export businesses to complement the coal shipped from Newcastle Port.

In the future Australians of all persuasions will come to learn how the early Hunter Valley Pioneering families have contributed to our way of life that is enjoyed today, affecting our National Psyche, with qualities of Tolerance, Endurance and Initiative to work our a living in this often harsh but fertile land.

The unique position that Whittingham holds as being the Birthplace of the Hunter Valley is a consequence of the explorer John Howe discovery at St Patrick's Plains around 17th March 1820 and establishing a place in our Colonial History which is increasingly gaining its rightful place in our European Heritage.

Significantly, the Dangar Legacy is synonymous with St Patrick's Plains and the opening up of the Hunter Valley in Muswellbrook, Scone, and the Liverpool Plains; and beyond some while employed by the Australian Agricultural Company from 1830 to 1832.

Three Heritage Homesteads are a testament to this influence at St Patrick's Plains, namely; Neotsfield on the Hunter River, Baroona on the New England Highway, and Minimbah off Range Road, all located within a short distance of the Howe Monument at the Army Crossroads on the old Maitland road, which is now the New England Highway.



Neotsfield 1821-1826
Henry Dangar



Baroona 1830 & 1870
Albert Augustus Dangar



Minimbah 1877
William Dangar's Plans

Over the last 10 years we have progressively investigated the Heritage Legacy surrounding the three old Homesteads at Whittingham in the Hunter Valley of New south Wales. Albert and William are the sons of Henry and Grace Dangar.

Our curiosity began on a visit to the Hunter Valley in 1996 by plane as we flew over Baroona and landed on the grass airstrip at the Army Cross roads at Whittingham on the New England Highway. Stories emerged of a Gate House, Melbourne Cup horses, Arab and Suffolk horse stud breeding, coral ballast, convict bricks, army officers living at Neotsfield and the cottages on the Hunter River. The names Neotsfield and Dangar soon merged.

More curious was the extent of the Dangar Family Mausoleum at Singleton' All Saints Anglican Church with the church, modelled on St Neots Church Cornwell. Henry Dangar and successive generations of Dan gars are buried here in the Mausoleum enclosed by an iron palisade fence with a series of columns supporting an ornate and elaborate architrave and pediment. It is located alongside the St Neots chapel of the Church with a Led light window of a Dangar family Crest of Arms on the western wall.

"National Heritage List Nomination February 2021"
"Patricks Plains Holistic Ancestral Heritage Significance"

Various levels of Community Engagement in the Upper Hunter Valley emanating from the National 1988 Bicentenary Celebrations and the Sydney 2000 Olympics, awoke our Community fervour regarding our cherished Ancestral Cultural Heritage of the Area - the Patricks Plains Shire of 1820-1975.

Local Communities Initiatives since 2002 consider the Grasslands and Alluvial Lands, Rivers, Brook and Creeks adjoining the Northern Escapements of the *"Greater Blue Mountains National Parks"* are *"A place of outstanding Heritage Value to the Nation and if lost would significantly impoverish Australia's National Heritage"*.

Nominated Here as the *"Patricks Plains National Heritage Area"* - encompassing our 2016 Community Initiative *"State Significant Landscape Conservation Area- Cockfighters Valley Precinct"* adjoining the 1985 NSW National Estate *"Muswellbrook – Jerrys Plains Landscape Conservation Area"*.

This *"Patricks Plains National Heritage Area"* Nominated Region encompasses the Holistic concurrency of Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict and Immigrant Ancestral Cultural and Natural Heritage along with its *"National Cultural Landscape Heritage"* Significance recorded since 1770.

“Baime GBMNP Significance connectivity Illustrated”.

Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains NTH# 8 ©

© Commercial in Confidence

“BULGA TOURISM HUB”

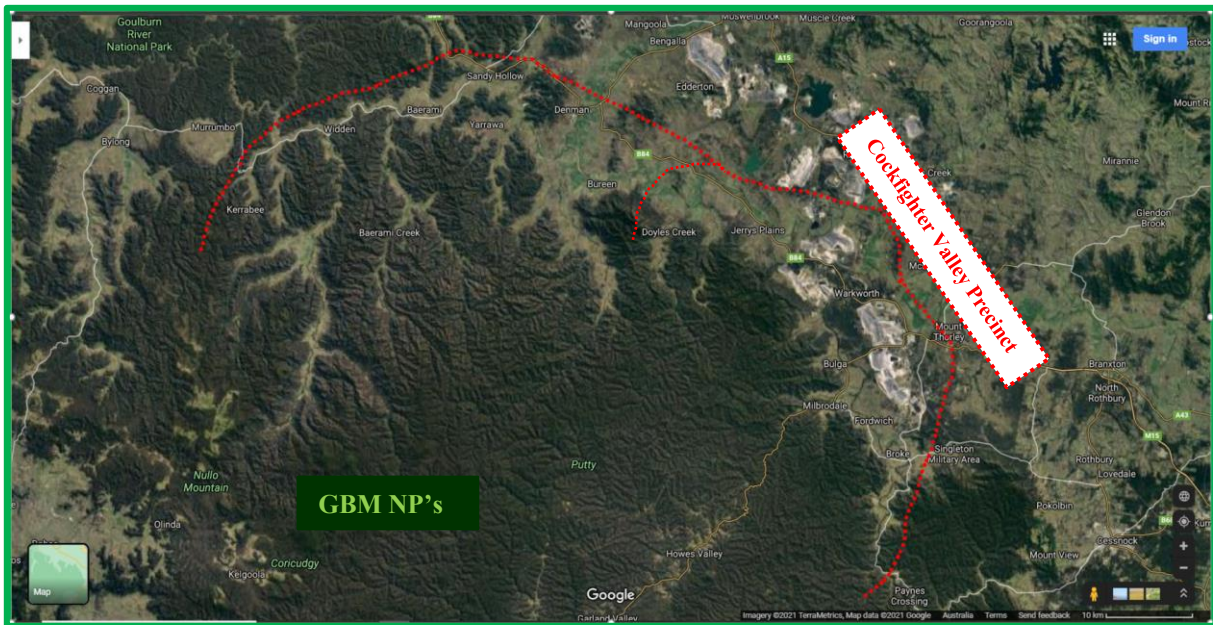
Without prejudice

➤ ***Baime International Significant Area***

- ❖ **“Grasslands adjunct”** to the UNESCO Greater Blue Mountains NP with the BAIAME ‘Creator’ Painting and Bora significance also adjoins the Yengo NP Ancestral Aboriginal Rock Art and Myths; and this connectivity further extends to the Wolloml NP recent discovered “Eagle Reach” Cave Paintings in 1995, also with Baime Culture significance.



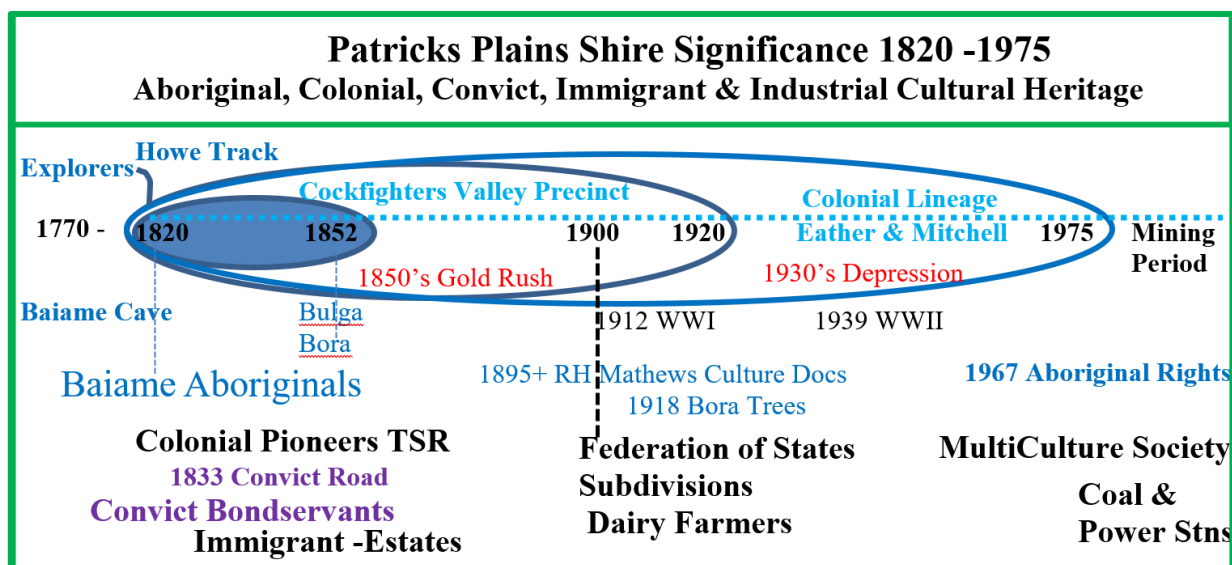
The National Heritage Significances of “*Cockfighters Valley Precinct*” are Community Recognised as providing a key “Colonial-Convict-Immigrant Development Role of the “*Territory of New South Wales*”; here as the “*Cockfighter Creek Community Enclave Settlement emerged with its Ancestral Pioneer Heritage*”; and its Pivotal “Precinct” Role as the “*Nucleus of Cultural Landscape Heritage Progression from 1820’s to North and North West*”: Holistically, since 1980, the “Precinct’s” National Heritage Significances are reinforced as Coal Mining Cultural Heritage Research exposes the otherwise “Hidden Heritage Treasures” that are now recognised as Community Social Perceptions towards Heritage and Culture across the “*Patricks Plains Shire Region*” that has matured.



GBMNP's Adjunct Hunter River, Brook & Escapement Creeks Grasslands

This Community Heritage Initiative highlights the range of International, National, State and Local Cultural and Natural Landscape Heritage Features that reinforce and builds upon the “**National Estate**” across the Regions National Natural, Cultural and Landscape Heritage of the 1770’s “*Baiaime Valley Aboriginal Region*”; here being the designated “*Cockfighters Valley Precinct*”- the Grasslands adjunct of GBMNP’s of the “*Patricks Plains Shire 1820 – 1975*” in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW.

The Cultural, Natural & Landscape Heritage of the Hunter River & Creek Grasslands along their Mountain Escapement over 200 years of “Colonial Archival Recordings” when rightly integrated as the “Blue Mountains” Region provides further National Heritage reinforcement that otherwise Individual Heritage recognition does not. Illustrated



Cockfighter Creek Region –

Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant Cultural & Natural Heritage Todays 200 Years Significance across these Illustrated Lands

The Cockfighters Creek 1820 – 1850's Heritage Legacy links the Howe Track Travelling Stock Route along the “Government Road North crossings of the Wollombi Brook”; {Bulga Environs ([Att 14](#))} connectivity, between Milbrodale-Bulga Village-Warkworth Village & Cockfighter Crossings (Bridges- Convict 1833, 1857, 1877, 1955 & Burwood upstream) thence to Jerrys Plains, Muswellbrook, Mount Thorley, Maison Dieu, Singleton, Liverpool Plains and beyond.

Locals of Bulga/Warkworth Villages developed as the “Cockfighter Creek Region”; (Bulga- Onus, Eather, Mc Alpin, Clarke, Mt Leonard-Charlton- Wambo Estate- Hale, Durham; Watts Convict 1824, Pioneer, Orchard Springwood-Burwood Legacy 1839-1980; Fruit Growing District Illustrated 1839-1955.

Features: - Aboriginal – Bora Caved Trees area; Bora Ceremonial Circle, Bora Tribes Camping Area, Bora Saddle Ridge Grinding Grooves & Creek, Bora Wollombi Brook & Grinding Grooves; Connectivity Baiaime Cave, GBMNP's Art & Caves, Doolerwing Waterhole, Tracks & Creeks East to Hunter River- Loders Creek Grinding Grooves Connectivity.

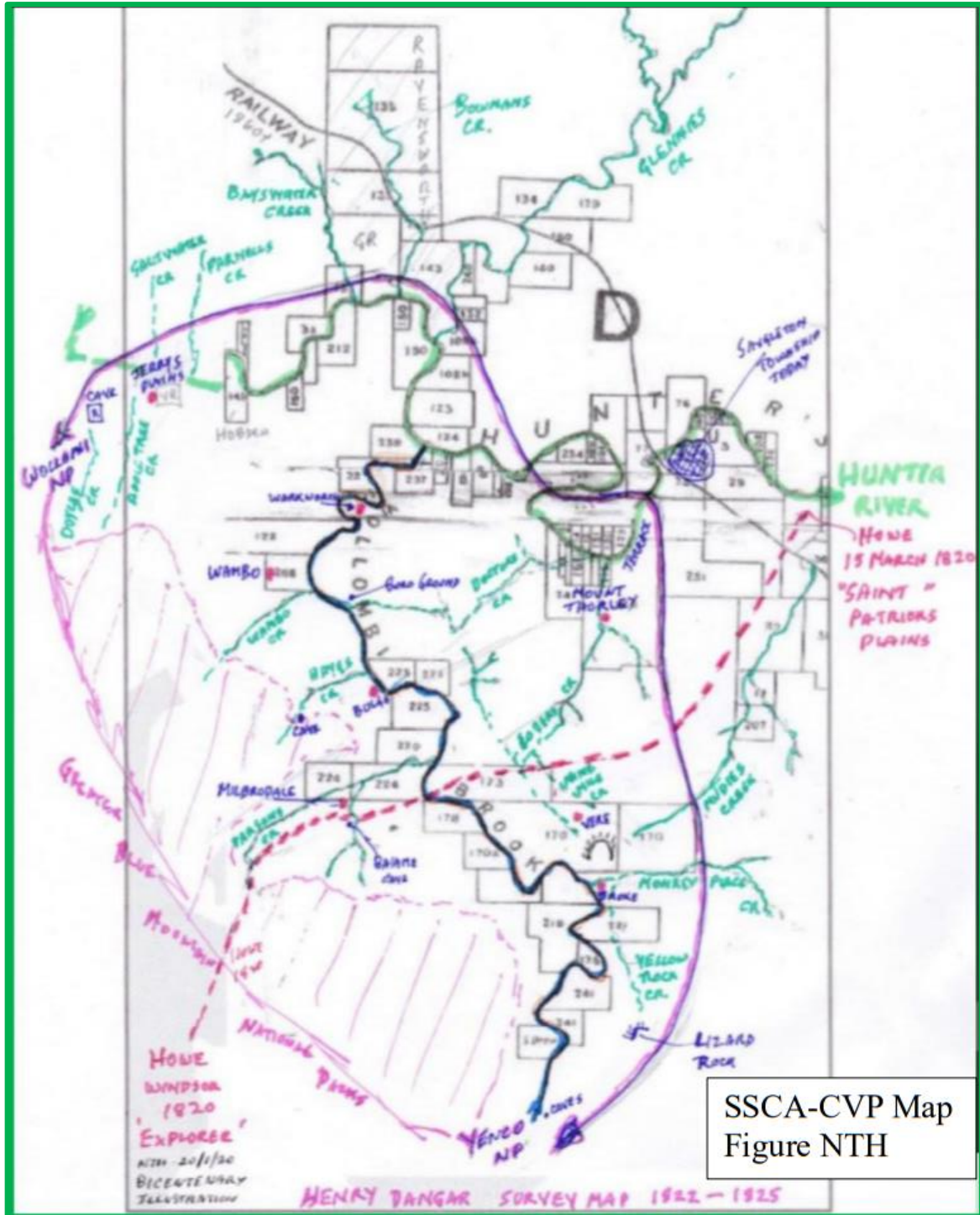
Colonial, Convict & Immigrant 1820-1860 – Pioneer Settlers Land Grants, Purchases, Estates, Homesteads, Landscapes, Inns, Museum Collections Stuffe, Great North Road-Watts Hill & Trig, Cockfighter Crossings 1833+ & Inns Archaeology Study, 99 Year Grazing West Leases; Stock Routes & Reserves- Government Road & Wollombi Brook Crossings.

Federation Patricks Plains Shire 1900-1980 – Boer War, 1903 Survey Clyde/Carlingford/ Warkworth Rail; WWI, 1930's Depression; WWII, RAAF Two Runways & Hides, Messhall Kitchen, Lichen Carpet; Warkworth Dam, TSR, Government Road, Prickly Pear Regions, Floods- 1857,1948,1955;

Singleton Shire 1975-2020 – 1970's Wambo, Lemington Mines,1980 Mt Thorley & Warkworth Mines, 2002 Coal & Allied; 2005-2015 Rio Tinto; Yancoal 2015+MTW; Great North Road-Watts Hill & Trig, Cockfighter Crossings Archaeology Study, 2002 Green & Gold Bell Frog, NDA1 Zone, Archerfield Warkworth Sands, Archerfield Estate, Homestead & out buildings.

National Heritage Recognition of Cockfighters Valley Precinct

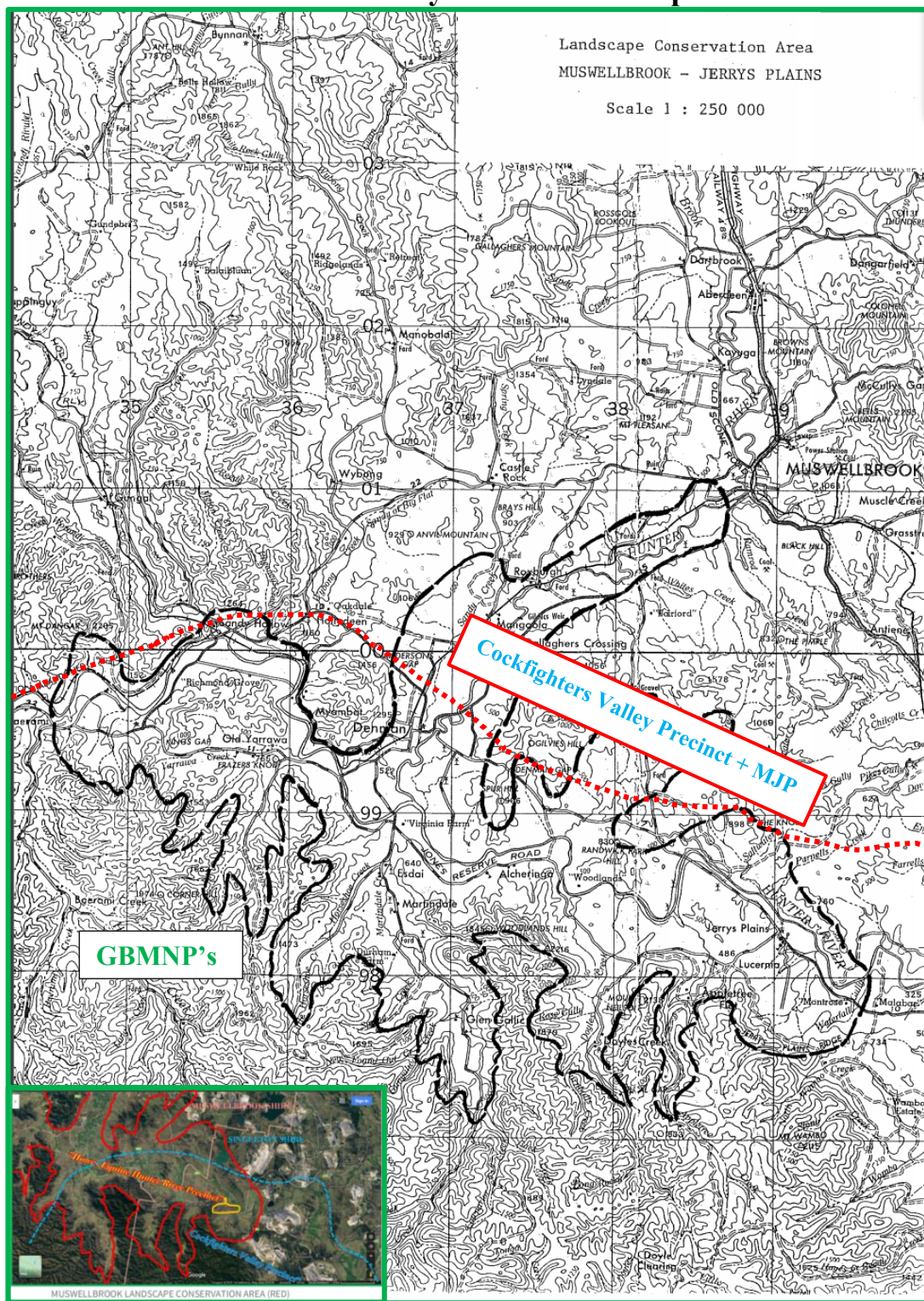
✓ 2010 Cockfighters Valley Precinct Study Area



“Cockfighters Valley Precinct”

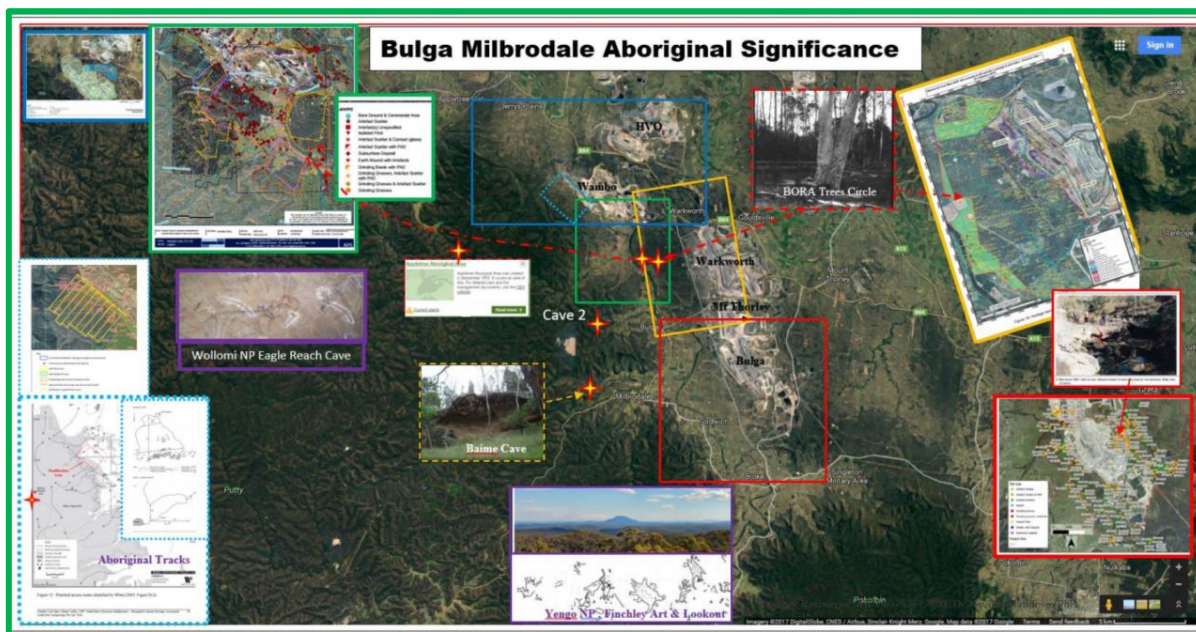
National Heritage Recognition of Cockfighters Valley Precinct

✓ 1985 Muswellbrook-Jerrys Plains Landscape Conservation Area



National Heritage Recognition of Cockfighters Valley Precinct

✓ 2016 GBMNP's Rock Art, Eagle Reach, Baiame Cave Connectivity



Eagle's Reach, NSW	a, b, d, e, f, g, i.	<p>a) Documented relationship between styles and changes in the natural or cultural environment; evidence of developing cosmologies;</p> <p>b) Unique junction site, where influences from Woronora, Hunter Valley, Kamilaroi country, Wiradjuri country, and central Australia; one of few well-preserved area with lengthy engraved and painted traditions; depiction of unusual themes and images (Daramulan, Baiame, wombats,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-late Holocene, contact (?) • Site complex, pigment, engraved and drawings. 	People's attachment to place; Human lifeways, Materiality
Centre for Rock Art Research and Management, UWA				
May 2016				
Rock Art Thematic Study				
Page 72				
Rock Art Place	NH Criteria	Indicators of significance	Chronological and Typological FW	Thematic Framework
		<p>eagle sand dingos), has a few examples of a rare tradition, style, technique, or method (e.g. Darkingung sub-style);</p> <p>d) Includes most of the characteristics of a defined tradition; includes a specified minimum number of rock-art sites and a specified minimum number of individual images;</p> <p>e) Demonstrated Aboriginal interests in art; visitor numbers to the sites/area increasing; has representation of images in published works on rock art;</p> <p>f) Includes images of outstanding technical quality; outstanding examples of artistic skill and detail; excellent examples of graphic design and composition; exceptionally well preserved;</p> <p>g) Place is part of the Eagle Ancestor landscape, place of high spiritual significance for several contemporary groups; sites are considered meeting and teaching places, where story-telling, song, dance and ritual ceremony would occur; extensive oral history that relates to landscape, places, sites and images, and numerous contemporary Aboriginal connections;</p> <p>i) Ethnographic evidence for cosmology and its links to art; ethnographic evidence for intangible values associated with the rock art and/or its landscape setting.</p>		

SSHEG Community Cultural Heritage Sense of Place Health Initiative in 2021

Rock Art Thematic Study		Page 122	
Northern Sydney Complex (discrete sites, or site complexes within the northern Sydney region)			
Places	Baime Shelter, Boree Track, Mount Yengo I, Calga Women's Site, Maroota Historic site, Upside-Down-Man Shelter, Warre Warren Aboriginal Place		
Location	Sydney Hawkesbury Sandstone Basin NSW		
Contents	<p>This rock art place listing contains the best rock art sites in the Sydney-Hawkesbury region. The sites include both pigment and engraved sites. The most distinctive features are described here:</p> <p>Baime Shelter is a sandstone rockshelter towards the north of the Hawkesbury Sandstone. The shelter is 17.7m long and 7m high from the ground. The rock art consists of a 2.5m high-elongated anthropomorph infilled with red pigment and outlined in white with large white round eyes. The arms are elongated and have white armbands. A series of vertical parallel white lines cross the torso and below the arms. Also represented are stencils of two boomerangs, two hatchets, and five hand stencils. The large figure was placed to face towards the valley floor.</p> <p>Calga Women's Site is located on the crest of an open woodland ridgeline. The engravings are on a horizontal sandstone platform and include a large culture heroine and woman motif. Nearby are bird and macropod tracks, emus, and anthropomorphs, grinding grooves, feet, fish/trident, macropod motifs and stencils. There are also water holes and an associated stone arrangement, as well as a small shelter with painted art and an archaeological deposit. The ridgelines would have provided a connection, or travelling route between places in the wider landscape. The site complex is argued to be a cultural landscape linked with Mount Yengo (Hodgetts 2010:22).</p> <p>The Boree track runs along a watershed ridgeline between Mount Yengo and Warre Warren Aboriginal Place. There are a number of engravings sites located along the track, such as Burragurra (Devil's Rock) and Frying Pan Rock.</p> <p>Devil's Rock is in Maroota Historic Site: This place was considered by McCarthy to be one of most important engraving sites in the Sydney-Hawkesbury region because of its planned composition, with the linking of the Ancestral Beings via a long line of pits, the depiction of a nesting emu, and a kangaroo hunt (McCarthy 1959:213).</p> <p>Upside-Down-Man Shelter is a large and cavernously weathered shelter measuring 17x6x3.5m (McDonald 2008:172). The occupation deposits include lithics, ochre, faunal and floral remains, charcoal and shellfish, while the art consists of engravings, paintings, drawings and stencils; there are a number of grinding grooves outside the shelter (McDonald 2008:172). The rock art assemblage consists of 274 motifs, of which 55 are hands stencil variations (McDonald 2008:172). Petroglyphs consist of three male anthropomorphs, one of them upside down, two macropods and geometric motifs; the painted art consists of male and female anthropomorphs, macropods, snakes, echidnas, reptiles, fish and eel, tracks, material objects, geometrics and a shield (McDonald 2008:Table 8.1). Excavations revealed rich occupation deposits including lithics, ochre, faunal and floral remains, charcoal and shellfish (McDonald 2008). The rock art consists of engravings, paintings, drawings and stencils. The most intensive period of use was between 2-1,000 years ago, and one of the motifs was dated to c.500 yrs BP, indicating that use of the site was limited to the late Holocene. The assemblage of UDM consists of 274 motifs, of which 55 are stencils, which is a fair-sized assemblage for the area Mangrove Creek. In the Warre Warren Aboriginal Place, only Swinton's Shelter has more motifs (857) (McDonald 2008:172).</p> <p>Mount Yengo 1 has an extensive pigment (paintings and stencils) assemblage (over 500 motifs) on the ceiling and back wall of the shelter, the interior vertical panel of the roof fall is engraved and the sloping back shelf is replete with grinding grooves and mortar and anvil areas. There are 36 pecked engravings on the boulder (thought to be pre-Bondian in age), mostly circles, while the pigment art consists of stencils, paintings and drawings in red, white, yellow, pink and black pigment (McDonald 2008:71). Stencils predominate, most are hand and hand stencil variations, though there are also axes, boomerangs and other material culture stencils. The painted motifs consist of anthropomorphs, emu, an eel, bird tracks, geometric motifs and complex non-figurative motifs (McDonald 2008:72). There is extensive domestic occupation dates mostly to the last 3,000 years, and there are intact hearths indicating this may have been a basecamp (McDonald 2008:139). Yengo 2 immediately adjacent has a large drawn and stencilled assemblage.</p> <p>Warre Warren Aboriginal Place includes several major tributaries flowing into Mangrove Creek, in the MacPherson State Forest. Mangrove Creek has a relatively complete record of the entire occupation of the Sydney region, with a Holocene focus. Warre Warren Aboriginal Place has a significant concentration of sites, including rock art sites. There are stylistic differences between the rock art in Warre Warren and that in Ku-Ring Gai Chase National Park, including different techniques, pigments and subjects chosen by the artists (McDonald 1988:51). Around Mangrove Creek there are less stencils and more charcoal drawings; the presence of stencils decreases even further towards the</p>		
Centre for Rock Art Research and Management		May 2016	
Rock Art Thematic Study		Page 124	
Criterion E	The Baime figure at Baime Shelter is aesthetically presented in a landscape setting: this evocative, all-encompassing figure looks down into the valley from the rockshelter, with large white eyes and elongated, dynamic arms. The Boree track is a characteristic scenically-beautiful ridgeline through the rugged dry sclerophyll bushland with aesthetically composed engraving assemblages arranged at intervals along this.		
Criterion F			
Criterion G	The place has great significance for contemporary urban Aboriginal groups. The Calga women's site was subject to a recent (successful Land and Environment Court) appeal where the contemporary values of this place were argued by Darkinjung LALC. Links were made to sacred Aboriginal teaching and story sites where Indigenous knowledge was passed down. Places in the Calga and Somersby plateau are a complex series of sites and paths linking the coastal and inland clans that extends across Darkinjung country and the culturally significant Mount Yengo area, the religious centre of spiritual, social and cultural beliefs for many groups adjacent and inland of the Central Coast area. The Boree Track, is similarly situated in sight of Mount Yengo. The Yengo 1 and 2 shelters are located on the foot slopes of Mount Yengo. The Darkinjung were a key link in a network of trading routes from inland to the coast, and one of those routes is located in the Calga-Peats Ridge area. The emu is associated with Baime and Daramulan, and has an association as Baime or Daramulan's wife or mother. The place has connections to other Daramulan or anthropomorphic sites within approximately a 1-2 km radius. The place is also associated with stone arrangements of high cultural and scientific significance. Baime is part of a network that includes the Brewarrina Fish Traps, Mount Yengo, Cobar and Narran Lake. The painting in Baime shelters and the engraved culture heroes across the region create a link between contemporary Aboriginal people and their ancestors.		
Criterion H	Baime Shelter was the subject of the first public talk by R. H. Matthews (in 1893) and heralded the start of his eminent career as one of the first Aboriginal anthropologists in Australia.		
Criterion I	Calga is used as a place associated with teaching and learning, especially for the young Aboriginal women in the area. Emus continue to be totemic animals in the region today. There is a strong sense of responsibility to care for and perpetuate the site within women's groups. Creator Heroes and Ancestral Beings are present throughout the whole place, linking sites together in a network of culturally significant places.		
Northern Sydney Hawkesbury Region, NSW Includes documented sites in Yengo NP, Warre Warren AP,	b, c, d, e, g, h, i	<p>b) Rare motifs such as large images of Baime and Daramulan; rare example of emu nesting with eggs; rare example of kangaroo hunt; rare example of planned compositions with Ancestral Beings on both engraving sites and in rockshelters; rare engravings of female figure in association with ancestral beings; only known example in Sydney Basin rock art where shelter wall has been painted over to either cover existing art or prepare the surface for subsequent art; rare black hand stencils; rare handprints and use of mixed pigments;</p> <p>c) Occupation deposits and rock art can provide information on Holocene occupation in the region; information on Aboriginal responses to Holocene environmental changes; the rock art styles provide the opportunity to investigate connections between different groups, and the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holocene;• Pigment and engraved• People's attachment to place;• Human lifeways,• Materiality
Centre for Rock Art Research and Management, UWA		May 2016	

Fires in the Greater Blue Mountains National Parks in 2020 provides NSW NPWS the opportunity to detail the Biamanga, Burrell Bulai, Devils Chimney, Mount Yengo, Saltwater, Sugarloaf (Gwydir) and Waratah Trig Aboriginal places.

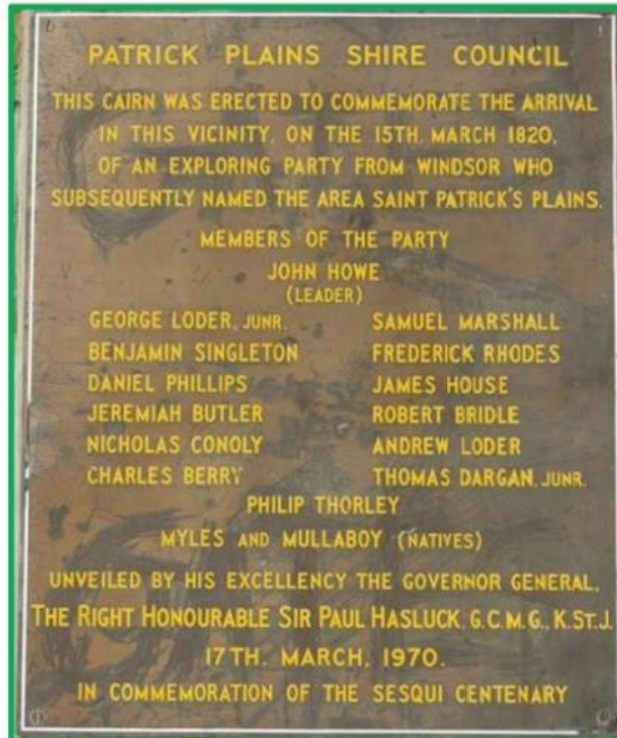
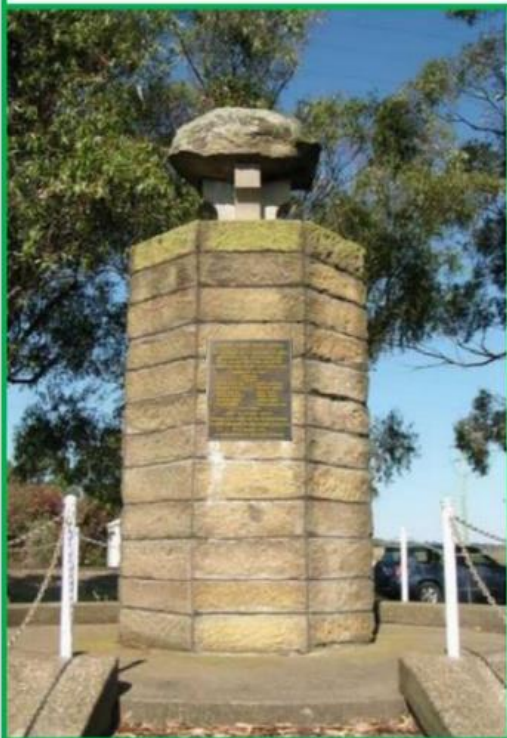
Most importantly, there are numerous depictions of the key Ancestral Beings of the region: Baime, Daramulan (Baime's son), and Eagle-Hawk, as well as what may be Daramulan's wife, other emu-women, and an evil being known as Club Foot Man.

National Heritage Recognition of Cockfighters Valley Precinct

✓ 1970 Howe Explorers National Heritage Significance 150 Years

The Patricks Plains Shire Council Cultural and Natural Heritage State Significance was Nationally recognised from the early 1820's for 150 Years as Illustrated below; Today in 2020 during the Singleton Shire Mining Period Cultural & Natural Heritage now provides today's Community Tourism opportunity as a Community Health Initiative.

1821 "The Birthplace of the Hunter Valley"



Saint Patricks Plains Howe Monument. 15 March 1820
on New England Highway at the Range Road "Crossroads"
– Rail crossing now replaced in 2015 with Overpass Bridge Crossing.

A Tower in **St Patrick`s Catholic Church Singleton** commemorates the **Centenary** of the discovery of Patricks Plains in 1820. The **Foundation Stone** for the Tower was laid on the **21st March 1920** by the Bishop of Maitland.


The name Saint Patrick's Plains was bestowed upon the area after John Howe, the leader of the party first reached it in 1819 and 1820. Howe's first expedition crossed the "Blue Mountains" to the North from Windsor and arrived at the river (Hunter) near the present-day Jerry's Plains Nov 1819; and on a second Expedition descending the escapement near the Baime Cave and Bulga Creek and arrived at the Hunter River downstream at Whittingham on 15th March 1820.

Community Heritage Recognition of Cockfighters Valley Precinct


✓ 1820 – 1975 Six Generations of Cockfighter Creek Cultural Heritage

Cockfighter Creek Colonial Ancestral Heritage


"As a means of making men outwardly honest, of converting vagabonds, most useless in one country, into active citizens of another, and thus giving birth to a grand centre of civilization, it has succeeded to a degree perhaps unparalleled in history." — The Voyage of the Beagle, Charles Darwin 1836




'Green Flat'




'Ohio Homestead'



'Mt Leonard Homestead'




'Wool Wagon at Bulga c 1900'




'Meerea'


"Alex Esther Manuscript 1820 - 1921 @ Meerea"



'Alex & John Ether'




'Wambo' 1830's




BULGA HISTORIC BUILDINGS

LIST OF DESCENDANTS OF EARLY BULGA PIONEERS SHOWING CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN THE FAMILIES.



Historian

No.	Name	Original Owner
1	St Mark's Church	Anglican Church & Cemetery
2	Bulga Hall	Trustees
3	Recreation Ground & Memorial Gates	Trustees
4	Bulga Public School	Education Dept
5	Bulga Bridge	Public Works Dept
6	'Milbrodale'	Rev Hill
7	'Charlton'	John Cobcroft
8	'Mt Leonard'	Benjamin Richards
9	'Retreat Farm'	John Eaton
10	'Rosemount'	John Martin
11	'Oakvale'	Thomas Bates
12	'Kilmuir'	Alexander McGreg
13	'Hillside'	William Clarke
14	'Windermere'	William Woods
15	'Willow Farm'	James Clark
16	'Glen Alpin'	William McAlpin
17	'Meerea'	Thomas Ether
18	'Wambo'	James Hale
19	'Glenrock'	Adam Holmes
20	unnamed	William Partridge
21	'Inlet Farm'	Thomas Hayes
22	'Rockview'	John Hayes
23	unnamed	Edward Whybrow
24	unnamed	Edward Roser
25	'Green Flat'	Macdonald Clark
26	'Ohio'	James Clark



WHEN THIS YOU SEE THINK OF ME UNTIL I GET MY LIBERTY MARCH 15

Convict Love Token

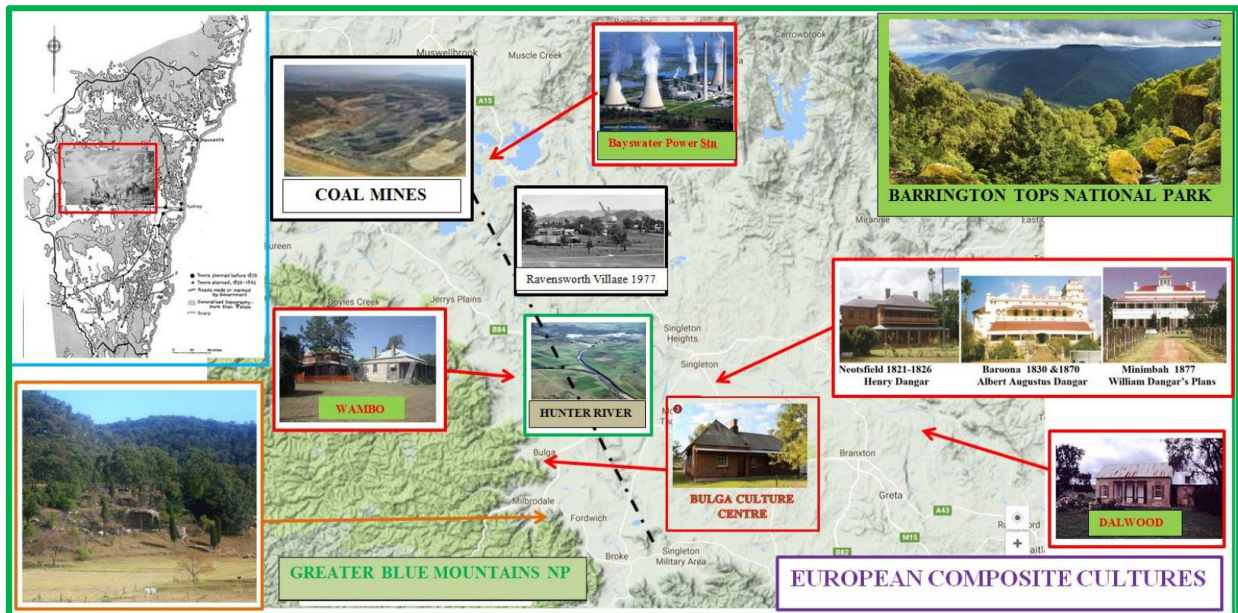
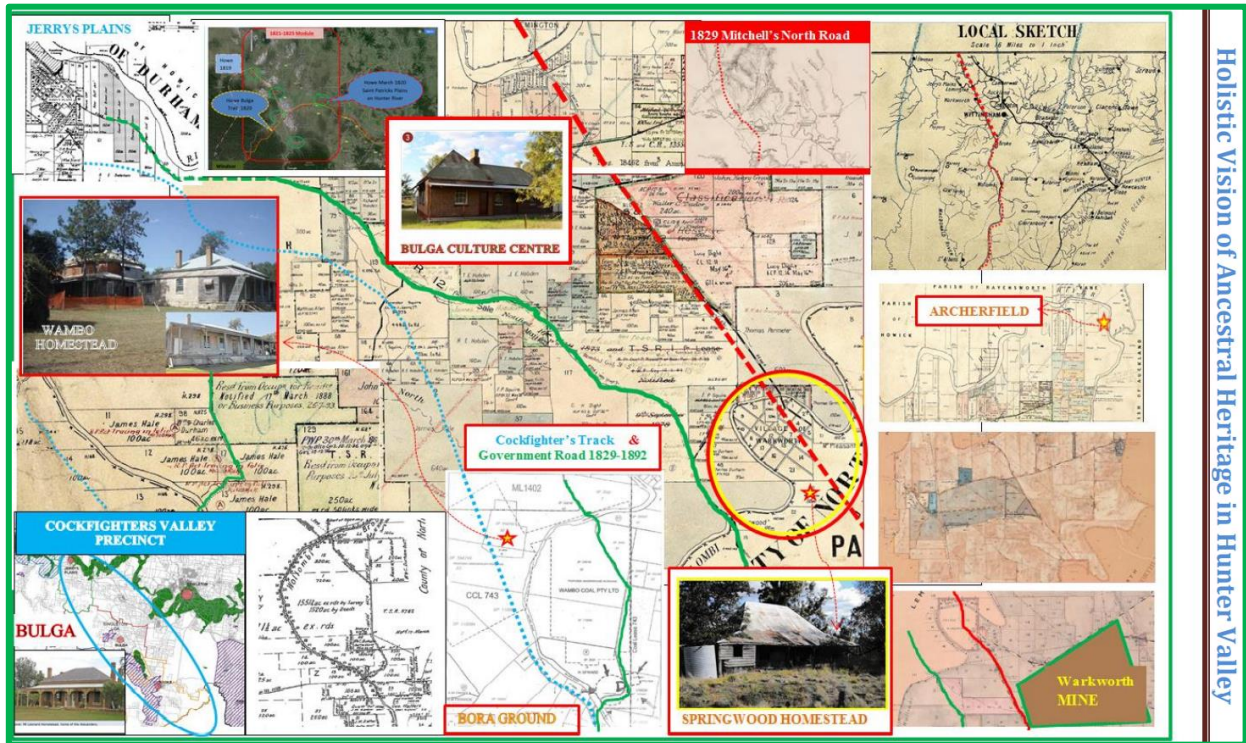
PIONEER'S DESCENDANTS STILL RESIDING IN BULGA DISTRICT.

JOSEPH ANNE ONUS + EATHER Convict born UK 1st Land Grant 1825	THOMAS SARAH EATHER + McALPIN born Windsor Scotland 1st permanent settlers 1826	SUSANNAH WILLIAM ONUS + McALPIN born Richmond Scotland Settled 1842	JAMES ELIZA CLARK + McDONALD born Yorkshire Scotland Settled 1846
JAMES MARY HALE + DURHAM Convict born UK 1st Land Grant 1829	THOMAS ELIZA EATHER + CADWLEY lived 'Meerea' Bulga		
SARA ASHTON EATHER + CLARK lived 'Gerale' Bulga	JOHN HARRIET EATHER + CLARK lived at 'Meerea' Bulga	McDONALD SUSANNAH CLARK + McALPIN lived 'Green Flat' Bulga	EDWARD MARY ROSER + McALPIN lived 'Rockview' Bulga
James Rosemond Clark + Chapman	Stanley Dorothy Clark + Cooke	Reginald Harriet Eather + Cousins	Stewart Harriet Mitchell + Clark
Harold Betty Harris + Clark live at Milbrodale	Nina Herbert Clark + Pike	Ian Betty Eather + Teelow lived at 'Meerea' until sold in 1995	Stewart Nora Mitchell + Bowen
Chris Sue Harris + Howlett live at Milbrodale	Marion Greg Pike + Banks live at Bulga	William Maude Clark + Cooke	Stewart Maria Mitchell + Heuston live at 'Green Flat' Bulga
Mark Kim Harris live at Milbrodale	Clyde Jean Cameron Clark	Gordon Margaret Harris + Cameron	Doug Judith Cameron + Donnelly Doug died 2018
		Dore + Fawn Harris live at Milbrodale	Graham Alison Cameron + Mulholland live at Milbrodale
			Adam Vicki Cameron + Louis live at Bulga
			Bruce Shirley Roser + Kelly live at 'Rockview' Bulga
			Donald Muriel Roser + Frost
			Edward Mabel Roser + Hayes
			Ken Robin Cameron + Russell Ken died 2017

Bulga Historian Stewart Mitchell 2020

Community Heritage Recognitions of Cockfighters Valley Precinct

✓ 1820 - 2020 Patricks Plains Heritage Composites



Reference A Extracts - Bulga Culture Centre June 2016

Ancestral Cultural Heritage Recognition

Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains NTH# 8 ©

NTH# 8 Project Outline Scope for Visualisation Modules

This Projects NTH# 8 focuses upon the Community Identities and Personalities, as gleaned from Archival sources at the time, and specifically the role played in the development of Patricks Plains, and radiating beyond that into NSW to 135 Meridian through this Cockfighters Creek conduit.

The Preliminary detailing below outlines Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict and Free Settler impact across Patricks Plains in terms of Visualisation Modules and their Ancestral Cultural Heritage Significance.

Bulga Tourism Hub Vision©

What distinguishes Bulga Milbrodale apart in NSW ?

➤ *Baime International Significant Area*

- ❖ “**Grasslands adjunct**” to the UNESCO Greater Blue Mountains NP
- ❖ **Module A.** ‘**Baime Cave**’ Ceremonial Significance
- ❖ ‘**Bulga Bora & Ceremonial Grounds**’ Significance
- ❖ **Connectivity of Baime Cave & Bora to GBMNP**

➤ *Great North Road International Significant*

- ❖ **Module B.** ‘**UNESCO Great North Road**’ & **Major Mitchell Surveyor General**

➤ *Convict Era International Significance*

- ❖ **Module C.** ‘**UNESCO Convict**’ Significance
- ❖ ‘**Holistic Hunter Valley Australian Convict**’ Significance

- C1.** British Convict Policy and Governor Arthur Phillip’s Impact.
- C2.** Role of Convicts in the Colony
- C3.** Significance of Convict Labour to Patricks Plains
- C4.** Colonial Culture shaped by Convicts Spirit

Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains NTH# 8 ©

Bulga Tourism Hub Vision©

❖ 'The Hunter Valley Convict significance 1820-1840'

Module C5 'Land Grants with Convict Bondservants'

- C5.1** 'Henry Dangar Surveyor' 1821-1825, 4 Convicts
- C5.2** 'Philip Thorley' 1821 'Mount Thorley', Son of Convict, 14c
- C5.3** 'Robert Hoddle' 1824 "Warkworth", Surveyor
- C5.4** 'Richard Hobden' 1824 "Great Lodge", 4 Convicts
- C5.5** 'Joseph Onus' 1825 Exconvict, 6 Convicts
- C5.6** 'George Bowman' 1825 "Archerfield", 8 Convicts
- C5.7** 'Dr Thomas Parmenter' 1825 Exconvict "De Quirosville" 5c
- C5.8** 'Major Mitchell's Great North Road' 1826-1836, # Convicts
- C5.9** 'James Hale' 1837 Exconvict "Wambo" chain, 20 Convicts
- C5.10** 'William Watts' 1842 Exconvict "Black Cock Inn"
- C5.11** 'Henry Nowland' 1843 son of Convicts "Chain of Ponds",

➤ *Patrick's Plains Significance*

- ❖ The Saint Patrick's Plains Region emerged as the
"Birthplace of the Hunter River" – **Whittingham**

- C5.21** 'Glendon' 1823 Robert & Helenus Scott, 40 Convicts
- C5.22** 'Neotsfield' 1821 Henry Dangar, 12 Convict + Bricks
- C5.23** 'Rosemount' 1823 James Mudie, 18 Convicts
- C5.24** 'Dalwood' 1830 George Wyndam, 50 Convicts
- C5.25** 'Barley Mow Inn' 1827 Benjamin - Son of Convict, 8 Cvt
- C5.26** 'Kirkton' 1824 John Busby, 8 Convicts

- ❖ The Patrick's Plains Entrepreneur Estate selections

- C5.31** John Bowman 'Archerfield' 1824, 'Arrowfield' 1825
- C5.32** Thomas Macqueen MP 'Segenhoe' 1823, 160 Convicts
- C5.33** Rev Richard Hill 'Milbrodale' 1824, 7+ Convicts
- C5.34** Dr James Bowman 'Ravensworth' 1825, 40 Convicts
- C5.35** William Dangar 1823 'Turanville' & Dangar Dynasty
- C5.36** William Kirton 'Kirkton' 1824, 7 Convicts
- C5.37** Australian Agricultural Co 1825, 535 Convicts

Refer Reference B for NTH# 8 detailing of Visualisation Modules

Exhaust Archival 200 Yr & Modern Heritage Technology Studies first!

SSHEG Patricks Plains Mine Heritage Significance Classifications

Classification Guidelines across these Precincts relate to **Age/Era, Type, Nature and Condition**.

Understanding and Cultural & Natural Heritage Knowledge are predicated as both Archival Research in Quarter Century Segments; as 1770 – 1795 – 1820 – 1845 – 1870 – 1895 – 1920 – 1945 – 1970 – 1995 – 2020; as well as consideration of the accelerated nature of Post WWII Technological phased improvements and associated Understandings.

The Age/Era Significance framework here relates to the “5 Mines Region” in and around the Wollombi Brook and Hunter River Valleys” used to establish Cultural & Natural Heritage Significance; being related to Occupation & Social Eras; Aboriginal Habitation pre 1770, NSW Convict Penal Sydney Colony 1770 – 1820, Patricks Plains Convict Bondservants 1820 – 1870, Patricks Plains Shire 1870 – 1975, Singleton Shire 1975 – present.

Type Significance relates to predominant Social Endeavours; Aboriginal, Explorers, Pioneer Settlers, Convicts, Immigrants, WWI & WWII, Multicultural, and Industrial.

Detailed that recognises the “Social Interface Nuances”; as Aboriginal Pre 1770 Type, Aboriginal 1788-1820 Type, Aboriginal 1820-1860 Type, Aboriginal 1860-1920 Type, Aboriginal 1920-1970 Type, Colony 1788-1820 Type, Pioneers 1820-1828 Type, Settlers 1828-1860 Type, Immigrants 1828-1860 Type, Immigrants 1860-1920, WWI & WWII 1910-1950 Type, Multicultural 1950-present, Coal Mining

Nature Significance relates to Land Tenure Designation, Crown, County, Reserves, Commons, Precinct, Landscapes, Estates, Locality, Village, Farming Enterprises, Legacy, Subdivisions, Mine Lease, Biodiversity, Conservations.

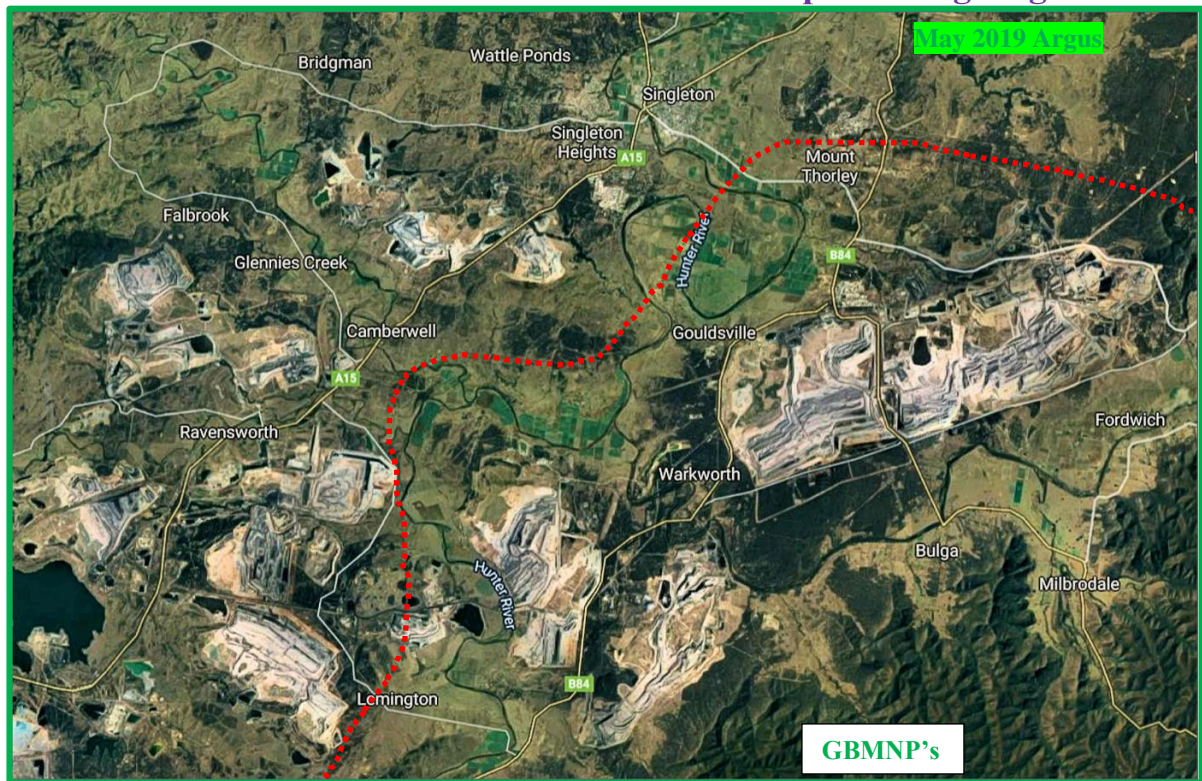
The boundaries of earlier farms and their associated buildings, which included huts, barns, sheds, dams, Water & Wind Mills, saw pits, fences, landmarks are also features on Archival Land Titles; creek crossings, tracks, roads, trees, Rock Features, and buried old Bottles etc, still present today. (Note 6 Pg 49)

Condition Significance relates to Quality Integrity of the Entity & Landscape features - Land Surface Stability & Contours, Surface Biodiversity Qualities, Sublayer Integrity, Surface & Groundwater Characteristics; Natures Feature Treasures, Earth events impacted, etc.

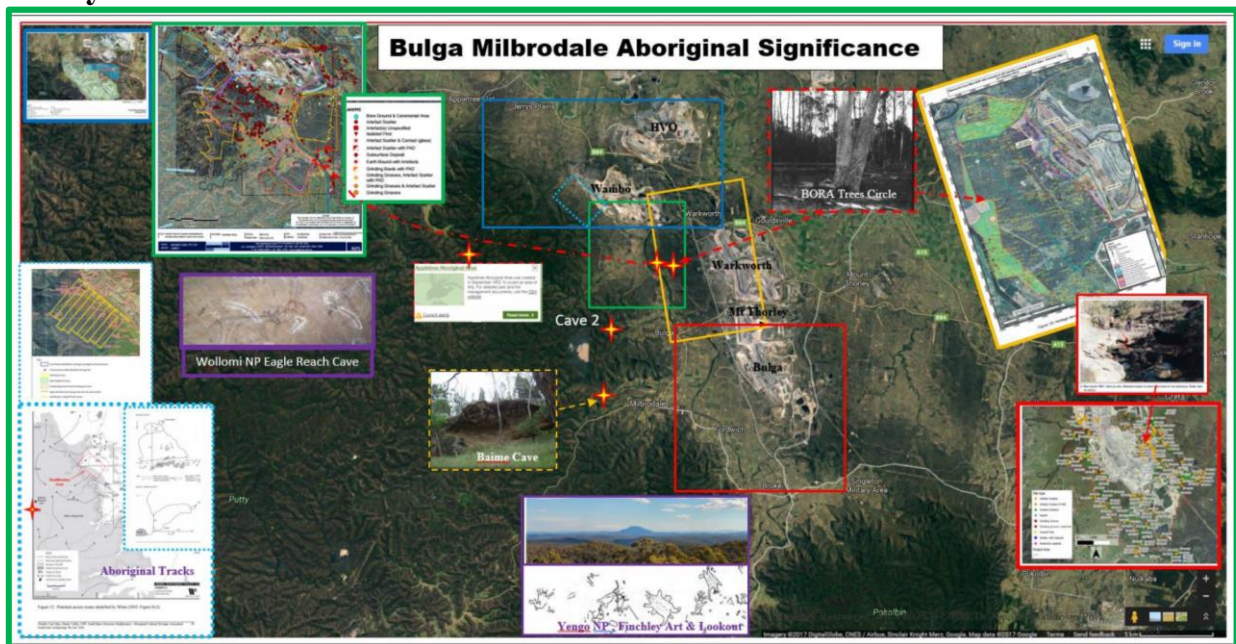
Lifestyle Significance relates to the Society at the Locality; Estates, Neighbourhoods, Enclaves, Cliques, Village Social Life, Towns, Regions.

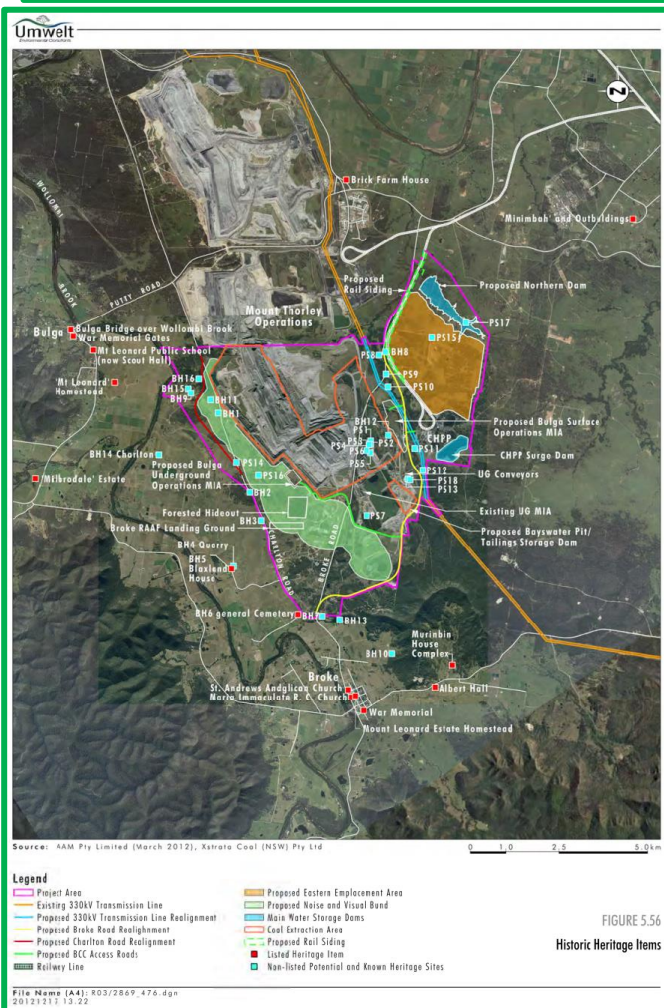
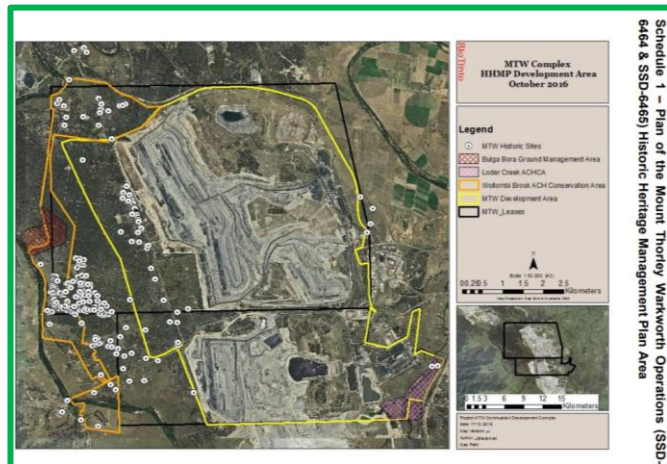
SSHEG National Heritage Nomination Cockfighters Valley Precinct

✓ 1980 Five Coal Mines Cultural & Landscape Heritage Significance



May 2019







May 2018

SCHOOL was in at Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) Mine last month, when students from Singleton's St Catherine's Catholic College visited as part of the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue's School Mine Tours Program.

Mining Cultural Heritage and Social Impact by 2018



Local Communities Initiatives since 2002 considers the Grasslands and Alluvial Lands, Rivers, Brook and Creeks adjoining the Northern Escapements of the “*Greater Blue Mountains National Parks*” are “*A place of outstanding Heritage Value to the Nation and if lost would significantly impoverish Australia’s National Heritage*”.

GBMNP’s Adjoining Grasslands & Settlements

The Grasslands of Cockfighter Creek Settlement emerged following John Howe, the leader of the party that first reached them in 1819 and again in 1820. Howe’s first expedition crossed the “Blue Mountains” to the North from Windsor and via Doyles Creek arrived at “*The River*” (Hunter) near the present-day Jerry’s Plains Nov 1819; then with Aboriginal guidance of the easier Track led a second Expedition descending the Mountains Escapement near the Baiame Cave at Bulga Creek to the Valley Grasslands reaching the Hunter River downstream at Whittingham on 15th March 1820.

- i. Howe’s Aboriginal Myles Guide spoke of the land as 'Coomery Roy', the land of the Kamilaroi people calling it 'Pullmyheri' or 'Pullumunbra'. Nov 1819 Looking North h
- ii. In 1820 the expedition returned and followed the Hunter River downstream to Maitland. John Howe was accompanied by an Aboriginal guide named Myles who explained that the land was known as 'Coomery Roy', the land of the Kamilaroi people who called it 'Pullmyheri' or 'Pullumunbra'.
- iii. Howe the Explorer described these Grasslands and River Lands as “*It is the finest sheep land I have seen since I left England*” And in 1820 following the Hunter River East Howe reported “*We came through as fine a country as imagination can form and on both sides of the River for upwards to 40 miles (I will say) will at least average two miles wide of fine land fit for cultivation and equally so for grazing*”
- iv. Henry Dangar Surveyor Field Note 221 Section 26 of the Township of Lemington, near Warkworth, surveyed 9th Sept 1824 – “*Tolerable ... second class forest land, stiff soil, thinly timbered, small Box and Iron Bark*” ; on the left bank of Wollombi Brook, not far above its junction with the Hunter, Dangar noted “*Light alluvial soil close to the Brook, and, towards the south east, poor Tee Tree flat forest, ... good undulating second class forest land, stiff loan soil, light based Iron Bark Timber*” (Field Note 200).

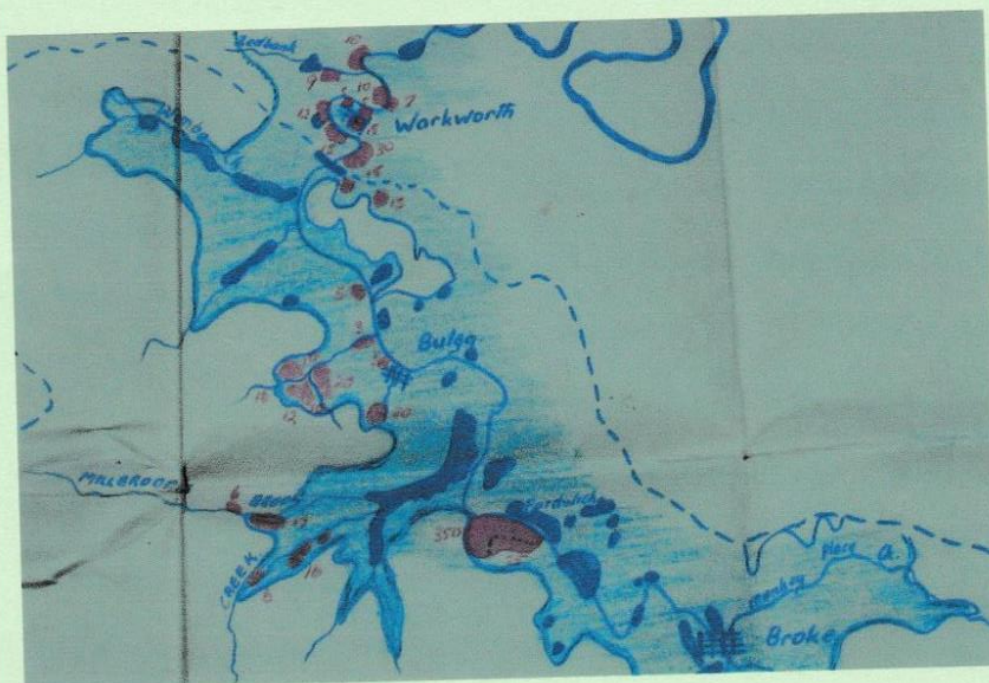
Cockfighter Creek Orchards & Settlements 1950's

(Bill Greenhalgh 2016)

(iii) Orcharding in 1954.

In the survey I conducted in 1954, the orchards of Warkworth were identified by acreage rather than owners. Reading from the top of the map downwards, these owners were:

" 10 acres"	.....Bill Groves.
" 9 acres"	.....Alf Groves.
" 10 acres"	.....Bill Martin.
" 7 acres"	.....Roger McMenamin.
" 5 acres"	.....Cameron family.
" 5 acres"	.....Partridge family.
" 15 acres"	.....Jack Smith
" 12 acres"	.....Jim Greenhalgh. (Oakwood).
" 15 acres"	.....Bill Greenhalgh. (Woodville).
" 13 acres"	.....Watts family. (Burwood)
" 15 acres"	.....Bert Taylor/Wal Andrews.
" 15 acres"	.....Wal and Margaret Andrews (Walmar).



Detail of Map of Land Use in the Wollombi Valley, showing Warkworth, Bulga and Fordwich Fruitgrowing Districts. Greenhalgh (1954). Note: The dotted line is the catchment area and wall of the proposed Warkworth Dam- not the Jerry's Plains Road or Wallaby Scrub Road, which are not shown.

Thus the Warkworth district consisted of 148 acres of orchard and vineyard of which stonefruits (77 acres) and grapes(65 acres) were of equal importance. Citrus and pome fruits were of little importance. Of the 12 holdings, only eight were of

“Howe Equine Hunter River Precinct” Grasslands 2020

SSHEG Community Health & “Cockfighters Valley Precinct” Implementation in 2020

State Significant Cultural Heritage Conservation Areas

SSHEG “Sense of Place” Health Impact Review dating back to the 1980’s of the Five Mines along the Wollombi Brook and Hunter River Environs focused on Cultural Heritage Community Impacts as recorded in Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant and Industrial Studies, EIS, Reports etc; this suggests that at the least Local Environment Protection (LEP +) across this Precinct has been forsaken in the interest of Coal Mining.

Surprisingly the Jerrys Plains Hunter River Valley region of Singleton Shire and the Adjoining Muswellbrook Shire Landscape Conservation and Equine Lands with their grasslands Flora and Fauna National Significance has been lauded for many years. (**Att 13**)

State Significant Cultural Heritage Estates such as Plashett, Arrowfield, Woodlands, Randwich, Edderton, Merton, Bowfields Estates and others across both Singleton and Muswellbrook Shires are likely to be designated in the Patricks Plains Cultural Heritage Study as the “*State Significant Conservation Area - Howes Equine Hunter River Precinct*”; both overlapping downstream on the Hunter River, the “*Cockfighters Valley Precinct*”.



MUSWELLBROOK LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AREA (RED)

The extent of the Ancestral Pioneer and Convict Cultural Heritage Significance throughout Patricks Plains to the 1850’s is outlined as a Research Application NTH#8 in **Attachment 9c** and Illustrated above & below.

Singleton Shire Heritage Significance was recognised in the 1994 Study as illustrated also below; and **Attachment 2**. (**Note 9 pg 55**)

Bulga Historian Family Ancestral Cultural Heritage Stewardship

Six Generations across Families, “Onus, Eather, McAlpin, Clarke, and Mitchell’s” trace the direct Ancestral Lineage to Joseph Onus, a Convict arrival, who by noble deeds, obtained the first Land Grant in the “Shadow of Bulga Mountain” in 1825. The Cockfighter Creek Family Centric Social Enclave that developed over the next 150 Years was mostly driven and influenced by the Howe Track to Windsor that was the lifeblood through these Bulga Lands.

The now Heritage Listed Bulga Public School 1867 no doubt has been instrumental in fostering the third Generation Mitchell- Stewart Mitchell being also 40 years a member of Singleton Historical Society and associated Museum. Perhaps learning the Heritage interests and skills of his father Les Mitchell; his Heritage Valley Stewardship also extends to living on the McDonald Clarke “Green Flat” 1869 property; Home to successive Generations of Mitchell’s to today.

Joseph Onus as the “GrGrGrGrfather” of Bulga Historian Stewart Mitchell, Siblings and Descendants, all have direct Ancestral Lineage to the Onus Grant Land and many have contributed to various degrees to preserving the Family centric Regional Heritage and Social Interactions, as Cultural Heritage from 1820’s through to today, 2020.

Joseph Onus 1000 acres 1825 Land Grant 225 was selected with the Wollombi Brook flowing through the Onus Land Grant as well as the then Aboriginal “Doolerwing” and “By-Yong” Water Features.

Drought, Floods and Blue Mountain Fires are interwoven throughout the 200 Years of the Bulga Environs Story, no more so than the Droughts of the 1822-3 and 1828-9 which saw Pioneer Settlers searching ever North Westward for Rivers and Creek Grasslands for their Cattle. The events of the prolonged Drought 1847 to 1851 well reported in Family Legacies, especially the then Colonial Significance of the Aboriginal “Doolerwing” Waterhole that sustained, from near and far, both the Settlers and “Baiaime Aboriginals”; perhaps a measure of the Cohabitation Respect that endured across this “Cockfighter Creek Valley” since 1819. Cattle were sent into the “Blue Mountains to fend for themselves”- only the one Waterhole remained. (Bulga 99 Years Grazing Leases of the “Blue Mountains” are known!)

However, like all Australian Droughts, more than adequate Rain must have regenerated these Lands and their Flora and Fauna for the Bulga Bora Ceremonies to occur in 1852. Perhaps after three years of Drought 1847 to 1851 “*The Last Great Bora*” Gatherings and Ceremonies of 1852 as it was reported perhaps was more significant as a “*Aboriginal Departing Gesture from the Hunter Valley*”, particularly as “Squatting” by then extended inland North West into the Gwydir and Namoi River Grasslands and beyond. “Baiaime Valley” as “Cockfighter Creek Settlement”.

“Onus Ancestral Heritage Lineage” appears as a strong connection to the Pioneer Settlers resolve to provide Private Teachers to education their growing number of the children in the Community; Church & Cemetery 1856, 1893 & School of Arts 1893 - Community Hall . By 1867 the now Heritage Listed Bulga Public School Education with its Community focus, not surprisingly saw Family and District History and Heritage, as the “Memoirs of Elizabeth Collins nee Clarke” written for her Great Nieces and Nephews in 1914. This Historic & Cultural Heritage Family Memoirs seems to have sparked in their Parents the Bulga Community interest in the Preservation and Conservation of the Bulga Bora Carved Tree Sites. Strikingly, Elizabeth Clarke was born in the Year 1852, and no doubt the now Heritage Significance of these events in her life, as it remains today for their “Baiaime Aboriginal” and Cockfighter Creek” Ancestral Descendants.

Ancestral and Archival Records indicate that “Baiaime Valley” Aboriginals Traditional Valley Lands were mostly avoided by Valley Pioneer Settlers, while Aboriginals Gatherings were known at Hayes Inlet Creek and South Wambo Creek and their Cave areas of the “Blue Mountains”. Directly East from these Creek Inlets was their distant Saddle Ridge Lands and directly Infront, and across the Wollombi Brook, are the Bulga Bora Ceremonial Areas and Bora Carved Trees Site in close proximity to TSR and Stock Reserves; the same area that RH Mathews Survey later detailed; connecting him to the “then Forgotten Baiaime Cave” around 1891.

RH Mathews Baiaime Cave Paper was awarded the Royal Society’s Bronze Essay Prize for 1894. Significant here is the Oral record reported by our Pioneer Settler Mr W.G. McAlpin, 84 at the time, advising Mathews that when he first came to the Bulga District in 1842 that at that time the Drawings were beyond the knowledge of the local blacks, and that the figures on the rock are now in about the same state of preservation when he first saw them upwards of fifty years ago, having suffered very little in that time.

Alexander .N. Eather born 1881 at age 40 details many aspects of the “The History of Bulga 1820-1921” in his Manuscript of 1921.

By 1960’s Les Mitchell Heritage Collection of a Pair of Convict Leg Irons and Signed Original Convict Pardon was on Loan to Singleton Historical Museum for Exhibition and remain on loan by the Onus Mitchell Family today.

By 1980 onwards the “Cockfighter Ridge Five Mine Leases” have dominated the Landscape between and along the Hunter River and Wollombi Brook.

The Era since the early 1980’s of Open Cut Coal Mining has stamped its own Significant and distinctive Mining Cultural Heritage across the Hunter Valley Region, along with the ongoing Social Opportunities Mining provides.

LEGACY Stewart Mitchell, Bulga Historian, Bulga lifetime Recordings 40 Years Member of Singleton Historic Society

Bulga Tourism Hub Vision©

“STUDY NTH#5- Bulga Historian – Stewart Mitchell’s Colonial Lineage Archival Collection & Oral Cultural Heritage” Application for MTW Condition 44 Funding Approval

This Historic & Cultural Heritage Conservation Project outlines the Bulga Culture Centre priorities pertaining to the two aspects of Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, and Free Settlers Archival Collections; This may exclude other Topics that the Bulga Historian later identifies.

1. Stewart Mitchell’s Archival Records, Artefacts etc across seven generation of Cockfighter Creek Residents.
2. Oral History of recollections and stories of significance handed down through Families over generations.

Stewart Mitchell a prominent Bulga Resident and Historian today has direct lineage to the early Settlers beyond the “Bulgar”, named then as Cockfighter’s Creek. His Ancestral family Documents, Folk-tales, Memoirs Collection and Oral History Record are foreshadowed here to provide the formal Archival Heritage Record of Cultural Significance of Cockfighters Creek over two centuries.

A glimpse at the import of these unpublished Cultural Heritage “Gems” appears in “**The Clarks of Bulga – 150 years on Cockfighter’s Creek**” illustrated in 2004 as follows: -

“My great-great-great grandfather was the first white settler at Bulga, taking up a land grant in 1825. After almost 200 years of ancestral residency in Bulga I feel obliged to attempt to protect this area from unnecessary destruction.

My great-great-grandfather witnessed the last great Bora at Bulga in 1852 and My Father accompanied Etheridge & McCarthy of Australian Museum in 1918 when they Photographer and Recorded the Bora Carved Trees and collected Aboriginal Artefacts from the surrounding area”.

Historic Research at Museums, Universities, Society & Council Libraries of Archival Colonial Records will add to substantiate Oral History detailing where documents and artefacts are suggested to be at one time in their possession.

This Heritage Conservation Project captures from Stewart Mitchell’s Archival Collection the Cultural traits and Hallmark of the Cockfighters Creek Society that emerged over time by exposure to the tyranny of distance, Droughts, Floods, Fires in this Aboriginal Enclave.

References B Bulga Historian Ancestral Heritage Stewardship Pgs 42-55

Bulga Historian (SM) Archival Ancestral based Family Outlines

Aboriginal Heritage 1770 – 1860+ People & Cultures

- Howe's Aboriginal Myles Guide spoke of the land as 'Coomery Roy', the land of the Kamilaroi people calling it 'Pullmyheri' or 'Pullumunbra'. Nov 1819
- Threlkeld & RH Mathews - Kamilaroi land north of Jerrys Plains, (Whirle & Son Darkinung, at Howes Valley Aboriginals 1819) Cockfighter Creek "Baiaime Valley" Lands Aboriginals, or Darkinyung – GE Ford 2012.
- GBMNP's Grasslands adjunct with Warkworth Aeolian Sands Land
- Baiaime Cave beside Howe Track on Bulga Creek Inlet Mar 1820+
- Baiaime Cave presence neither acknowledged, revered or embraced 1820 +
- "Baiaime Valley Custodians" Traditional Habitat Lands Areas 1788+
- Coastal Tidal Reach, Sea Level changes reflected in "Baiaime Arise Legend"
- Bulga Mountain; "Bulgar" Aboriginal Name for "Mountain"
- "Doolerwing" Shared Waterhole Drought 1847-51; Legacy at Mt Leonard.
- GBMNP's Escapement Creeks, South Wambo Creek & Caves
- Bora Creek-way from Saddle Ridge & Grinding Groove Areas
- 1852 Bora Ceremonial & Carved Tree Site, Bora Camping Site
- Bora related Locations beside TSR, Stock Reserve, Parish Corners
- 1875 Baiaime Cave and Bulga Creek Valley Alexander Bros Land
- Bora Lands Survey 1892 RH Mathews of Singleton Questions?
- Baiaime Cave RH Mathews Survey, Royal Society Paper 1893
- Baiaime Valley Land by 1900+ Dodds- daughter Mrs Smith today.
- Australian Museum Studies Bora, Caves & River Terraces 1895, 1913+
- 5 Mines Heritage Details 1980+ Environmental Impact Statements

Colonial, Convict, Immigrant with Convict Bondservants 1821-1860

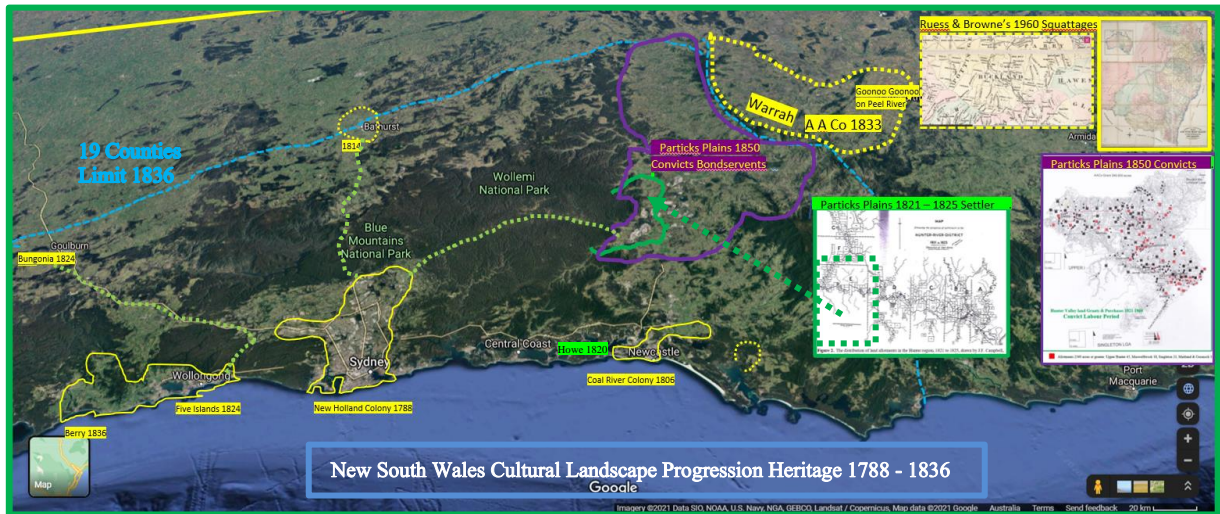
- Aboriginal "Whirle to Howe" 1819 Return track - a easier way to River Land
- Howe Track entry "Gateway to Patricks Plains"- Hunter Valley Mar 1820
- 1821 Land Grants, Singleton & Thorley Families via Howe Track.
- Henry Dangar Patricks Plains Land Surveys, 1821-5, No Roads
- 1825 Joseph Onus Grant on Wollombi Brook beside Bulgar Mountain
- Cockfighter Creek Bulga Settlement & Bulga Track, Howe, Onus "Bulga", Blaxland "Fordwich", Rev Hill "Milbo Dale", Parmenter "De Quirisville", Hale "Wambo", Doyle, Eather "Meera", Hobden "Grand Lodge", Bowman "Archerfield", Robertson "Plashett", Bowman "Ravensworth", Cobbs Station "Minimbah". (W.A. Wood 1972 Dawn in the Valley, Papers A6628iii Notes on Peter Clark, Bulga and Eather, Onus and McAlpin families;)
- Thomas Mitchell Convict Great North Road 1826 – 1830; Port Essington!

- 99 Year Grazing Leases of Escapement Inlets, Creeks of GBMNP's
- Convict "Cockfighter Creek Crossing" 1836, 1859 low, 1860, 1877, 1925-6, 1949, Flying Fox, 1955, Wollombi Brook Floods
- Bulga Track two solid Wollombi Brook Government Road crossings avoiding Bulga Bora Carved Tree Site beside TSR & Stock Reserve on Parish Junction
- Clarke Native Animal Specimens sent to British Museums
- Dawn in the Valley "The Story of Settlement in the Hunter Valley" to 1833
- Mitchell Surveyor General Grid; Bulgar Mountain & Watts Hill Trig Sites
- Landscape Progression Droughts, Floods, Fires & Water Sources
- Flora & Fauna Ludwig Leichhardt Patricks Plains 1844-5

Cockfighter Creek Settlement Culture 1821-1920

- Royal Society NSW Papers 1882+ RH Mathews Singleton Surveyor
- Six Generations of Family & Oral Landscape & Cultural Heritage
- 1900 Bulga Pioneer Families Three Generations Legacy & Photo
- Clarke Native Animal Specimens sent to British Museums
- Wollombi Brook Floods, 1857, 1913, 1949, 1955, 2007
- SSHEG Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains June 2016; CHAG
- Clarke "Green Flat"& Mounted Police; Mitchell "Green Flat" 3 Generations
- Pioneer Settler Social Interactions, Onus, Hale, Mc Alpin, Eather, Clarke etc.
- Watts "Black Cock Inn", Philip Thorley "Mount Thorley Inn", Brown's Inn, Minimbah Inn, Black Creek "Wyndam" Government Road
- Hale "Wambo" – Durham; Alexander Bros 1875 "Mt Leonard" 1900
- Landscape Progression, Squatting, "Limits of Location 1826", "Nineteen Counties 1829"; Travel: Pathways; Ships, Tracks – Howe/Bulga Track 1820+; Roads – Convict GNR, Government Stock Crossings 1823+; Railways- 1860-1933; Rail as Road Highways 1929 +.
- Philip Thorley & Andrew Loder – Longreach Hall of Fame Legends
- Cockfighter Creek Heritage Villages- Broke/Vere, Fordwich, Bulga, Warkworth (Cockfighter Creek Crossing of Convict GNR), Lemington, Jerrys Plains, (Denman, **Baerami**), Maison Dieu, Gouldsville, Mount Thorley.
- Lone Pine Barracks; Army Infantry Museum, Cosivoes Asylum 1999.
- Patricks Plains Holistic Natural & Cultural Heritage & Landscape Estate 1975
- Colonial Droughts, 1790, 1822-3, 1828-9, 1845-6,
- Liverpool, Gwydir Plains, refer ARTC 2020 Squat
- Estate Subdivisions, Dairies, World Wars, Depression, R

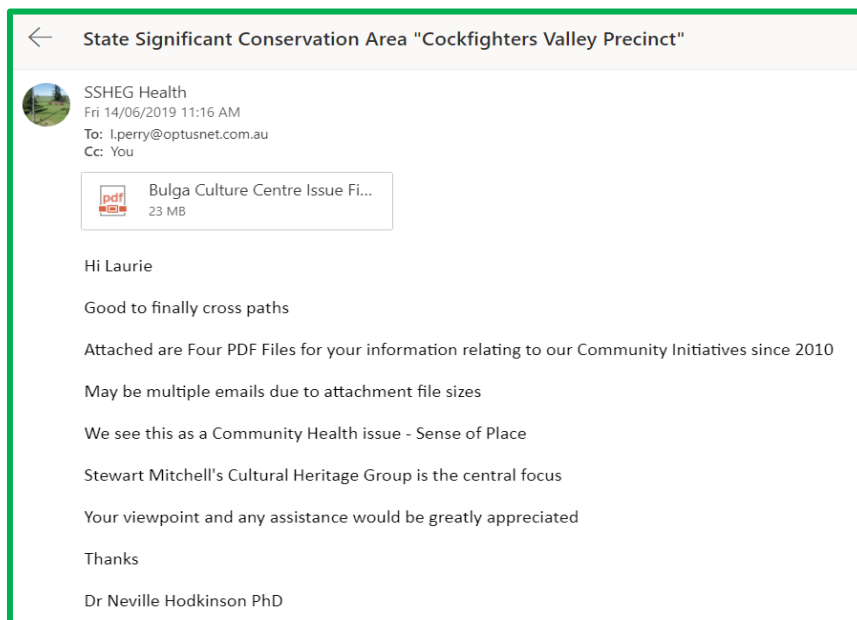
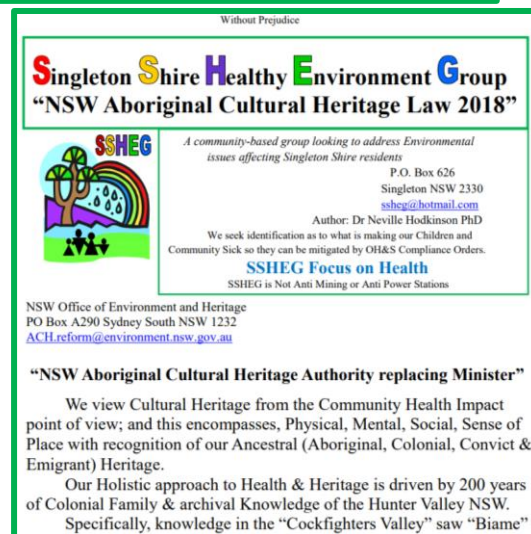
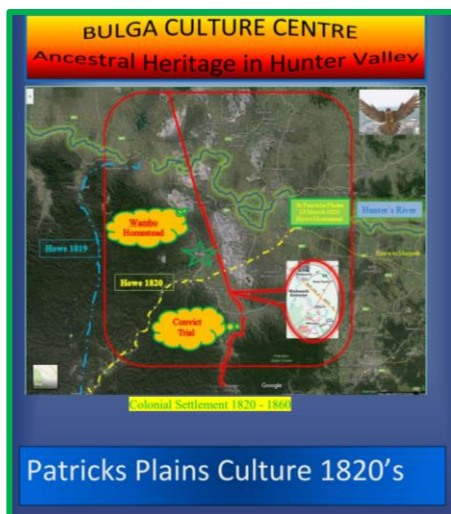
SSHEG Community Heritage Initiative detailing since 2010

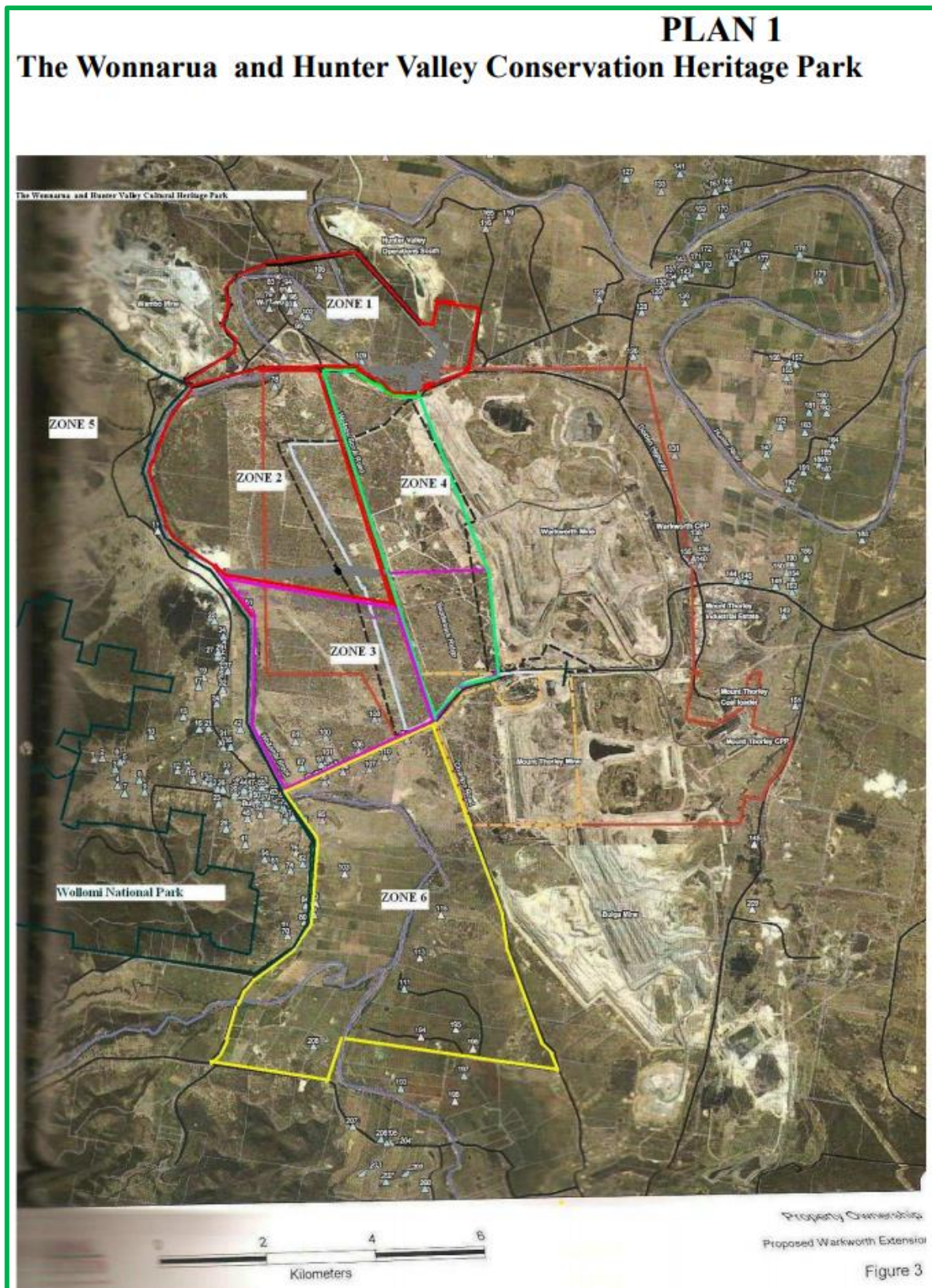


Howe Explorers Bicentenary Displays 15 March 2020









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- A. 1981 A Million Wild Acres Eric Rolls
“Colonist starved to the point of inertia”
- B. 2012 Crossing the Blue Mountains 1820 Andy McQuade
- C. 1892 Baime Cave Royal Society Medal Paper RH Mathews
- D. 1852 Bulga Bora Ceremonial Area & Carved Tree Site Unpublished
- E. 1918 Bulga Bora Carved Trees & Artefact Collection Australian Museum
- F. 2010 Warkworth Saddle Ridge Australian Museum Archaeology Study
- G. 2015 Bora Creek Grinding Grooves SSHEG Detailing
- H. 2015 Loders Creek Grinding Grooves Relocation Reserve
- I. 1920 Hunter River Indigenous Artefact Terraces Australian Museum
- J. 2014 Bulga Settlement Village
- K. 2016 Warkworth Bill Greenhalgh
- L. 1970 History of Jerrys Plains Ian Ellis, various
- M. 1920 Recollections of Mrs E.C. Collins Bulga born 1852
- N. 2012 From Brook to Broke: A History of Broke Fordwich, Anne Dunne
- O. 1980 The Pioneer Thorleys, Lyn Macdonald
- P. 19xx Loders of Abbey Green
- Q. 2016 Bulga Culture Centre, SSHEG Community Initiative
- R. 2018 Bulga Tourism Hub, SSHEG NTH #2-7 Heritage Outlines
- S. 2018 Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains NTH #8.
- T. 2020 Singleton Council Strategic Planning Statement 2040, SSHEG
- U. Fredrick David McCarthy Australian Museum A Bibliography, Kate Khan 1993

AUDIT Attachments with identified Cultural Heritage info

- Attachment 1 2010 SSHEG MTW Submission 09 0202 –
“Wonnarua & Hunter Valley Heritage Park” 20 Pages
- Attachment 2 Complaint Letter to Minister 19 Feb 2017, 51 Pages
“MTW Colonial Heritage – CHAG Planning”
- Attachment 2a Complaint Singleton Council, MTW VPA 30 May 2017
Bulga Colonial Heritage Entity & Centre, 17 Pgs, 5Att
- Attachment 2a SSHEG “*Social Impact Assessments in NSW Dec 2016*”. Draft DPE Guidelines, 3 March 2017. 9 Pages
- Attachment 3 Complaint Letter to Minister & OEH 13 Aug 2017,
“Bulga Enhancement & Heritage” 56 Pages, 10 Atts
- Attachment 3a Resources Assm’t & Compliance Reply, 13 Sept 2017
MTW Continuation Projects, Ref 17/11746
- Attachment 4 Complaint Letter to Minister 12 Oct 2017
CHAG Funding, 9 Pages
- Attachment 4a NSW Premier response re Compliance 22 Feb 2018
- Attachment 4b Funding Application Form Singleton Council, NTH#5
SM Oral History & Colonial Lineage, 20 Dec 2018
- Attachment 5 References Project & Funding 2017 – 2020
Refer Page 39 of this Document
- Attachment 5a SHAC “Partnering Agreement Document (Held by?)
- Attachment 6 NSW DPE Letter Conservation Funds 3 Feb 2017
Historic Heritage & GNR Conservation
- Attachment 7 SSHEG MTW CCC Presentation Yancoal Historic
Heritage 20 Aug 2020, 6 Slides, 27 Page
- Attachment 8 SSHEG 10 Year Review of Hunter Mine Impacts
To Yancoal CCC, 10 Feb 2020, 5 Pgs, 4 Attachments

- Attachment 9 MTW Historic Heritage Funding Application, 89 Pages
Bulga Tourism Hub Vision, NTH#(2-7), 9 Sept 2018
- Attachment 9a Great North Road to Singleton Council 1800-1860,
Funding Study NTH#1, 9 Sept 2018, 32 Pages
- Attachment 9b Minister Complaint Bulga Community & Heritage,
CHAG & Historic Heritage Mgr Plan, 12 Oct 2018
- Attachment 9c “*Ancestral Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains*
NTH#8” Bulga Tourism Hub 24 October 2018, 35 Pgs
- Attachment 10 Singleton MTW Heritage Grants Application Form
Study #5 Oral History 20 December 2018, 2 Atts.
Also Study NTH #8 Ancestral Heritage Patricks Plains.
- Attachment 11 SSHEG “Glendell Mine Heritage Estate Obstacle”
Ravensworth Estate & Homestead 31 Jan 2020 55 pgs
- Attachment 12 SSHEG “Rehabilitation Cultural Heritage 2020”,
Resources Regulator, 6 Nov 2020, 30 Pages
- Attachment 13 SSHEG “Jerrys Plains Cultural Heritage 2020”
“Howe Equine Hunter River Precinct”, 17Nov 2020
Maxwell Underground Mine, 39 Pages
- Attachment 14 SSHEG “Local Strategic Planning Strategy 2040 “
Singleton Council 10 May 2020, 29 Pgs & 12 Att.
“Operational Plan 2020-2021” 27 May 2020
- Attachment 15 Cockfighters Valley Precinct National Significance
Summary, 12 Pages
- Attachment 16 Archaeology GNR Study Yancoal 12 Oct 2018, 29 Pgs
Great North Road to NSW Port Essington 1800 – 1860



Howe Monument
Bicentenary 15 March 2020

Author: Dr Neville Hodgkinson PhD

With the previous exposure to Cultural Heritage issues in the Illawarra, and in Researching Henry Dangar's Archival Records; the presence of Baiame Cave and Bora Ground; Howe Explorers path in March 1820 also beside this "Forgotten Cave", and the subsequent part played in the survival of the early Colony at Saint Patricks Plains confirms in detailing its Aboriginal, Colonial Convict and Immigrant Cultural Heritage Significance: as Illustrated.

Coming across in Archives in Land Surveys was another outsider, RH Mathews, a Singleton Surveyor at the time, who only now is recognised for his dedication to take the time to Document Aboriginal Cultural Heritage for future generations who now walk in two worlds; and from his efforts, now able to reconnect with their human identity; alas so much lost! But a clear message here!

This delving into the official Archives soon establishes the role that Land Grants Book entries and Individual handwritten Land Titles in this early Colonial Era provides the most accurate chronological framework for Cultural Heritage Research and Reporting. Colonial Archival Diaries and Explorers Journals, and Official Records and Correspondence provides the solid Heritage substance. Many other hearsay and newspaper reports need to be substantiated with Archival Copy images rather than references or partial quotes. This is a key issue

Extracts from SSHEG “Social Impact Assessment in NSW Dec 2016

The origins of SIA largely derive from the [environmental impact assessment](#) (EIA) model, which first emerged in the 1970s in the U.S, as a way to [assess](#) the impacts on society of certain development schemes and projects before they go ahead - for example, new roads, industrial facilities, mines, dams, ports, airports, and other infrastructure projects. In the United States under the [National Environmental Policy Act](#), social impact assessments are federally mandated and performed in conjunction with [environmental impact assessments](#).^[1] SIA has been incorporated into the formal planning and approval processes in several countries, in order to categorize and assess how major developments may affect populations, groups, and settlements.new models, such as the Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), take a more integrated approach where equal weight is given to both the social and environmental impact

Part 1 – Introduction to social impact assessment

1.1 What are social impacts?

For the purpose of these Guidelines, social impacts are changes to one or more of the matters in Table 1.²

Table 1 - Matter categories to consider when identifying social impacts

Matter	Description
<u>Way of life</u>	How people live, work, play, and interact with one another on a day-to-day basis
<u>Culture</u>	People’s shared beliefs, customs, values, and language or dialect (including Aboriginal culture and connection to country)
<u>Community</u>	Its cohesion, stability, character, services, and facilities
Political systems	The extent to which people are able to participate in decisions that affect their lives, and the resources provided for this purpose
<u>Environment</u>	The quality of the air and water people use; the availability and quality of the food they eat; the level of hazard or risk, dust and noise they are exposed to; the adequacy of sanitation; their physical safety; and their access to and control over resources
<u>Health and wellbeing</u>	People’s physical, mental, social, and spiritual wellbeing
<u>Personal and property rights</u>	Particularly whether people are economically affected, or experience personal disadvantage which may include a violation of their civil liberties
<u>People’s fears and aspirations</u>	Their perceptions about their safety, their fears about the future of their community, and their aspirations for their future and the future of their children

“Holistic View of Australian Cultural Heritage Law Protection”

In preparing this Submission, the following influences were investigated and reviewed: the early period “Invasions experiences” of various Indigenous Peoples in the World through to today; understanding the World European Cultures that motivated British exploration endeavours at the time, Archival study of Aboriginal; Colonial, and Convicts of the NSW Colony at 135 Meridian; Successive Governors, Royal Reports, decrees; 129 Meridian expansion with Port Issington inclusion, incorporation of New Holland; Formation of Commonwealth, Constitution, Federal Commissions, reports etc:-

- Ancient Indigenous Peoples over the centuries
- Australian Continent Formational influences
- Old World Navigational influences
- World rights divided by Exploration and Wars Spain & Portuguese
- Search for “Southern Continent” and 1770 Cook’s Exploration
- Captain Arthur Philip Vision for Colony of NSW 1787
- Sydney Colony 1788 + Aboriginal Archival Study
- First 24 Years of Sydney Colony hemmed in by Blue Mountains
- Surviving Archival Journal & detailing of Aboriginal Culture
- 1820 -1835 Patricks Plains = Hunter Valley Agricultural Food
- Australian Museum founded 1827, Convict collector 1831-36
- 1835 Surveyor General Major Mitchel 16 Counties, colony Limit
- 1820 -1835 Patricks Plains Colonial Archival Study
- Governor’s Laws regarding Aborigines
- 1832 Wellington Caves Archival Study
- 1892 RH Mathews Singleton Surveyor begins Aboriginal Studies
- 1827- 1882 Garden Palace Fire 2000 Ethnological Artefacts lost
- Australian Museum Catalogue 1882 +
- Archival Studies Blue Mountains NPs - aboriginal
- Establishment of Commonwealth 1900 +
- Federal, State Aboriginal Laws, 1967 Referendum, Mabo
- Native Title, Reconciliation, Treaty, Makarrata, Uluru statement, Redfern Speech etc

“Heritage Estate” Archival & Type ‘Social interface Nuances’ & Refer H4 Extracts

Submission Summary: Aboriginal Issues in Priority order

1) Guarantee capture and Protection for future Generations of the Aboriginal Estate and its detailing throughout Australia.

For 200 years, Aboriginal knowledge has been left to fade into obscurity, as generations of Aboriginals have taken their Cultural Heritage to the grave having not been comfortable to pass it on to culturally worthy followers. Colonial Archival records do provide both International Multimedia records and narrated detailing of Aboriginal Culture; while only isolated Tribe/Clan persons possess surviving aspects with “lineage to their Country”.

5a Native Title, land Cultural claims once identified must remain in perpetuity as an integral part of Australia’s Indigenous Peoples Estate - Aboriginal Estate along with all other National Cultural Heritage Estate Entities.

6) International Obligations of the Significance of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Island Peoples in World including Archaeology, Palaeontology, and Anthropology Knowledge contribution to United Nations and Mankind endeavours.

12) Australian Multicultural Society and Aboriginal Reality after 200 years, 100 years of Kings Accent and Privy Council law, 100 years as the Commonwealth of Australia Law.

Post Second World War Australia Emigration of War displaced Persons from Europe brought with them their Heritage and Culture. NSW Illawarra typifies the Multicultural Society that emerged from the opportunities that “Free Public Education”, Hard Work and Australia’s “Fair Go and Rural simplicity ethic” provided; New Foods, Living standards, Festival customs, European Technology, Arts, Crafts, Language and Religion, Sports, showcased as Clubs of traditional Emigrant Homelands; Hungary, Germany, Italy, Greek, Turkey, Poland, Israel, Yugoslavs, Ukraine, Spain, Malta, all adding to the Chinese influence post the 1855’s Gold Fever.

9) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property rights exist now across the world as Aboriginal Tangible and Intangible Culture mostly exists in Museums, Private handed down collections, Documents and Artefacts in Institutions, Professions, Consultants, somewhere Families retain the Intellectual Rights and Copyright; hence it is important to record their existence in the National Aboriginal Estate. Primary Item Ownership however is now restricted, with donation, coping, or purchase as options, Repatriation by agreement!

11) Aboriginal Identity – Our Country – Our Mob – Our Health

“Our Country” – Hunter Valley for 20 years is reporting Aboriginal, Colonial and Convict Ancestral Heritage being bulldozed by Open Cut Coal Mining, with Mine Noises, Blasting and Dust Clouds reverberation in the Community; Day and Night Residents are reminded of the incessant approaching destruction of their Ancestral Memories of Place.

Aboriginal Peoples are separated from their Holistic understanding of their Tribal Ancestral Lands, an innate feeling of affinity to Place- Sense of Place and Time; their Spirituality: we can only imaging in today’s terms.

Imagine, day by day knowing your forced separation from being One with the Environment; your Landscape cultural features, Water pathways, Fire life sustance, shelter and hunting habitats, and at peace respecting Tribal & Clan taboos. In various degrees across Australia some Aboriginals suffer this torment daily.

“Our Mob” - Imaging knowing this through your Lineage of Elders and then see now, every day, the land dry and lifeless, no animals or with todays crops where Ceremonies, songs and dance are remembered; compare that to the Aboriginal understanding of seasonal land rejuvenation by fire rather than Destructive fires; regrowth that is sweet food for Animals – some the birthright food for Aboriginals.

Hence the statement ‘Ngarrindjeri will continue to assert to Government its own sovereignty over its own people, place and knowledge.

Thus, SSHEG Heritage Act 1977 Submission represent 20 Years of direct Community Experience in reporting and prosecuting the case for the Permanent Protection in Perpetuity and “Display” of the Aboriginal, Colonial, Convict, Immigrant and Industrial Cultural Heritage Significance of the Hunter Valley Region of NSW.

“It is for this track record that SSHEG have identified a set of Community Cultural Heritage Initiated Projects that need to be enacted by authorities collectively across all Mining Operations in much the same way the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network was established and Funded regarding Community Health and Air Quality Initiatives. (Refer Attachment 6

In anticipation of a Comprehensive Review,
and Enforcement Undertakings Recommendations.

Dr Neville Hodkinson PhD

Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

References not submitted but are available upon request

- Reference H1 “Bulga Tourism Hub” *Ancestral Cultural Heritage Significance of Patricks Plains NTH#8* Oct 2018, 35 Pgs
- Reference H2 SSHEG “National Heritage List Nomination 2021”, 64 Pgs.
”*Patricks Plains National Heritage List 2021*” Feb 2021.
- Reference H3 SSHEG 10 Yr Audit and CHAG Compliance Complaint
“Community Cultural Heritage Audit 2020” Jan 2020, 90Pgs.
- Reference H4 SSHEG “NSW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Law 2018”
20 April 2018, 29 Pgs.
- Reference H5 SSHEG “Rehabilitation Cultural Heritage Jan 2020”
6 Nov 2020, 30 Pgs
- Reference H6 SSHEG “Glendell Mine Ravensworth Estate Obstacle”
31 Jan 2020, 55 Pgs
- Reference H7 SSHEG “Social Impact Assessment in NSW Dec 2016”
3 March 2019, 9 Pgs
- Reference H8 SSHEG “ARTC Pilliga Scrub Cultural Heritage 2021”
3 Feb 2019, 9 Pgs



Vahid Roser 7th Generation Pioneer Bulga Local, St Marks Bulga Church 2020



Stewart Mitchell 6th Generation Pioneer Bulga Local Historian 2015